

a proper citizen. You would not want such people to automatically forfeit citizenship, because their actions in this country would not be affected in any way by the fact that they had entered under false names.

I think the intention here is only to remove citizenship in the very rare case where, under some representation which is false and which is adverse to the public interest, it should be removed.

Senator MOLSON: Well, if he has made a declaration renouncing his Canadian citizenship, surely to goodness he should be taken off the list of Canadian citizens.

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: Well, I can think of some instances where it might happen as well that for some reason he was in custody in a foreign country and was required to do so. In some cases the renunciation of citizenship may be a requirement which a wife, who does not want to give up her citizenship, has to meet in her husband's interest, and, if the marriage subsequently dissolves, we would not want that person to be forever denied her own citizenship.

It seems to me that, if you bear in mind that we hope not to exclude people unless their crime has been one which in a sense continues against the state, they should be able to have citizenship.

Senator MOLSON: Do you not think it cheapens Canadian citizenship to have some of these conditions under which they can do things of their own free will and which show that they do not value their Canadian citizenship very highly, and yet we do not pay any attention to them? It does not seem to me to lead to greater respect and desire on the part of people to become Canadian citizens.

The CHAIRMAN: Senator, all this really provides is the opportunity for weighing the quality of the act that was a renunciation, or whatever it might have been. It does not predetermine the decision, but there is a flexibility because the Governor in Council can examine the facts and weigh the quality of what was done, and, if he feels that it does not measure up to an intended and absolute renunciation, then he may overlook it.

Senator SMITH (*Queens-Shelburne*): Mr. Chairman, does the Minister not have to have discretionary power, for example, with respect to Canadian citizens who are caught up in the United States draft? I think this was mentioned a while ago. I know a number of students who have "escaped" from the United States. They were over there as students because they were about to graduate, but they did not graduate. I know of two particular cases where they did not graduate because they failed in a subject. However, they were too frightened to stay on after their term at university in order to prepare themselves for supplementary examinations, because they were eligible for the draft.

Now, if one of these young men got caught up in that draft and was obliged to make a note of affirmation or declare his allegiance to the flag of the United States, surely, by virtue of a discretionary power that you must have, he would not lose his Canadian citizenship? That is just common sense to me. I do not know how important that is or how often that situation would arise within the Department of Citizenship.

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: As I explained earlier, Senator Smith, he does not automatically lose his citizenship by virtue of having taken that oath to the American flag.

Senator SMITH (*Queens-Shelburne*): Why not? Is he covered elsewhere in the act?

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: It is only in the case of wartime that, if a person serves in the forces of a nation at war with Canada and takes that oath, he then automatically loses his Canadian citizenship. In peacetime he does not.

Senator POULIOT: I have just one question. There is a provision in the bill to the effect that citizenship will lapse after an absence of 10 years from the country.

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: This act amends that.

Senator POULIOT: I know some people who were born in Canada but who have kept their Canadian citizenship by coming here occasionally. I wondered if the fact that