

My information is that in the past few months, Mozzarella cheese has entered this country from West Germany at the rate of approximately 50,000 pounds per week. I also have been informed that during the next few months the importer expects to receive his first shipment of a whole milk item of the same type, which will add to the existing 50,000 pounds or so received weekly. I trust this committee recognizes the disastrous effect this amount of imports has on the domestic Italian cheese industry.

Mr. Joseph Sartori of the S&R Cheese Corp., of Plymouth, Wis., who is president of the American Producers of Italian Type Cheese Association, tells me that the importation from West Germany of Mozzarella cheese is illegal on the face of it, for this is not a true Mozzarella.

For months, the Department of Agriculture rebuffed Mr. Sartori.

Now, the Secretary of Agriculture tells us that the imports of so-called "other cheese" increased immediately after the issuance of a Presidential proclamation on June 30, 1967, which curtailed the importation of Colby and other American-type cheese which had been imported in large quantities primarily for manufacturing and processing. Secretary Freeman now tells us that deprived of the ability to ship in much of the Colby-type cheese, importers resorted to lower fat cheeses and even processed cheese for use in the processing of other cheese, cheese foods and cheese spreads. The Secretary says the price differential even made attractive the high moisture cheeses used in the commercial manufacture of pizza pies and similar products; not only were standard fat Mozzarella and Scarmoza cheeses imported, but entries included low fat, part skim Mozzarella and sub-standard part skim cheeses which could be properly identified under FDA standards only as imitation cheeses.

The Secretary says imports of "other cheese" have jumped from less than nine million pounds in 1964 to 25 million pounds in 1967. Over 40 per cent of this cheese was purchased at prices of 25 cents or less per pound, and an estimated 60 per cent at 30 cents or less per pound.

Also, Mr. Chairman, every now and then, we reach a stage in our vast federal government when we seem to be interested in only a large number of producers and the single operator becomes seemingly unimportant. Such a case presently exists in regard to the increased importation of chocolate milk crumb.

Mr. Chairman, there is only one independent producer of chocolate milk crumb in this country. It is Gehl Guernsey Farms in Germantown, Wisconsin. They are rapidly going out of business because of the large amounts of imports. There are, in fact, less than 10 producers of milk crumb in this country and they all are gravely threatened.

Here are the facts:

The average price of milk crumb, delivered to the United States, in the January through March quarter of 1968 was as follows:

	Per cwt.
Netherlands	\$16. 10
Ireland	17. 80
United Kingdom	16. 80
Belgium	16. 00