facts program which will be initiated this fall trying to give our people the best marketing information in the feedlots that they can possibly have.

We think it will be equal to the information that purchasers have. We hope it will be, and in that manner we will better be able to market our cattle, but I think you should know that unfortunately we have had to ask your people not to increase cow herds for 4 years to cut the tonnage and the feedlots 5 percent in order to hold production in check, and people are responding to some extent.

Now, cheap grain will tempt people to feed more cattle and we have a real problem trying to face the cheap grain problem.

Mr. BETTS. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Any further questions?

If not, we thank you again for coming to the committee. You have been very helpful to us.

Mr. HOUSE. Thank you.

(The following letter was received by the committee:)

AMERICAN NATIONAL CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION,
Denver, Colo., July 9, 1968.

Hon. WILBUR D. MILLS,
Chairman, House Ways and Means Committee,
House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. MILLS: Mr. Bill House, President of the American National Cattlemen's Association, presented testimony to the Ways and Means Committee on June 24, 1968, in support of H.R. 9475.

As a follow-up, we felt it would be helpful to you to have a brief explanation of the proposed amendments to the Meat Import Act of 1964 (Public Law 88–482), so enclosed is a summary of them for your information.

If we can be of further assistance to you, please let us know. Meanwhile, we hope that the Ways and Means Committee will take early favorable action to report H.R. 9475. Thank you.

Cordially,

C. W. MCMILLAN,
Executive Vice President.

Brief explanation of amendments to the Meat Import Act of 1964 (PL 88–482) as contained in H.R. 9475 and S. 1588 and related bills

1. Eliminate the 10 percent "over-ride" on quotas

The present law has a "trigger point" which is 10 percent above the actual quota level. We feel that the "trigger point" should be the quota in order to close an obvious loophole inasmuch as importers could bring in as much as 109.999 percent of the quota without "triggering" the quota. This also would provide an opportunity for better planning on the part of importers and the exporting nations should they mis-calculate. A sharp scale back on their part would be needed if the quotas were imposed and they had to fall 10 percent below the present "trigger" level.

2. Adjust the base period years to 1958–62 from the 1959–63 base as contained in the law

This would eliminate the very high import year of 1963 and establish a much more realistic base from which to apply the factor establishing any quotas. If this were done, the quota would be based upon approximately 6 percent of U.S. production, rather than 6.7 percent or an adjusted base of approximately 20 percent under the law as written.

3. Quarterly quotas

Sharp fluctuations exist in imports coming into the United States. This graphically is illustrated in the accompanying chart. If quarterly quotas were obtained, this would mean a much more stable level of imports coming into the United States. This also would mean that the imports arriving in greater quantities