giance to the United States but merely wish to achieve their selfish ends by selling to the currently highest bidder. If the American consumers become dependent on foreign meat supplies, it is very possible beef prices may be forced up or the United States could be deprived of a meat supply.

If the U.S. beef-producing industry is lost through insolvency, or through the unfair competition of cheap foreign imports, the loss would result in a serious detriment to the nutritional requirements of our citizens during normal peacetimes. Further, our consumers would be subjected to the possibility of improperly inspected meat being inadvertently exported to the United States. Also in case of an international emergency or the failure of the cheap beef-producing countries to furnish adequate quantities of meat, by reason of national disaster or political decision, or otherwise, our beef-producing industry could not be reinstituted overnight or within years.

We have many sound, compelling reasons for making certain that our beef-producing industry is permitted to remain strong, productive, and profitable.

With these thoughts in mind, we hope that you will give speedy and favorable action to H.R. 9475 and H.R. 9130 so that the cattlemen of our Nation can continue to move forward to stabilize our future supply of meat.

Mr. Chairman. Mr. Talcott, thank you for your very fine statement.

The next witness is our colleague from Hawaii, Mr. Matsunaga. You are recognized, sir.

STATEMENT OF HON. SPARK M. MATSUNAGA, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF HAWAII

Mr. Matsunaga. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I thank you for this opportunity of appearing before you and expressing my views on a particular aspect of tariff and trade proposals which are the subject of these hearings. My subject today deals with the Meat Import Act of 1964, its impact upon the cattle industry in Hawaii and other States, and proposed amendments to the 1964 meat import law.

While the sugar and pineapple industries dominate the economy of Hawaii, its cattle industry, which accounts for more than $10 million per annum, is considered indispensable to the Island State's welfare. Because of its insularity, Hawaii must develop and expand its intrastate sources of food supply to avoid possible adverse effects of isolation arising in an emergency. The experience of World War II has emphasized this need.

Paradoxically, while the problem of Hawaii's geographical location has, on the one hand, pointed to the urgent need for increased intrastate beef production, it has, on the other hand, facilitated peacetime importation of competing foreign beef from Australia and New Zealand.

The enactment of the Meat Import Act of 1964 has not provided the necessary encouragement to Hawaii's cattlemen. Statistics clearly explain why: In 1957, of our State market supply of beef and veal, beef imports into Hawaii from Australia and New Zealand totaled 11 percent or 4.666 million pounds, carcass weight. In 1967, 10 years