

for it defined citizenship only for purposes of immigration. Now, for the first time in Canada's history, there is a clear definition of Canadian citizenship in the sense of being nationals of Canada.

An important administrative change occurred on Jan. 18, 1950, with the establishment of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration, under a separate Ministry. By this change, the administration of Canadian citizenship was transferred from the Department of the Secretary of State to the new Department of Citizenship and Immigration. This change has enabled the Citizenship Branch and the Immigration Branch to work out together many problems of mutual interest, their administrative work being so closely related. The change has had the additional effect of bringing citizenship to the status of a separate department wherein it is possible to advance materially the scientific planning of education and training in respect to the value and the importance of citizenship in Canada.

By c. 29 of the Statutes of 1950, certain amendments were made to the Canadian Citizenship Act and these amendments came into force by Proclamation on July 20, 1950. The principal purposes of the amendments are to provide for the position of children born in Canada to foreign diplomats; to expedite granting of certificates to persons who lost Canadian citizenship through marriage or otherwise; the recognition of adopted and legitimated persons; definition of the terms British subject and Commonwealth citizen; the position of the citizens of the Republic of Ireland; the continuation, under the Canadian Citizenship Act, of naturalization proceedings commenced before Jan. 1, 1947; the clarification of certain sections of the Act; and to give the Minister discretionary power in granting certificates of citizenship. The changes occasioned by these amendments will be integrated into the paragraphs that follow.

Natural-born Canadian Citizens.—The Canadian Citizenship Act, 1947, defines clearly the status of natural-born Canadians before and after the coming into force of the Act. It covers those persons born in and outside Canada. Provision is also made for the citizenship of a Canadian-born person born abroad, out of wedlock. Such a person is a Canadian citizen if his mother was born in Canada, or on a Canadian ship, or was a British subject with Canadian domicile, and had not become an alien. Heretofore, a person in that category had no claim to Canadian citizenship. A person born abroad of a Canadian parent before the commencement of the Canadian Citizenship Act, 1947, is not deemed to have the status of a Canadian citizen, unless he has been lawfully admitted to Canada for permanent residence, or is a minor. A person born abroad of a Canadian parent after the new Act came into force is a Canadian citizen, but there is a proviso that his birth must be registered at a Canadian consulate, or with the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, within two years after its occurrence, or within such extended period as may be authorized in special cases by the Minister, if his parents wish him to retain Canadian citizenship. In addition, a Canadian born outside Canada, either before or after the commencement of this Act, ceases to be a Canadian citizen unless within one year after he reaches the age of 21 he files a declaration of retention of Canadian citizenship and, if he is also a citizen of a country other than Canada (dual nationality), he divests himself of such nationality by declaration of alienage or otherwise. In special cases, the Minister may extend the time during which any such person may assert his Canadian citizenship and divest himself of the other nationality or citizenship. One of the important features of the new Act, with respect to which the procedure is set out in the Regulations, is that which permits a natural-