

Senator PEARSON: But why continue this 20 years for those under 35?

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: Well, certainly I think that everyone will agree that it is preferable that a citizen be able to speak one of the languages of the country. Also, we do not want to take away all the incentives to learn a language, because there is always the economic incentive. We want to give as much encouragement as we can.

Senator PEARSON: But the women or the wives of these immigrants, as a rule, seldom get out to mix with the public and learn English, which is surely the quickest way to learn.

The CHAIRMAN: The children, of course, go to school.

Senator PEARSON: Yes, but that means that one has to wait for the next generation to come along. As a rule, when you go into such a home you discover that the women cannot talk to you, but the men have a good smattering of English.

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: Under this new subsection (e) (iii), if he—or if she is the spouse, because the “he” is equivalent to “she” as well, even if the husband had applied the widow would be able to apply and would be relieved of the responsibility of either language.

Senator PEARSON: In ten years?

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: No, immediately.

The CHAIRMAN: There is no time specified under subsection (e) (iii).

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: Others have discussed other sections, but to me this is the most important section of the amendment.

Senator BROOKS: Are all orders of deportation made under this act?

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: No; that is an immigration matter.

Senator BROOKS: Where does the Citizenship Act taker over?

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: When one applies for citizenship, the Citizenship Act sets out what application the act must have, and until now, sir, a non-natural born Canadian, a person born abroad that becomes naturalized may lose his citizenship if he resides out of Canada for ten years, but this bill provides that may not happen, so that native-born Canadians and non-native Canadians are equated for the first time in this respect.

Senator BROOKS: Under the Citizenship Act we would have knowledge of all those who had been refused certificates of citizenship, would we not?

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: Yes, we have some such knowledge because we are the ones that refuse them.

Senator BROOKS: By reason of the deportation.

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: We do not have information of people who are deported for reasons under the Immigration Act and who do not apply for citizenship. I can think of a case about which I went to the Minister of Immigration concerning a man who had been convicted on a morals charge and was under an order of deportation. As I recall, such things are kept as a matter of record for the Citizenship Branch; but he never applied for citizenship.

Senator BROOKS: Was he a minor?

Hon. Miss LAMARSH: Yes, and he was not deported.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any other general questions?

Senator ISNOR: Mr. Chairman, may I come back to the question of identification. Perhaps the minister can enlighten us. I recall on two occasions some years ago writing to different ministers, either during or following World War II, about cards of