

oil industry by our States and our Federal Government in contrast to that of Venezuela, then this becomes a very important nontariff trade barrier.

It may be that Venezuela in the long run is hurting its own economy by not imposing stricter conservation laws. I don't know. But I would like to know a little more about this because this enters into this area that we have been discussing of nontariff barriers which are increasingly looming into importance in international trade.

Mr. MOODY. I think, Mr. Curtis, that you would find it very interesting to discuss this matter with people from Venezuela. Mr. Gurfinkel is here most of the time.

Mr. CURTIS. I have discussed it with him and others. Sometimes we get better criticism from outside observers, particularly since this issue is one of the causes of the heavy imports.

Mr. MOODY. That is one. Of course they have a problem there of being in the good graces of the big companies that they are doing business with too but they also have a serious problem in the world petroleum service that gives them some sleepless nights in Venezuela.

We have never at any time asked for any consideration as far as the coal industry is concerned of domestic production. That is a domestic fuel and we will just take our chances and they will either beat our brains out or we will beat theirs, one or the other. When it comes to this foreign combination, however, then that is a different breed and we get all the way into the various applications of tax policy and everything that goes with it but we honestly believe that the United States of America as a nation does have the necessity for having available to it a domestic source of fuel and energy, and history tell us that every country that ever got into the position of buying its energy went broke and we would just as soon not do that, especially when we have these resources here.

We just haven't developed our domestic resources with the exception of course of the atomic.

Mr. CURTIS. Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN. Any further questions?

Thank you again, Mr. Moody, for bringing to us your statement.

Mr. MOODY. It is a pleasure being here.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection the committee will recess until 2 o'clock this afternoon. Our first witness will be Mr. Norton.

(Whereupon, at 12:45 p.m., the committee recessed to reconvene at 2 p.m., the same day.)

AFTER RECESS

(The committee reconvened at 2 p.m., Hon. A. Sydney Herlong, Jr., presiding.)

Mr. HERLONG. The committee will be in order.

The first witness this afternoon will be our colleague from Mississippi, the Honorable William M. Colmer. Welcome, Mr. Colmer, proceed as you see fit, please.