City Planning Organization

material means. Much work is required if legislation is to be framed to meet the need in Canada. As I said before, our problems are our own. They are not even American problems, a fact clearly established at the recent Housing Conference in Cincinnati. City Planning and Housing Acts suitable for Canadian cities in each of the provinces can be framed only after the most careful and painstaking study. It may be found that something in the nature of a Central Bureau is desirable, a Bureau to which all our cities and provinces could apply for information, and through which the experience of each could be made available for the benefit of all. Or, owing to the extent of the undertaking, it may be found desirable to form a special committee of the Conservation Commission in order to deal effectively with the whole matter. Whatever action is required, with the Commission behind the work, it can and will be well and thoroughly done. No other body in Canada is so well qualified to guide the study, find the solution, frame the legislation and take such steps as may be found necessary to secure its adoption.

In proportion as population centralizes, the power of the individual to shape his environment lessens and the responsibility of the State increases. To accept this responsibility before avoidable evils have taken firm root, is to adopt the wisest course.

I have urged chiefly the economic value of city planning; it is a very great factor, but health, morals, beauty, and all that make life really worth the living, lie at its very heart. This is work not for the few, but for all. Through it, a standard of living may be established which will demonstrate our moral right to the ownership of Canada.