

a formal motion is necessary or not to have these brackets stricken out.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER. I understand it is not necessary.

Mr. DANIEL. If you are going to take out the brackets you might correct the spelling of the word 'gaol' in the ninth line on the 2nd page. It is spelled 'goal' instead of 'gaol.'

Bill reported.

MANUFACTURE OF WHITE PHOSPHORUS MATCHES.

House in committee to consider the following proposed resolution :

Resolved, that it is expedient, in connection with Bill 10 now before this House, to provide for the prohibition of the manufacture and importation of matches made with white phosphorus; to empower the commissioner of patents on petition to fix terms for the use of any process patented at the time of the passing of this Act for the manufacture of matches without white phosphorus, other than matches intended to strike only on a surface specially prepared for the purpose; to provide for the inspection of any place where it is suspected that matches made with white phosphorus may be found; to examine any receptacle or place in which it is suspected that such matches may be; to authorize the Governor in Council to make such orders and regulations as may be necessary; and to fix penalties for infractions of the Act.

Hon. MACKENZIE KING (Minister of Labour). Mr. Speaker, as the members of the committee may not be familiar with the subject with which this resolution has to do, and with the provisions of the Bill which is based on the resolution, I hope the committee will allow me a little time to explain the objects of the proposed legislation, and to outline the purpose that it is hoped to serve. I should like to point out in the first place that this legislation is not intended to embarrass in any way any existing industry. It is rather aimed exclusively at the stamping out of a disease connected with a certain industry which has been found in other countries to be of a very serious and, I may say, hideous nature. The disease is spoken of popularly as 'phossy,' and scientifically as phosphorus necrosis or poisoning from phosphorus. This disease is one which has been known for a great many years in different countries; in fact, for something like seventy years the countries of Europe have been familiar with it. One after the other, they have found it necessary to pass legislation to protect the workers who are engaged in the match-making industry from the evils of it. Perhaps I might in a casual way, indicate to the committee in my own words what the nature of this disease is. It has been found where matches have been made of phosphorous that in the

making of these matches, the phosphorous fumes not infrequently attack the teeth of the workers and sometimes very minute particles of phosphorus also find their way to the teeth and, going through the cavities of the teeth, work their way to the jawbones which become festered with the result that little by little they break away and the workers lose their jaws altogether. I can describe more fully the nature of this disease by reading to the committee the definition given of the malady by the chairman of a commission appointed in England some ten or eleven years ago to look into the matter. I have here the report of a commission which was appointed by the British government in 1899 to report to the Secretary of the Home Department on the use of phosphorous in the manufacture of lucifer matches. It is by Prof. T. E. Thorpe, principal chemist of the government laboratory; Prof. Thomas Oliver, physician to the Royal Infirmary, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Dr. George Cunningham, Senior Dental Surgeon to the London Hospital. These gentlemen were appointed by the British government to look carefully into this industrial disease, and they reported at considerable length upon it in the volume which I have here. The definition of the disease given by Dr. Oliver, is as follows :

The malady that is dreaded is phosphorus necrosis. The presence of decayed teeth predisposes a match maker to the disease, for the phosphorus fumes penetrate carious teeth and readily induce a periostitis or acute inflammation of the covering of the jawbone. The gum becomes swollen, and both it and the jawbone painful. Sooner or later pus forms, and although the tooth, or the teeth, are extracted, the pain continues, but in a less severe form. The inflammation gradually extends to the bone, which undergoes a process of slow destruction. For months pus keeps oozing out into the mouth in minute quantities, some of which is swallowed, and tends to induce chronic toxæmia. By means of the use of antiseptic mouth washes the morbid process gradually ceases by a piece of dead bone being thrown off, or the decayed bone is removed by surgical operation, when the patient recovers with or without facial deformity.

The disease has recently been made the subject of a very full and complete investigation in the United States. It has been investigated there by Mr. John J. Andrews who is secretary of the American Association for Labour Legislation, and who is one of the best known of the younger economists of the United States. Mr. Andrews, in a pamphlet which was published a short time ago in regard to American industrial diseases, a pamphlet which has been distributed by the American Association of Labour Legislation, gives an account of the nature of this disease, and I will read it also to the committee because it is rather