

ment of this legislation, after a consultation with the druggists, the wholesale men and the retail men and all parties concerned in the manufacture and sale of proprietary medicines, and now the measure comes to the Senate and the Senate have commenced to insert amendments that these parties who have spent so much time in the preparation of this Bill, and all interests concerned, have no opportunity of coming here and being heard in connection with. I think it is a very grave injustice to pass these amendments, and I am satisfied the House of Commons will not accept them when they are sent to them if we make any serious changes. We are not particularly concerned about the amendment of the hon. gentleman from Wellington; but we do take decided objection to the amendment proposed by the hon. gentleman from Edmonton. It means that no one except a doctor could prepare any medicine, and a doctor would have to receive his fee in prescribing it. It means that the doctors will have to see every bottle of medicine, and be consulted about making it up. For years, this patent medicine business has gone on, and no one has been seriously hit. These medicines have been a great benefit to the country, and we do not want legislation passed through this House which is not properly matured, especially a Bill of this importance. The next session will be brought on in a few months and no harm would be done if we postponed this measure until then. A Bill that would meet the views of everybody could be prepared. The Senate is responsible if hasty legislation is permitted to pass through this Chamber, and I say that these amendments which are now being put through at the eleventh hour have not been properly considered and matured and the parties concerned have not had the opportunity of being heard in support of the Bill. I support the motion that this committee rise.

Hon. Mr. ROY—My hon. friend from Brockville says that my amendment prevents anybody but doctors preparing medicines. That is not so. Your amendment says that no article containing opium or morphine should be sold without a pres-

cription of a doctor, but all the other articles can be.

Hon. Mr. DERBYSHIRE—Who is to know what is in it, unless you go to a doctor?

Hon. Mr. ROY—We have not had time to discuss this measure properly. It is a serious question, and if it comes up next year I shall certainly urge my amendment and stick to it for ever. I do not think patent medicines containing opium or morphine should be sold without the prescription of a doctor. My hon. friend says when this Bill was presented in the House of Commons, that everybody who belonged to the trade was consulted in the matter, but the public were not consulted. I was looking for a protest by the tradesmen. There is no question about it, that somebody is going to be injured. You cannot pass a Bill relating to patent or proprietary medicines now without putting some amendment in the shape of providing that no patent medicine shall be used if it contains opium. Naturally, when the criminal code was farmed some acquired privileges must have suffered, for instance, thieves and murderers. That was no reason why you should not have passed or amended the criminal code. I maintain that thousands and thousands of children die every year from the use of patent medicines containing opium or morphine.

Hon. Mr. DERBYSHIRE—I would be perfectly satisfied with the Bill as it came from the House of Commons, or I would be satisfied to strike out this amendment proposed by the hon. member, and let the Bill pass; if we cannot have that, I should like to have it laid over and give every interest an opportunity of being heard in perfecting the measure so that we would have a proper law.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—This is evidently a question of greed for gold against human life. This Bill may be postponed for one, two or three years, and there will be the same opposition. There are millions of money invested in patent medicines, but, in the minds of all advanced medical men, the destruction of human life through patent