

regime on Taiwan, private trade and "people-to-people" contacts continue between Canadians and Taiwanese.

At the United Nations

In 1966, instead of voting against the annual resolution proposed by Albania in the United Nations, which would have given the China seat to Peking and unseated Taipei, Canada shifted to an abstention. Following the establishment of diplomatic relations, Canada voted, in November 1970, for the seating of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations. Canada continues to support actively the participation of the PRC in governmental and other international organizations.

The Exchange of Ambassadors

In April 1971, the Secretary of State for External Affairs announced the appointment of Ralph Collins as first Ambassador of Canada to the People's Republic of China. Mr. Sharp also announced that the Canadian Government had given agrément to the appointment of Huang Hua, later to be to Canada. Both Mr. Huang and Mr. Collins are distinguished career diplomats.

Canada's present Ambassador in Peking is Michel Gauvin.

Ministerial Visits

During the years since the establishment of diplomatic relations with China and the exchange of ambassadors, a number of ministerial visits have taken place, starting in the summer of 1971 with an important delegation of Canadian officials and businessmen led by the Honourable Jean-Luc Pépin, the then Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. During Mr. Pépin's visit, a framework for Sino-Canadian economic cooperation was established providing for the exchange of missions, trade exhibitions and regular consultation on trade matters. Mr. Pépin also secured agreements from the Chinese to "consider Canada first" as a source of wheat to meet their domestic needs.

In October 1973, Prime Minister Trudeau visited China. During his tour, important bilateral agreements or understandings were reached in such areas as trade, consular affairs (family reunification) and scientific and cultural exchanges. The agreement on family reunification has made it possible for over twenty thousand Chinese to emigrate to Canada for the purpose of rejoining long-separated relatives.