

and temptations that should be hunted down by the law. The Parliament of this country owes a duty to society to take cognizance of these evils, and the Bill which I have introduced is calculated to meet the evils which I have briefly described. As not many members are accustomed to go through Bills presented here, and as probably many members have not read this Bill, I will take the liberty of reading its provisions :

"1. Whoever shall publish or offer to publish in any manner, or shall have in his possession for any such purpose or purposes, or shall sell, lend, or give away, or in any manner exhibit, or shall offer to sell, or lend, or give away or in any manner exhibit, any obscene book, pamphlet, paper, writing, advertisement, circular, print, picture, drawing, or other representation, image or figure, on or of paper or other material, or any cast, instrument, or other article, of an immoral nature, or any medicine, drug, or article whatever for the prevention of conception, or for causing unlawful abortion, or shall advertise the same for sale, or shall write, or print, or cause to be written or printed any card, circular, book, pamphlet, advertisement or notice of any kind, stating when, where, how, or of whom, or by what means any of the articles in this section hereinbefore mentioned can be purchased or obtained, or shall manufacture, draw or print, or in any wise make any of such articles, is guilty of a misdemeanour.

"2. Every obscene, lewd, or lascivious book, pamphlet, picture, paper, writing, print, writing paper heading, or other publication of an indecent character, and every article, or thing designed or intended for the prevention of conception, or procuring of abortion, and every article or thing intended or adopted for any indecent or immoral use, and every written or printed circular, card, pamphlet, book, advertisement, or notice of any kind giving information directly or indirectly, where, or how, or by whom, or by what means, any of the hereinbefore mentioned matters, articles or things may be obtained, or made, and every letter upon the envelope of which, or postal card upon which, indecent, lewd, obscene or lascivious delineations, epithets, terms, or language, may be written or printed, are hereby declared to be non-mailable matter, and shall not be conveyed in the mails, nor delivered from any post office nor by any letter carrier; and any person who shall knowingly deposit, or cause to be deposited for mailing or delivery anything declared by this section to be non-mailable matter, and any person who shall knowingly take the same, or cause the same to be taken from the mails, for the purpose of circulating or disposing of, or of aiding in the circulation and disposal of the same, is guilty of a misdemeanour.

"3. All persons are prohibited from importing into Canada from any foreign country, any of the hereinbefore mentioned articles or things, except the drugs hereinbefore mentioned, when imported in bulk, and not put up for any of the purposes before mentioned; and all such prohibited articles in the course of importation shall be detained by the officer of customs where entered, and proceedings taken against the same under section five of this Act.

"4. Whoever, being an officer, agent, or employé of the Government of Canada, shall knowingly aid or abet any person engaged in violation of this Act is guilty of a misdemeanour.

"5. Any judge of any county, or higher court in Canada within the proper district before whom complaint in writing of any violation of this Act shall be made, to the satisfaction of such judge, and founded on knowledge or belief, and if upon belief, setting forth the grounds of such belief, and supported by the oath or affirmation of the complainant, may issue a warrant directed to the sheriff or any police officer, or constable in the proper district, directing him to search for, seize, and take possession of any such article or thing hereinbefore mentioned, and to make due and immediate return thereof, to the end that the same may be condemned and destroyed by proceedings before the said judge which shall establish the facts that will, under this Act, warrant the decree for condemning and destroying the same.

"6. Any person engaged in placing before the public obscene, lewd, or immoral exhibitions, either as proprietor, manager, or assistant, is guilty of a misdemeanour.

"7. All newspaper matter imported in quantities as merchandise shall be debarred from an entry at any Canadian custom house, or conveyance by mail, until the same forms of registration have been complied with as are required of the publishers of Canadian newspapers, and that persons so registering shall be responsible, or shall give security.

Mr. CHARLTON.

"8. Any aggrieved person or corporation may complain to a judge of any county, or higher court, of any published or circulated matter printed in a foreign country, as being libellous or obscene, or as having an immoral tendency: whereupon the judge shall, after due and sufficient notice to the interested parties, try the case, and in the event of his finding the matter complained of to be a criminal libel, or to be subversive of morality, he may order the confiscation of all the printed matter implicated and liable to seizure under his warrant, and may further, in his discretion, order that the newspaper or periodical so condemned shall be debarred for any term not less than one month nor more than six months, from entry at the custom house, nor conveyance through the mails, or from public sale.

"(2). Any person bringing any such publication into the country for circulation during any prohibited period, having been informed of, or made aware of, such prohibition, shall be guilty of a misdemeanour."

The ninth section is with respect to fines and penalties, which are left in blank. That is the Bill which I submit for the consideration of this House, a Bill calculated to promote morality by adopting restrictive measures. I presume the Minister of Justice has given the Bill his attention, and he will, no doubt, indicate the course he intends to pursue. I hope the Bill will receive the favourable consideration of the House and be permitted to go to committee, and that when it comes from committee it will be a measure which, if it has any imperfection, will have that imperfection removed, and if any additional provisions are required, those provisions will be added, and the measure will be made one calculated to promote the welfare and morality of the people of this country.

Mr. SPROULE. The hon. gentleman's aim in introducing this Bill may have been a good one, and no doubt it was, and the Bill, according to his judgment, may be correctly drawn to further the object he has in view. I am engaged in a profession which I think this Bill would injure very materially, as it would also injure the druggists of the country. The measure, if passed in its present shape, would be entirely unworkable. It would not be possible for any medical man to discharge his professional duties in the country, or to obtain such drugs and instruments as he requires, without making himself liable to punishment under this Bill; and the same remark applies to instrument makers and even to those who sell instruments. So it would be with respect to those who manufacture drugs and those who sell them. It is perfectly clear that no druggist could manufacture and sell drugs, and the members of the medical profession could not obtain those drugs which are ordinarily used for the cure of disease, and it would be impossible for any instrument maker in Canada to sell those instruments which professional men use, if this Bill became law. I do not rise to oppose the Bill, because the principle I believe to be a good one, and I think the hon. member aims at doing what is right; but I have only to say that the Bill should be well considered in committee, and those provisions should be struck out of the different clauses which would prevent the medical profession from carrying on their legitimate work.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. I understand the hon. member intends, after the Bill has received its second reading, to move that it be referred to the committee on the Bill that has the Criminal law under revision. If so, I shall be very glad to support the second reading of the Bill. I should have liked the hon. gentleman to have told the House the points on which the Bill differs from some of the provisions on the subject now. There will be a difference of course; but as to some of the clauses,