Thank you for your time and indulgence.
(Mr. Thomas' prepared statement follows:)

STATEMENT OF VICTOR H. THOMAS, GENERAL VICE PRESIDENT, UNITED CEMENT, LIME, AND GYPSUM WORKERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION, AFL–CIO

I am Victor H. Thomas, 5th General Vice President of the United Cement, Lime & Gypsum Workers' International Union, AFL–CIO. I would like to thank the Chairman and this Committee for giving me the opportunity to express the views of my union on several pending proposals relating to the International Antidumping Code and the Antidumping Act of 1921.

My union has long been concerned with the injury which American workers have sustained as a result of the international unfair trade practice known as "dumping", especially as it has affected those employed in the domestic cement industry. On two previous occasions I have sought to bring this serious and unfair situation to the attention of those concerned here in the Congress. The first time was during the August, 1961 hearings before the House Committee on Education and Labor, General Subcommittee on Labor, on the impact of imports and exports on employment. The second time was during the September and October, 1966 hearings of that same Subcommittee on the impact of imports and exports on American labor. On both of these occasions I filed statements dealing at some length with recurring instances of dumped imports of foreign cement and with the substantial amount of unemployment and underemployment caused thereby to American workers and to members of my union. I would like to incorporate by reference both my 1961 statement and my 1966 statement for consideration now by this Committee. I would also like to bring this testimony up-to-date and to emphasize these problems again, as they continue unabated.

The dumping of cement into the domestic market is fully described and thoroughly documented in the statement which was submitted to the Committee in these hearings on June 14, 1968 by the Cement Industry Committee for Tariff and Antidumping and in the statements previously presented by the Cement Industry Committee and by its counsel, Covington & Burling, in the 1961 and 1966 hearings. My union feels that the extended and continual legal proceedings in which the cement companies have engaged over the years in an attempt to halt such dumping constitute a more than adequate effort by the industry to keep it free of such unfair trade practices. If our domestic legislation were adequate, these efforts would have been effective and the legitimate interests of American workers in not losing jobs as the result of the unfair competitive practices of foreign companies would have been protected. The record makes it apparent, however, that such efforts were not effective, and both domestic industry and labor continue to suffer serious injury.

In order to bring home the seriousness of the situation, I would like to refer to a series of five tables presented in the 1966 hearings by Covington & Burling as counsel to the Cement Industry Committee. For the convenience of the Committee I have attached to my testimony copies of these tables, revised to make them current and to reflect the most recent import statistics of the Department of Commerce, Bureau of International Commerce, U.S. Trade Section.

Table I is a list of the antidumping proceedings filed by the domestic industry against imports from no less than 15 foreign countries during the years 1958–1967. Table II records the amount of foreign cement imported from these "dumpers" during the same period. Table III shows how much this unfair competition has hurt our critical balance of payments position. These figures were computed by adding to the F.O.B. value of the imports (as recorded by the Commerce Department from U.S. Customs duty valuation certificates) an additional factor of 10% to cover freight and insurance, which is also uniformly purchased from overseas firms. Addition of the 10% factor for these items is in accordance with the report of the U.S. Tariff Commission, "C.I.F. Value of U.S. Imports", February 7, 1967. Using the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics figures on productivity in the domestic cement industry (5.97 barrels per man hour in 1966 and 6.27 barrels per man hour in 1967), Table IV translates these unfairly lost sales into man hours lost for domestic workers. Finally, using average domestic cement industry wage rates ($3.97 per hour in 1966 and $4.27 per hour in 1967), Table V shows the amounts of wages by which American labor has been unfairly deprived as a result of the dumped and tainted imports.