

strict veterinary control. Import tariffs are also high. Lard import duties are unusually high.

Japan.—Restricts imports of pork, canned beef, and sausages by a fund allocation system. High tariffs on most of these items also restrict trade.

Mexico.—Restricts entry of U.S. livestock and meat products by requiring import permits and the use of high duties. If these controls were lifted, U.S. exports would rise sharply. At present, only variety meats, hides, skins, and lard are permitted to enter in large quantities; sales of these commodities are smaller than they would be were trade unrestricted.

New Zealand.—Prohibits imports of most meats and other packinghouse products. Since it is a large exporter of these items, imports probably would be small, anyway. Individual licenses are required to import tallow, hides and skins. Imports of pork from the United States are prohibited because of hog cholera.

Norway.—Restricts imports of most meat products. Those of certain types of animal greases other than tallow and lard are permitted under license. Entry of sausage casings, pigskins, cattle hides, and sheep and lamb skins are not restricted. Imports of U.S. pork are not permitted because of the presence of hog cholera in the United States.

Portugal.—Restricts entry of U.S. meat products by use of import controls and high tariffs.

Spain.—All meat imports are purchased by the National Supply Commission. This agency controls the amount brought into the country and its origin. Tallow, casings, and cattle hides are imported by private individuals in unlimited amounts which are subject to reasonable tariffs.

Sweden.—Controls imports of most meats and meat products by licenses and import levies. A special tax on horsemeat, beef, and pork is applied to equalize prices of meats purchased from overseas sources with those domestically produced. Veterinary controls prevent the entry of frozen pork and pork variety meats from the United States. Processed and canned meats are not under veterinary controls but are subject to a 73 percent ad valorem duty (22 cents per pound).

Switzerland.—Imposes a minimum price system in order to keep imported livestock and meat products at the same level as domestically produced products. Meats and livestock are also State traded. Entry of most meat products is subject to import licenses. Foreign products are subject to custom duties, import taxes, and veterinary inspection fees.

The United Kingdom.—Places most livestock products in a most uncompetitive position because of the Commonwealth Preferential Tariff System. Under this system, products entering the United Kingdom from Commonwealth countries are subject to little duty or none. Products from other countries, including the United States, are subject to sizable duties. For example, on cattle hides and tallow from the United States buyers must pay a 10 percent duty, while those products from the Commonwealth enter duty-free. The U.K. tariffs on beef variety meats and on sausages from the United States are each 20 percent ad valorem; there is no duty on these items from Commonwealth suppliers.

Similar information on trading restrictions imposed by lesser trading nations is available, but it seemed unnecessary to include all countries in this section. We believe the foregoing clearly substantiates the points we are making. Most major trading nations employ high tariffs, a variety of non-tariff barriers, or a combination of restrictions, to control imports of meat and meat products. Yet we are being told the United States must not resort to any reasonable protection of a similar nature because we will severely damage world trade and invite extensive retaliation.

THE CASE FOR REASONABLE IMPORT CONTROL OF MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS

In the succeeding chapters of this presentation, we present our arguments in favor of reasonable protection of the domestic livestock industry, and the necessity for modification in the existing statute, Public Law 88-4829. Modifications sought do not amount to drastic changes and, we emphasize, access would still be provided into our domestic market for meat and meat products.

All too often in years past, profits in the livestock industry have not been reasonable; and, in fact, severe losses have been sustained by those engaged. Since imports represent a percentage of that supply which is a most important price determinant, and they contribute to further fluctuation in that supply, we