

that have been taken to implement these Conventions. Our legislation on these subjects is considered to equal or exceed the requirements of the various Conventions. Canada is a federal country and the fact that most labour matters are wholly or partly under provincial jurisdiction places obstacles in the way of the federal government ratifying many of the ILO Conventions.

In the past Canada obtained helpful advice from the International Labour Office when such matters as conciliation in labour disputes, unemployment insurance, and establishment of employment services were being considered. More recently, Canada has been able to repay this assistance by contributing to the development of the less-industrialized nations. The ILO has used Canadian experts in its technical assistance programme in under-developed countries, and has sent trainees from such countries to Canada for study and on-the-job training. A manual on "National Employment Services-Canada" is used by the ILO in setting up employment services and training employment office staff in less-industrialized countries.

From 1940 to 1948 the ILO maintained temporary headquarters in Montreal, and a bronze plaque at McGill University commemorates this phase of the Organization's history. In 1946 the Minister of Labour for Canada was elected President of the Annual Conference, and in 1955 the Deputy Minister of Labour for Canada was elected to the chairmanship of the Governing Body for the ensuing year.

While the Department of External Affairs has the general responsibility for handling Canada's international relations, including our United Nations commitments, the Department of Labour is the official liaison agency between the Canadian Government and the ILO. With the expansion in ILO activities after the Second World War, a special branch of the Department of Labour was established to work in close co-operation with the Department of External Affairs, with other federal departments, with the provincial Departments of Labour, and with the employers' and workers' organizations, all of which have an interest in the ILO. In this way, the ILO is kept informed on the progress of industrial and economic conditions in Canada, and the Canadian Governments and organizations concerned are kept in touch with developments in the international field. Each year some progress is made towards uniform and higher labour standards in Canada, in line with the International Labour Code, and thus Canada plays its part in furthering the purposes of the ILO.

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RP/C