

*Draw the Bill.*

A Bill of Rights, whether statutory or constitutional, should be carefully though courageously drawn. Your committee recommends that the task be referred to a carefully selected committee.

What is required in Canada is a broad statement of Human Rights, leaving as did the drafters of the United States Bill of Rights, the detail of application and the necessary qualifications and exceptions to the Courts.

Many of the provisions suitable for inclusion in a Bill of Rights already appear in some portions of our law, but they are not always of nation-wide application. Some fundamental rights are already expressed in the Constitution. Other provisions of freedom and security are in the Statutes and still others in decisions of the Courts, together with custom, or the commonly accepted way of doing things.

What is required in Canada is one grand and comprehensive affirmation, or reaffirmation, of human rights, equality before the law and of security, as the philosophical foundation of our nationhood, that will assure continually to each Canadian that he is born free and equal in rights and dignity with all other Canadians, that he cannot be held in personal slavery, or arbitrarily arrested, that he will always be presumed innocent of any offence until proven guilty, that he has freedom of thought, conscience, expression and movement, and so on through the Universal Declaration. Thus will Canadians know of their freedom, exercise it in manly confidence and be proud of their country.

*Individual Responsibility.*

The enactment of a Bill of Rights is not however the last requisite to a free and just society. While individuals and groups have natural rights, they have also responsibilities. Individuals who practise discrimination, who in their daily life invade the fundamental rights of others, should pause to remember that this is Canada, a Christian country in which the spirit of fairness, kindness, courtesy and understanding is the basis of our well-being and happiness.

*Conclusion.*

Your committee concludes its report by further recommending that all men give thought to the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, so that by common consent the rule of law and liberty be more fully established and more universally practised to the end that the rights of the individual be recognized and respected and the well-being, dignity and security of all humanity be thus preserved.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. W. ROEBUCK,  
*Chairman.*