

here are primarily heavy equipment, and airplanes, and could well be used in the beef business in the United States today.

If we were turned loose and picked up the 6 percent that is being imported we would buy bulldozers. We would buy airplanes to seed the country and to fertilize the country from the air where it is too rough to do it on the ground.

We have millions of acres in the Southeast starting in Tennessee and Kentucky and running clear to the coast from Florida to Texas that are exactly the same kind of country that is being developed in Australia to send beef up here, and they are doing it at our expense and the development is there and it should be in this country because this country can do the same thing.

Now we have the problem of cost and I think that if protected in a reasonable manner, if this bill was cleaned up a little that we have on the books, with H.R. 9475, we could expect a reasonable future in the beef business.

We could buy more U.S. equipment and we could use it to expand the business in the Southeast, which is particularly subject to development at this point in the beef business, but we can't do it if we aren't protected and as long as we have to pay the bills of American labor, the huge defense budget, and local taxation to keep our communities, I don't see how we can go on, and that is the basis for our application at this point to do about four things.

We are quite anxious that the 10-percent override be canceled out that we have permitted above quotas because this was the original intent of Congress.

We have another problem. The year 1963 was in the base. It was an extremely heavy, unusual year of importation of beef. We would like to have it stricken and we would like to have the flow of beef evened out.

We have a chart that shows that a lot of the imported beef hits this country just as we start to market our cows in Texas and it moves through to Montana and the flow of imported beef hits us at exactly the same time that we are trying to market old cows and supply the same type of beef to the American market.

The question of price has come up, how much would this bill raise the price, and I think the representative of the White House, Miss Betty Furness, made the most accurate statement seen when she says that prices would go up about 2 or 3 cents a pound here perhaps.

That is exactly the way I estimate it. I might approach it in a different manner but I would like to remind you that we haven't had a price rise in 20 years, that 2 or 3 cents a pound wouldn't amount to more than we are raising our own Federal wages at this time under Executive order—5 percent—and I feel that the American farmer and rancher is entitled to some improvement in prices if he is going to live in this country.

It worries me no end that all our young people are talking about going to Australia. We are losing some of the finest, most aggressive young men in the business to other countries and the only market they have is the United States. They have found no way yet to send a sizable amount to Western Europe because they won't accept it, or to Japan because they won't accept it.