

will not be completely destroyed by products made with unreasonably low wages in foreign countries.

We therefore respectfully request that you support H.R. 16936, entitled the Fair International Trade Act, introduced by Congressman Sydney Herlong of Florida.

Mr. FULTON (presiding). Thank you, sir.

Mr. CHESTER. That finishes our testimony, Mr. Chairman.

If there are any questions, we will stand ready to answer them.

Mr. BYRNES. Some of the witnesses emphasized adjustment assistance. It is my impression that most of your workers are rather highly skilled. Am I wrong in that, or not?

Mr. CHESTER. In some cases, Mr. Byrnes. In the flat glass industry, it is probably the highest paid of all of our affiliates.

Mr. BYRNES. I am talking principally of the training that is required, and the fundamental skills that the normal worker has to attain.

Mr. CHESTER. I think they could probably address themselves to that question.

On flat glass, they have skills, and P. and M., production and maintenance workers.

Mr. REISER. In flat glass, most of that is mechanized equipment, and during the war they stepped right into the ammunitions.

Mr. BYRNES. Then adjustment assistance can be of some help.

It seems to me that where you have higher skills—which I assume you have in the pottery, chinaware production—trying to acquire another skill through new training is not a very satisfactory solution to the problem.

Mr. BARBAREE. And also the average age in the potteries is very high. Because of the decline in job opportunities, we have not been attracting young people.

Mr. BYRNES. That is true in flat glass?

Mr. REISER. Well, yes. It takes nearly 12 to 15 years to even hold on to a labor job, because if it wasn't for our early retirement systems, at age 62, we would be in real trouble.

Now, about the training, most of our plants are in small towns, and the people at that age are hesitant to leave, if they do get the chance.

Mr. BYRNES. You have to move someplace else.

One of my colleagues made the remark that someone said that you people want a break. We thought that that was a bad word to use if you were in the glass business, so maybe we could find a little different phrase.

Mr. REISER. It is an ill wind that doesn't blow somebody some good. When they break them, we make them.

Mr. BYRNES. Thank you very much.

Mr. FULTON. Congressman Burke?

Mr. BURKE. Do any of you gentlemen represent the workers employed in the stonecutting industry, the granite industry?

Mr. CHESTER. The Stone and Allied Products Workers represent them.

Mr. CORNETT. I do.

Mr. BURKE. I know in Quincy, Mass., where they have the Quincy granite, they find it very difficult to get new workers into this trade.