

Mr. GREEN: No. I am not. But I am suggesting to the minister that there is a possibility here of conflict between two governmental policies, one of which was announced last December and implemented by order in council, and the second of which is found in the citizenship bill. Would it not meet the difficulty if an amendment were inserted—

Mr. MARTIN: In this section, or this measure?

Mr. GREEN: I do not care where it is put. It would state that nothing in this act shall override the provisions of orders in council 7355, 7356 and 7357, passed on December 15, 1945, and would make it dead clear that the policy adopted last December by the government is to be carried through.

If something of that sort is not done, we may be met with a situation wherein, once the citizenship bill is passed without any amendment of this kind, it would be said, "Oh, well, it is too bad. We had our Japanese policy; but now that this bill has gone through it takes away our power to carry out that policy. It is just too bad. The Japanese may go back to British Columbia. Of course we feel very sorry for you, but we cannot do anything about it." I suggest that the government give consideration to inserting an amendment along the line I have suggested.

Mr. MARTIN: I have given consideration to it, but my mind is not made up. We have now before the officials a proposed amendment which would properly come under section 46. I am not saying now that we shall accept it, but that is the section under which it should be considered. I may have an opportunity to consider it during the dinner recess.

Mr. STIRLING: Surely we have had sufficient reason shown for the minister to hold over section 27. Reference has been made to the fact that there has been considerable debate on this bill. I was not the only one on second reading to ask the government to make its statement to bring us up to date on the question of its Japanese policy. The subject was reintroduced last evening on sections 16 and 17, and they were allowed to stand. But we are now discussing section 27, and the hon. member for Lake Centre calls attention to the fact that in his view there is a conflict between section 27 and the government's policy as announced.

Mr. MARTIN: Cannot we deal with that when we consider the amendment of the hon. member for Vancouver South? I think he has suggested the proper course to deal effectively

with the matter. I am not saying that we shall accept it, but if we do, the place to do it is under section 46.

Mr. STIRLING: Then the only course for us is to hold over section 27 until the minister makes up his mind. The hon. member for Lake Centre raises the question of conflict between this section and the government's policy. The Secretary of State says that he is not prepared to answer him now but that the matter has been submitted to the Minister of Justice and in due course an expression of opinion by the Department of Justice will be forthcoming. Then I say most certainly this section should stand until this committee has received that opinion. It is just as much worthy of standing as sections 16 and 17. They are all linked together, and now the minister links this section with section 46.

Mr. MARTIN: The hon. member for Vancouver South has proposed an amendment which it would be proper to consider on section 46; that is the place to deal with it. I am sure he will agree with me that if the amendment is something along the lines we expect, it will meet the point. I do not want to hold over section after section. All that this section does is simply to say that the naturalized person has the same rights as the natural-born.

Mr. REID: He has not.

Mr. MARTIN: Subject to the provisions of this bill. We can deal with the matter under the proper section, which is section 46. The mere fact that one hon. member says that this is the section to deal with it does not make it so. It is obvious that section 46 is the place. The hon. member will be fully safeguarded. I urge the committee to allow this section to pass now in the in the interest of progress.

Mr. STIRLING: If the minister would say that when we come to section 46 he is going to amend it in such and such a way we should have no reason for asking that this section stand, but all he says is that the matter is still under consideration by his officials. We have no intimation as to the intention of the government with respect to section 46 and most certainly therefore the course for us is to have section 27 stand.

Mr. MARTIN: I have been as frank as I could. I said that I have been considering this matter but hon. gentlemen will appreciate that this is a complicated measure. We are considering an amendment somewhat along the lines which the hon. member for Van-