

sort of citizens; but because they have not learned one of the two official languages through no fault of their own—there were no schools and there was no one to encourage them to learn the language—living in blocks as they do, that is the situation they find themselves in.

The CHAIRMAN: Do you mean to say that there are places where these people are living which have no schools—places in Alberta?

Mr. HLYNKA: There are schools now; but take the district from which I came, northeast of Edmonton, there was no school there until I was twelve years of age. I was able to learn the language because I went to school later on, and later I moved to Edmonton. But what about these old folks? I intend to bring in certain recommendations if the committee feel that this is a subject with which it can deal. I brought the matter up on the floor of the house on two occasions but the minister referred me to this committee, and I was told that it would be a good thing if the matter were brought up here and discussed thoroughly, if it is considered worthwhile to consider something along these lines.

The CHAIRMAN: You can bring in any recommendation you wish, and we will study it.

Mr. HLYNKA: That is fine.

The CHAIRMAN: We may have to make certain exceptions for people whose sons are in the armed forces, or people in like circumstances; but it is a well established rule that for one to be naturalized he has to speak one of the two languages.

Mr. HLYNKA: I am bringing this matter up because of that rule.

Mr. HAZEN: I was down at the naturalization office and I talked with Mr. Coderre, and he expressed some opinion to me about this year's notice that has to be given now under the order in council. I do not recall just what he said, but I got the impression he was not quite satisfied with the way the matter was working out. I think we might ask him if he would care to come and give evidence before this committee if he has anything to say about that order in council. I do not think there is any use bringing him here if he has nothing to say. Somebody might see him and ask him if he would like to express his views on this matter.

The CHAIRMAN: It might be a good thing to have Mr. Hlynka prepare a recommendation and bring it here at our next sitting and we could have Mr. Coderre, who is our expert on this matter, come here and listen to Mr. Hlynka's recommendation, and we could then ask Mr. Coderre questions concerning it. However, it would be a great departure from the fixed rule if we naturalized somebody who did not understand or speak to a certain extent one of the two languages.

Mr. DUPUIS: Mr. Green was talking to me about that subject and he gave me a suggestion—he is not a member of the committee.

The CHAIRMAN: We will hear Mr. Green if he has anything to say.

Mr. DUPUIS: Mr. Green suggested that the best way to overcome that difficulty would be to have an amendment to the Old Age Pension Act. I think what is in the mind of our friend is the old age pension.

The CHAIRMAN: The old age pension and the army pension.

Mr. DUPUIS: Yes, and the pension for national health. Mr. Chairman, I suppose most of us have met with very pitiful cases concerning people who went to the United States during the last twenty years and have come back. According to the Old Age Pension Act they are not entitled to the old age pension