

the Whole to Bill (B) "An Act respecting the improper use of Firearms and other Weapons."

HON. MR. ALMON—Before that motion is agreed to I should like to make a few observations. When the Bill was first introduced by the hon. member from Quinté I was very much pleased with it indeed. I had hoped that the sale of firearms to children would not be confined to pistols, but would also be extended to toy cannons and pistols with fulminating caps. An amendment was proposed by the hon. member from Toronto (Mr. O'Donohoe), which was a very desirable one, and would have been all right if my hon. colleague from Halifax had not spoiled it. He also told us that when druggists sell poisons they are required to make an entry of the name of the person to whom the sales are made, and the character of the poisons. Now he is mistaken in that point. Almost any liniment taken internally is a poison. If a child buys a liniment at an apothecary shop the druggist does not ask the name or enter it in a book. Another thing, saltpetre, nitrate of potash, when taken in a dose of an ounce, is likely to prove fatal. Does the hon. member mean to say that a druggist who sells an ounce of saltpetre makes an entry of it? There are many things that the hon. member from Halifax is not acquainted with, although he is not aware of the fact. The amendment, as originally proposed by the hon. member from Toronto, was a very sensible one indeed. But the senior member from Halifax, who belongs to those who can "divide a hair twixt the south and south-west side" had it amended, and it reads now that any person who sells a pistol must make an entry of the sale. If a man has a pistol which he sells to somebody on the street, is he obliged to make an entry of that? It was a very good amendment, as it was introduced by the hon. member from Toronto, but it has been changed, owing to that unfortunate tendency of the hon. member from Halifax to alter everything until it has become arrant nonsense. I am glad indeed that the hon. member from Halifax is not here when the Lord's Prayer is read, because I am sure if he were present he would agree with the prayer of the petition, but move an amendment to its title. The hon. gentleman also propounded a strange rule, that what

takes place in the Railway Committee is secret, and not to be spoken of in this House. I belong to no secret society. I am here as a representative of the people, and whatever I do in committee I should speak of whenever I choose. Nothing should prevent me from telling what I say or do in committee to the world. The hon. gentleman and I differ in that as we do in a great many things. I would not have mentioned this if the hon. gentleman had not cast ridicule on my proposition to include in this Bill toy pistols with fulminating caps.

HON. MR. POWER—My hon. colleague from Halifax seem to be under the impression that there are some things that I do not know. I quite agree with him that the number of things which I do not know would fill a very large library. I do not pretend to any very extensive knowledge of any subject, not even of the senatorial nature. The hon. gentleman referred to something which I said yesterday. He was out of order in doing so. He referred to something that I said in the course of debate yesterday with respect to the fact that it was undesirable that what takes place in a committee should be discussed in the House. I think the hon. gentleman will see that my view is perfectly sound. The rule of the House forbids reference to previous debates; and if such a reference is objectionable in the House, surely there is a strong objection to referring to what has occurred in the comparative privacy of a committee meeting.

HON. MR. MILLER—Would the hon. gentleman hold that with respect to a debate on the same Bill?

HON. MR. POWER—My remark is not intended to apply in a general way. There are things said in a committee which are not exactly intended for publication, and when a thing of that sort has been said, it is undesirable that it should be made public by being repeated in the House. That was about all I meant, and I think that is a correct view of the matter.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill, as amended, was read the third time.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Bill (41) "An Act to incorporate the Canada Cable Co." (Mr. Macdonald, B.C.)