

upon themselves to order these people to repay the debt. I have known families with two, three or even more children who in the thirties became deeply indebted in the matter of relief. It seems unreasonable now to demand that these people repay \$1,000, \$1,500 or \$2,000 of this relief money. If they are asked to repay it, why should not the Canadian-born do the same? It is not their fault that the governments of the day failed to give them an opportunity to make a living. Therefore I appeal to the minister to request the judges to grant certificates to these people so that they may be treated the same as Canadian-born persons when it comes to a matter of relief money.

The other matter upon which I should like to touch briefly deals with a particular case which I have in mind, but it covers a certain principle which has been overlooked, disregarded or ignored, not by the applicant but by the government. The care and the amount of work the minister and his advisers have put into the preparation of this bill are a good indication that various sections which have been included in the bill are important and should be observed. These sections are embodied in the bill for a definite purpose and they should be followed. At least the government should set an example in this regard. But I desire to draw the attention of hon. members as a matter of principle to the case of Sam Carr, who until recently lived in Toronto, and who obtained his certificate of citizenship within the last two years or so in spite of his anti-Canadian attitude.

Mr. MacINNIS: He was a Liberal pal in those days.

Mr. HLYNKA: That may be so. I am not dealing particularly with Mr. Carr, but with the principle which is involved. According to the information which I have, Mr. Carr came to Canada in 1924. In 1929 he went to Moscow to study at the Lenin Institute and returned to Canada in 1931. He was arrested for internment in September, 1942, and was released conditionally by the present government, and yet some time prior to the Grey North by-election and the general election Mr. Carr was granted a citizenship certificate. I should like the minister, not necessarily today, but to-morrow or the day after, to answer five questions in regard to this matter. It is not that I particularly desire to have these answers myself, but I think the people of this country should know what happened in this case. I am not reflecting in any way upon the present minister or his predecessors. The Secretary of State is a conscientious

[Mr. Hlynka.]

minister, and this happened before he took over the department. But I want some information on this matter, because we cannot afford to be so lax as to grant naturalization to individuals who during the first part of the war held a definite view against the interests of Canada. It seems to me there is something wrong here. It does not matter what party is in power; no bargains should be made with any individual or group of individuals when it comes to matters of this sort. I do not know if this were done, but it will be up to the minister to give this house the information I seek. These are the questions:

1. On what date did Mr. Sam Carr of Toronto make his first application for a naturalization certificate?

2. Were any of his applications turned down? If so, on what grounds, and by whom?

3. On what date was Mr. Carr's application approved, and who was the presiding judge?

4. Who investigated the facts concerning Mr. Carr's eligibility to become a Canadian citizen?

5. Upon whose recommendation was Mr. Carr's application approved? What are the names, occupations and addresses of those persons?

Mr. MARTIN: First, may I say that I fully concur in what the hon. gentleman has said, that no one should be deprived of the right to Canadian citizenship under this bill, or for that matter under the existing Naturalization Act, on the mere ground that he owes somebody else some money. Poverty is not and should not be in any way a disqualification from a right that should be open to everyone in this country regardless of economic position, regardless of race, religion or any of these matters. I may assure the hon. gentleman with all the force at my command that in the administration of this measure and the regulations which will be passed pursuant to the authority given under it, some of the abuses that have existed heretofore will not be allowed to continue, in so far as I have any power to prevent them.

The hon. member for Rosthern brought to my attention last fall an instance where in a certain part of western Canada a particular judge had refused two individuals the right to become naturalized on the mere ground that one owed a fairly large debt and the other owed a smaller debt. That judge, to the extent of the powers then existing, was told that he had acted contrary to the spirit of the act, and I can only say that in the