

German Conscription

spondence which has been read it would appear to me that at least the German consul general did contemplate the possibility of those volunteering for service who are already naturalized but were German.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: No.

Mr. BENNETT: I know the Prime Minister has said that, but it is certainly open to the construction I have indicated. We have in this country a Foreign Enlistment Act to which reference might be made, if it has any such implication as that, and I rather think it has. The sentence about volunteers is ambiguous, because obviously there would not be volunteers who were called out by reason of the proclamation made by the consul general. He divided them into two classes, those who report and those who volunteer. Those who report are liable to be proceeded against if they do not report; those who volunteer obviously would be in some class other than those who are called out.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: If the right hon. gentleman will look at Hansard tomorrow he will see that there is no reference to naturalized subjects being invited to volunteer.

Mr. BENNETT: It is not put that way.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The question of volunteer service applies to German nationals in Canada who may wish to volunteer for service in Germany ahead of the time they would ordinarily be called out. But that has no relation to naturalized subjects; it is a different age class. The law applicable to the situation is found in the British Foreign Enlistment Act, 1870.

Hon. C. H. CAHAN (St. Lawrence-St. George): There is another class in regard to whom I think investigation should be made, namely sons of German parentage, born in Canada and who, by virtue of being born in this country, are British subjects. They are Canadian nationals, even although the parents have not been naturalized. I understand the German government insists that they are German citizens, although under our law they are British subjects. Then, there is another class, namely the sons of those who have been naturalized in Canada, but whose names have been inserted in the certificates of naturalization of their fathers. There are these two classes, first those who by reason of being born here are British subjects, and secondly those who, not

[Mr. Bennett.]

having been born here, upon reaching the age of twenty-one years are entitled to be deemed British subjects unless they file declarations of alienage. I suggest some inquiry should be made into the status of these two classes.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: In reply to the hon. member may I say that his question is apart altogether from the one raised by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre.

Mr. CAHAN: Yes; I have simply made the suggestion.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The discussion had to do with the impropriety of the consul general making certain statements. I thank the hon. member for directing attention to these other matters. I shall be glad to see that an investigation is made, and if it appears that any report should be made to the house, I shall seek to make such report at a later time.

WAYS AND MEANS

CANADA-UNITED STATES TRADE AGREEMENT

The house in committee of ways and means, Mr. Sanderson in the chair.

Customs tariff—184(b), 184(c), 184(d). Periodical publications, unbound or paper-bound, printed and issued in the United States at regular intervals, not less frequently than four times a year, and bearing dates of issue: free.

Provided, that nothing in this item shall affect in any way the provisions of item 1201 of schedule "C" to the customs tariff.

Mr. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I look with a great deal of apprehension upon the free entry of United States magazines and periodicals into Canada. These publications carry hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of advertising, and would appear to me to constitute a gigantic move by the American people to have their products advertised in Canada and thereby obtain control of our market to the disadvantage of Canadians. In looking over these items one is forced to the conclusion that wherever it is advantageous for the United States to get into the Canadian market the restrictions are taken away, but where it is advantageous for Canada to get into the United States market little or no reduction is made in the tariffs. I am reminded of the big boy at school who, when playing with the little boy, tosses on the condition of "heads I win; tails you lose." I suggest that this matter should have the careful consideration of the committee.