

As the result of conferences in British Columbia, in the States of Washington, Oregon and California, and also in Hong Kong, Canton, Shanghai, Tientsin and Peking, and the perusal of numerous books, reports, and the publications of the Chinese Maritime Customs, I am satisfied that a development of trade in the North Pacific will occur and that Canada will enjoy an important proportion of that trade. Having regard to the problems in course of solution on both shores of the Pacific, under conditions which in effect shorten the distance which separates them by lessening the time taken in traversing it, it would appear that the attention of Canada will be directed in greater measure to the Pacific coast and the problems which so immediately affect her western people. The presence in the Orient of ministers in connection with trade representing the late Administration is still remembered, and the visit of the present Minister of Trade and Commerce was warmly welcomed. The development of China in regard to her understanding of the need for western methods and goods, together with the rapid growth of population and manufacture in Canada demands that intervals should not be too long between the visits of ministers or leading officers of the Canadian Service in order that changing conditions in regard to trade may be duly set forth with some degree of authority for consideration in Canada.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. GRIGG,  
*Commissioner of Commerce*