

FOREIGN TRADE AND TARIFF PROPOSALS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 1968

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met at 10 a.m., pursuant to notice, in the committee room, Longworth House Office Building, Hon. Wilbur D. Mills (chairman of the committee) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will please be in order.

Our first witness this morning is our colleague from South Carolina, the Honorable William Jennings Bryan Dorn. Mr. Dorn. Do you want to wait and appear after Mr. Dent of the American Textile Manufacturers Institute?

Mr. DORN. Mr. Chairman, if I may I would like to.

The CHAIRMAN. I had a note that Mr. Stratton is chairing his own committee and will be a little late.

Our first witness then will be the Honorable Philip J. Philbin, our colleague from Massachusetts. Mr. Philbin, we appreciate your being with us this morning and you are recognized.

STATEMENT OF HON. PHILIP J. PHILBIN, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS

Mr. PHILBIN. Mr. Chairman, I am very glad to join my distinguished colleagues in support of legislation to bring about needed controls on imports affecting the livelihood of American workers. In fact, I have companion bills pending before the committee, including H.R. 10596, the orderly marketing bill; H.R. 11877, to protect our domestic industries; and H.R. 17216, which seeks to limit import expansion to prescribed shares of the U.S. market.

Indeed, it is long past the time that Congress should move effectively to adjust our trade position with other nations. Failure to have done so is one of the principal, contributing causes to the present vexatious, grave dollar trade imbalance which is causing all of us and other nations such deep concern.

The rate of imports coming into this country is staggering and has already sparked our first unfavorable trade balance in many years. If continued, it could result in great injury and harm, and perhaps irreparable damage to prosperous American industries and result in the loss of full employment and prosperity for many faithful working people and bring depressed conditions to many communities throughout the country.