Your Imperial Highnesses:

McGill University is honoured by your visit!

We Canadians are pleased that you come from your far and beautiful island kingdom to visit our wide country. You are an old country, and we a young country, and yet we do not forget that your people have shown a youthfulness, a freshness, an adaptiveness of which a young country might be proud. With all this, your people have retained the grace of life and the loyalty of heart and purpose that go with an ancient tradition. We appreciate your courtesy in being interested in us. We assure you that we are not less interested in you.

McGill University, proud of its/position in Montreal, and of its history in Montreal, is an institution with roots and interests in Canada as a whole. Students come to us from the whole of Canada, we send graduates all over Canada. But our interests are not limited to our own country. We receive students from many parts of the world, and we have sent graduates to all parts of the world. We belong to an Empire whose seat and mighty heart lies across the Atlantic. We have another door that gives out on the Pacific. McGill University has long had an active interests in the Pacific. We are interested not a little in the great and increasing trade carried over it. We are interested in the politics and culture of the peoples who teem on its farther shore. We are interested, above all, I think, in having the widest of oceans live up to its name. We want it to be a Pacific Ocean; Peace and friendship may well be based on trade and the mutual advantages which trade means; but peace is most secure when there is mutual understanding, mutual respect. It is here that universities may