

DEF. DOC. #1734

defense and to promote this industry. In my opinion, the fundamental measures for the successful development of the automobile industry should be in the direction of mass-production. Not only this for this purpose stress must be laid on the manufacture of what may be called automobiles for the general people which are in great demand. As for the industry in Japan, however, the making of automobile part and the automobile industry on a small scale has been developed to a measure, and the industry based on the mass-production system has just taken a step forward but is still in an infant stage. At present, most automobiles produced in Japan are supplied by foreign companies here which assemble parts of foreign-make. Therefore, after careful examination and investigation of various phases of the matter, the Government decided and made public the fundamental measures adopted for the making of automobiles for the general people in the summer of the 10th year of Shōwa(1935). The Automobile Industry Control Bill now proposed has been drafted with the foregoing fundamental measures as its nucleus, taking full consideration of later changes in the industry and the situation both at home and abroad I think it is extremely important and urgent for the establishment and development of the automobile industry in Japan.

Excerpts from the Official Gazette of May 12, 1936 (Shōwa 11).  
Pages, 123, 151. Stenographic Report of the Proceedings  
of the House of Representatives, No. 7, of the 69th Session  
of the Imperial Diet.

The session opened at 1:12 P. M., May 11 (Monday),  
1936 (Shōwa 11).

Mr. OGAWA, Gōtarō, Minister of State, climbs the  
platform.)

Minister of State (OGAWA, Gōrarō): I will explain  
the reasons for proposing the Automobile Industry Control  
Bill which has just been placed before the House. The  
automobile industry is indispensable to a secure national  
defense and industrially ranks highest as one of what may  
be called basic industries. Its development or otherwise  
seriously affects both industry and national defense. In  
our country, however, we find the industry is not yet built  
on a firm foundation and the necessity of establishing it  
on a sound foundation has been keenly felt for a long time.  
(The Speaker of the House retires and the Vice-Speaker  
takes the chair.)

Especially recently the various situation both at home  
and abroad has necessitated an urgent establishment of this  
industry on a truly sound foundation to complete national

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