



**NADIANS SELECTED
ITH VERY LITTLE CARE**

Naturalization Bill Before House Brings Interesting Information.

Cape Breton Representative Says in That Country New Settlers Are Naturalized to Get Votes.

At yesterday afternoon's sitting of the House the bill to amend the Dominion Lands Act was put through the committee stage and given third reading.

The House then gave second reading to a bill to amend the Indian Act which provides, among other things, for the granting of mining and surface rights on Indian lands.

Mr. H. B. Morphy asked whether the Government had any policy with regard to the nationalization of mineral resources. Mr. Meighen expressed the view that if the Government went into mining the results would be most unprofitable. There might be individual cases in which the Government would engage in mining operations. At the present time it was holding large areas of oil lands.

The act was given third reading.

The Naturalization Bill.

The House resumed consideration, in committee of Hon. Hugh Guthrie's Act in respect to naturalization. Replying to questions by Mr. Ernest Lapointe, Mr. Guthrie said that the act would make it perfectly clear that the wife of a British subject is also a British subject, while the wife of an alien, even though British born, would be an alien. He also stated that the wife of a naturalized British subject would be entitled to vote.

Mr. H. B. Morphy advocated compelling aliens to declare their intention with regard to citizenship within a year after their arrival in Canada. If an alien was desirous of owning property, he would force him to take out naturalization papers during the first two years of his sojourn in Canada. Mr. Morphy declared that aliens should not be allowed to get control of the natural resources of Canada. The natural wealth of this country should be conserved for the Canadian people.

Should Exercise Care.

The clause requiring an alien desiring naturalization papers to appear personally before the court, caused some discussion. Hon. Jacques Bureau thought that it might be extremely difficult for an applicant to appear in person, especially in parts of the country which were sparsely populated. Would it not be satisfactory if a man made application by mail, and if requested, appeared personally.

Mr. Guthrie thought it a wise provision to require applicants to appear before the court. He considered that in a large number of cases, naturalization papers were granted too lightly. He had seen, he said, a large number of cases put through in half an hour, when the names of the applicants were unpronounceable.

Mr. Bureau asked why the Secretary of State should be given power to cancel certificates of naturalization when the recommendation had been made by the judge. Mr. Bureau thought there was a tinge of immorality in such a section.

A Joke and Byword.

Mr. Guthrie held, in reply, that Parliament should control franchise and naturalization. If the Secretary of State did not act in good faith he was amenable to Parliament. In the past the granting of naturalization certificates had been a joke and a byword.

Mr. Bureau moved by way of amendment to clause 25, that the words "in his absolute discretion" as applied to the Secretary of State be stricken out. The amendment also gave direction that the Secretary of State should issue a certificate, thereby removing his discretionary powers in the matter.

Implies Star Chamber Methods.

The amendment was generally supported by the Opposition and by Mr. Mackie of East Edmonton. Mr. D. D. McKenzie said it was not desirable that the Minister should reverse the decision of a judge without hearing the evidence. J. H. Sinclair of Guysboro said that the clause implied a "Star Chamber Method" of procedure. It was against the principle of British law and fair play.

H. B. Morphy in supporting the clause, pointed out that the Chief of Dominion Police, or the Secretary of State, might have information in regard to the character of an applicant for naturalization unknown to the judge.

R. H. Butts, Cape Breton, confessed to the House that he, like other lawyers, had in the past naturalized foreigners to get their votes. If this clause would stop that sort of thing he thought it advisable that it should remain in the bill.

Down in Sydney, he said, Hungarians and Austrians who had not been in Canada long enough to know east from west, had been naturalized at election time.

Mr. Bureau's amendment was defeated on a vote of 43 to 23, Mr. Mackie voting with the Opposition.

Replying to a question by Mr. White of Victoria, Alb., the Solicitor General stated that Galicians and other people coming from parts of Austria now incorporated in Poland, would not be disqualified under the act. It was not intended, said Mr. Guthrie to disqualify people belonging to a community known to have been opposed to the enemy government. He admitted that this section of the act would have to be very carefully administered.