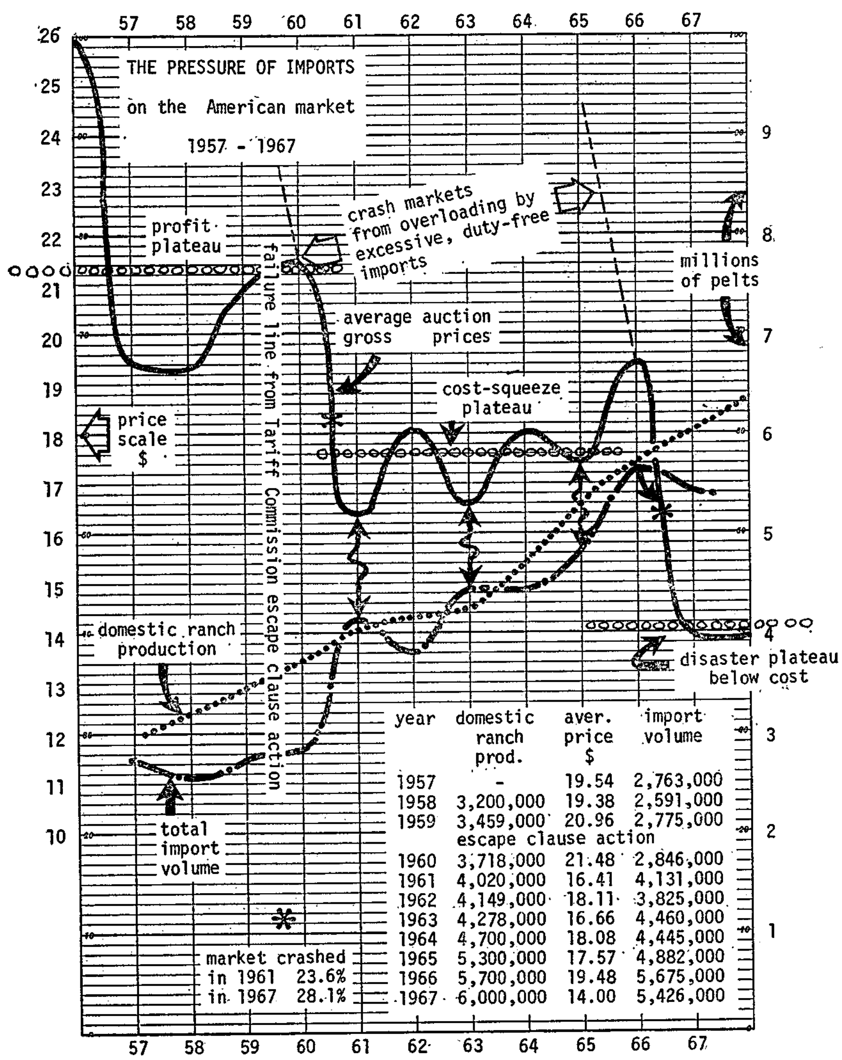
IMPORTS EXERT CONSTANT PRESSURE ON AMERICAN PRICE STRUCTURE



year	domestic ranch prod.	aver. price $	import volume
1957	-	19.54	2,763,000
1958	3,200,000	19.38	2,591,000
1959	3,459,000	20.96	2,775,000
	escape clause action		
1960	3,718,000	21.48	2,846,000
1961	4,020,000	16.41	4,131,000
1962	4,149,000	18.11	3,825,000
1963	4,278,000	16.66	4,460,000
1964	4,700,000	18.08	4,445,000
1965	5,300,000	17.57	4,882,000
1966	5,700,000	19.48	5,675,000
1967	6,000,000	14.00	5,426,000

FIGURE I

The years 1956 through 1960 represent a new and still very experimental industry in which the limits of consumption are still untested and relatively easy profit attracts new producers. A bar is inserted arbitrarily at the $21.50 level to indicate the profit plateau.

After the failure of the domestic producer to secure protection in 1959, imports surge upward from 2.8 million in 1960 to 4.1 million in 1961—we are following now the price curve—as described above, causing a "break" in the price curve of 23.6 percent. Domestic prices fell from $21.48 in 1960 to $16.41 in 1961, ushering in a whole new era in American mink ranching.