

out, if their Bill passes, from shipping matches into the United States. At any rate, one of the strong reasons why we should take part in this work is, that it is part of a great international movement for the purpose of suppressing a great industrial evil, and for Canada to stand apart in such a movement is equivalent to saying to these other countries that we are not prepared to do our share in bringing about a world reform of this magnitude.

But I can understand that members of the House might feel that while these reasons are good, they are not strong enough to warrant this legislation. A moment ago I referred to a report that officers of the Department of Labour were called upon to make, and this report relates to the question which I have been asked several times namely, as to whether in Canada we have any cases of phosphorus necrosis. I had hoped that it would not be necessary to make mention of any of these cases. It is not a pleasant task to cite instances which do not reflect credit upon industries or upon individuals, and I would much prefer being spared to make the statement I have now to make. On the other hand, if I do not cite instances, there are many who will say that the necessity does not exist, and that there is no sufficient reason for this legislation, notwithstanding all that has been said. However, in order to do as little injury to any one as possible, I have carefully eliminated from the report which was presented to me by the officers of the Department of Labour who investigated this matter, all the names of which the report makes mention. I can give the names to any member of the House and shall be glad to do so, if he wishes to have them, but for purposes of record and so far as the public generally is concerned, I think that the mere statement of the cases themselves will be sufficient.

The following statements are from the joint report of the two officers of the department who made the investigation. The first three cases cited relate to deaths from phosphorus poisoning which occurred during the past year.

Miss _____, aged between 22 and 23 years, resided with her parents at _____ street. Her death took place about a year ago. The following brief statement concerning her illness and death was made by her mother:—

She commenced work in the match factory at the age of 14. Her term of employment there lasted about 7 years, when she had to cease work. Her trouble commenced with toothache and extended to the jawbones, finally affecting the whole face. During the last stages of the disease she was completely blind. Her illness covered a period of 19 months. She was attended by Dr. _____ and Dr. _____. She was admitted to _____ Hospital on two occasions, where operations were

performed, and was released from that institution shortly before her death. During the last few years she worked in the match factory she earned \$1.25 per day.

Dr. _____, the first of the physicians referred to by the mother, states that phosphorus poisoning was the cause of this young woman's death. The other physician did not wish to be interviewed.

That is one case. I can supply the name of the physician who attended her, and who states that her death was due to phosphorus poisoning, and I can give the name of the hospital where hon. gentlemen themselves can see the records.

Mr. DANIEL. Was that given as the cause of death, or was it in the certificate of death?

Mr. KING. It was given by the physician himself.

Miss _____, 38 years of age, resided at _____, died May _____, 1910, after an illness of seven months.

The statement in connection with the illness and death of this woman was obtained at the home of her parents. She had worked in the match factory for eight or ten years before her teeth began to give her trouble. Dr. _____ then ordered her to have five teeth extracted, the operation being performed by Dr. _____. She continued to get worse, and Dr. _____ was consulted, who said that she had poisoning of the blood, caused by fumes. She was admitted to _____ Hospital on March 5, where she remained till May 3, two days before her death. While in the hospital she was operated upon several times, and portions of jawbone extracted. Each of the two physicians who attended this woman during her illness was seen in reference to this case, and both stated that the cause of death was phosphorus poisoning.

Miss _____, aged 25 years, resided with her parents at _____, died on April 17, 1910. The following facts were elicited in a conversation with her father, mother and sister:—

She died on April 17, 1910, after an illness of about a year, at the age of 25. She had worked in the match factory about five years before her troubles began. She was admitted to the _____ Hospital during the summer of 1909, and was under the care of Dr. _____, of _____. She had all her teeth extracted and portions of the jawbone removed. Was confined to bed for five months and endured terrible suffering from ulceration of the jaw and decay of the bone. In describing the cause of her death, the expression used by one of her parents was, 'She died of consumption, caused by swallowing pus from ulcerated jaw.'

The report next makes mention of several persons who are reported to have succumbed to the disease, but in regard to whose cases it was not possible to obtain reliable information.

The following are mentioned as examples of cases of phosphorus poisoning existing at the present time, but which have not proved fatal. Any of the particulars mentioned may be verified by persons who desire to see and converse with the parties: