

But there is added to that the special provision in this new Act that he must be 'on active service with the naval or military forces of the British Empire and Great Britain's allies.' I feel that this would not make it apply to the men who are upon active service within the Dominion of Canada.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: I was rather impressed by the point which my hon. friend (Mr. Devlin) mentioned, and I suggested it to my hon. friend the Minister of Public Works a few minutes ago, the point being that the words 'on active service' are qualified by certain words which follow. He informed me that in the opinion of several eminent lawyers who are members of the committee that clause in its present form would cover all. Certainly that is the intention of the committee and the intention of the House. It might be made absolutely certain by putting it in the following form:

On active service whether with the naval and military forces of the British Empire or Great Britain's allies or otherwise and whether in Canada or abroad.

Mr. LEMIEUX: Is there not a redundancy in the drafting of that clause—naval and military forces of the British Empire or Great Britain's allies? I should say that the words 'Great Britain' are sufficient—one or the other. There is no such state in parliamentary phraseology as the British Empire. War has been declared by Great Britain and war has been declared against Great Britain. I do not think that the clause reads as it should. There is a redundancy, and one of the two expressions should be eliminated.

Mr. ROGERS: I think it was understood by the committee that by inserting the words 'British Empire' they were giving the clause the widest possible range, although by the lawyers present the argument was advanced that the words 'Great Britain' should be used for the reason that it was not the British Empire but Great Britain that had allies.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: It has been recommended to us in this form by the committee. There is no doubt whatever about the intention of the committee or of the House. Under the circumstances perhaps this Bill might pass as it is, although I am bound to say I am very much of the same opinion with regard to it as my honourable friend from Wright (Mr. Devlin). If any question should be raised, the Bill could easily be amended at another session.

[Mr. Devlin.]

Mr. ROGERS: I would like it to be clearly understood by the members that it was the intention of the committee drafting this Bill that it should be wide enough to cover the services of Canadians at home. If it is not wide enough, I am sure the committee will ask the House to remedy that at another session.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the third time and passed.

#### NATURALIZATION ACT AMENDMENT.

Hon. C. J. DOHERTY (Minister of Justice) moved second reading of Bill No. 8, to amend the Naturalization Act, 1914. He said: When we passed the Naturalization Act last session, adopting the British Nationality and Naturalization Act, it was done before the home parliament had passed their legislation. We adopted it as it then stood. The parliament of the United Kingdom have since made two amendments in their Act; and it is desirable, as our Bill was intended to adopt their Act, and moreover as I think the amendments themselves will improve the Bill, that we should adopt those amendments. A message has been received from the home government expressing their desire that we should adopt those amendments at this session. They have regard to the status of married women as affected by their marriage.

The first amendment provides that, where a woman who was a British subject previous to her marriage loses her nationality by marrying an alien and the marriage is subsequently dissolved, either by the death of her husband or otherwise, in order to recover her original nationality, the widow or woman concerned shall not be required to fulfil the period of residence; that is to say, she may again become a British subject without putting in the five years residence. This amendment brings her position in this respect back to what it was under our law before it was amended.

The other amendment is also with regard to the status of married women. While it does not affect the rule that a woman by her marriage assumes the nationality of her husband, it protects her against changes in nationality which her husband may make during the marriage. Where a woman marries a British subject and that British subject after the marriage changes his nationality, she shall be entitled to retain her nationality by declaring her intention so to do. This last amendment required the insertion in the paragraph about regu-