

Persuading the Tariff Commission to make a determination as to injury resulting from increased imports is not easy, even with the combined efforts of an entire industry. Persuading the President under the proposed new act can be equally difficult. It is inconceivable that individual workers, even though represented by a union, could assemble the voluminous facts and figures necessary to enable the President with the advice of the Tariff Commission under the proposed act to find that increased imports of a particular commodity, and I quote from the proposed bill, "have been a substantial cause of unemployment or underemployment or a threat thereof of a significant number or proportion of workers."

Even assuming that such a determination is made as to Penley Bros., the individual workers face many other problems. In the first place the workers would have to accept "suitable training" approved by the Secretary of Labor. This could be training in a field of no interest to the individual workers, for a job in an entirely different part of the country. If the worker refuses the training "without good cause" he would not be eligible for any assistance.

Again assuming that the Penley Bros. worker could establish his eligibility and was willing to accept the conditions to assistance, he still would face serious problems. If he owned his home in West Paris he probably could not sell it.

He would receive a maximum of 65 percent of his average weekly wage or 65 percent of the average weekly manufacturing wage, whichever is less, plus an inadequate allowance for moving expenses for his family. Reestablishment of a family in a new community, with little or no capital to work with, and with greatly curtailed income pending the time the worker is able to find a new job, is not simple.

Finally, the question arises as to what compensation is offered to the two of West Paris itself, the merchants, service establishments, truckers, farmers, and so forth who have depended on the continued operation of Penley Bros., and the many others who would be indirectly injured by the sacrifice of Penley Bros. in order to obtain a concession from the European Common Market which would provide employment in Cincinnati, or elsewhere. The answer, of course, is none.

While it may be argued that Penley Bros. is an isolated example, and possibly an extreme one, and that the continued existence of West Paris is unimportant to the national economy, it is suggested that there are literally thousands of small towns throughout the United States which are dependent upon small plants.

One of the basic features of the American way of life has been the operation of small businesses in small communities, providing employment to residents of such communities. The inadequacy of the present law to provide needed protection and assistance will inevitably result in unnecessary and unfair hardships on countless workers, businesses, and small towns unless remedial legislation is enacted.

My written statement contains a detailed discussion of the impact of imports on the clothespin and slide fastener industries to illustrate this danger.

It is sufficient in this oral presentation to merely point out that slide fastener imports have increased in the last 5 years from about 1 million units to a current annual rate of more than 45 million and that