

CANADA-U.S. AUTO PRICES

The following is a recent statement by the Minister of Industry, Mr. C.M. Drury:

At this time last year, I stated that we should see a progressive narrowing of the differential in prices of automobiles between Canada and the United States as a result of cost savings and the production efficiencies made possible by the automotive programme.

I was pleased to note that the prices of 1966 automobiles provided not only for a substantial narrowing of the Canadian-United States price differential but also for appreciable decreases from the prices of similarly equipped 1965 model cars manufactured in Canada.

NARROWING DIFFERENTIAL

In the past few days there has been speculation in the press and elsewhere about automobile prices for the 1967 model year. It is, therefore, once again appropriate for me, as Minister of Industry, to make known the views of the Government on this subject. I

* * * * *

CANADA-JAPAN MINISTERS MEET

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, recently announced detailed arrangements for the fourth meeting of the Canada-Japan Ministerial Committee, which will be held in Ottawa on October 5 and 6.

Canada will be represented by Mr. Paul Martin; Mr. Mitchell Sharp, the Minister of Finance; Mr. Robert Winters, the Minister of Trade and Commerce; Mr. H.J. Robichaud, the Minister of Fisheries; Mr. J.J. Greene, the Minister of Agriculture; and Mr. H.O. Moran, the Canadian Ambassador to Japan. Japan will be represented by the Honourable Etsusaburo Shiina, Minister for Foreign Affairs; the Honourable Takeo Fukuda, Minister of Finance; the Honourable Raizoo Matsuno, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry; the Honourable Takeo Miki, Minister of International Trade and Industry; the Honourable Aiichiro Fujiyama, Minister of State and Director-General of the Economic Planning Agency, and Mr. Osamu Itagaki, Japanese Ambassador to Canada.

AGENDA
Subjects for discussion will include the international situation in general; the economic situation and prospects in Canada and Japan; international trade and economic development (which covers "Kennedy round" negotiations; problems relating to developing countries; East-West trade; and international finance); trade and economic relations between Canada and Japan (which covers trade relations in general; Canadian exports to Japan; Japanese exports to

am pleased to say that significant strides toward achieving the objectives of the automotive programme have been made, and this has, in turn, resulted in the attainment of longer production runs and meaningful cost savings for the Canadian automobile industry. We believe that cost savings resulting from the automotive programme should help to offset any added cost resulting from the incorporation of certain safety items as standard equipment in the 1967 models. We should, therefore, expect that, when the prices for the 1967 models are established in Canada, we shall see a further significant narrowing of the differential between automobile prices in Canada and the United States.

While further progress in narrowing the Canada-United States price differential should be a natural consequence of the operation of the automotive programme, we should stress the special importance of such a step in this important industry at a time when the Government, and the Canadian people as a whole, are determined to restrain excessive pressures on costs and prices.

Canada; and capital flows); other business (which covers fisheries; emigration; and other matters).

Following the conference, at the invitation of the Canadian Government, members of the delegation will visit the West Coast. They will be accompanied by Mr. Arthur Laing, Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources and Mr. John R. Nicholson, Minister of Labour. During their stay, the Japanese delegation will participate in various events, including a dinner given by Mr. Laing and attended by businessmen from Western Canada who have an interest in Canada's important trade with Japan. They will also be given a reception by the Canada-Japan Society of Vancouver, and a luncheon by the Japanese Consul-General.

* * * * *

AID TO THAILAND

Canadian aid to Thailand has steadily increased since it began in 1956-57. The technical assistance of \$221,000 for 1965-66 brings total Canadian aid to Thailand, to the end of the last fiscal year, to over \$1 million.

In the 1965-66 academic year, there were 51 Thai trainees in Canada and one Canadian adviser and eight teachers in Thailand. Canada has trained a total of almost 250 students from Thailand and provided a total of 11 advisers and 10 teachers.

UNIVERSITY GRANT

A grant of \$360,000 was given to the University of