

Canada and U.S. trade ministers discuss auto parts

United States Secretary of Commerce, Elliot Richardson, who was in Ottawa May 6, agreed with Industry, Trade and Commerce Minister Don Jamieson to give high priority to an examination of the causes of the \$2-million Canadian trade deficit on auto parts. Neither minister said they had any wish to make major changes in the Canada/U.S. automobile pact.

Mr. Richardson said also that, when a serious imbalance existed in a trade as important to both countries as the auto industry, it should be corrected.

It was the first meeting between the two ministers since Mr. Richardson's appointment as Secretary of Commerce on February 2. They have been eager to discuss matters of common interest in view of the major importance of trade and economic relations between Canada and the U.S.

Mr. Richardson travelled to Toronto May 7 to address a joint meeting of the Toronto Rotary, Empire and Canadian clubs, together with the Board of Trade and the Society of Financial Analysts.

The doctor who whistles concertos

Until recently, 42-year-old Dr. Jack Cohen was known only as a busy Montreal plastic surgeon. But for years his shaving mirror had been aware that he's an exceptionally talented amateur whistler, which isn't so unusual — except that he whistles classical music.

Last November, this secret came to light when Lotte Brott was recuperating from a broken hip in Montreal's Jewish General Hospital. The Brots are musical. Mrs. Brott is a cellist in McGill Chamber Orchestra, conducted by her husband, Alexander Brott, and in the Montreal Symphony Orchestra.

Their son, Boris, conducts the Hamilton Philharmonic. Their younger son, Denis, is a cellist.

One day, a pleasant man in a white coat went into Mrs. Brott's room to say he had long admired the Brott family, and to ask if he could while away her boredom by whistling a concerto for her.

"I thought: Well, the world is full of nuts," recalls Mrs. Brott.

But when Dr. Cohen proceeded to whistle one of Bach's Brandenburg concertos from start to finish, she was flabbergasted.

"He had beautiful tone, impeccable intonation, and perfect rhythm," she says.

For the next two months Dr. Cohen dropped in each morning to whistle another classical piece for her, and her admiration grew. She was amazed that his only musical training had been studying some cello pieces when he was in school, and that he had never whistled for anyone else. Only his shaving mirror knew for sure, he says.

Second career

Soon CBC producer Kit Kinnaird, a friend of the Brots, heard of Cohen's talent and signed him up for a CBC radio broadcast. In Part II of CBC Tuesday Night, April 20, Dr. Cohen was heard with the McGill Chamber Orchestra conducted by Alexander Brott, and violinist Yaela Hertz.

Since the program was recorded on January 22, Dr. Cohen has been much in demand as a musician. He has given six performances in Montreal, appeared with the Hamilton Philharmonic, with Alexander Brott in Kingston, and on television.

Getting there

After his *début* with the McGill Chamber Orchestra, Montreal *Gazette* columnist David Siskind wrote: "If only flute players could all produce such warm, beautifully-rounded tones, with such tasteful vibrato and such a sense of style! Cohen's phrasing was impeccable and you had the feeling that he is a born musician. I just hope he's half as good a doctor. It may have started out as a circus act, but it turned into the part of the program that was ultimately most satisfying in every respect.... There are any number of professional flute players around who could learn a great deal about music from the performance last night."

University women's sports tour

"If you think that barnstorming went out with the arrival of major sports-expansion teams, television saturation, and the construction of concrete stadiums, then get ready Canada," says a

press release from St. Francis Xavier University of Antigonish, Nova Scotia. Women basketball and field hockey players from St. F. X. will soon be off on a cross-Canada tour of eight Canadian cities from Montreal to Vancouver to promote women's sport in general, and St. F. X. in particular.

The tour includes stopovers and games in Montreal, Guelph, London, Sudbury, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Calgary, and Vancouver. Games are also scheduled for the return trip to the Maritimes.

The trip is being run on a "shoe-string" with accommodations being arranged through St. F. X. Alumni Clubs in the various centres across the country, and a van borrowed from St. F. X. basketball coach Carolyn Casserly. Support for the trip is also being sought from local sources.

The St. F. X. women's basketball team finished second in the Intercollegiate League, had an over-all record of 23-5 and were ranked third in Canada. The St. F. X. field hockey team finished second in its division.

Strikes and lockouts 1975

Man-days lost from 1,043 strikes and lockouts in Canada in 1975 totalled 11,041,490, Labour Canada reported April 21. The 1,043 work stoppages involved 427,675 workers and a 19 per cent increase in time lost over time lost in 1974.

Corresponding 1974 figures were 1,216 stoppages, 592,220 workers and 9,255,120 man-days.

In relation to total estimated working time of non-agricultural paid workers, the time lost in 1975 was equivalent to 54 man-days for 10,000 man-days worked. The ratio was 46 in 1974.

The totals for 1975 include 49 work stoppages under federal jurisdiction involving the loss of 1,242,400 man-days (or 11 per cent of all man-days lost).

During December 1975 there were 181 stoppages involving 82,148 workers and 1,109,110 man-days. All of these figures were lower than the November level but higher than that of December 1974.

Five of the 181 stoppages in December were under federal jurisdiction. These involved 15,680 workers and the loss of 31,680 man-days (or 3 per cent of all man-days lost during the month).