

Mr. Coldwell, seconded by Mr. Knowles, moved,—That in the opinion of this House, consideration should be given to the taking of whatever steps are necessary to amend the British North America Act so as to include therein the following heading and sections:

#### “XII HUMAN RIGHTS

148. Notwithstanding anything in this Act, it shall not be lawful for the Parliament of Canada or the Legislatures of any of the provinces to make laws:

- (a) Abridging freedom of speech and expression, or freedom of religion, or of the press or other means of communication or the right of lawful assembly, association or organization.
- (b) Depriving any person of life or liberty by arbitrary or abusive measures, or denying to any person the equal protection of the laws.
- (c) Requiring or imposing excessive bail or cruel or unusual punishment or exiling Canadian citizens.
- (d) Subjecting any person to unreasonable interference with his or her privacy, family, home or correspondence.
- (e) Subjecting any person to arbitrary arrest or detention or denying to any person the right after arrest to be informed promptly of the charges against such person and to trial within a reasonable time or to be released.
- (f) Suspending the right to Habeas Corpus or depriving any person of a fair trial or the right to be represented by counsel.

149. The rights provided in Section 148 shall be enjoyed without distinction of race, sex, religion or language and the right to vote in any election of members of Parliament of Canada or the Legislative Assembly of any province shall not be denied or abridged on account of race, religion, language or sex.

150. The rights conferred by Sections 148 and 149 hereof of this Act shall not be deemed to abridge any existing right of any person.

And a Debate arising thereon; the said Debate was interrupted at ten o'clock.

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#### *Returns and Reports Deposited with the Clerk of the House*

The following papers having been deposited with the Clerk of the House were laid upon the Table pursuant to Standing Order 40, namely:

By Mr. Marler, a Member of the Queen's Privy Council, by command of His Excellency the Governor General,—Report of the Department of Transport for the year ended March 31, 1955, pursuant to section 34 of the Department of Transport Act, chapter 79, R.S.C., 1952.

By Mr. Bourget, Parliamentary Assistant, for the Minister of Public Works, by command of His Excellency the Governor General,—Report of the Department of Public Works for the year ended March 31, 1955, pursuant to section 34 of the Public Works Act, chapter 228, R.S.C., 1952.