

It is wishful thinking that we will become a great grain-exporting Nation. The greatest endeavor, the greatest emphasis, the top-most priority of any nation is to produce food, thereby being self-sustaining. With all the sciences available, the future holds an abundance of food the world over. Even India has the potential to produce 600 percent more rice. Why even India will be an exporting country of grain in years to come. Mexico, sometime ago, was a customer of ours, buying wheat; but today Mexico is our competitor, selling wheat and rice on the world market.

What I am trying to say is that if we have free trade we will be importing more agricultural products than we are exporting. Again I say, we must keep that segment of agriculture which has served our Nation so well through thick and thin and supplied us with the vitamins our people need for health.

What is causing all the unrest and turmoil in our country today? I can tell you what it is. We are turning the world upside down, trying to accomplish our goals in a short period of time, going hog wild trying to police the whole world, trying to get to the moon first, trying to have free trade the world over and do it overnight—this is causing the turmoil and unrest. If we take it slower, accomplish our goals more securely and accurately, our people will settle down and our Nation will be the better.

Our Nation's goal should probably be for free trade but let us not sacrifice one group of people for the sake of another group.

This is what causes unrest, bitterness, and the fall of a nation. When you keep the bird that you have in hand, that is sound practice, and the best for the Nation; but if you turn loose the bird in your hand and you go for the two in the bush, you cause great turmoil, unrest, and bitterness in trying to catch the two in the bush.

Again let me say the best thing to do for the tomato industry in Florida, the best thing for our Nation as a whole, is to pass the bill, H.R. 16416.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. HERLONG. Thank you, Mr. Rauth, for your very fine statement. Are there questions?

If not, we do appreciate your appearance before the committee. Thank you very much.

Mr. RAUTH. Thank you.

Mr. HERLONG. The next witness is Mr. Jerry Nowinski. I understand Mr. Nowinski will be presented by our colleague on the committee, Mr. Vanik.

Mr. Vanik, will you do that?

Mr. TALISMAN. On behalf of Congressman Vanik, who had a previous commitment, I would like to present to the committee Jerry Nowinski, who is president of the Cleveland Greenhouse Growers Association. He will introduce his colleague. We have in our district the largest agricultural product area in northern Ohio with 500 out of 1,000 acres of grass in the United States under cultivation and last year if you remember we had a special day set aside in the House restaurant so that we could taste their products and all of you did I know.