

several clauses of it. They would not assent to the measure, and if they have signed it, they have done so only recently.

What I have to say about this clause is generally applicable to all other sections of the bill. If a six months' hoist is proposed I will vote for it. I certainly will not agree that the opposition throw out a lifeline to the government all the time. It is the duty of the opposition to give constructive criticism, but I should be the last to throw out any more lifelines to the present government on a policy of isolationism, of separatism, and the rest. I can tell you, nobody is worrying about this sort of legislation at the present time. It is not status, sovereignty, or autonomy that people are interested in. The soldiers are looking for jobs, houses and fuel; yet here we are, spending days and days on this particular bill. I protest against it. I believe the whole bill should go to a committee and be given the six months' hoist, if it does go to those in another place. It would give them a chance to stage a come-back. While ordinarily they do very little work, they have here a chance to stage a come-back by throwing three or four bills of this kind out the window and the front door.

Mr. BROWN: I should like to add another note to this chorus, and I am sure it will not cause any discord. Section 10, subsection 1 (f) requires the court to satisfy itself of the knowledge of applicants of the responsibilities and privileges of Canadian citizenship. This can be read in conjunction with sections 37 and 38, where it is provided that certain facilities are to be set up to instruct applicants in the responsibilities and privileges of Canadian citizenship. In the United States provision is made for such ceremonies and instruction. I should like to pay tribute to His Honour A. J. Gordon, of the city of Windsor, who for some time has been making provision for such ceremonies on the admission to citizenship of persons making application for it. In addition to this, being from Windsor, where probably we are a little more advanced than some other parts, because Windsor is in the constituency of Essex West—

Mr. MacNICOL: A large part of it is in Essex East.

Mr. BROWN: No, I am sorry: Essex West is not in Essex East.

Mr. MARTIN: Essex East is the governing factor.

Mr. BROWN: Essex East, I quite agree is the governing factor—in Essex East. But to get back to my theme. We have there

classes of instruction, and I should like to pay a tribute to Mrs. Lois E. Hamilton, who is a member of Imperial Order of Daughters of the Empire. She has compiled a book which is used in giving instruction. In the United States there is provision for instruction, and a textbook is provided. One book I have in my hand gives in very simple story and outline certain phases of government. Mrs. Hamilton has compiled a book known as the Citizenship Textbook.

Mr. MARTIN: A very good one, too.

Mr. BROWN: It was compiled for the Imperial Order of Daughters of the Empire, and in that book, by picture, by map, by story, by question and answer, given in a readable, simple and understandable way, she has conveyed to her readers the fundamentals of our citizenship. By profession Mrs. Hamilton is a nurse, but as a public service she has compiled this book. They hold classes for applicants for citizenship. These classes convene once a week for two hours and are under the supervision of accredited public school teachers. At present there are about thirty-five in each class.

There is one part of that textbook which I think would be applicable not only to those who are applying for naturalization and Canadian citizenship but to those who now say they have citizenship, those who were born in this country or who have been naturalized. May I give to the house and to the people of Canada a short resume of what is set forth in that book. Let me quote from page 11:

A citizen in a democracy has both duties and responsibilities. He must not sit down quietly and allow the affairs of state to go on without feeling that he has a duty to perform.

The first duty of a citizen is to try to understand as well as he can our system of government, and to keep himself informed as to all the important acts of those who are in authority. Just as an engineer must know and understand the machinery under his control, so a Canadian, to be a good citizen, must know and understand the government under which he lives. Citizenship is not a condition into which a person is born, but is like a profession or a trade which must be learned.

Secondly, to be a good Canadian citizen, you must not only be obedient to the laws of the country, but must actively participate in the governing of the country by voting intelligently and wisely,—

Probably Liberally.

—and by knowing and appreciating the work and methods of government. Laws affect each and every individual, but each and every individual has a share in choosing what laws shall be made, and only by voting intelligently and wisely can the individual meet the heavy responsibilities which democratic government imposes on him.

A third duty incumbent on you as a citizen is to be ready to assist, as far as you are able, all good causes. Never oppose them by speaking ill