

Other nations do not hesitate to protect their domestic industries. Congress recognized the realities of the import situation a few years ago in setting up protection for the domestic meat industry. Similar protection has been set up for the oil industry. The long-term cotton agreement was inaugurated by Congress when imports were around 6 percent of domestic production or a quarter of the present level of imports to footwear.

President Johnson recognized the impact of imports on the dairy industry recently when he imposed by proclamation drastic restrictions on the imports of dairy products.

I think this Congress needs to know a great deal more about the details of our international trade, the flow of dutiable and nondutiable goods and the effect of tariffs on this flow, as well as the restrictive practices of our trading partners.

I want to commend this committee for holding these hearings on foreign trade, and hope that productive legislation will result to better regulate the flow of goods into this country.

This administration has used monetary and fiscal policies to achieve gains in the GNP in 1 year equal to or greater than the total of our annual merchandise exports. Our continuing problem is to maintain a viable economy at home.

Otherwise, we shall not be able to help less fortunate countries. And I emphasize again this appeal is a far cry indeed from 18th- and 19th-century "protectionism" charge that is usually hurled at anybody who raises a warning voice against rapidly increasing imports.

I will conclude my presentation with just this observation. When I introduced this legislation in 1961 for the reasons that I have outlined here and for the objectives which I have described here the footwear industry was virtually alone in seeking this kind of relief which was consistent with expanded trade but at the same time which permitted an orderly transitional period enabling the domestic industry to adjust.

Since that time the same reason which created the problem for the shoe industry has increasingly created a similar problem for an increasing number of other industries.

This suggests, Mr. Chairman, that we have not really in developing our trade policies focused upon the adjustment problem of American industry. I think we must, first of all, in the interest of expanded trade, but, secondly, in the interest of protecting vital American industries and vital American jobs.

The orderly marketing approach I think is the best device yet conceived to achieve this twin objective.

May I, since I am on this side, pay my compliments to Congressman Burke and Congressman Bates for their interest in the problems of the shoe industry. What we have undertaken to do and what we have undertaken to develop legislatively I think is also of importance to other industries in our own area.

There are wood turning industries in my State which are concerned with this. The textile industries, both cotton and wool, are concerned with this. The same approach I think can be taken constructively, and consistent with expanded trade, to protect the legitimate interests of American industries against real grievances.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.