

*that criteria.* From the enactment of the 1962 Trade Expansion Act to date, domestic industries have filed 10 petitions with the Tariff Commission for investigation and trade adjustment assistance; domestic firms have filed 6 petitions and workers have filed 5 petitions. In all, 21 petitions have been filed and as previously stated *the Tariff Commission has not made an affirmative finding in any.*

*E. The proposed liberalization of the tariff adjustment provisions of the trade expansion act of 1962 by the trade expansion act of 1968 (H.R. 17551) for the benefit of firms and workers will help those classes little if at all unless there is a change in the criteria for injury applying to domestic industries*

As above stated, when Congress changed the criteria for relief to domestic industries injured as a result of increased imports due to a trade concession from the escape clause provisions contained in the Section 7 of the Trade Extension Act of 1951 to the provisions contained in the present act (Trade Expansion Act of 1962) and included also therein for the first time tariff assistance to injured firms and workers, *not one petition on behalf of domestic industries, firms or workers qualified.* The criteria for securing relief in the present law (Trade Expansion Act of 1962) is the same for domestic industries, individual firms or workers.

The Administration recognizing that whereas the escape clause provisions of of the Trade Extension Act of 1951 were successfully applied by several domestic industries which qualified thereunder, the changes made for securing relief by injured industries, individual firms or workers under the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, proved to be a complete nullity, is now suggesting amendments to the latter Act through the proposed "Trade Expansion Act of 1968" (H.R. 17551). However, the proposed changes in H.R. 17551 apply merely to individual firms and workers *and does not apply to domestic industries.* In other words the proposed new Act will make it easier for individual firms and workers to secure relief from loss of jobs or loss of income due to increased ruinous imports, but the domestic industry which contains the individual firms and employs the workers will still be handicapped by the criteria under the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, which criteria has been impossible to meet up to the present time.

The President in requesting Congress to liberalize the previous impossible restrictions placed on those industries, firms and individuals seeking justifiable relief from imports, very studiously limited the proposed changes to apply only to firms and workers. He stated:

"Some firms, however, have difficulty in meeting foreign competition, and need time and help to make the adjustment.

"Since international trade strengthens the nation as a whole, it is only fair that the government assist those businessmen and workers who face serious problems as a result of increased imports.

"The Congress recognized this need—in the Trade Expansion Act of 1962—by establishing a program of trade adjustment assistance to businessmen and workers adversely affected by imports."

It is respectfully pointed out that to offer relief to firms and workers and not to the domestic industry involved is absolutely worthless! What can it possibly benefit a firm if it receives tax assistance or a loan or other adjustment, if the industry is forced out of the business of producing the article because of low cost foreign competition? What can it possibly benefit a worker in the long run if he gets extra unemployment benefits or training or relocation, if the industry in which he was employed transfers its manufacturing ability and know-how to low wage countries because of imports from similar low wage countries? If the proposed "Trade Expansion Act of 1968" (H.R. 17551) is passed in the present form as relates to escape clause provisions for domestic industries and tariff adjustment provisions as relates to individual firms and workers, it is possible that a firm or worker could qualify for relief under the new provisions but the domestic industry could not qualify even though petitions could be filed by all three categories at the same time and the same evidence adduced by the Tariff Commission in its investigation.

The domestic wood louvered products industry would benefit nothing if under the proposed criteria through the Trade Expansion Act of 1968, an individual firm or wood louvered products worker were granted some of the relief outlined in the act but the domestic industry itself gives up production. In order to meet the foreign competition in the American market place it would be necessary to put the domestic industry on a competitive basis through the remedies offered