

have in their own country, because this is not a land where you can go out and pick a coconut or a banana, or an orange off a tree since we have a winter which lasts six months. We must take this into consideration with regard to people who come here from a hot, humid climate. It is a hardship for many people. Therefore the Canadian citizen has to realize that he has to allow for six months of winter and six months of summer, and this is something which is not known to all people.

● (2110)

Going back to the earlier days, just for a moment, when this country was being settled, many people brought their livestock up from south of the border. Their loss was tremendous simply because they did not know what they were getting into and were ill prepared. In view of that I think it would be only honest on our part to ensure that today's immigrants are better informed. Many of us will remember the 1920's when there was a large immigration of people from, primarily, the United Kingdom. I remember the experience our family had with some of those immigrants. They were particularly unhappy here, and after they had spent a number of years in Canada they decided to go back to the land they loved best and the land in which they felt most comfortable.

So it was with many war brides. Many of those girls went back to the old country after the war because they were not happy here. In view of that, if we were to have a short period of time, whether it be an extra year or two, to ensure that those people will be satisfied to be Canadian citizens, I think that would be to their benefit. It must be very disenchanting to individuals to take out citizenship in a country and then to find out that they have made a mistake. Of course they then must go through the whole procedure again, because usually when citizenship is taken out in one country it is not possible to maintain dual citizenship. I think we have to consider that.

In our citizenship courts I am sure we all appreciate the work our judges are doing. The hon. member for Norfolk-Haldimand (Mr. Knowles), who spoke previously, mentioned this matter, and I also should like to mention the judge who presides at the citizenship court in Red Deer, Judge Allen. He does a tremendous job. In a very moving ceremony Judge Allen impresses upon people the importance of the step they are taking. As mentioned by the hon. member, the IODE takes part in this service, and they extend a welcoming hand of friendship, for which I am sure those people are very grateful.

Of course there are other organizations which also participate in the ceremony including the Canadian Bible Society, which makes a presentation of a bible to each of the individuals at these citizenship courts. All in all, it adds up to a certain satisfaction in the lives of those who become Canadian citizens. We must take these things into consideration in this House when we are dealing with this bill in order to ensure that whatever legislation is passed serves a useful purpose.

We must realize that we have problems in Canada which other countries do not have. There probably is not another country in the world with the major portion of its population living within 300 miles of a neighbouring country,

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which is the case in Canada. Over two thirds of our population live within 300 miles of the United States border, and of course the remainder is spread over about 5,000 miles.

Immigrants seeking citizenship should be told that there are other places in Canada besides Vancouver, Winnipeg, Toronto, and Montreal. It seems that too often immigrants decide to go to major centres, and I am not always satisfied that this is in their best interest because of the fact that to a great degree they then lose their identity.

There is one other aspect of this bill which I am concerned about, and that is we must exercise a great deal of care to ensure we do not encourage people to come here and become second class citizens. In view of the affluence Canada and Canadians have been enjoying, there is a tendency not to want to do those jobs we feel are beneath our dignity. I have never been one to condone this attitude. I have always felt that a person should never ask someone else to do something he would not do himself. If we as Canadians were to adopt that philosophy, I think we would have a great deal more to offer the people of the world. It is a dangerous policy for us—but it is the policy at the present time—to allow people to come in and fill the positions we as Canadians are not prepared to fill.

I realize that there have to be some guidelines, but we must also realize that we have to exercise a great deal of care so that we do not develop a group of second class citizens. We have seen what has happened to our neighbours south of the border over the years with regard to their importation of labour. This really concerns me because it takes hundreds of years to overcome the effect of this aspect of immigration policy. I know that in many parts of Canada, especially in southern Ontario, large groups of immigrants are brought in to do the work we Canadians are not prepared to do.

It used to be that in Canada we would move people back and forth across our land. People from the west would go east, and vice-versa. Many workers from eastern Canada would move west, perhaps for year round work, or perhaps it would only be seasonal work. I well remember as a boy on a farm that we always relied on the help which came from Ontario in taking off the harvest, something which I thought was wonderful. However, when we start bringing in people from other nations we have to exercise a great deal of care. I hope the government takes notice of this to ensure that we do not become dependent upon other people to do the things for us which we are not prepared to do for ourselves. We must also have something to offer those people who come to our borders asking for admittance, wishing to become Canadian citizens. That way there will always be a place in the scheme of things for Canada and Canadians.

● (2120)

Mr. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, I wish to make some brief remarks with respect to this bill. I know the minister is anxious to get it before committee and I am always one to accommodate the minister in that kind of aim, as I have done in the past.

I think there is an analogy between what is proposed here and the attitude toward the American revolution. The Americans went through a revolution in order to obtain