

are attempting to solve some of the other problems yourself in your voluntary cutback program.

We have marketing problems, as you well know. There is very little relationship between the price you get for cattle and the price of beef in the marketplace but there are a lot of reasons for that too.

I am very much interested in finding some way, and there is no easy answer, of getting better bargaining power in the marketplace for the cattle producer. I think it is a very basic industry. I think it is true you operate in every State in the Union. Is that right?

Mr. HOUSE. That is correct. We operate in every State in the Union and 35 States have over a million cattle within the State, so we have 35 States that are materially affected economically by the cattle business and we have operators in all States in the Union.

Mr. ULLMAN. In my district, which is larger than any State east of the Mississippi River, we have always produced a lot of cattle but I noticed in recent years there has been a great increase in production in the Eastern and Southern States.

Which is the largest cattle producer now?

Mr. HOUSE. The largest cattle producing State is Texas, almost twice the production there as any other State.

Mr. ULLMAN. And then what would some of the others be?

Mr. HOUSE. Then you drop into Iowa, a heavy feeding State, and you drop into Kansas and Nebraska and in the central midwest where there is both production of cows and calves and heavy feeding. Then you go to California where they have had a lot of feeding and some production and about on that basis.

Then you back off into the Southeast and you have some real heavy States in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, and it is moving into Georgia and of course Florida has a lot of cattle.

Mr. ULLMAN. If you eliminated the feeders probably the South would rank much higher in basic production, wouldn't it?

Mr. HOUSE. Definitely the South is subject to development further in the cattle business and in the beef producing business, more so I would say than my area or yours.

Mr. LANDRUM. Would you yield?

Mr. ULLMAN. Yes.

Mr. LANDRUM. I didn't catch that last statement. Please repeat it, if you will, Mr. House.

Mr. HOUSE. The Southeast is more subject to further development in the cattle business than perhaps the Midwest or the Far West. We feel that the great opportunity for the future and for future development is in cow herds in the Southeast and perhaps eventually even feeding of cattle.

Mr. ULLMAN. Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN. Any further questions? Mr. Betts.

Mr. BETTS. Mr. House, I want to personally compliment you on your statement. I think it is very effective and I think you raised some points quite well that haven't been touched on too much, labor protection from immigration, but particularly I wanted to direct your attention to some questions that our colleague, Mr. Battin of Montana, left for me to ask you.

He had to go back to Montana on some important business and asked if I would submit a couple of questions to you for the record.