

have reference to the four freedoms of the too-much-forgotten Atlantic Charter: freedom of conscience, freedom of expression, freedom from want, and freedom from fear. As honourable senators will see by my further explanation, the revised draft declaration, which has now been referred to the General Assembly of the United Nations, expressly recognizes the basic principle of personal liberty, national equality, and respect for the rights of one another. It also affirms the principles of freedom of conscience and expression, as well as the right to social security.

Let us examine the attitude of our special joint committee towards the draft International Declaration on Human Rights. In paragraph 3 of our report it is explained that an International Declaration on Human Rights shall not be "legally binding upon states, such a document being a statement of principles". But we add that such a declaration "will tend to influence the course of legislation in states which consider themselves morally bound by its provisions, and will therefore promote human rights and fundamental freedoms". In other words there would be a certain persuasive influence.

The joint committee carefully analysed the principles set out in the draft International Declaration adopted in Geneva on December 17, 1947, and came to the unanimous conclusion that the draft would be more effective if set out in more concise form. In fact, on June 18, 1948, at Lake Success, the International Commission on Human Rights adopted a revised draft, which was reproduced in the American press. It is certainly an improvement over the previous draft, being much clearer and shorter, comprising only twenty-eight articles in place of thirty-three or more. Many of the sections themselves have been considerably shortened. The text in question is so important that, with the leave of the Senate, I would suggest that it be reproduced in *Hansard*; otherwise honourable senators who were not members of our committee would have great difficulty in following the report now before us.

(See *Appendix at end of today's report.*)

The first part of the declaration deals with civil rights: right to life, liberty and security; freedom from slavery or cruel or inhuman treatment; freedom from unreasonable interference with privacy, in the family, the home, correspondence or reputation; liberty of movement and free choice of residence within states, and the right to leave any country, including one's own.

There are also provisions purporting to secure, in civil and criminal cases, access to independent and impartial tribunals, freedom from arbitrary arrest or detention and free-

dom from ex post facto laws. Other articles guarantee the right of property, freedom of religion, freedom of information, assembly and association, and assure the right to participate in government.

Article 20 and following are devoted to economic and social rights: the right to work, including the right to equal pay for equal work; the right to preservation of health through highest standards of food, clothing, housing and medical care; the right to education and to rest and leisure.

Article 27 states that: "Everyone has duties to the community". It further states that the rights of everyone are limited by "the rights of others and the requirements of morality, public order and general welfare in a democratic society".

Finally, article 28 expressly denies the right of any state or person to engage in any activity aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms prescribed in the International Declaration on Human Rights.

To sum up, this declaration—as stated in the first paragraph of the revised text—affirms that "the recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world". I readily admit that that is a very noble statement, and one which is inspired by a generous ideal, but I regret that the declaration nowhere states that we derive all our rights from God, who is our Creator as well as our end.

On this point I wish to refer honourable senators to page 52 and following pages of our committee's *Minutes of Proceedings*, Volume No. 3, 1948. There will be found some very interesting remarks made at our meeting of May 13 by two of the committee's members from the other house, namely, Mr. Marquis and Mr. Michaud. Mr. Marquis quoted the Declaration of Independence adopted by the United States congress on July 4, 1776, which refers to God and to the Creator and also invokes the protection of Divine Providence. I sincerely believe in the fatherhood of God, and in this I simply share the faith of the immense majority of people of this country and of the world at large. Therefore, I heartily concurred in the suggestion made by Mr. Marquis, seconded by Mr. Michaud, that at the beginning of the declaration there be introduced a reference to God as being the source of all human rights.

It will be seen, however, by reference to paragraph 5 of our report, on page 513, that the committee did not suggest such a revision or any other particular revision of the draft