

On bilateral issues, fortunately, we have no serious problems. Our relations have been developing rapidly and smoothly. We're making progress in breaking down the barriers that have existed for almost a generation between the People's Republic of China and Canada. I hope that we shall make further progress; we would like to see a greater movement of people and an intensified exchange of ideas. The day has not yet come when Canadians can visit China as they visit the United States or Europe. For the time being, the Chinese have neither the desire nor the capacity to cope with large-scale tourism. This is understandable. They have diplomatic relations with some 70 countries. People from all these countries, as well as from some which do not have diplomatic relations with China, want to go to China. China's facilities for receiving them are still limited. Consequently, the Chinese authorities have to be selective in granting visas. They do so according to their own priorities. More and more foreigners will be allowed to visit China. Meanwhile we Canadians can't complain: this past August more than 600 visas were granted to Canadian businessmen, officials and athletes.

During my visit, the possibility of more exchanges in the fields of education, art, sports, medicine, science and technology were discussed. Some important exchanges were arranged. A high-level oil and petroleum mission has just completed what appears to have been a very successful 3-week tour of Canada. It has given the Chinese a good look at our technology and our capacity in that field. In November, we will receive a delegation of Chinese medical doctors and another delegation of Chinese scientists. Negotiations are also in progress to bring a group of Chinese acrobats to Canada very soon. I saw them perform in Peking. I'll bet they'll be a sensation here. From the Canadian side, a mining and metallurgical mission has completed plans to visit China.

All these exchanges of course will be made easier by the establishment of a direct air service between Canada and China. A Chinese delegation was in Ottawa this week for the second round of negotiations on a bilateral air agreement.

I am happy to announce that the agreement was signed yesterday. Air service between Canada and China will probably begin early in 1973.

There is one other aspect of our relations with China that might be mentioned here. I took the opportunity of my talks with Chinese leaders to urge them to give sympathetic consideration to requests by Chinese-Canadians to bring their close relatives now living in China, to live with them here.

In short, my talks covered most aspects of Canada's relations with China. We explained our respective positions, opened new areas to the exchange of people and ideas, and, to judge from the results already achieved, gave a general stimulus to contacts between Canadians and Chinese.

On international questions, of course, we differed on many issues. We have an entirely different approach to disarmament. They want to continue nuclear testing; we want all testing to stop. They seem less worried than we are over the spread of nuclear weapons. We want Bangladesh in the United Nations now; they want certain conditions to be fulfilled first. And so on. But I came away from my meetings in China with a better understanding of why the Chinese hold the views they do hold in international affairs. To read about the Sino-Soviet split, for example, is one thing. But to hear China's leaders evoke the events which led to it as they saw them, and to sense how deeply