

sion the committee be appointed again to resume consideration of the task contained in the terms of the order of reference.

Our inquiries should have covered three points: first, our obligations in the matter of human rights and fundamental freedoms under the charter of the United Nations; second, the legal and constitutional situation in Canada with respect to such rights; third, the steps which it might be advisable to take for the purpose of preserving in this country such rights and freedoms.

An officer from the Department of External Affairs gave evidence before our committee respecting our obligations as a member of the United Nations; the director of the division of human rights, department of social affairs of the United Nations, gave us information concerning the activities of the United Nations in this matter of human rights; and the Deputy Minister of Justice was heard in regard to the legal and constitutional position in Canada.

A very interesting documentation was collected. Invitations were sent to the attorneys-general of the provinces, and also to the heads of each of our law faculties, to express their views on the subject of a federal bill of rights.

The work already done will, I trust, be useful; but as I said, it was impossible to do more in the present session.

I believe that all of us have faith in human rights and fundamental freedoms, and regard this land of ours as essentially a land of liberty. We are anxious to show the world that we want to cooperate with humanity at large in this very interesting field.

The motion was agreed to.

FOURTH REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the fourth report of the Joint Committee on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

Hon. L. M. GOUIN moved concurrence in the report.

He said: Honourable senators, I have only a few words to add. Special reference was made to our committee of the subject-matter of a certain bill, No. 133, introduced in the other house. I am not sure that a copy of it has yet reached us. It is entitled "An Act to amend the Criminal Code (Illegal Organizations)". Introduced by Mr. LaCroix, it proposes to enact in a different form section 98 of the Criminal Code, to include the communist party of Canada. I mention this only to explain to the Senate that it was impossible for us to proceed with a study of the bill. For the reasons I have

already given, we had first to prepare the ground for our work, and we thought it necessary to begin with a general introduction to our subject. Our recommendation, as in the other report, is that the subject-matter of a bill of this nature be referred to a committee, to be constituted in the same way, at the beginning of the next session.

The motion was agreed to.

SENATOR L. M. GOUIN

FELICITATIONS UPON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE LEGION OF HONOUR

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: Honourable senators, before the house adjourns, I should like publicly to draw your attention to the great distinction which has been conferred upon our esteemed colleague the honourable senator from De Salaberry (Hon. Mr. Gouin) in having been made a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour of France.

Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: I am sure we are all gratified that the honourable gentleman has received this mark of honour. The senator, son of an illustrious father, bears a famous name; and the prestige he enjoys among us is enhanced by his great personal charm. We are happy to have the opportunity of congratulating him upon this great honour, which I am sure his services richly merit.

Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. GOUIN: Honourable senators, you have taken me completely by surprise. It is only with great emotion that I can thank our leader most sincerely for his very kind remarks.

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: Earlier in the evening I was advised that legislation in the other place had been making relatively good progress. The Redistribution Bill has passed its second reading, and it is expected that the third reading will be proceeded with at an early stage tomorrow morning. I do not think that any great amount of legislation remains. I do not know how long it will take to dispose of the remaining estimates. Being in doubt whether we should resume tomorrow morning, I asked another senator to inquire as to the progress of business elsewhere. I am now informed by the senator from Queen's (Hon. Mr. Sinclair) that it is not necessary for us to have a morning sitting.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 3 p.m.