

glomerate merger problem, with recommendations that where necessary the laws be strengthened; (2) make it clear to the Justice Department that enforcement procedures be expedited; (3) enact legislation which will bring manufacturers who compete directly with their own independent channels of distribution under the Robinson-Patman Act; and (4) provide some permanency of tenure for the post of Assistant Attorney General in charge of antitrust, the same as is enjoyed by the Comptroller General.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, for our members it has become steadily clearer that in order to achieve the consideration their sector deserves, it is vital that they be represented in the councils of Government effectively. They have nothing but praise for the fine jobs done over the past 28 years by the Small Business Committees of House and Senate, but feeling that their problems, those which are the concern of Government, will increase rather than decrease they urge that these bodies be strengthened, by at most granting legislative authority to both bodies or at least bringing up to parity in permanency with the Senate committee the House committee. Further, they appreciate the services rendered by the Small Business Administration. But they are concerned over its own stop-start record in lending, the restrictions on its lending, the uncertainties which have arisen regarding its future, and its operations at times without an appointed Administrator. They feel that these defects demand congressional as well as executive branch attention, and demand prompt remedy.

These, then, are among the chief concerns of our membership. They do not exhaust areas of interest. But action on them is certain to provide a more favorable climate of growth for small business and strengthen the fabric of our economy.