

because this is a dairy-State and we have a lot at stake in the dairy business, I would like to cite the import situation as an example of this, and through evasion of our import quotas foreign countries have tended to demoralize the U.S. dairyman. Foreign countries are heavily subsidizing butter, nonfat dry milk, and evaporated and condensed milk. The Netherlands, for example, is exporting butter at 15 cents per pound, compared to a price of 72 cents inside this country. There are other examples like this, and I think this is the type of situation with respect to policy that has a direct bearing on the issue that we have been discussing this morning.

In summary I would like to say that the Wisconsin Council of Agricultural Cooperatives is vitally concerned about the real threat of corporate or industrialized agriculture.

Also the council feels that more than a few legislative changes are needed, but rather a complete reevaluation of agricultural policy to assure an agricultural plant that will best serve our economic needs and properly reward the producer.

At this time we endorse the following general courses of action: Increased educational services to farmers. I think one of the areas that I have in mind here is what Dr. Raup referred to with respect to technology and the like, some of the services that we could be expecting.

Better sources of financial capital to farmers; new arrangements for farm tenure; new or enhanced forms of farmer cooperatives; a greater use of marketing orders and agreements; and a revised import/export policy as it relates to depressing farm prices, increasing farm costs, and the undermining of our efficient agricultural producers.

That concludes my remarks, Senator.

Senator NELSON. I want to thank you very much, Mr. Struck, for your fine statement. We appreciate your coming here to speak on behalf of Wisconsin Council of Agricultural Cooperatives.

(The complete prepared statement submitted by Mr. Struck follows:)

STATEMENT OF VERNON C. STRUCK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WISCONSIN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Vernon C. Struck, and I serve as Executive Director of the Wisconsin Council of Agricultural Cooperatives.

The Council, with offices in Madison, Wisconsin, is a federation of 60 farmer business cooperatives that are actively engaged in processing, marketing purchases or service operations. Approximately 60,000 Wisconsin farmers are served by these 60 cooperatives.

We thank this Committee for taking the time to examine this very important area of concern to both producers and consumers of food and fiber. We trust the findings and recommendations of this committee will lead the way to a thorough reappraisal of our entire agricultural policy.

DIFFERENCE OF OPINION

We know the topic being investigated by this Committee is highly complex and controversial. There also apparently is a considerable difference of opinion as to the threat posed, real or imagined, by "corporate farming."

This wide difference in opinion is in part what makes it more difficult to filter out the facts for meaningful appraisal. I would think the very existence of the