Mr. Chairman, I ask that the Wall Street Journal editorial and the interview with Trade Representative William Roth be printed in the record of this hearing.

During the past 4 weeks we have heard much of the injurious effect extensive imports of certain commodities are having on industries producing like or competitive products. This is particularly true of meat, textiles, steel imports, shoes, and other commodities such as glass, milk, skins, electronic equipment, oil, and even strawberries.

In some instances we are being confronted by the impact of such large quantities being made available on our domestic markets as to be in the nature of dumping. It is true that our Customs Bureau has very specific remedies against such commodities that seem to be dumped here at less than fair value. Total quotas can be imposed or countervailing duties to offset the advantages gained from low-cost exports to the United States, but this procedure is at times cumbersome and not frequently invoked.

What concerns me more is the prevalence of so many instances where an ever-increasing share of our domestic market is being superseded by foreign imports. The effect is very insidious because it is spread over several years, the theory being that no industry can justly claim being ruined by excessive imports in any one year.

It is the gradual progression of imports increasing year after year that is undercutting the viability of our American industries. What is frightening is the sudden realization that imports from any one country have increased enormously over a long period.

A few examples, namely beef, steel, and dairy products, textiles, and mink skins bespeak the percentage increase of imports and the relative importance to our balance-of-payments deficit.

LIVESTOCK IMPORTS

In my 10 years of Congress I have supported probably 2 dozen or more beef import bills, and each time I have been accused of opposing free trade. I support such legislation again this year and will gladly acknowledge that I am not a free trader, but a fair trader. The policies of this administration that increased imports of boneless beef of 13 percent between 1966 and 1967 and increased red meat imports by 7 percent in the same period may amount to what the administration regards as free trade, but they certainly do not impose what American meat producers regard as fair trade. Fairness means that the industries at home have as fair a shake in trading as have foreign industries and that today is definitely not the case in the cattle or sheep industries.

The administration has triggered a Johnson-county war, Texas style—the Johnson administration against the livestock counties.

Not even the most avid advocate of unchecked imports would deny that a pound of foreign beef consumed means that a pound of domestic beef will not be eaten. But under the policies of the present administration, foreign beef has been on many American tables. The average price for choice steers at Omaha is lower at $26.42 per hundredweight as of prior of this year than it was in 1962.