

We met in the old Armed Forces Committee room over in the Capitol Building, and organized, and it was my honor to be elected secretary of the group; and I have served in that capacity ever since.

When Mr. Vinson retired from Congress we elected your colleague and member of this great committee, Phil Landrum, as the chairman of our group, and we have been pursuing this problem all along, and I would say with some degree of success.

When the Long-Term Textile Agreement was negotiated in Geneva in 1962, the cotton textile agreement, we met with virtually everybody with any authority in the Government including the President and right on down, and I remember Mr. Hodges, then Secretary of Commerce, offered to fly several of us, including myself, over to Geneva to help negotiate.

I didn't go, but the agreement was negotiated and mention of it was made this morning by the distinguished gentleman from Missouri, Mr. Curtis.

That agreement I think set the pattern or the blueprint for exactly what we are trying to do today with the Mills bill. It did help. The reason why it did not completely do the job was because of the loopholes. It did not cover man-made staple fiber, filaments, filament yarn. It did not cover wool.

I would say that our industry is an overall industry and the Mills approach and the Landrum approach would work.

Their bill is not a protectionist bill. It is not a high tariff bill. I don't think anybody in the United States of America in his right mind could truthfully charge the chairman of this great committee, Mr. Mills, with being a protectionist or Mr. Landrum for that matter.

I look upon Mr. Mills in the same category with Cordell Hull and the late Sam Rayburn, as one of the great architects of our trade policy in this country. He has done as much to promote trade as any living American, the chairman of this great committee, and his associates on this committee, most of them.

So what Mr. Mills bill proposes to do is to promote trade in an orderly fashion, which will be mutually advantageous to our friends abroad and to the United States of America.

That is what his bill does. And all that needs to be done is to have it properly implemented and made to cover the man-made staple fiber filaments, and filament yarn, and wool and it will do the job, if properly administered.

I represent a textile area. My distinguished colleague represents a textile area, and I want this committee to understand that my Committee on Public Works has been groping over the years now with depressed areas, with the ghetto, with Appalachia, and we have authorized to be appropriated million of dollars to promote jobs in Appalachia, job opportunity, to keep them out of the big cities.

These little textile communities, 500, 1000, two or 3,000 people, dot the Appalachia region employing nearly a half million people, and in depressed areas, you know what we have done in that field, water pollution control, trying to aid industry to clear up the streams of this country.

More legislation has come out of my committee for the underprivileged, the minorities, for depressed areas, than any other committee, and I might add the Rivers and Harbors, Interstate Highway System