

when they get away from their old traditions. But we who claim to be of the third or fourth generation believe that these people are good people and we want to give them a chance. If we had given them a chance they would have been good citizens. I agree with the hon. member who suggested that we might safely adopt British citizens after one year, for better or for worse.

Mr. GLEN: The hon. gentleman who has just spoken has almost intimated that I might have some prejudice against Britishers coming to this country. I have no prejudices, as he can understand, and as the committee will appreciate. We shall be glad to have them. But I take the position that any immigrant coming to Canada must be in exactly the same position as I was in. I was subject to the laws of the country, and if I were not a suitable immigrant that country had the power to deport me to Scotland. In other words, the immigration law deals with the individual and not with the race, and if the individual has the qualifications necessary he will be welcomed to the country. I hope the hon. gentleman will not seek to convey the idea that I would be against immigration from Britain, because we have many inquiries and I shall be glad to see them here myself.

Mr. HANSELL: I do not believe the minister's attitude in this matter is any different from my own. We are both of British stock. Would he, however, care to place on the record the number of deportations of British subjects that were sent back at their own request? Perhaps the department does not have that detailed information, but I am sure it would be appreciated by the committee if we could get it.

Mr. GLEN: I do not know if the information is available in that form. I shall make inquiries, and if it is available I shall be glad to give it.

Mr. BENTLEY: I have one or two questions on which I should like to get some information. I would be in sympathy with the amendment if it were confined and could be confined to the people who are in the minds of those who wish to see the amendment go through, namely, the people from the British isles; but the amendment reads as follows:

That section 10 (1) (c) be amended by inserting after the word "war" in line 25, the following words:

"or is a British subject within the meaning of section 28."

Turning to section 28 we find this:

A person, who has acquired the status of British subject by birth or naturalization under

the laws of any country of the British commonwealth other than Canada to which he was subject at the time of his birth or naturalization, shall be recognized in Canada as a British subject.

I am not too certain that the people in British Guiana are of the same state of mind or educational advancement with regard to democracy as we think we are in Canada. If I read contemporary history correctly I am not too sure that the Dutch Boers and the negro population of South Africa and some of the people down there who came from Great Britain have the same conception of democracy as we have. I do not know whether the native population of Australia may be called British subjects. I do not know to what extent the many generations of civil servants who originally came from Britain and their descendants whose blood in some cases may be mixed with the British subjects of India, are in exactly the same position as we are in regard to the development of democratic institutions. I am not saying this to detract from any values they have.

It has been argued that by admitting these people under this amendment we would be admitting people who would be in the same state of development with regard to democracy as we are. I do not think the argument holds good when we take into consideration those who are described in section 28. Unless I have assurance on that one way or the other, I shall have to vote against the amendment.

There is something else to which I should like to refer, and I wish my hon. friends opposite to take these remarks in the same spirit in which I am trying to use them. I am a native of Canada, and come from many generations who were natives of Canada. My blood contains blood from all of the original immigrants to the maritimes with the exception of French. In this country we have almost three and a half million people of French descent. Why not add to this amendment the words, "people from France"? There is an affiliation there. Unless an amendment of this kind is clearly defined, some of us who are trying to be honest and fair about this matter, and who have not too much training in legal technicalities, are being put in an impossible position.

I am giving the Secretary of State credit for having given consideration to all these factors. When I spoke on this matter earlier I indicated that this was one time that a minister of this government had done something which pleased me. I have not yet seen any reason why I should change that statement. I like the bill the way it is. I