

has independence and economic security. That is what we fought the war for. Mankind is now looking to the future with hopeful, if fearful eyes.

We realize that there are two paths ahead, either one of which we as free agents may choose to follow as we will. One path leads to heights of splendour yet undreamed of; the other to the darkness of hatred and strife. One leads to a realm where the human spirit will rise triumphant over the bigotries and persecutions of our age, where racial discrimination and intolerance of another's religious beliefs will be regarded as crimes against all mankind; where freedom of speech will be the inalienable right of every citizen; where men will no longer exploit their fellowmen for private gain; where every man will be master of his soul. That is one path we can choose.

The other path can lead only to that spiritual desolation to which our enemies would have consigned us. After the last war, Field Marshal Smuts told us that mankind was on the march. Perhaps we did not go far, but after this last holocaust humanity is once more striking its tents and is again on the march, this time in a much more decisive fashion. The yeast of liberty and of freedom is at work throughout the world. In Europe they are winning the battle which is being fought against industrial and agrarian feudalism. China is throwing off the chains of western bondage. India will, within a year I hope, have assumed that nationhood which is her due. Colonial peoples everywhere are demanding emancipation, while coloured peoples are demanding equality of treatment with the white peoples. The world is being rebuilt and we shall be false to our traditions if we do not play our part in ensuring that it will be built on the basis of the most enduring values—human freedom and respect for human dignity.

What of us in Canada? We are faced with the situation of an increasing complexity in our social and economic life which is compelling the state to interfere in fields which are new. When the state interferes in such a way there is always the grave risk of the infringement of the rights of individuals. While the state may so infringe upon the rights of the person there is also the danger, which some of us have found out to our cost, of equal infringement by the owners and managers of great aggregations of wealth. These are two reasons then why there is a growing demand for some amendment to our constitution which will safeguard our essential freedoms.

We are inclined to forget that our democracy was not attained by wishing it, nor can

it be maintained by willing it. Democracy implies a constant struggle against irresponsible power, an hourly and daily struggle and one, if it is to be successful, that demands constant inspiration. New hopes and new enthusiasms have to be aroused. We can create those new hopes; we can create those new enthusiasms if we give to the people of Canada a charter of rights. Here is our opportunity to tell our people in Canada what our objective is as a nation, to declare without equivocation what are our rights.

Important as it may be to do that, it is even more important to protect those rights. The American settlers after the declaration of independence found that the common law of England which they had inherited was not sufficient to safeguard the individual, and Jefferson said in 1787:

A bill of rights is what the people are entitled to against every government on earth, general or particular, and what no just government should refuse or rest in inference.

What was true then is true now, and no government of Canada can refuse a bill of rights to its citizens, one which will at once protect and inspire. We need that protection. We fought this war for democracy and the democracy which we have is developing cracks. We have permitted flagrant injustice to continue. We have violated and are violating the fundamental rights of the citizens of this country. This house has debated—and I do not intend to reopen the debate—the question of citizens of Japanese descent and the question of Chinese residents in Canada. I am not going to say much about that, but I could not help but notice the affection which the Minister of Veterans Affairs had this afternoon for the golden rule. As he knows, the golden rule is that we should do unto others as we wish to be done by. I wonder what the Minister of Veterans Affairs would do if the parliament of Canada were to strip him of his citizenship? I wonder what he would then think of the golden rule which he played up so much today? When I saw that it was the Minister of Veterans Affairs who was introducing this resolution I felt that perhaps human rights were in a bad way when we considered who the midwife was. Let me say that I think the legislation we have passed in this house against these people is a shame to a democratic parliament. I say also that we in the C.C.F. will never stop in our opposition to discrimination against any individual because of his race or because of his creed. We shall never stop that fight.

We see dangers to our civil liberties in various parts of Canada today. In Manitoba an attempt is being made to take away cer-