

Those Naturalized Will Have to Wait

The new Naturalization Act, which comes into force on Jan. 1, and which gives the rights not only of Canadian, but also of Imperial citizens to aliens who comply with its provisions, is more exacting than the old Act. Under the latter certificates of naturalization were issued by the courts. Under the new act three months notice of the desire to be naturalized must be given by an applicant whose application will then be passed upon by a judge who will forward the papers to the Department of State. The officials of the State Department will take certain steps to check up the records and evidence submitted to the courts and, when satisfied that the applicant is entitled to a certificate of naturalization, the same will be issued by the Secretary of State. The provision calling for three month's notice will present the hurried naturalization of large numbers of aliens immediately prior to an election.

Another important point is that although the present act goes out of force people who have been naturalized under the act will not be compelled to go before the courts again in order to secure the full measure of British citizenship provided by the new measure. They may send the certificates already granted to the Secretary of State, who will issue a new certificate, but not before the applicant has been a resident of the Dominion for five years. This means that many naturalized Canadians who received their certificates recently after residing but three years in Canada will have to wait until five years is up before they will receive the new certificate entitling them to worldwide British nationality.

The repeal of the present act is also subject to the provision that persons residing in Canada on January 1 may apply and obtain naturalization under that act. There will, therefore, be two methods of naturalization during the following three years, the first requiring only three years of residence and conferring naturalization within the Dominion, and the second requiring five years of residence and conferring British na-

tionality for all intents and purposes.

The conditions and qualifications of naturalization under the new act of naturalization under the new act are as follows:—

(1) Residence within His Majesty's Dominions for not less than five years of service under the Crown for the same period within the last eight years before the application.

(2) Residence in Canada for not less than one year immediately preceding the application.

(3) Good character.

(4) Adequate knowledge of the English or French languages.

(5) An intention, if a certificate of naturalization is granted to reside in His Majesty's Dominions or to enter or continue in the service of the Crown.

Notices of application for naturalization must be posted by the applicant in the post office nearest to his residence and in the office of the clerk of the court until considered by the court. It is in the hands of the court to decide whether or not the applicant has an adequate knowledge of English or French. The judge also has it in his power to require evidence to prove that the applicant is of good character, and if necessary can adjourn the hearing to secure the evidence of witnesses.

The fee for naturalization will be five dollars, and for re-naturalization \$3. There is no further fee to be paid except fifty cents for taking the oath of allegiance.

FORMER ONTARIO HOTEL MAN DIES

Carleton Place, Ont., Dec. 26.—Hampton R Hilliard died here Thursday afternoon. Deceased was born at Pakenham, Lanark County, and for a number of years was manager of the Mississippi Hotel in this town, esteemed by the travelling public. Mr. Hilliard was a son of the late Daniel Hilliard, at one time M.L.A. for North Lanark, and prominently connected with the manufacturing and mercantile development of this district.