

Optimistic outlook for automobile sales

Canada's "big three" domestic auto manufacturers chalked up a combined 67.9 per cent sales gain in February and all are convinced the booming auto market will continue into the spring months.

General Motors of Canada Ltd., Oshawa, Ontario said its car and truck sales were up 74.4 per cent compared to last year's sales, to 35 866 units.

Chrysler Canada Ltd. of Windsor, Ontario said its car and truck sales, led by its new line of mini-vans, jumped 57 per cent over February 1983 sales to 15 057 units.

Ford Motor Co. of Canada Ltd., Oakville, Ontario said its car and truck sales for the month were up 64.9 per cent from those of February last year, to 16 767 units.

American Motors (Canada) Inc. of Brampton, Ontario said its car sales were up 15 per cent to 2 595 units, while Jeep sales climbed to 571 units, compared with 130 a year earlier.

GM's February sales included 27 811 cars, up 76.6 per cent from those of a year earlier, and 8 055 trucks, up 67.1 per cent since last year.

Minister signs agreements with Cameroun

Minister of External Relations Jean-Luc Pepin announced recently during a visit to Yaoundé, Cameroun, that he signed several co-operation agreements with Cameroun's Minister of Planning Youssoufa Daouda.

The agreements, whose total value is \$77 million, include a multi-sectoral line of credit from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) worth \$50 million and a grant worth \$4 million for studies in areas encompassed by the line of credit.

They also include a CIDA loan of \$22.6 million and a grant of \$0.4 million for a rural electrification project in Central and South Cameroun.

Mr. Pepin took advantage of his visit to Cameroun to inaugurate the new offices of the Canadian embassy in Yaoundé. During his remarks on the occasion, Mr. Pepin recalled the history of Canada-Cameroun relations and under-

lined the fact that the new Canadian chancery was tangible evidence of the excellent relations between the two countries and of the increasing importance of Cameroun to Canada.

An important commercial contract between the government of Cameroun and Janin Construction Montreal was signed during the minister's visit. The contract, which is worth \$18 million and will use Export Development Corporation and CIDA lines of credit, is for the construction of five viaducts as part of the upgrading of the railroad between Douala and Yaoundé.

Mr. Pepin also inaugurated the playing fields of the Jean Tabi College in Yaoundé, a project which was completed with financial assistance from the Canadian embassy, in addition to aid already provided by the Cardinal Léger Foundation. He also had a series of meetings with senior officials and other personalities.



Cameroun's Minister of Planning Youssoufa Daouda (left) with Jean-Luc Pepin.

Young detective captures poster prize



Photo Features

The winner of the Canada Export Trade Month children's poster contest is Sherri Bobowski, age 11, of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. The contest was one of the educational projects initiated as part of Canada Export Trade Month. It was developed with the assistance of OWL Magazine and had, as its theme for children, to "Become an Export Detective". Minister for International Trade Gerald Regan presents Sherri with a plaque for her prize-winning poster.

Boundary case opens in The Hague

The verbal proceedings in the Gulf of Maine maritime boundary case between Canada and the United States are expected to begin in The Hague on April 2, 1984, according to the International Court of Justice.

The Minister of Justice Mark MacGuigan will attend the proceedings to open the case for Canada.

The decision to be rendered by the Court will settle a dispute between Canada and the United States over the location of the boundary that divides the continental shelf and the 200-mile fishing zones of the two countries off the coasts of the maritime provinces and the New England states. The case centres on the rich fishery resources and potential hydrocarbon resources of Georges Bank. Canada claims almost half of the Bank and the United States asserts a claim to its entirety.