

a Canadian citizen if he fails to file a declaration of retention prior to his 24th birthday or does not have his place of domicile in Canada on that date.

**Canadian citizens other than natural-born.** Before the 1953 amendments to the Citizenship Act, the only persons who acquired Canadian citizenship on January 1, 1947 through the transitional clauses of Section 9 were persons naturalized in Canada before that date, British subjects who had Canadian domicile at the commencement of the Act and women lawfully admitted to Canada and married prior to January 1, 1947 whose husbands would have qualified as Canadian citizens if the Act had come into force before the date of marriage. Section 9 was amended on June 1, 1953, so that a British subject domiciled in Canada for at least 20 years immediately before January 1, 1947 need not comply with the requirements of Canadian domicile provided he was not under an order of deportation on January 1, 1947.

**Acquisition of Canadian citizenship by aliens or British subjects.** An adult non-Canadian British subject or an alien who wishes to become a Canadian must formally file an application for citizenship. The non-Canadian British subject may file an application direct with the Registrar of Canadian Citizenship, whereas an alien must file an application through his local court, or through one of the special citizenship courts now established or, if he lives more than 50 miles from a court, he may mail his application to the Registrar of Canadian Citizenship in Ottawa, who will file it with the appropriate court.

After the application has been posted for three months, he is called to appear before the court for examination. In either case the same requirements apply: (1) He must have resided in Canada for 12 of the 18 months immediately preceding the date of his application. (2) He must have been lawfully admitted to Canada for permanent residence and either have acquired Canadian domicile before July 7, 1967, or have resided in Canada for five of the eight years immediately preceding the filing of his application. (Persons living in Canada before obtaining landed-immigrant status may count half of each full year before landing toward the residence qualification. The wife of a Canadian needs only to be admitted for permanent residence and reside in Canada for one year.) (3) He must be of good character and not under an order of deportation. (4) He must have an adequate knowledge of either English or French or, alternatively, be the spouse, widow or widower of a Canadian or, either be 40 or more years of age at the time of lawful admission and have resided in Canada for more than ten years or be less than 40 at the time of admission and have resided continuously in Canada for more than 20 years. (5) He must have an adequate knowledge of the responsibilities and privileges of citizenship. (6) He must intend to comply with the Oath of Allegiance and to have his place of domicile permanently in Canada.

At the conclusion of the hearing, the decision of the court is forwarded to the Minister responsible for administering the Canadian Citizenship Act. If favourable, a certificate of Canadian Citizenship granted by the Minister is forwarded to the clerk of the court who notifies the applicant when to appear before the court to take the Oath of Allegiance, renounce his previous nationality and receive his certificate. Where a court finds that an applicant does not possess the required qualifications, the Minister will advise the applicant and give him notice that he may appeal the decision within 30 days to the Citizenship Appeal Court which is the Trial Division of the Federal Court of Canada. If a court rejects an application and this decision is upheld by the Citizenship Appeal Court or if an application is refused by the Minister, the applicant has the right to file a new application two years after the date of rejection.

**Status of married women.** The Canadian Citizenship Act places no disabilities on the married woman. She neither acquires nor does she lose Canadian citizenship by marriage. In order to acquire Canadian citizenship she must apply in exactly the same manner as does a man. The Canadian Citizenship Act enables a woman married to an alien whose nationality she acquired on marriage to divest herself of Canadian citizenship by the filing of a declaration of renunciation; it also provides for her to reacquire her Canadian citizenship on application. Finally, it provides a means whereby a woman, who had become an alien through marriage prior to January 1, 1947, may acquire the Canadian status she would otherwise have assumed on that date.

**Status of minor children.** Alien and British subject minor children do not automatically become Canadians with their parents. After one parent has become a Canadian, the