

have been honourably discharged, or when any persons who have served as aforesaid have died, owing to such service, the widows of such persons, and who, in either case, obtain sufficient marks to pass such examinations shall, irrespective of the marks they have obtained, be named in the order of merit, on the list of successful candidates next after any candidates who are on the special list mentioned in subsection 2 of this section and above all other candidates.

That means that all veterans, not merely of the Canadian army but of all the allied armies who took part in the Great war, have a preference over all other candidates in civil service examinations. I claim that we were a little too generous when we passed that section. It would have been all right to grant a preference to Canadian veterans, but not to the veterans of any of the allied armies. According to the law as it now is, veterans of the Serbian army or of the Roumanian army or of the American army or of the Japanese army or of the Portuguese army or of any other army which took part in the great war on our side can claim a preference in civil service appointments over the civilian Canadian candidates.

Mr. MANION: Does my hon. friend know of any case—I ask for information—where any veteran outside of the Canadian army has been given a preference over civilian candidates?

Mr. BOULANGER: No, not of my own knowledge, but it is possible there might have been such cases.

Mr. VENIOT: I know of such cases, and could name them.

Mr. MANION: What army did they belong to?

Mr. VENIOT: They were veterans of the imperial army.

Mr. BOULANGER: All that is necessary in order that veterans of any of the allied armies may qualify for the preference under section 29 of the Civil Service Act is to show that they have resided in Canada for three years. As I said in reply to the minister, I personally do not know of any, but there must have been such cases.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Is it the declared object of this bill to cut off the preference to veterans of the British army?

Mr. BOULANGER: Yes. The intention is to restrict the preference to veterans of the Canadian army. Under the law as it stands, ridiculous cases may arise. Take the case of a Russian who fought on our side during the war in the Russian army. He

[Mr. Boulanger.]

comes to Canada, resides here three years, and takes the civil service examination; and although we have severed all relations, trade, diplomatic and otherwise, with Russia, this Russian veteran is given a preference over the civilian Canadian.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Why not?

Mr. BOULANGER: The object of the bill is to restrict the preference with respect to veterans to those who served in the Canadian army. That is the first object of the bill. By Canadian veterans is meant Canadian veterans as defined in the Canadian Nationals Act, chapter 21 of the revised statutes, which defines what a Canadian national is. Section 2 of chapter 21 of the revised statutes provides:

The following persons are Canadian nationals, viz.:—

(a) any British subject who is a Canadian citizen within the meaning of the Immigration Act;

(b) the wife of any such citizen;

(c) any person born out of Canada, whose father was a Canadian national at the time of that person's death, or with regard to persons born before the third day of May, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-one, any person whose father at the time of such birth, possessed all the qualifications of a Canadian national, as defined in this act.

The Canadian Nationals Act refers to the Immigration Act, and section 2 of the Immigration Act, chapter 93 of the revised statutes, provides:

In this act, and in all orders in council, proclamations and regulations made hereunder, unless the context otherwise requires,

(a) "alien" means a person who is not a British subject;

(b) "Canadian citizen" means

(i) A person born in Canada who has not become an alien;

(ii) A British subject who has Canadian domicile; or

(iii) A person naturalized under the laws of Canada who has not subsequently become an alien or lost Canadian domicile:

Provided that for the purpose of this act a woman who has not been landed in Canada shall not be held to have acquired Canadian citizenship by virtue of her husband being a Canadian citizen; neither shall a child who has not been landed in Canada be held to have acquired Canadian citizenship through its father or mother being a Canadian citizen.

Further on in the same act domicile is defined as follows:

"Domicile" means the place in which a person has his home, or in which he resides, or to which he returns as his place of permanent abode, and does not mean the place where he resides for a mere special or temporary purpose;

Canadian domicile can only be acquired, for the purposes of this act, by a person having his domicile for at least five years in Canada after having been landed therein within the meaning of this act.