

The *Star-Phoenix*, after stating that the Bill of Rights would have great impact on the lives of all of us, went on to say this:

We believe that Canada's new Bill of Rights is something which every Canadian should treasure. We should recognize that it is a declaration of this nation's ideal of freedom, protection for the individual from arbitrary action.

So far as Canadian parliamentary authority extends, this Bill of Rights casts out any lingering doubts and confirms to each Canadian citizen that he enjoys important freedoms with which Government is not to interfere.

We all know that this Bill of Rights was introduced and strenuously fought for by the Prime Minister as legislation which he considered to be most important, and, after considerable discussion, the measure was eventually adopted unanimously in both houses. Already, we note that it is being referred to and quoted in judicial proceedings throughout the country.

Before I leave the subject, I wish to pay tribute to the honourable senator from Toronto-Trinity (Hon. Mr. Roebuck). Honourable senators will recall that he was chairman of a special committee of the Senate set up to study fundamental freedoms, a Bill of Rights, and that kind of thing. He brought in what I consider to be one of the finest reports ever presented in this house. The report was studied by us, and no doubt by the Government, for the Bill of Rights as we have it now has embodied in it many of the principles he advocated in his report. I congratulate the honourable senator most sincerely.

Another noteworthy development, which, apart from its significance as a measure of Canada's constitutional maturity, may very well lead in the future to an even more extensive consolidation of our individual rights and liberties, is the progress which has recently been made toward "bringing home" the Canadian Constitution. As many will recall, in 1950, shortly after the power of the Canadian Parliament to amend the British North America Act in relation to matters of federal jurisdiction had been gained, a federal-provincial constitutional conference attempted to formulate a procedure for amendment which would relieve us completely of the necessity of recourse to the Imperial Parliament for that purpose. It has always been, to my mind, a matter of regret that at that time the conference was not able to reach any material agreement, mainly because of fundamental differences relating to the scope of entrenched provisions. As a result, Canada continued to be the only commonwealth member, and in fact the only

sovereign nation in the world, lacking authority to amend its own constitution. Suddenly, while we were dealing with the resolution with respect to the retirement of judges at the age of 75 years, the atmosphere became more promising for progress along that line, and the Government was quick to seize the opportunity of reopening the subject, so vital to our national dignity. Honourable senators will recall that when the resolution, which eventually became a joint resolution, came up in the other place, the Prime Minister regretted that fact that we did not have this power, and he felt that something should be done about it. When the resolution reached this chamber I spoke on it, as did the Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Macdonald, Brantford). Now I am grateful that it appears that something is going to be done to give Canada this power. It must have been a matter of satisfaction to honourable senators to note the promising results which attended recent meetings of the Minister of Justice and the Attorneys General of the provinces. There still remains much to be done, but the conference reached agreement on certain fundamental principles. Another meeting is planned for early in January, and it is confidently hoped and expected that a final agreement in detail will be reached at that time. If such is the case, it will mark another historical landmark in our constitutional development.

Honourable senators, I would like to make a few remarks about trade, and what is being done to encourage and expand it. May I say, first, that our export trade during the first nine months of 1960 was quite encouraging; the total commodity exports amounted to almost \$4 billion, which was approximately 8 per cent above the total for the same period in 1959. In spite of the Inner Six and the Outer Seven, free trade areas, our exports for the first nine months to the United Kingdom amounted to \$676 million, which I am told was a peacetime high, and 20 per cent higher than for the same period in 1959. Exports to other commonwealth countries are also up, as are sales to France, West Germany, Japan and some other countries. It is expected that for the full year 1960 the export total will be \$5.1 billion, which will be a considerable gain over 1959. Nevertheless, there are large areas that Canada wishes to enter in so far as the export trade is concerned—and we are not resting on our laurels. On October 7 a 15-man group, headed by James A. Roberts, Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce, left Canada on a Canadian trade mission to the European Economic Community. The group was composed of top executives of chemical, mining, mineral product