

(A.)

THE BRITISH NATIONALITY AND STATUS OF ALIENS ACT, 1914.—INSTRUCTIONS AS TO APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF NATURALIZATION BY ALIENS RESIDENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Act requires an applicant to satisfy the Secretary of State that he has resided in the United Kingdom for not less than one year immediately preceding the application, and previously either in the United Kingdom or in some other part of His Majesty's Dominions for a period of four years within the last eight years before the application.

The applicant must also satisfy the Secretary of State—

(a.) That he is of good character and has an adequate knowledge of the English language; and

(b.) That he intends, if his application is granted, either to reside in His Majesty's Dominions or to serve under the Crown.

1. An application for a certificate of naturalization must be by way of a memorial addressed to the Secretary of State.

2. The applicant's memorial must show the following particulars: Full name;* address; place† and date of birth (where known); nationality;‡ married, single, or widower [widow]; name of wife; names and nationality of parents; trade or occupation.

The memorial must also show—

(a.) That the applicant has fulfilled the conditions with respect to residence in the British Dominions which, as pointed out above, are required by the Act. Full details should be given both as to time and place of residence during a period of at least five years immediately preceding the application. If these five years have not been spent entirely within the British Dominions, details both as to residence in the British Dominions and residence elsewhere over such longer period, not exceeding eight years, as may comprise five years' residence in the British Dominions, should be shown. The details should be set out clearly by dates and addresses as follows:—

From	to	at	Years.	Months.
From	to	at		
From	to	at		
			—	—
			—	—

(b.) That the applicant intends, if his application is granted, either to reside in His Majesty's Dominions or to serve under the Crown.

3. For the purpose of the requirements of the Act as to residence, whether in the United Kingdom or in a British possession, "residence" will be taken as meaning continuous personal presence, subject to such brief and occasional periods of absence as may seem to the Secretary of State not inconsistent with essential continuity of residence. Any period of absence, however brief, must be stated in the memorial in the way indicated above.

4. If the applicant desires that the certificate should extend not only to him personally, but also to any child or children of his, being minors, born before the date of the certificate, the memorial should contain a statement to that effect, and should give the full name and age of any child whose name is sought to be included in the certificate.

5. The statements in the memorial must be supported by a statutory declaration made by the applicant.

6. The statements in the memorial with respect to residence must be verified by a like declaration made by some person who is able to testify thereto. This declaration must repeat *specifically as to both time and place* the statements which it purports to verify. The declarant must be—

(a.) A natural-born British subject;

(b.) Not the agent or the solicitor of the applicant; and

(c.) Able to testify to the facts of residence from personal knowledge, and not from information only.

These particulars and also the declarant's place of residence and occupation must be set out in the declaration.

The manner in which knowledge of the facts of residence was acquired must be stated in detail. Statements that it was acquired through "business transactions" will not be sufficient unless it is made plain that the business transactions were of such a nature or carried on in such circumstances as to give the declarant the knowledge to which he testifies.

Should there be no one such person who is able from personal knowledge to testify to the facts of residence during the full statutory term of five years, declarations by two or more persons may be submitted, made either jointly or by each declarant separately so as to cover the whole term. Each declarant must set out the particular facts of residence as to which he has personal knowledge, and in the case of a joint declaration each declarant must state separately with regard to himself the particulars under headings (a), (b), and (c) above.

* If the applicant is known by a name other than his real name, both should be stated, thus: "A. B., commonly known as C. D."

† The place of birth should be stated, so far as practicable, in the form of a postal address, showing the province or other division of the country as well as the town or district in which the applicant was born.

‡ Nationality should be described accurately, by reference to the Sovereign State of which the applicant is a subject: e.g., a Russian Pole should be described as a Russian; a Prussian Pole, or a Hanovarian, as a German. If an applicant has lost the nationality he acquired at birth, or acquired any other nationality, his original nationality should nevertheless be specified, with a statement of the circumstances in which it was lost or the new one acquired.