

money? The last is usually one of the questions asked. When these are answered the recommendation for granting papers goes forward to Ottawa. It is all very well to talk about a beautiful ceremony and a big crowd of people turning out on the day the certificate is granted. That is all very nice, but I maintain that there should be some preparation of the applicant for citizenship, the very fact that he has to do a little studying will make him cherish his certificate more when he gets it than he does under the present system. I am keen about this matter and I would ask the minister to consider this suggestion seriously. He should at least tell the committee what the questions are likely to be because he must have given this matter some study. I am just afraid that the questions may vary from one province to another. But if we are looking for one citizenship all the applicants should be treated alike and there should be one system in effect from one end of the country to the other. I hope the minister will give this suggestion serious consideration.

Mr. KNIGHT: I was interested in the statement made by the hon. member for Eglinton just before the dinner recess. I agree with him very largely. I wondered as he spoke whether he believes that the possession of a certain standard of education should be a condition of the acquisition of citizenship in this country by those whom I think we term "new Canadians"?

Mr. FLEMING: I did not say "new Canadians"; I said "adult immigrants".

Mr. KNIGHT: I think that is a much better term. I was going to observe that the term "new Canadian", if it had been used by the hon. gentleman, which it was not, is an unfortunate name for them, because the term is liked least by those to whom it best applies. I would point out to my hon. friend and to the hon. member for Vancouver East that it is very difficult indeed to make adult education available to all newcomers because most of them get out into the remote parts of the country and are not economically very well off. They spend their time on homesteads and marginal farms, where they have to make their living far removed from the educational advantages enjoyed by those living in the cities. It may be easy enough in large cities like Toronto where people live closer together to have this type of instruction. Such a class I know was conducted in my own city for many years by a very fine and talented lady who unfortunately has been called from

amongst us. But such voluntary efforts, as someone has said, will not fully solve the problem.

I know the minister is in a difficult position when somebody asks him for a sort of standard school for citizenship throughout the dominion. I would point out to the hon. member for New Westminster that there is a danger in that type of standardization because the questions or an approximation of them are sometimes likely to be known beforehand, so that an ability to answer such questions does not necessarily mean very much.

May I say in passing that we are apt to overlook the cultural background and the cultural contribution that is made by a great many of these newcomers. When we do not understand another person's language we are apt to misunderstand him and I am afraid that in the past we have even been inclined to despise him. These newcomers have much to offer. We have, for instance, in this country many of the finest medical men and surgeons who have come to us in recent years from Europe but to whom we deny the right to practise their profession. I shall not go into the reasons for that, but it is not a good example of how democracy works.

In talking about democracy, I wish to make it clear that I do not want to be objectionable or give offence to any member of the house or anybody else but when an hon. member, a member on the government side or on any side of this house, rises up to speak for the purpose of blocking a private member's resolution saying, and I quote—

I have only twenty minutes to waste.

—may I suggest that the people of this country, looking down upon such a scene from the galleries of this house—

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (Mr. Golding): Order. The hon. member must confine his remarks to the section.

Mr. KNIGHT: I am talking, sir, about adult education, which is more than the hon. gentleman did. May I suggest that the people of this country, on reading the debates recording such a scene in this House of Commons, must feel that it is not only the newcomers in this country who are in need of adult education. I would blush for shame if some of these newcomers could look in here and see democracy at work in this way. Now, sir, in order or out of order, I am as sincere as any man can be in this regard, and I say to you that there is something wrong with the procedure in this house. I am only a newcomer, but I come here from the constituency of Saskatoon City—