

the Clerk of the Court, who then notifies the applicant to appear in court for the purpose of taking the Oath of Allegiance and Declaration of Renunciation of Foreign Allegiance and receiving his certificate of citizenship.

Status of Married Women.—One of the important changes in the new Act is the citizenship emancipation of married women. Hitherto, an alien woman marrying a British subject became a British subject. Contrariwise, a woman of British nationality who married an alien, and acquired his nationality upon marriage, ceased to be a British subject. In fact, prior to 1932, a woman of British nationality who married an alien lost British nationality regardless of whether or not she acquired her husband's nationality. Under the new law all this is changed. A Canadian woman does not lose Canadian citizenship upon marriage to an alien, and an alien woman who marries a Canadian does not, by reason of the marriage, become a Canadian citizen. In the former case, if she has acquired her husband's nationality, the married woman may divest herself of Canadian citizenship by filing with the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration a declaration of alienage and she shall thereupon cease to be a Canadian citizen. In the latter case, an alien woman must apply to the court for a certificate of citizenship. The only concession is that a residence of only one year in Canada is required.

In the past, married women were classed with minors, lunatics and idiots as persons under disability. They could not become naturalized or control their national status as independent persons, except in very special circumstances. These disabilities have been removed and under the new Act married women have equal status with men.

Status of Minors, Foundlings, Posthumous Births, etc.—Under Sect. 10 (5) of the Act, a certificate of citizenship may be granted to a minor child of a person to whom a certificate of citizenship is, or has been, granted under the Act on the application of that person if the person is the responsible parent of the child, if the child was born before the date of the grant of the certificate and has been lawfully admitted to Canada for permanent residence. Under Sect. 11 (3), the Minister may, in his discretion, grant a certificate to a minor in any special case whether or not the conditions of the Act have been complied with. For the first time, a Canadian Act on nationality or citizenship defines the status of a deserted infant; under previous Acts there was no mention of the status of a deserted child. Under the new Act, it is provided that every foundling, who is or was first found as a deserted infant in Canada, shall, until the contrary is proved, be deemed to have been born in Canada. Another new provision in the Act is the case of a child born after the death of his father. For purposes of definition of natural-born Canadian citizens, the child shall be deemed to have been born immediately before the death of the father.

Children of Diplomatic Representatives in Canada.—By the amendment of July 20, 1950, there is a new provision, Sect. 2, ss. (2), which excludes from the status of natural-born Canadian citizens the children born in Canada of parents who are the diplomatic or consular representatives of foreign countries in Canada, or who are employees in the service of these representatives. It was proposed that it would not be appropriate to permit children who come within this category to be designated as Canadians by birth. The effective date of this amendment is Jan. 1, 1947.