of these products to U.S. markets and despite the fact that Mexico is not a member of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and that U.S. producers are unable to take advantage of potential market opportunities in that country because of highly restrictive import controls—both tariff and nontariff—the United States extends very liberal treatment to imports from Mexico.

I have personally observed the Mexican farm operations and assure you that their vegetable production potential is almost unlimited and the threat to our domestic industry is no longer a matter of conjecture.

The Mexican trade problem was very realistically summarized by Mr. A. Clinton Cook and Mr. Gilbert E. Sindelar of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service in their article entitled "Trade with Mexico," as follows:

> The restrictive import measures adopted by the Mexican government in full view of the liberal policy of the United States have, without question, provided a convenient stimulus for Mexico in exploiting both dimensions of marketing, foreign and domestic. The liberal treatment extended by the United States towards imports of fruits and vegetables has more than adequately provided the nucleus for Mexico's expansionary activities in the U.S. market. Under the veil of protectionism the domestic fruit and vegetable industry of Mexico has, on the other hand, been permitted to develop and operate free from exposure to competition from the United States.

Mexican duties are a major obstacle to expanding trade. The ad valorem portion of the Mexican tariff alone ranges from 50 percent to 110 percent on fresh fruits and vegetables and a similar policy on many other items explains the continuing decline in this trade with that country.

On the other hand, our trade with Canada continues to expand as a result of the reciprocal trade arrangements which permit amicable settlement of differences on a mutually satisfactory basis. Canada imports $50 to $60 million worth of fresh vegetables from this country each year, which is roughly 90 percent of these products which are exported by U.S. shippers.

By comparison, we export only $3 to $4 million worth of these products to all of Europe, or about 5 percent of the total.

ADVERSE EFFECT ON AMERICAN FARMERS

The adverse effect of unregulated imports reached critical proportions in 1966. On March 29, 1966, Joffre C. David, secretary-treasurer of Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association, as a member of the roster of technical specialists, outlined this problem to Mr. Louis C. Krauthoff II with copies and a cover letter to the Florida congressional delegation. This communication should be of interest to the committee and is made a part of my statement as appendix A, since my allotted time will not permit me to read it.

On June 16, 1967, Mr. David again communicated with the entire Florida congressional delegation, pointing out the seriousness of the problems at the time and expressed the need for legislative action; and I am offering a copy of this letter for the record as appendix B.

On July 6, 1967, a plea was made to Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman for advice and assistance in a solution to this situation by Mr. David. I am also submitting this letter for the record as appendix C.