

Mr. BYRNES. Well, I know we keep getting back to the automobile being a separate animal. Of course we did treat it as a separate animal, didn't we, when we considered the Canadian-American auto agreement.

Secretary WIRTZ. I don't mean that point. I mean that the generalization would be true if you excluded automobiles. It would be much less true if you include automobiles.

Mr. BYRNES. When we talk about the need to find 2 million additional jobs, we know that we are trying to find these jobs for people who are basically very short of skills now. We want programs to upgrade their skills to a degree in order to find a job for them.

Isn't that one of the basic economic objectives we all must have?

Secretary WIRTZ. It sure is.

Mr. BYRNES. If that is the case, don't we have to be concerned when we see a trade policy that has an adverse impact on these kinds of jobs?

Secretary WIRTZ. Yes, we do and especially when we come to the discussion of textiles. This is always in mind.

Mr. BYRNES. I was told, for instance, by a shoe manufacturer that they are in trouble from imports. His point was that he could take people with little or no training and train them.

Some of them were farmers in Wisconsin. I visited one of the plants and there were men and women that came off the farms. Here is an industry that is able to train unskilled people rather rapidly and give them a job.

Yet that is also the kind of an industry that suffers the impact of this growing increase in imports.

Secretary WIRTZ. Let me just say this: That what we are talking about here is dead clear as far as the textile industry is concerned. It gets less clear from there on.

Now, we have a large problem as far as steel is concerned and it gets less clear there because the steel industry would be over on the automobile side as far as both wage rates and the amount of skill involved are concerned.

I believe the generalization is relevant but is dangerous. I should rather leave it on the basis of the fact that it seems to me a considered policy in this area necessarily takes that element into account and does look with a somewhat different view on those industries in which there is a concentration of low paid, unskilled work. I agree with you that in those industries there is an additional reason for being very careful about disrupting the domestic market.

Ambassador ROTH. Mr. Congressman, I just want to add to that because of this concern that Secretary Wirtz has indicated.

In preparing for the Kennedy round, for instance, and in looking at possible exceptions to the 50-percent rule, we took particular care to look at employment problems. But it is true, however, that you have to look at specific cases.

In the textile industry, for instance, you look particularly at the apparel group, while in the man-made sector you often find very highly skilled labor. The question of shoes, as you know, is being studied by the Tariff Commission. It is very complicated.