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% of his average weekly wage or 65% 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 town of West Paris itself, the merchants, service establishments, truckers, farmers, etc. 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. and the Talon and Scovill plants are isolated examples, and possibly extreme ones, and that the continued existence of West Paris, Clarkesville and Cleveland, Georgia is unimportant to the national economy, it is suggested that there are literally thousands of small towns throughout the U.S. 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.

Congress has granted powers which can well destroy this way of life, through the sacrifice of these small companies. The writer does not profess to have the omniscient powers necessary to foresee the final results. It may well be that such a sacrifice is needed for the future welfare of the country. However, it is submitted that if the benefits to the over-all economy are as great as they have been painted by the Administration spokesmen, the taxpayers generally should be willing to pay for such benefits. The burden should not be shouldered by the 800 firms and 90,000 workers the Administration asked in 1962 the power to sacrifice, or by the uncounted thousands of others who will be directly or indirectly injured by such sacrifice.

THE NEED FOR ACTION BY CONGRESS

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. The following discussion of the impact of imports on the clothespin and slide fastener industries will serve to illustrate this danger:

1. The clothespin industry

During the years since World War II, as a direct result of increased imports encouraged by the trade agreements program, nine clothespin plants have either closed down completely, or discontinued the production of clothespins. These nine plants were located in Phillips, Maine; Glen Rock, Va.; Waterbury, Vermont; Cloquet, Minn.; San Jose, Calif.; Richwood, W. Va.; Ellsworth, Maine, Munising, Mich. and Spencer, Indiana—all small towns in which the loss of the employment opportunities previously afforded by the clothespin plants, was particularly serious.

Only four plants remain in operation. These are located in Dixfield, Mattawaumkeag and West Paris, Maine and in Montpelier, Vermont. These plants contribute materially to the economic welfare of the small towns in which they operate by providing employment to a large percentage of the employables, and by providing a market for wood which is the primary, if not sole source of income for hundreds of farmers.

These four plants have been struggling to survive under a 20¢ rate of duty on spring clothespins and a 15% rate of duty on standard clothespins.

Up until about ten years ago consumption of standard pins far exceeded consumption of spring pins. This was largely due to the fact that standard pins were considerably cheaper than spring pins, and since they served the same purpose,