

we propose to request five breakouts by size which would reveal the trade in miniature bearings, larger size bearings for instrument use, common automotive sizes, larger industrial bearings, and parts. These data would pinpoint the areas of concentration of imports. If, after an experimental period, it is found that certain categories bear the brunt of the trade, we will request the Committee to modify the TSUSA in order to make available precision detail.

We recognize that some members of the Bearing Industry do not consider size breakouts as an adequate substitute for a measure of precision in imports of ball bearings. We agree with the industry, but feel that size designation would represent a significant step forward in isolating ball bearing import trouble spots.

We will keep you informed of our progress on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

C. R. SMITH,
Secretary of Commerce.

Mr. BURKE. Thank you. Are there any questions?

Thank you, Mr. Shallow.

Mr. SHALLOW. Thank you.

(The following statements were received for the record, by the committee:)

STATEMENT OF GEORGE P. BYRNE, JR., SECRETARY AND LEGAL COUNSEL, U.S. CAP SCREW SERVICE BUREAU; U.S. WOOD SCREW SERVICE BUREAU; U.S. MACHINE SCREW SERVICE BUREAU; TAPPING SCREW SERVICE BUREAU; SOCKET SCREW PRODUCTS BUREAU; TUBULAR AND SPLIT RIVET COUNCIL; AIRCRAFT LOCKNUT MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION; BRIGHT WIRE GOODS MANUFACTURERS SERVICE BUREAU

THREATENED ANNIHILATION OF DOMESTIC SCREW MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

This appeal for legislative aid in the form of a quota on imports of screws and fasteners of various types, including wood screws, machine screws, cap screws, socket screws, tubular and split rivets, locknuts, bright wire goods and other threaded and non-threaded fasteners is made on behalf of the domestic manufacturers of those products whose names and addresses appear in the lists appended to this statement and whose businesses are being progressively weakened by low-wage cost imports. This attrition by imports has, since 1954, increased to a point where imports now threaten to completely annihilate the domestic Wood Screw Industry and are beginning to seriously undermine other segments of the Screw, Nut and Rivet Industry.

A glaring example of this attrition by imports is the case of Wood Screws. Although the imports of Wood Screws were very small in all periods prior to mid-1950, in the second half of 1950 imports averaged 737,000 gross per quarter and then rose to 1,451,000 gross per quarter in the first half of 1951. After the tariff had been further reduced from 15% to 12½% ad valorem, pursuant to the trade agreement concession effective June 6, 1951, imports reached a record peak of 1,776,000 gross in the third quarter of that year. Beginning early in 1955, wood screw imports again surged to new highs and continued on the uptrend until today wood screw imports are averaging more than 50 percent of the U.S. market. In other words, more than half of the U.S. market has been taken over by imported wood screws.

The above statements are substantiated by the following data attached to this statement:

Chart showing annual trend of "Imports of Wood Screws into U.S.A." (1928-1968)

Table showing percent of USA market obtained by U.S. Manufacturers and Imports (1928-1968)

IMPORTS OF OTHER FASTENERS FOLLOWING SAME UPWARD TREND

The fact that imports of stove bolts, cap screws, nuts, washers and rivets are increasing at an alarming degree and are following the same upward trend of wood screws is shown on the tables attached hereto captioned "Import Statistics of Screws, Bolts, Nuts and Rivets", which data is based on figures from the