year, are not likely to be greeted with enthusiasm by men presently earning twice that amount. Nor can we overlook the depressing effect of the loss of seniority that many would suffer through forced change of employment.

Let me emphasize that labor is a principal cost factor in the manufacture of dyes and pigments, and a number of other benzenoid chemicals. Because of this, the domestic benzenoid industry is especially vulnerable to competition from manufacturers located in nations where low wages prevail.

Since 1922, when the Congress enacted ASP, this sensible and realistic valuation system has effectively prevented unfair competition from cheap-labor countries abroad.

The need for ASP is as valid today as it was in 1922, even without giving consideration to the additional pressures created by the current employment crisis in our cities.

This is no time to entertain the elimination of a program that will eliminate jobs which are so essential to the well-being of our urban areas.

Although Ambassador Roth attempts to minimize the impact, he does concede that there is a likelihood that some injury will result if ASP is abandoned.

I am convinced that Ambassador Roth is underestimating the impact, and that the loss of jobs in the Greater Newark area and other urban centers will be on a much larger scale than he foresees.

I base this conclusion on the fact that our trading partners abroad are so determined and so vigorous in their efforts to bring an end to ASP. They have gone as far as to offer to speed up the timetable of tariff reductions agreed upon at Geneva in order to win this victory, knowing, however, that they can always institute another round of border tax increases to offset the concessions, or indeed impose quotas as France has just done.

Ambassador Roth's reassurances of minimum impact notwithstanding, we must ask what prompts this vigor and what inspires this determination from abroad to win the elimination of ASP at home.

The answer, of course, is obvious.

The cheap-labor nations seek an end to ASP so they can take advantage of their low wages to gain an unfair competitive edge and capture the American benzenoid market.

They know that without the equalizing mechanism of ASP, it will be only a matter of time until they can cash in on cut-rate prices made possible by low-wage labor, squeeze out domestic competitors and close down American plants. That this will bring unemployment to thousands of American workers is no concern of theirs.

Carried to its logical conclusion, the elimination of ASP invites nothing less than the turning back of the calendar to the early 1900's when the United States was without a domestic benzenoid industry and this Nation of ours was completely at the mercy of foreign manufacturers and cartel-rigged prices.

This very alarming invitation should not be overlooked in any realistic appraisal of the pros and cons of ASP. Foreign domination of the dye and pigment industry is deeply rooted in the history of international trade and provided the initial impetus for the enactment of ASP by the Congress.