

Q. That is done in British Columbia, and the sponsors are examined as well as the applicant.—A. I have never heard of any other court doing it. I do not think they do it down here. It was not done in Calgary.

The WITNESS: No. I know they did not have any in my day.

The CHAIRMAN: Nor in Montreal, neither.

*By Hon. Mr. Stirling:*

Q. Did you form any opinion as to whether or not all of those eighty really understood the language?—A. Oh, yes. They all did. They all spoke very fair English. We were both very much taken with the calibre of the people there. I may say the Poles were the largest group. The Poles were the largest and the Ukrainians were next. There were a tremendous number of Poles there. There must have been twenty or thirty, I should think, and there were a large number of Ukrainians. I remember the first one was a Greek. I remember that quite well. There were Norwegians, there was a Scotchman, there was a Canadian and so on. I kept tab on the nationalities and I counted twenty-four; but the Ukrainians and the Poles were the most numerous.

*By Mr. Black (Yukon):*

Q. I have heard it mentioned that they are examined on the constitution of the United States?—A. Oh, yes.

Q. And on the history of the United States?—A. Oh, yes. I had forgotten that. The judge will say, "What do you think about communism?" or, "What do you think about the constitution of the United States?" or "What do you think about fascism?" He does that just to see what their immediate response would be. So that most of them seem to know a little about those things. I mean, they had an idea of what the different things meant. In the same year I happened to be down there in Charleston, South Carolina, and in the papers there I was reading about schools that were going on for candidates for naturalization. They were actually attending schools to learn about the American constitution and about the other forms of government and so on. I think those schools are all through the United States, or similar schools, so that they have to plug up for their examinations, which I think would be a very good thing. I am glad you mentioned that.

*By Mr. Hazen:*

Q. You could not do that in rural districts very well in this country.—A. No. It would be difficult there. In the cities you could do it, but it would be hard to get it in the country. I remember reading, two or three nights there, about these schools that were going on for the benefit of candidates.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Do you know if the American authorities have any success in getting the past history of these applicants during the two years?—A. Yes, they do.

Q. During the two years that elapse between the first papers and the certificate?—A. Yes. They communicate with their own country and get all the information they can about them there.

Q. But does it come to the point that they have to refuse a certain number?—A. Oh, yes, they do. I would say that out of that number on the day I was there, they must have turned down five or six on the ground that they had found out something. I remember one was convicted of some offence over in his own country before he came to the United States. They found that out.

Q. I think they have to declare that in their application. They have to declare that they have not been found guilty of any crime, if I remember rightly.

—A. Yes, I think so. But if they do not inquire over in their own country, they perhaps would not know about it, and they would get their certificate.