

sideration with the then government the question of the reciprocity agreement with the United States came up, and it was decided to leave over the matter of oriental immigration until the reciprocity issue was determined. As hon. members well recall, the government of the day was defeated after the reciprocity campaign, and subsequently the government of China, which had been the other party to this preliminary negotiation, was also changed as a consequence of a revolution, so the negotiations fell through about as effectively as any negotiations could. But I would like to say to-night on behalf of the Government that we have already taken steps to resume negotiations looking to the restriction of Chinese immigration by a system of passports, the numbers of which this Government will control. That, we believe, can be made a system of effective restriction so far as that class of immigration is concerned.

One further word in regard to this question of Chinese immigration. Very little has been said this afternoon about the admission of Chinese students to this country except that in some cases Chinese have come in, supposedly as students, but in reality as labourers. I think we should make an effort to encourage Chinese students to come to our universities. In that view I believe we have the support not only of those who are interested in trade and commerce, but, I believe, of practically all classes in this country. When the deputation of the Trades and Labour Congress was before the Government I spoke to its members on this point, and the delegation expressed no objection to the admission of Chinese students to our universities, provided that the Government could make sure that this particular class came in with proper safeguards.

There are several reasons why Chinese students should be admitted to our universities. In the first place, if this country is to develop a trade with the Orient—and I take it that all people in the country would like to see trade develop between Canada and the Orient—it is wholly to our advantage that Chinese students should come to our country, that they should know something of Canadian conditions and after returning to their country help to make our conditions known in China. The American Government after the Boxer trouble in China, when a considerable indemnity was to be paid by China to the United States, believing that it was in the interests

of trade to encourage Chinese students to come to their universities, agreed to allow that indemnity to be applied towards the paying of the expenses of Chinese students in American universities. The result is that hundreds of students have come from China to American colleges and have gone back to their country, and with their knowledge of American conditions have done what they could to stimulate trade between China and the United States. Spending some time in travelling in China on the occasion to which I have referred, I was impressed with the extent to which the Americans had invaded the markets of the Orient. On practically all trains on which one travelled, the cutlery, a great part of the canned food, many of the articles in use on the dining tables, were from the United States. In the City of Peking there was a store every article in which was labelled as having been made in America. In different parts of China and Japan it was very noticeable that the contact which educated orientals had had with the United States had gone a long way toward furthering trade in that country.

But there is another argument which, I think, is also important from a national point of view. If this continent is ever to meet the competition of the Orient, which will be an increased competition as years go by, it must make a contribution to the Orient which alone can save the situation. The Orient must become acquainted with our higher standards, as we call them—our higher social and industrial standards—see the wisdom of them and gradually come to adopt them. We may send all the missionaries in the world to China to preach the gospel of a larger humanitarianism, but that will never begin to effect what a few men who have studied in our universities, who have become accustomed to our civilization, will be able to effect when they return to their country and, in their own effective way, impress the benefits of that higher civilization upon their countrymen. I do not wish, Mr. Speaker, to take up too much time on this subject, so I will hasten on and refer to the question of the Japanese, the other class alluded to in this resolution.

Mention has been made of the existing trade treaty with Japan, and it has been suggested that the Government should give notice that twelve months hence the treaty will be abolished. It may be that such is a wise and desirable course, but I think, Mr. Speaker, before it is taken