

to the judgment of the banks themselves, and there is also a provision that the banks may have an honorary president.

Mr. BARKER. You simply put the minimum number?

Mr. FIELDING. Yes; five.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. Has the government made any progress with reference to the proposal submitted to parliament some years ago to issue five-dollar and ten-dollar notes?

Mr. FIELDING. There is nothing to prevent the government issuing five-dollar notes. Although the matter was talked of at one time, we have found that although the issue of four-dollar notes is not as convenient as the five-dollar bank bills, the present facilities of the bank enable them to give an ample supply of five-dollar notes.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. We are increasing the number of Canadian banks, and therefore augmenting the distrust shown in the United States towards Canadian money. In New York and a great many points they refuse Canadian bills, simply because of the large number of Canadian banks, and I think the time has come when there ought to be an issue of national notes of five dollars. These would pass current in any country, and would be of great advantage to travellers.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

NATURALIZATION ACTS—AMENDMENT.

Bill (No. 184) to amend the Acts respecting Naturalization and Aliens—Sir Wilfrid Laurier—read the second time, and House went into committee thereon.

On section 1,

Mr. FITZPATRICK. This Bill is peculiarly applicable to the Northwest Territories, and I have had a conference with my hon. friend from Calgary (Mr. M. S. McCarthy), who sees no objection to it. The object of the first section is to provide that certificates may be issued in the office of the deputy clerk where there are sub-districts and when the applicant resides in the sub-district. This will obviate the necessity of going to the court-house in a district town, which may be hundreds of miles away.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. Is it a fact that a man naturalized in Canada is a British subject only in Canada?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. My hon. friend is right, and something should be done in the way of remedying that grievance. I think it will be necessary for us to make our period of residence required for naturalization correspond with that in England, and in that way we might be able to arrange with the imperial authorities so as to have a

naturalization which would practically be British instead of Canadian. We are in correspondence with imperial authorities for the purpose of bringing that about.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. That is the very point I was going to suggest, that some negotiations should take place.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. There has been correspondence with the Colonial Secretary.

Mr. MACDONALD. I was going to ask whether or not, after all, this question of naturalization does not require some international arrangement in order to obviate the difficulty which my hon. friend from South York (Mr. Maclean) suggests, because if by the laws of a foreign country the legal principle which formerly applied to British nationality by which 'once a British subject always a British subject' applies, then no matter what our provisions in Canada might be, a person could not rid himself of his nationality in a foreign state.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I do not think the principle laid down in the case of Eneas Macdonald ever prevailed. I think 'once a British subject always a British subject' ceased to be recognized in international law.

Mr. MACDONALD. I quite agree with that but I thought the same principle might apply to the laws of some other nation although it has been done away with as far as British law is concerned.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. It is worthy of consideration.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. And something ought to be done.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. Because we have a number of naturalized Canadians who have found out that they are not British subjects. They thought they were and it is certain that we have understood that a Canadian was a British subject. As a matter of fact a naturalized Canadian is not; he finds difficulties in connection with his citizenship when he goes abroad. A German who has become naturalized in Canada on going to Germany might be called upon to perform military service. In that way if we call ourselves a nation—and as the leader of the Liberal party (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) said he had made Canada a nation, but he has not completed the job and there is something still to be done. It is more or less of a stigma and ought to be removed. I hope the Minister of Justice will follow this up and secure a remedy for what now is a grievance.

On section 2,

Mr. FITZPATRICK. There are changes in the form of the oath. They are merely intended to conform to the amendment of the law.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.