

Now the effect on the balance of payments. The chemical industry will have a balance-of-trade surplus this year, and it will not have a balance-of-trade deficit next year or the year after, but its contribution to the United States balance of trade will be seriously affected. There will be a more rapid rise of benzenoid imports than there has been in the past and the chemical industry will continue to lose its share of exports in the world market. We will be forced to invest more abroad. Exports will expand but at a slower rate and by 1975 we expect, unless something is done, that the chemical industry will be in a trade deficit.

These are not results we want but we are going to have them whether we like it or not unless something is done to correct the current situation.

Mr. Gerstacker referred to the Tariff Commission report. It is not before the committee. We asked and have asked repeatedly that the Tariff Commission conclusions and findings be put before the committee. Initially we were told that the conclusions were not meaningful without access to the confidential data. The Chairman of the Tariff Commission said they were meaningful if you understood the facts of the industry, and we had supplied the facts so we thought we could understand them. In any event, if they are not meaningful what harm is there to let them out?

More recently we have been told that the findings incorporate confidential data. We asked that this data be eliminated, expunged, and that the remainder of the findings and conclusions be released to us and put before this committee. This has not been done. The Government in its testimony described these findings and conclusions in terms that make it clear that they would be meaningful and that they could be put before us and the committee without revealing confidential information.

The Commission, according to the Government statement, gave advice as to "whether particular concessions would have an adverse effect upon domestic producers and would have a significant effect on employment profit levels, use of productive facilities."

We believe these are significant facts which ought to be before you and ought to be before us so we have a chance to comment on them.

Congressman Curtis suggested, if these were to be revealed in the executive session, as the Government has suggested, that we be given an opportunity to be present and comment. We believe this is a sound suggestion and we would certainly support any such proposal that we be given an opportunity to attend and comment.

We do not see how the Government can come here and ask for approval without giving us a chance to comment on these figures which it proposes to use.

May I say in conclusion that in our view there can be no liberalization of trade without reciprocity and there can be no liberalization of trade without requiring our trading partners to eliminate the disadvantage to our trade which comes from the export rebate-border tax mechanism which is now being imposed on us by our trading partners.

Our balance-of-trade and balance-of-payments problems will not permit us to go on trying to compete in world markets with one hand