

Senator SMITH (*Queens-Shelburne*): Would it just as valid as a social insurance card?

The CHAIRMAN: No; if you want to give any validity to that landed immigrant card, I think you would have to check it against the entry on the books of the Department of Immigration. Senator Molson is next.

Senator MOLSON: I would like to refer to clause 5 dealing with section 19, which says:

The Governor in Council may, in his discretion order that any person shall cease to be a Canadian citizen. . .

Quite a number of our young men today are joining the armed forces of the United States instead of our own. Do they automatically cease to be Canadian citizens?

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: I am informed that the answer is no. No, sir.

Senator MOLSON: Why should they not?

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: Mr. Martin informs me that, unlike the situation the other way around of Americans coming to Canada, if a Canadian who is a Canadian citizen enters the American services and takes the oath of allegiance, that does not disenfranchise him so far as Canadian citizenship is concerned. If, however, he is a person with dual citizenship who has not yet elected, and he takes the oath of allegiance, he is deemed to have elected—provided, Mr. Martin cautions me, that within that oath he renounces his Canadian citizenship. Apparently, the key is the actual renunciation, that the man must divest himself of citizenship knowingly by his renouncing the citizenship.

Senator MOLSON: How can he take an oath of allegiance to a foreign power and still maintain his allegiance to this country?

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: I suppose that he takes the oath of allegiance during the period in which he is in the service. I recall having had to take an oath when I entered IODE, which was an oath of allegiance to the Crown, and no one had inquired of me what my citizenship was. It always struck me as being rather odd, but there is a number of such agencies which have no legal responsibility as such in this field, that require people to take an oath.

Senator MOLSON: I do not think that is comparable to the oath in the armed forces of a foreign government. It would seem to me that you cannot very well bear allegiance to two different states.

The CHAIRMAN: I suppose it depends on the form of the oath you take when you are joining some service of the United States. I notice that under this section there is reference to this being a discretionary power which the Governor in Council has. What bothers me is that under subparagraph (b)(ii), one of the grounds for losing citizenship would be that the person has "taken or made an oath, affirmation or other declaration of allegiance to a foreign country." I am wondering whether there is a difference between doing what is called "taking out first papers" in the United States, which is a form of allegiance to that country, and taking an oath for the purposes of serving in the armed forces. I do not know; there may be some difference.

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: Of course, if one applies for papers, one renounces one's citizenship, and that makes him lose Canadian citizenship.

Senator BAIRD: Were there many instances of Canadians joining the United States army?

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: Yes, sir. I do not know that it comes under the minister in charge of citizenship. I live on the border and from time to time people go and join the services. There have not been so many since the recent hostilities, but there were more before that.

Senator POULIOT: Why is it that citizenship, which is so closely related to immigration, has been separated from it?