

as little as 13¢ per pound (\$1.04 for an eight pound basket equivalent.) These imports have increased rapidly during the past several years.

We believe in a competitive market. Most of our members are willing to take their chances and to compete with outdoor growers in Florida, Texas, California, and other southern states producing tomatoes at the same time as we do, but we believe it is unfair to try to compete with an area where daily labor costs are equivalent to what we must pay for an hour of labor. Perhaps some kind of a quota may be applicable if the tariff cannot be raised on these imports.

In 1967, over 60% of the Mexican tomatoes for the entire year were unloaded in Cincinnati during three months—March, April, and May. But of probably greater economic significance to the citizens of Ohio, as well as the growers of our industry, is the very rapid increase in the proportionate amount of Mexican tomatoes coming to Cincinnati. In 1965 less than 3% of the unloads came from Mexico; in 1967 this had jumped to nearly 11%.

We are sending a copy of this letter to our Congressmen from the greater Cincinnati area. Perhaps they may be willing to express their concern, too, on this important matter.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN EVERS, *President.*

EXHIBIT B

OHIO GREENHOUSE Co-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION,
Cleveland, Ohio, June 19, 1968.

MR. JERRY NOWINSKI,
*Cleveland Greenhouse Vegetable, Growers Cooperative Association,
Rocky River, Ohio.*

DEAR MR. NOWINSKI: The Ohio Greenhouse Co-operative Association asks that you represent our association in speaking before the Ways and Means Committee in support of H.R. 17551.

I sincerely hope that Congress will enact legislation to protect our industry from the growing threat of foreign imports to our land.

Sincerely,

HOWARD LONARDO, *President.*

EXHIBIT C

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION GREENHOUSE VEGETABLE GROWERS,
Cleveland, Ohio, June 5, 1968.

MR. JERRY NOWINSKI,
Greenhouse Industry Committee Chairman.

DEAR MR. NOWINSKI: As President of the National Greenhouse Vegetable Growers Association, and of the Toledo Greenhouse Association, the Board of Directors of these organizations, as well as the representatives of the Grand Rapids, Michigan, Greenhouse Industry, would request you and your constituents to represent our industry at the hearings with the Ways and Means Committee in Washington, commencing June 4, 1968, regarding the importation of the foreign vegetable into the United States.

Sincerely yours,

LEONARD BETTINGER, *President.*

EXHIBIT D

FARMERS PRODUCTION CREDIT ASSOCIATION,
Ashland, Ohio, April 9, 1968.

GENTLEMEN: We are writing this letter to express the opinion of the Board of Directors and employees of our organization in regards to the current farm situation.

In 1967 our Association loaned \$24,724,718 to 3178 borrowers in our eleven-county area. Our area is quite diversified since we have counties bordering Lake Erie in which the major farm enterprise would be truck crops and grain and, of course, the greenhouse industry since Lorain and Cuyahoga counties have the largest concentration of greenhouses in the world. Our counties to the south of these are devoted primarily to dairy, cattle feeding and poultry enterprises.