

total rose because there was no quota. Let us continue. In 1962 we imported 69,000 pounds of sweetened condensed milk. The total rose to 4,074,000 pounds in 1967. It was only after frantic appeals to the Tariff Commission as to possible injury to our dairy farmers that a quota was imposed. What quota? Naturally, the totals imported during 1967 for these two commodities.

It seems axiomatic to say that despite the fact that fair quota had been imposed on cheese, butter, and fresh cream, a circumvention of these quotas was easily attained by the invention of new products and substitutes. These in turn got new quotas for those new items of merchandise although they patently evaded the direct definition of cheese, butter, or milk.

Mr. Chairman, the examples I have noted are strong enough to justify the imposition of a strict quota on milk and milk products based on the average import totals of the import period 1961-65, as provided in my bill H.R. 4529. This will apply to all substitutes and evasions which have to be made part of the basic quotas. Only in this way can our primary producers of dairy products be adequately protected against unjust and uncompetitive imports from abroad.

Mr. HERLONG. Are there any questions? If not, then thank you, Mr. Whalley.

Our next witness is Mr. John M. Ashbrook, our distinguished colleague from Ohio. You are recognized, sir.

STATEMENT OF HON. JOHN M. ASHBROOK, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF OHIO

Mr. ASHBROOK. Mr. Chairman, as a Representative to Congress from an area in Ohio that is rich in farming land, and especially dairy farming, and is outstanding in the Nation for its cheese processors, I have consistently devoted a great deal of time and study to the problems of dairy imports and their effects.

On numerous occasions I have shared my views on legislation to control dairy imports and there is no question that I favor strong, effective controls on importation of dairy products. I, too, have sponsored legislation to effect a workable system of controls and while I certainly do not want to belabor these hearings I do want to emphasize the weight of the situation.

Nearly a year ago, during a taping of a radio program for the 17th District, the regional supervisor of the Ohio Farm Bureau for southeastern Ohio explained what is happening. I think his words succinctly point out the problem.

He said:

I guess we are all amazed at the inventive minds of those who want to export their dairy products to the United States. Over the years certain restrictions have been placed on the amount of butterfat and so forth, but they then developed a product that they called butter oil and there were no restrictions on that and they brought it in. The next restriction that was set up was that nothing over 45 percent butterfat could be imported. And then we found that they were importing a product containing 44 percent butterfat and 25 percent sugar and some filler, and so on and so forth. After restrictions were put on the sugar they lowered that and added some eggs.

The gist of this gentleman's statement was that "we just can't seem to beat them because they're always beating us at our own game."