The CHAIRMAN. Senator Javits——

Mr. BURKE. Mr. Chairman, at this time I would like to have unanimous consent to have placed in the record a statement by Congressman William D. Hathaway of Maine. (See p. 4010.)

The CHAIRMAN. Let those statements appear in the record at the conclusion of the members who are testifying this morning. Also at that point in the record I would ask that the statement of the Hon. Robert McClory be included also. (See p. 4011.)

Senator Muskie, we appreciate your coming over on this side commisserating with us about some of our problems. You are welcome.

STATEMENT OF HON. EDMUND S. MUSKIE, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF MAINE

Senator MUSKIE. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. I must say this is unfamiliar water for me.

The CHAIRMAN. You feel right at home.

Senator MUSKIE. Thank you very much. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I appreciate very much this opportunity to appear before you to testify in support of H.R. 88, the Orderly Marketing Act, introduced by Congressman Burke, and H.R. 13616, the Orderly Footwear Marketing Act. I should also like to note my support of H.R. 17674, introduced by Congressman Collier.

Mr. Chairman, the last decade has witnessed a swift and remarkable change in the conditions of world trade. In a number of industries, particularly the shoe industry, the complex problems of high labor input, narrow profit margins, and limited capital resources have helped low-wage foreign competition to gain major inroads on the American domestic market.

This situation has threatened the existence of many American manufacturers, particularly the small ones, and their workers.

Although we all recognize the need for expanded world trade, as I do in my northeasterly State, we do not think it makes sense for our workers or our industrialists, or in the long run, for industrialists and workers in other countries, to depend on erratic, unstable trade developments as a vehicle for economic growth.

In our domestic markets we use a number of devices, including minimum wage and hour laws, for example, to insure fair competition. We cannot apply similar requirements to foreign countries.

In 1955, footwear imports were approximately 8 million pairs, or 1.2 percent of domestic production. In 1967, we imported 131 million pairs, a dramatic increase over 1955. For the first 4 months of 1968, we imported 69 million pairs, or 30.7 percent of domestic production.

This shocking increase in imports is most significant to me, Mr. Chairman, because footwear manufacturers are the largest employers of labor in the State of Maine. It is important, I take it, to my colleagues in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, New York, Missouri, Tennessee, Arkansas, Illinois, and Ohio, where substantial numbers of workers in the manufacturer of footwear are employed.

It is particularly serious to the American economy because it strikes at small business the foundation of our economy, and the type of economic enterprise that we are trying to preserve.

The majority of footwear factories are in small towns where they are the major source of employment and income. There are over 1,200