

Mr. Barrow: Yes, I think we have. Imports in 1964 from all countries were \$838 million; in 1965 they were \$1,155 million; in 1966 they were \$1,630 million.

Mr. Lind: It is obvious that in this parts manufacturing field there is tremendous room for expansion. Do you anticipate, or have you on record, people wishing to expand their facilities at the present time and who take advantage of our loans?

Mr. Barrow: I am not sure, sir, that I understand your question clearly.

Mr. Lind: Is it generally known throughout the industry that these loans are available to assist them? This is what I am really getting at.

Mr. Barrow: We have attempted to make everybody in Canada who is producing automotive parts, and also their suppliers, aware of the availability of these loans. We have worked through the Canadian parts associations, we have worked through the press, we have been in touch directly with all the companies that we are aware of, and we are continually feeding out information to make them aware and to encourage them to come to us. Of course, we want to see these people as efficient as possible and able to take on even more export business. We have done our best to go out to all of these people; I think everybody is aware of the loan facility.

Mr. Lind: Well, we have had tremendous jumps; in 1965 from \$364.1 million exports to \$1,004.5 million in 1966, but we are still not balanced with the imports which total \$1,630 million. Is it your anticipation that maybe in 1967 or 1968 we will be exporting more car parts than we are importing?

Mr. Barrow: I would point out, sir, that between 1965 and 1966 the imbalance was reduced. In 1965 the imbalance on over-all account was \$791 million. By 1966 the imbalance had been reduced to \$626 million. In looking at our trade with the United States, where of course the major trade back and forth does occur, in 1965 we had a deficit of \$780 million. By 1966 that had been reduced to \$656 million; so that we think this is quite an achievement when you consider that over the past 20 years—I think in every single year—the deficit has increased in the rate until two years ago an increase of the deficit was between \$50 million and \$100 million a year. 1966 was the first year where this process had been reversed in a very sub-

stantial way. Of course we are hoping, and we believe that this process will continue to be reversed and we will begin to hold our own again.

Mr. Lind: Would you like to hazard a guess as to when this balance will be nil, it will be on the right side of the ledger as far as we are concerned, and we will be exporting more than we import?

Mr. Barrow: I am afraid you might quote my own figures back to me next year, sir.

The Chairman: I would suggest, Mr. Lind, that this would be an ideal question to put to the Minister under Item I.

Mr. Lind: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Before going on to Mr. Saltsman, who has indicated he would like to ask a few questions, may I suggest to the Committee that we still have a quorum and that there are only two items left to pass. As it is now almost ten minutes to eleven o'clock, I hope we can keep the quorum, pass these two items today, and then by next week I will be able to get in touch with the Minister and revert back to Item I and touch on all these subjects with him. If one meeting is not enough, we could possibly have two meetings with the Minister. If the Committee is agreeable we could all stay here until we pass these two items, and leave the next meeting at the call of the Chair; I will then discuss with the Minister when he will be available and notify Committee members. If this is agreeable I will go on now with Mr. Saltsman.

Mr. Saltsman: Returning to my enlarged supplementary question on the banking function of the Department of Industry, the Department of Industry obviously has a great deal of work to do and the question that arises is: should it be just a banking function or should some other arrangement be made, for instance, working through the IDB—a development bank generally? This applies not only to the Department of Industry but to other departments as well. That is, an arrangement made whereby you simply recommend that a loan be made to certain individuals. I would like your comments on this from a technical and administrative point of view, because it seems to me that you should not be in the banking business; the lending business, yes, but not the banking business.

Mr. Barrow: If I may, I will deal with the factual, and not the policy aspects of your