

We believe all working Americans are affected by U.S. trade policy. Our Nation requires maximum employment, and healthy industries, to maintain a healthy economy.

Most industries are willing to share in the growth of the U.S. market with the foreign producers, but they are not willing to have this growth completely absorbed by imports, or to have present productive capacity and employment displaced by imports.

We believe that the tremendous rise in American investment and technology abroad added to rising capacity of foreign firms results in decreasing exports and increasing imports, and eliminates existing jobs and job potential, and reduces domestic industry's capacity to operate at a healthy level and properly share in our country's growth.

Our experience, borne out by statistics, shows that the products produced by the employees who are members of our committee have been and will continue to be faced with constantly rising imports, declining employment, plants closing their doors, and no relief in sight.

In pottery, for example, the 60-percent increase in imports in 1966 over 1961 is called the adding of insult to injury.

Imports of china and earthenware, made in major part by the Japanese, had already captured 48.4 percent and 33.6 percent of the domestic market respectively.

Twenty pottery plants have closed their doors since 1954, unable to compete with imports.

This is an almost unbelievable, but factual, account of what has happened in the pottery industry.

Of the \$55 million of total pottery imports in 1966, the Japanese captured \$33 million.

You will note the rising increases in imports of cement, lime, and gypsum products, with a 90-percent increase; ceramic floor and wall tile, 85-percent increase; flat glass, including sheet, plate, float, cast, and rolled, tempered, laminated, and mirrors, 22-percent increase; illuminating and table and arc glassware, a 67-percent increase.

These increases are based on a comparison of 1961 with 1966, and like pottery, do not show the previous damage.

Exports in all of these industries are minimal, while imports have displaced in excess of 50,000 workers.

Something must be done to prevent annihilation of these industries and their workers.

On behalf of the Stone, Glass, and Clay Coordinating Committee, we urge legislation to regulate foreign imports, U.S. foreign investment policy, and congressional consideration and approval before any changes are made in our antidumping procedures.

We support the Fair International Trade Act first introduced by Congressman Herlong on May 1, 1968, and subsequently introduced by more than 30 Congressmen, expressing their concern on the serious problem of uncontrolled imports.

As a closing comment, the United States has been warned by the EEC that we are risking further deterioration of our balance of payments unless we take vigorous remedial action against rising imports from the EEC.

This article was in the Washington Post May 21, 1968. We certainly should heed their timely warning.

Thank you very much.