

the Minister of National Health and Welfare in 1946 when he was introducing the Canadian Citizenship Act. I recall them vividly because I always take pleasure in listening to the organ-like cadences of the Minister of National Health and Welfare. On that occasion he pulled out all the stops and the pedal fortissimo. I want to read a portion of that speech as it appears in *Hansard* of April 2, 1946, at page 505. This is the Minister of National Health and Welfare, who was then the secretary of state, speaking:

But there is no finer club in the world so far as we are concerned than the club that I would characterize as the Canadian family. We should want, therefore, to impress upon new Canadians whom we shall welcome and want to share in our national endeavours that they are joining no mean society but a society that will give them freedom and an opportunity perhaps that they have not had in other lands, and at the same time to point out to them the nature of the obligation undertaken and tell them something of the kind of country and the kind of general political basis of the Canadian society itself.

And then again the minister on page 502 of the same volume:

For the national unity of Canada and for the future and greatness of this country it is felt to be of the utmost importance that all of us, new Canadians or old, have a consciousness of a common purpose and common interests as Canadians; that all of us be able to say with pride and say with meaning: "I am a Canadian citizen."

I am sure every hon. member of this house, Mr. Chairman, agrees with those sentiments. But we cannot understand how those sentiments can be given expression by a minister of this government when we find the sort of people I have mentioned being permitted to enter Canada and being granted citizenship in this country. The government of which the hon. gentleman is a member saw fit to grant citizenship to persons who have proved traitors to France, traitors to our cause, traitors to all we hold most precious and sacred, and traitors to the ideals upon which Canadian citizenship is based.

Those people now have the right to say, "I am a Canadian citizen." We in this group strongly protest this action and while I am not one of those who wish to see the death penalty imposed upon any person, I think that this government, when it discovered those persons were in Canada and had entered illegally, ought to have been told, in view of their records, to depart to more suitable places as Count de Bernonville did. There is no place in Canada, Mr. Chairman, for people who have proven themselves so untrue to all the things we stand for.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I am quite sure investigations were held by the proper authorities in the immigration branch and by the R.C.M.P., but if there were, I am afraid they

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must have listened to the romantic tales told by those people. We think this house is entitled to an explanation of the reason why these people were given citizenship and allowed to stay in Canada. I am of the opinion that the minister was not told the facts by some of his officials before these decisions were made. We all have great respect for the minister, and while we differ with him on occasion I am quite sure he is very anxious to see that we have the right type of people coming to Canada, and obtaining citizenship.

The minister comes from a very fine Canadian family. He served with distinction in the second world war, and I am quite sure the hon. and gallant member must feel somewhat uncomfortable when he realizes that his department has made it possible for persons who were traitors to France and traitors to Christian civilization to say now, "I am a Canadian citizen."

I hope, Mr. Chairman, that the minister will make some explanation to the house of this most unseemly procedure. I could give some other cases but we have not yet received the documents. However, these are not isolated cases and they are more extensive than appears on the surface.

I am confident that our immigration service overseas is not all it is supposed to be, not only with respect to matters brought before the house this morning by the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggart, but also with respect to the glowing picture with which immigrants seem to be presented. The service does not appear to make certain in all cases that the people we admit to this country are people who can become good Canadian citizens and subscribe to our democratic ideals. In my opinion the minister would be well advised to go to Europe personally and visit some of his own immigration offices and see what is happening there.

I support some of the remarks made by the Leader of the Opposition and other hon. members who have spoken in this debate to the effect that there is not effective screening of some people who come to Canada at this time. I realize there are difficulties and even though there is careful screening some unsuitable people are bound to slip through the screen; but we are of the opinion that not enough attention is being given to stop that type of person.

I have had several questions brought to my attention recently, and indeed one of the managers of our national employment service brought to my attention the arrogance with which a former SS man treated him because he could not give him a job immediately. I can also tell you of an experience I had