STATEMENT OF HON. M. GENE SNYDER, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF KENTUCKY

Mr. Snyder. On March 22, 1967, I introduced H.R. 7651 in order that the dairy farmers in my district and elsewhere would have effective controls on imports of foreign dairy products. My bill and over 200 identical bills introduced by my colleagues are imperatively needed because the existing laws providing for the imposition of quotas on dairy products have not and cannot work. Under the existing law too many loopholes are available for the importation of dairy products in complete evasion of any quotas that may be imposed.

As a result, unlimited quantities are imported causing our domestic dairy farmers to lose their rightful share of the domestic market and without any benefit to the consumer, plus an additional cost to our

price-support program.

Impressive statistics are available on the problem of dairy imports. Without burdening the record with these statistics, let me merely point out that for years our dairy farmers have had to rely on a weak, ineffective law on which to place limitations on the importation of dairy products. If and when quotas are imposed under the existing authority, such quotas are only temporary. They may be modified at any time. Furthermore, if and when quotas are imposed, such quotas are limited to a described product and it is this weakness in the law that makes possible for outright evasion of such quotas.

My bill would give our domestic dairy farmers airtight, continuing authority for the imposition of foreign dairy products. Furthermore, it would effectively close loopholes because the imports would be based on butterfat and nonfat milk solids instead of on the product-by-

product basis.

I want to emphasize that my bill does not close the doors to the imports of dairy products. It will not interfere with beneficial foreign trade between importing and exporting countries. Quotas would be increased to reflect the growth in the domestic market whereby importers would share in the American market growth, but at the same time, preserve the domestic market for our dairy farmers against imports above a representative base period.

I earnestly urge this committee to give our dairy farmers this

desperately needed legislation.

Mr. Herlong. Are there any questions; if not, then thank you, Mr.

Snyder.

Our colleague from Nebraska, Mr. Denney, is our next witness. Welcome, Mr. Denney; proceed as you see fit.

STATEMENT OF HON. ROBERT V. DENNEY, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF NEBRASKA

Mr. Denney. Mr. Chairman, members of the committee.

On March 7, 1967, I introduced dairy import legislation, H.R. 6681. Under the terms of this legislation, a total annual import quota on butterfat or nonfat milk solids in any form would be established based on the average annual quantities imported during the years 1961-65.