

and Australia must live with her. Therefore it is better for the future that complete goodwill be created now between China and Australia and that if Australia's Chinese exclusion policy can be attained by mutual agreement and with goodwill it is infinitely better than attainment of this policy by present unilateral policy which is resented. If our action forces their hand under the circumstances we will have done this land a service. I do not know if I am expected to express opinions on policy but that is how I feel.

1493.

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*Le directeur par intérim de l'immigration, le ministre des Mines  
et des Ressources, au sous-secrétaire d'État adjoint  
aux Affaires extérieures*

*Acting Director of Immigration, Department of Mines and Resources,  
to Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs*

Ottawa, December 20, 1943

Dear Mr. Keenleyside,

This is merely for the purpose of recording our discussion of the 15th instant relative to the proposed Immigration Treaty with China.

It was understood that whilst Article I authorizes the issuance of Immigration Permits by the Canadian Embassy in China, such documents would actually be issued by an immigration official after investigation. This procedure would be necessary as this Service is responsible for the administration of the Immigration Act and Regulations.

The use of the term "Canadian citizen" in Article V was discussed at some length. We agreed that as the Article now reads a child born of Canadian parents in China would be admissible to Canada as a matter of right irrespective of the Immigration Act and that this fact would place such a child in a preferred class as compared with the children born in other parts of the world of Canadian parents. I believe you intend discussing this with Mr. J.E. Read.

I mentioned Chinese who are now in Canada under permit, as for instance, the children born in China of Chinese women who are permanent residents of Canada and who were visiting in China at the time of the children's birth; as the family were Canadian residents we allowed the entry of the Chinese born children under permit, which document is extended from year to year. I believe you considered that this class could not be dealt with under the Treaty.

The matter of the registration outward of Chinese residents of Canada intending to visit in China was also examined and it was decided that this should be considered by Mr. Read. Unless such Chinese register under some procedure such as is now required under the Chinese Immigration Act, it would be impossible for this Service to prevent the illegal entry of Chinese by misrepresentation. Further, many of the Chinese naturally would not register unless some statutory provision cancelled their right to return if they left Canada without registration.