

ideals and loyalty to free institutions. Although heretofore the separate status of the Dominions within the British Commonwealth was fully recognized, it will be on January 1st, 1947, through the medium of the Canadian Citizenship Act, that we will have the full legal right to call ourselves Canadian citizens, retaining the status of British subjects."

An invitation has been extended to the heads of all religious bodies in the Dominion to lend their support to the nation-wide observation of Citizenship Week and in response to this invitation the religious leaders of Canada have pledged their whole-hearted support of the plan.

It is expected that educational organizations in Canada will cooperate by stressing the obligations of citizenship and its foundations. In cities where ceremonies are to be held, citizens' committees are being formed to assist in arrangements and to enlist the support of every section of civic life. Service clubs and other organizations are being asked to make the theme of their activities during the week - "the meaning of Canadian citizenship."

When the Canadian Citizenship Act comes into force, native-born Canadians or British subjects domiciled in Canada, foreign-born brides of Canadian ex-servicemen and residents possessing naturalization certificates will be declared Canadian citizens immediately. Citizenship papers will be granted British subjects after they have established legal residence. Thereafter all Canadian passports will carry the designation "Canadian Citizen".

The Act states that a Canadian woman will have the right to retain Canadian nationality even though she marries a man of another nationality. Women marrying Canadian citizens qualify for citizenship within a year of becoming residents as do non-Canadians who served in the Canadian forces outside the country.

Although the Act makes citizenship available to those who previously entered Canada as immigrants it has no effect on existing immigration regulations. As far as this Act is concerned, Canadian immigration laws remain unchanged.

Provision is made in the Act for encouragement of education in citizenship for those applying for naturalization, and the Secretary of State is given the responsibility of seeing that adequate facilities are available for this purpose. A concerted effort will be made to acquaint new citizens with the significance of the step they are taking and the responsibilities inherent in their new status.

The Secretary of State has recommended that citizenship ceremonies similar to those of Citizenship Week be held on specific dates in February, June and October each year. He hopes that on these dates ceremonies will be arranged by civic and community bodies in cities all across Canada. He has pointed out also that every year some 200,000 young Canadians come of voting age and that it would be fitting to have some recognition made of this important event in their lives.

In ensuring that adequate preparation is provided for persons applying for citizenship the Federal Government is obtaining the cooperation of adult education bodies. The Provincial governments have already indicated their interest in the Canadian Citizenship program, and night classes for persons applying for citizenship papers have been started in many cities. A manual for new citizens is under preparation, and a copy of it will be given to each applicant. Assistance in creating an appreciation of what it means to be a citizen of Canada is to be given by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, the National Film Board and the Canadian Association of Broadcasters, through film and radio programs.