

Senate, and I have here some letters from which, with the indulgence of the house, I should like to quote.

Mr. Irving Himel, Secretary of the Committee on Human Rights has written me as follows:

We have heard from both the Civil Liberties Association of Manitoba, and the Canadian Civil Liberties Union, Vancouver Branch. They write to say that their executive has met and endorsed your resolution.

In a letter bearing the letterhead of the Toronto Jewish Youth Council, the secretary writes:

I am public relations chairman of the Toronto Jewish Youth Council, which represents over 5,000 Jewish youth in Toronto. At a recent Ontario Jewish Youth Conference held in Toronto, November 5 and 6, there were over a hundred delegates from all parts of Ontario, from Sudbury to Windsor, representing well over 10,000 Jewish youth.

A resolution passed by the Council is as follows:

Resolved that we urge the federal government of Canada to pass a Bill of Rights outlawing racial and religious discrimination.

Mr. Frederick W. Boorer of the Christian Science Committee on Publication for Ontario, which represents all the churches of that denomination, says:

I was pleased to read the report of your motion in the Senate calling for submission to the Dominion-Provincial Conference to be held in January of a "Canadian Bill of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms."

Particularly are we interested in Article 15 pertaining to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, and more specifically the very important point you have made in not only guaranteeing one's freedom to believe in his own individual form of worship, but also to practice it.

The Association for Civil Liberties (Toronto), over the signature of Reverend Dr. R. S. K. Seeley, expresses its support as follows:

We wish to assure you of our wholehearted support.

And adds further:

The Civil Liberties Association includes in its membership a large number of citizens of various political opinions and representing many phases of Canadian life. We believe that a very large body of right-thinking citizens will strongly favour the introduction of such an amendment.

Mr. J. Munz of the First Unitarian Church offers this support:

I am a member of the Social Action Committee of the First Unitarian Congregation in Toronto. We intend, after reading your Bill, to ask the congregation to pass a resolution in support for your request made that the Bill of Human Rights be added to the Canadian Constitution.

Mr. M. F. McCrimmon, convener of the Civil Liberties Committee of the Co-ordinating Committee of Canadian Youth Groups, writes:

The Civil Liberties Committee of the Co-ordinating Committee of Canadian Youth Groups is concerned to promote the adoption of a Canadian bill of Rights.

George Tanaka, National Executive Secretary of the National Japanese Canadian Citizens Association, sends the following wire:

The National Japanese Canadian Citizens Association which fully represents the Canadian citizens of Japanese ancestry desires to lend its full support to your action for B.N.A. amendment for a Canadian Bill of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. The following stated resolution of the organization was adopted at its national conference held in Lethbridge, Alberta, on November 7:

"Whereas considerable public interest and attention has been created in various legislative means by which truer equality of status may be assured to all Canadian citizens, regardless of racial origin, thus strengthening the quality and meaning of democratic Canadian citizenship, therefore be it resolved that this third national conference of the National Japanese Canadian Citizens Association express itself as being solidly in favour in principle of Dominion and Provincial Bills of Rights."

The last letter of a general character to which I wish to refer is from the Ontario Federation of Labour, over the signatures of Joseph MacKenzie, President, George Burt, Vice-President, S. S. Hughes, Vice-President, and Cleve Kidd, Secretary-Treasurer. It reads in part as follows:

The Ontario Federation of Labour (Canadian Congress of Labour) representing approximately 150,000 trade unionists in the province of Ontario, for some time has recognized the need for a Canadian Bill of Rights.

We therefore greet with enthusiasm the motion introduced into the Senate on October 27 by yourself to amend the British North America Act to incorporate a "Canadian Bill of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms".

The publicity which this resolution received in the press, all over Canada, is so voluminous that, if I would, I could not quote it all. Perhaps it is worth while to read an excerpt from an editorial written by Mr. B. K. Sandwell, editor of *Saturday Night*, one of the most progressive, persistent and faithful advocates of human rights. Here is what he says:

The extent and very serious discussion of it by the upper house, have not been without a great deal of value. For one thing the motion has elicited strong expressions of approval from labour organizations and other elements of the public, extending far beyond the intelligentsia which has until now provided the chief support for the Bill of Rights idea. To the principle, indeed, there has been practically no objection; criticism has been confined to the method of putting it in operation and the opportuneness of the occasion which Mr. Roebuck sought to utilize.

And finally:

Throughout the debate there has been practically no expression of hostility to the basic idea of a Bill of Rights as an eventual part of the fundamental law of the land. That is a notable piece of progress.

I must now turn to the remarks made early in the debate by the honourable senator from Shelburne (Hon. Mr. Robertson), who leads this house and who speaks for the government. I may say that I was pleased greatly by the welcome which he extended to the