



*Banners greeted Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and Mrs. Trudeau on their arrival in Peking for the prime ministerial visit to China in October of last year. Welcoming Mr. Trudeau and other members of the visiting Canadian delegation*

*was Chinese Premier Chou En-lai (centre). During his week-long visit (October 10-17), the Prime Minister held a series of discussions with the Chinese Premier and had a long conversation with Chairman Mao Tse-tung.*

pave the way for this process, but it is evident that, during this trip, the conversations of Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Chou En-lai, as well as the discussions in four committees of officials, resulted in considerable progress toward mutual knowledge and understanding.

#### Potential market

We already have a fairly clear idea of the reasons for Canada's desire to strengthen its friendship with China. Like other Western countries, Canada sees China as a considerable potential market. There is wheat to be sold, of course, but there is also the technology Canada can offer the most populous country in the world, the developing country that probably shows the strongest determination to catch up with the industrial nations.

The agreement signed in Peking after four days of talks exceeded all the expectations of the Canadian Government. Like all good negotiators, Mr. Trudeau and his *entourage* arrived with a set of specific proposals, but there was no guarantee that the majority of them would be accepted by the Chinese. They were aimed essen-

tially at the establishment of exchange mechanisms.

The Canadians returned not only with exchange mechanisms but also with several specific exchange programs. More had been obtained than expected. The first was the three-year trade agreement, including the establishment of a joint trade committee that will meet annually. A mutual understanding was also reached in the field of immigration, aimed at reuniting families and at facilitating and extending consular relations. There was great interest in Chinese co-operation in medicine, largely because of our desire to adapt acupuncture to Canadian use. To the Western mind, this technique has seemed as mysterious as China itself.

Finally, Canada concluded exchange agreements on the arts and on sport. The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra will be the first to benefit from this. In addition, a certain Group of Seven paintings about nineteenth-century landscapes will be exhibited in China. Exchanges of professors and students are also planned, although on a rather modest scale to start with 20 students in two years. Canada

*Accord embraced exchange plans, provided more than expected*