

# House of Commons Debates

THIRD SESSION—ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT.

## SPEECH

DELIVERED BY

HON. CHARLES MURPHY

ON THE

### MOTION FOR A FURTHER INVESTIGATION INTO THE PRINTING BUREAU

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 1911.

Hon. CHARLES MURPHY (Secretary of State). Mr. Speaker, although spring has arrived for the rest of the world the winter of his discontent seems still to hang heavy upon the member for East Hastings (Mr. Northrup). If I may be permitted to coin a phrase that would describe that hon. gentleman's recent political condition I would say that it has been one of progressive disappointment. A few weeks ago the reports in certain newspapers credited the hon. gentleman with being sorely disappointed at that time on account of the fact that a certain agitation which was then said to be on foot had not focused in his immediate vicinity and did not result in an exchange of positions between himself and the hon. the leader of the opposition. A short time later the hon. gentleman's reputation as a parliamentary wit was rudely shattered by a little 7 x 9 story which was told at his expense by the hon. member for North Cape Breton (Mr. McKenzie), and now, Sir, it falls to my lot to further increase his disappointment by declining to accept the motion which he has just presented to the House.

In passing, I might say that the ordinary courtesy extended to a minister whose department is to be placed under review was not, it appears to me, extended on this occasion, because I was not furnished with a copy of the hon. gentleman's motion until late this morning. However, I am

willing to treat that as an oversight and I found no complaint upon it.

Mr. NORTHROP. Then why mention it? Did I understand the minister to say that he was not informed?

Mr. MURPHY. I say that I did not get a copy of the hon. gentleman's motion until late this morning.

Mr. NORTHROP. It was not drawn until this morning.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). As I understand it the rule is that such a motion is generally sent on the morning of the day it is to be moved.

Mr. MURPHY. I merely mentioned the incident because I have seen on other occasions that the motion was forwarded earlier.

Mr. NORTHROP. I notified the chief whip of the opposition several days ago and told him such a question was to be brought up and that is the usual custom.

Mr. MURPHY. I am not raising any objection to the notice; I merely mentioned that the copy of the motion was not sent.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). The practice is to give notice that a motion is intended to be made and to send a copy of the motion some time in the forenoon of the day on which the motion is moved. I