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There will, I am sure, be almost universal agreement with the view that the people of Canada do not wish to make a fundamental alteration in the character of our population as a result of mass immigration. Large-scale immigration from the Orient would be capable of changing the composition of the Canadian population. Any considerable influx of oriental immigrants, moreover, would be likely to give rise to social and economic problems of a character that might easily lead to serious difficulties in the field of international relations. The Government, therefore, has no thought of encouraging, or indeed of permitting, any large-scale immigration from the Orient.

In this connection I wish to state quite definitely that, apart from the repeal of the Chinese Immigration Act and the revocation of Order in Council P.C. 1378 of June 17, 1951, regarding naturalization, the government has no intention of removing the existing regulations respecting Asiatic immigration unless and until alternative measures of effective control have been worked out. We recognize the right of all other countries to control the entry or non-entry of persons seeking to become permanent residents. We claim precisely the same right for this country.

In relation to our adherence to the principle of selection, I should like to make it clear that the Canadian government is prepared at any time to enter into special agreements with other countries for the control of admission on a basis of