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SEVENTH SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Unveiling of a Plaque at McGill University, Montreal

1. Members of the Governing Body will learn with interest that on 14 September 1950 the Canadian Minister of Labour, the Hon. Milton F. Gregg, in the presence of Mr. L. Mayrond, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, representing the Minister of External Affairs, the Principal and Vice-Chancellor of McGill University, the Chairman of the Governing Body and Mr. Jenks, Assistant Director-General, representing the Director-General, unveiled at Sir William Dawson Hall, McGill University, Montreal, a plaque commemorating the stay of the working centre of the International Labour Office from 1940 until 1948.

2. The inscription on the plaque is as follows:

To this campus the International Labour Organisation transferred its wartime headquarters in 1940 on the generous invitations of the Government of Canada and McGill University. From here the I.L.O. directed its work of furthering world peace through social justice until 1948. This tablet records the lasting gratitude of the I.L.O. to McGill University.

3. In his address the Minister said: "I am honoured to have a part in this ceremony, by which the International Labour Organisation records its gratitude to McGill University—the University which gave it a home during the dark days of the last war. . . . The I.L.O. has as its long-range objective the promotion of the cause of peace in the world. Its way of working towards peace is a practical one. Of all the agencies founded with such high hopes at Versailles, the I.L.O. alone remained intact later to take its place under the United Nations. Unable to carry on effectively in Europe in the dark days of 1940, it moved to Canada for the duration. Canada was honoured. It is to dedicate a permanent reminder that we are here today. I take the greatest pleasure, on behalf of all Canadians, in unveiling this plaque ".

4. Mr. F. Cyril James, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of McGill University, said in the course of his speech: "For more than three decades the I.L.O. has enjoyed worldwide prestige that matches its worldwide responsibilities. The University was proud, in a moment of crisis, to aid in its work . . . . Let us hope that, if such a problem should arise again, it will be as promptly solved. . . . The lamps will indeed have gone out if international organisations like the I.L.O. should cease to function because they have no friends ".

5. Mr. Troclet, Chairman of the Governing Body, concluded his speech with the following words: "The warm welcome received at McGill University also showed its appreciation of the work of the I.L.O., continued confidence in it and faith in its future. It is an exceptional claim on our gratitude and on that of all those men who are attached to our Organisation that these feelings were shown at a time of such trials. They were an effective and positive encouragement to the I.L.O. to continue its task and to prepare for new ones, both for the restoration of a devastated world and the unceasing perfecting of social justice. For all these reasons the name of McGill University will remain indissolubly linked with the history of the I.L.O. It is for these reasons that we bring you today, in the name of the Governing Body, the Governments, employers and workers of the world, our humble expression of deep gratitude and that we shall long keep in our hearts the memory of McGill University's generous hospitality ".

6. The Governing Body will no doubt wish to authorise the Director-General to express its appreciation to the Canadian Minister of Labour for consenting to unveil this memorial.