

he cannot classify our compressed, or densified "wood blocks" as "wood blocks dedicated to finishing into specific articles such as shuttles" or picker sticks (item 200.5500), since the material is "compression modified or densified wood" which falls under another item, 203.1000.

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE ATTEMPT

On August 12, 1965, Senator Thurmond of South Carolina offered an amendment to H.R. 7969 which would have helped correct this difference. This is recorded on page 19461, volume 111, Congressional Record 148 of August 12, 1962. The amendment was passed by the Senate when H.R. 7969 was passed. Later, however, the amendment was deleted from the bill in conference. Since the provision was not in the bill when it originally passed the House of Representatives but was added in the Senate, we understand the House conferees stood firm in their opposition to it. I do not fully understand this matter, but we were informed that according to the Constitution all such legislation must have its origin in the House of Representatives.

GENERAL ECONOMIC EFFECT—BENEFIT FROM PROPOSED LEGISLATION

We feel that this legislative proposal would help solve the difficult problem of foreign competition facing the textile machine parts industry. It would ultimately be of very tangible benefit to the textile industry as a whole, as it would enable American manufacturers of wooden machine parts to offer not only the prompt service which they demand from me and other manufacturers but it would also help enable the American manufacturers to offer reduced prices on their requirements for picker sticks, shuttles and so forth. Thus you can see that the current unfair tariff law affects manufacturers of wood machine parts and their employees, as well as indirectly affecting the textile industry and anything that affects the textile industry, I think, affects the economy as a whole.

ACTION REQUESTED

I therefore ask that you please give this matter—either H.R. 10950 introduced by Hon. Robert T. Ashmore, Representative of South Carolina, or H.R. 10973 introduced by Hon. William L. St. Onge, Representative from Connecticut—your serious and careful consideration as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Mr. BURKE. Do you know whether there were any objections raised by anyone about the bills that were filed by Congressman Ashmore and Congressman St. Onge?

Mr. TRAVIS. I do not, sir.

Mr. BURKE. Do you know whether any of the Federal agencies objected?

Mr. TRAVIS. On these specific bills, no, sir, I do not. Congressman Ashmore filed a previous bill that he was not pleased with and he filed this one in lieu of it and there were some reports.

I have a copy here with me of a report from the U.S. Tariff Commission concerning it.