

QUESTION OF CITIZENSHIP.

Judge Emory's Reasons for Refusing Papers to G. Olson.

The many citizens of this country who from time to time have arisen to protest against the ease with which foreigners are admitted to American citizenship on the same plane with persons who are American born, would have found a very edifying lesson in the examination to which Judge Emory subjected an applicant for citizenship who came before him this forenoon. The applicant was Gordian Olson, a Norwegian laborer whose residence is in Ballard.

Olson is a man of rather intelligent appearance and his answers to the questions pertaining to himself were given with a very satisfactory readiness and with apparent accuracy. But when it came to answering questions which Judge Emory put to him regarding the form of government of this country he stumbled woefully.

When asked who was the highest officer of the State of Washington the applicant was unable to give an intelligent reply. The same was true of the same question with reference to the highest officer of the United States. Asked who made the laws of this country he was stricken, but finally managed to guess that it was the juries in the courts. Asked if he had heard of Governor Rogers the applicant stated that he had but was unable to give a clear idea of his impression of that officer's duties or functions.

Mr. Olson was confident on one point and that was his allegiance to American institutions and stated emphatically that in case of a war between this country and Norway he would willingly take up arms in defense of America against the people of his birth. But he did not know what the constitution of the United States was and the judge upon learning this stated that he could not accept an oath to support a document which the affiant did not properly comprehend, so denied the application.