into Federal compliance of 70 percent lean. Here it is a boon to processors to use imported processing beef and also keep down costs at the same time.

Hamburger consumed is 33.5 percent of total beef consumed. The figures of processing beef show that in years of short domestic supply there is an increase in imported processing beef. In 1965 per capita supply of domestic processed beef was 11.9 while imported was 3.6 per capita.

However, in 1963 the figures almost balanced with 6.3 domestic and 6.5 imported. These figures apply to all processing meat used. Any restriction to importing processing beef will also add to the cost of the average family weekly food bill.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, hamburger retailed at 52.9 cents per pound in 1958. In the first quarter of this year it retailed at 55.1 cents per pound and that is the highest price in the past 10 years.

In this period the price increase has been 4.1 percent. Comparative figures show frankfurters increased 8.7 percent and rib roasts 19.4. The average consumer spends 26.5 percent of the food dollar for meat and 25 percent of this is ground beef, frankfurters, and luncheon meats.

In closing, the restriction of imported beef in our opinion will not only increase costs of comminuted meat products but will also lower the quality.

Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Mr. Kern. Are there any questions?

If not, we thank, you sir.

Mr. Marsh, you have been before the committee in the past but for purposes of this record will you again identify yourself, please.

STATEMENT OF EDWIN E. MARSH, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION

Mr. MARSH. Yes, sir. Mr. Mills and members of the committee, I am Edwin E. Marsh, executive secretary of the National Wool Growers Association, Salt Lake City, Utah.

In order to conform to the time limitation given me today I will summarize my testimony but will appreciate having the complete written statement in the record.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection your entire statement will appear in the record.

Would you like to have it following your summary?

Mr. MARSH. Yes, if that is satisfactory.

The CHAIRMAN. All right. It will appear that way in the record.

Mr. MARSH. Mr. Chairman, our organization strongly endorses the principles of your bill, H.R. 9475, to revise quotas on meat imports. When the meat import quota bill was in conference between the two Houses in 1964 one of the changes made was to establish an overall annual quota of 725,400,000 pounds of beef, veal, and mutton instead of setting a quota on each specie of meat as in the bill which the Senate had passed.

In order to help control any adverse effects on either the domestic sheep industry or the domestic cattle industry we would urge that