

consider ideal. Why do we not stop the county court judges from functioning as citizenship court judges and have the citizenship courts all over the country staffed by people of the caliber of Judge Ahern?

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: We are trying to do that gradually, senator, It is partly expense, partly convenience. In some of the heavily populated parts of the country to have a citizenship judge in a sort of central area would mean that citizens might have to go 50 or 100 miles to obtain citizenship. This is a discouragement to them, whereas if one uses the local county court judges one can do it within 10 or 20 miles. It is my hope that we will eventually have a network of citizenship judges across the country.

Senator SMITH (*Queens-Shelburne*): Well, Judge Ahern travels hundreds of miles to citizenship courts in Nova Scotia.

The CHAIRMAN: Hundreds of miles?

Senator SMITH (*Queens-Shelburne*): Well, perhaps not, but considerable distances. I think this is a wonderful thing to get into.

The CHAIRMAN: Shall we take the bill section by section? Shall section 1 carry? Carried.

Shall section 2 carry?

Hon. SENATORS: Carried.

The CHAIRMAN: And now at this point the department is proposing an amendment which will come in at the top of page 2, as subsection (4) immediately following subsection (3) which has that black line indicating that it is new, and this amendment would read as follows:

(4) Subsection (8) of section 10 of the said act is repealed and the following substituted therefor:

Now subsection (8) of section 10 reads as follows:

(8) Subparagraph (i) of paragraph (c) of subsection (1) does not apply to a person who has resided continuously in Canada for a period of one year immediately preceding the 1st day of June, 1956, and had been admitted to Canada for permanent residence prior to the thirty-first day of December, 1956, and, in addition, has also resided in Canada for a further period of not less than four years during the six years immediately preceding the 1st day of June, 1953.

The amendment, part of which I have already read, is to provide that this—

(8) Subparagraph (i) of paragraph (c) of subsection (1) does not apply to a person who

(a) has resided continuously in Canada for a period of one year immediately preceding the 1st day of June, 1956, and had been admitted to Canada for permanent residence prior to the 31st day of December, 1956 and, in addition, has also resided in Canada for a further period of not less than four years during the six years immediately preceding the 1st day of June, 1953; or

(b) acquired Canadian domicile before the coming into force of this paragraph.

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: This amendment is put forward because we realized we were cutting out those who had already qualified or who were entitled to be qualified under the law as it presently stands. This is simply tidying the matter up so as to make sure that we don't cut that group out.

The CHAIRMAN: The part marked (b) is the new part, and the part marked (a) is the part presently in the act.

Senator MOLSON: I move the amendment.

Hon. SENATORS: Carried.

The CHAIRMAN: The other sections of the bill have been pretty thoroughly gone into and discussed. I will call them and if you have any questions to ask about them you can ask them.