

Mr. FLEMING: Would it not help to clarify the matter to provide in this section that it shall be subject to the provisions of section 10? That would remove all question about it and establish clearly that the amendment which the minister proposes to introduce to section 10 shall override any possible contradiction in section 34.

Mr. MARTIN: I do not think there is any need for it. We have gone into it carefully. We are quite satisfied. One is a declaration and the other is an application. We want to keep that distinction.

Mr. FLEMING: The concluding words of section 34 deal with personal appearance.

Mr. MARTIN: That is with regard to the applicant for a certificate. A British subject is not an applicant for a certificate; he merely makes a declaration which comes to us.

Mr. FLEMING: I ask the minister what harm there could be in clarifying this position. There could be no objection, I suggest, to the sort of action I have mentioned. It is simply clarifying the procedure, to put it beyond all question.

Mr. MARTIN: We have gone over that, and we think it is quite clear.

Mr. FULTON: Surely a British subject, though he is only required to complete a declaration, eventually will be an applicant for a certificate.

Mr. MARTIN: It will go to him automatically, pursuant to the declaration.

Mr. HERRIDGE: I should like some information from the minister. There appears to be an anomaly in this clause, in that although a natural-born Canadian is a Canadian citizen and is entitled to a certificate as of right, he must make application therefor to a court under sections 34 and 35, and the onus is upon such applicant to satisfy the court by evidence that he is a fit and proper person to be granted such certificate and that he possesses the required qualifications. As I see it, the possible effect might be that although the natural-born Canadian citizen is entitled to all the rights, privileges and so on of a citizen, he may be refused a certificate of citizenship on the ground that the court did not believe he was entitled to be a Canadian citizen, a status which in my opinion cannot be taken away from him. It seems to me it should not be within the power of any person to refuse a certificate to a Canadian citizen who has not lost his status by establishing domicile in another country.

Mr. MARTIN: I must say I do not get the point of my hon. friend's remarks. To which section is the hon. gentleman referring?

Mr. HERRIDGE: Section 34, and it also covers section 35. He might be refused a certificate of citizenship on the ground that the court did not believe he was entitled to be a Canadian citizen. In my opinion that is a status which cannot be taken away from him.

Mr. MARTIN: I do not understand the hon. gentleman. This only applies to aliens.

Section agreed to.

Sections 35 and 36 agreed to.

On section 37—Instruction in the responsibilities and privileges of Canadian citizenship.

Mr. FLEMING: I attach a great deal of importance to sections 37 and 38, as I am sure all other hon. members do, because much of the lack of a sense of citizenship in this country may be ascribed to the fact that there has not been adequate instruction of the type contemplated by section 37. I do not wish to prolong debate on this subject, because we have had some indication already from the minister as to the emphasis which he places upon this section. I am concerned, however, about the method by which the education of adult immigrants may be carried on. I cannot conceive that it is something which should be confined entirely to efforts on the part of the dominion, because it would be very easy for the dominion to run afoul of the rights of the provinces in the field of education.

Mr. MARTIN: We intend to elicit their help.

Mr. FLEMING: That is what I wanted to get at. I should like the minister, if he will, to make a statement as to the thoughts of the administration in regard to bringing about the type of education contemplated by section 37, in cooperation with the provinces, because it seems to me that without the fullest cooperation between the dominion and the provinces in this respect we shall not succeed in fully carrying out the intention set forth in section 37.

Mr. MARTIN: The hon. gentleman is quite correct, and I think I may as well make a statement on our general plans now. First of all, we intend to encourage all existing bodies who are now and have been for some time engaged in trying to impress upon new citizens the nature of the Canadian scene, something about its history, something about their rights, privileges and obligations, and