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*Confidential  
of our own  
people*

There has been a great deal of misunderstanding with regard to the selection of immigrants on the basis of origin. Much has been said about discrimination. I want to make it quite clear, however, that Canada is perfectly within her rights in selecting the persons whom we regard as desirable future citizens. We have no obligations under the United Nations Charter or elsewhere which limit our capacity to select those who will be permitted entry into Canada for permanent residence. It is not a "fundamental human right" of any alien to enter Canada. It is not a "fundamental freedom". It is a privilege and a matter of domestic policy. It is subject to the control of the government of Canada alone. This does not mean that we will not seek to remove objectionable discrimination from our legislation. We have given an earnest of our intention and taken a substantial step in the Bill which will repeal the Chinese Immigration Act. Our objective must be to achieve selection along the lines we consider desirable while removing any aspects of selection which may be offensive to other peoples.

In this connection there is the problem of oriental immigration. One of the features of our legislation to which strong objection has been taken on the ground of discrimination is the Chinese Immigration Act. The government has already