

regulations which will be developed under this measure that sort of thing will not be allowed to happen again.

Mr. GRAYDON: Was that the only ground in each case?

Mr. MARTIN: Yes, that was the only ground given in the report of the judge. I may add that was not the first complaint in that particular community, but it will not happen again.

With regard to the questions concerning this individual, Mr. Carr, I cannot give the answers to-day because I was not in the department; I was not the minister when he was naturalized, and I have not the information. However, I shall make inquiries, and to the extent that I can find the answers I shall give them to the hon. gentleman at the first opportunity.

Mr. REID: I should like to direct a question to the minister in regard to section 10 (1) (a). Perhaps if I read it in layman's language I may give it a clearer interpretation than it is given in the bill itself. I read it in this way: "The minister may grant a certificate of Canadian citizenship to any person who is not a Canadian citizen, and who makes application for that purpose and satisfies the court that he has filed in the office of the clerk of the court for the judicial district in which he resides a declaration of intention to become a Canadian citizen not less than one or more than five years prior to the date of his application." My question to the minister is, does that debar a person who comes to this country from applying for citizenship six years, seven years or even ten years later? As I read this, it would seem that he must make his application or at least his declaration of intention between one and five years after coming to this country.

Mr. MARTIN: No. The section means there cannot be a gap of more than five years between the time notice of intention is given and the application is made; and of course this provision does not apply to British subjects.

Mr. HERRIDGE: I have not participated in this debate to any extent, but have listened with a great deal of interest to the arguments coming from both sides, particularly in reference to this section. I must say that I find myself largely in sympathy with the point of view expressed by hon. members to my right on this side of the house. I do not think they have been dealing with a matter of light significance. I am one of those who believe we should give serious consideration to the fact that we are common citizens of the British commonwealth of nations. I am bound to

say that in this bill I believe it should be possible for us to reconcile our two points of view. I believe in this bill we should recognize British citizenship as a whole because unless we recognize it, we will not preserve it. I am not going to repeat the arguments that have been advanced many times during this debate, because I do not intend to speak for very long, but those people for whom we are asking special consideration on a principle, the principle being our common citizenship in the British commonwealth, have some particular qualifications. First of all, they are British subjects and as such come here already as subjects of the king. Second, they have a knowledge of the workings of democracy under British institutions. Third, the great majority have a knowledge of one of the two official languages.

I listened with considerable interest to the objections raised by the Minister of Mines and Resources, as the one who has to administer the immigration laws of this country, and I quite appreciate his arguments and the force of his objections. But in an effort to reconcile the two points of view which I fully appreciate, I move the following amendment:

That section 10 (1) (c) be amended by inserting after the word "application" in line 29 the following words: "except that in the case of a British subject, two years shall suffice."

Mr. GREEN: Are the ministers not going to make any statement with regard to this amendment?

Amendment (Mr. Herridge) negatived.

The CHAIRMAN: Does section 10, subsection 1, carry?

Mr. GREEN: I should like to ask the Secretary of State about three different points which arise in connection with this section. The first has to do with the wife of a Canadian, which is covered by paragraph (c) which states in part:

... where the applicant is the wife of and resides in Canada with a Canadian citizen ...

Is that to be interpreted that unless and until that wife comes to Canada she cannot acquire Canadian citizenship?

Mr. MARTIN: That is right.

Mr. GREEN: If a war bride from Holland comes to Canada after this bill becomes law, will it be necessary for her to appear in naturalization court?

Mr. MARTIN: Not if she married before the bill came into effect.

Mr. GREEN: It is the time she is married that governs?