

Legislation should not allow its wholesale violation under the bright aegis of "free trade". Job opportunities for the poverty stricken should be expanded rather than contracted as a matter of basic policy.

Until such a time as progress abroad maximizes market demands in those areas and wage levels for the workers of such industry—and our own aid in this cause has gone to workers in many countries—we ask the establishment of quotas on shoe and leather imports. Such quotas should allow for substantial imports and should seek the encouragement of competition in style, quality and innovation for the welfare of the world industry. But they should be set at levels consistent with the expansion and the progress of our own industries and the welfare of the men and women who look to them for a livelihood.

TABLE I.—SHOE PRODUCTION, IMPORTS AND EMPLOYMENT

	U.S. production (pairs)	Imports ¹ (pairs)	Employment
1967.....	603,000,000	77,000,000	228,800
1966.....	646,000,000	55,500,000	237,200
1965.....	629,000,000	40,000,000	233,400
1964.....	613,000,000	38,600,000	230,500
1957-59 average.....	607,000,000	18,900,000	242,900

¹ Excluding rubber and vinyl type shoes valued at less than 50 cents a pair produced primarily in Eastern Asia and Japan.

Sources: U.S. production and imports, U.S. Department of Commerce; employment, BLS series for all employees.

TABLE II.—JOBS LOST TO IMPORTS

	Percent im- ports to U.S. shoe produc- tion	Total job loss to imports
1967.....	12.8	29,917
1966.....	8.6	20,399
1965.....	6.4	14,938
1964.....	6.3	14,521
1957-59.....	3.1	7,530

TABLE III.—LEATHER PRODUCTION AND IMPORTS

[Dollar amounts in thousands]

	U.S. shipments	U.S. imports	Percent im- ports to ship- ments
1967.....	¹ \$680,950	\$70,060	10.4
1966.....	790,725	74,996	9.5
1965.....	720,946	66,998	9.3
1964.....	658,240	52,664	8.0
1957-59 average.....	¹ 676,086	37,413	5.5

¹ Dollar volume of shipments of 1967 and 1957 estimated on basis of Federal Reserve Board index of leather production adjusted by BLS wholesale price index for leather.

TABLE IV.—LEATHER INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT AND JOBS LOST THROUGH LEATHER AND SHOE IMPORTS

	All leather tanning employees	Jobs lost to leather imports	Jobs lost ¹ to shoe imports	Total
1967.....	30,500	3,172	3,202	6,374
1966.....	31,600	2,940	2,212	5,152
1965.....	31,600	2,940	1,643	4,503
1964.....	31,400	2,500	1,156	3,656
1957-59 average.....	38,000	2,090	965	3,055

¹ Based on Tanners Council estimate that 82% of leather is used for shoes.