

lutely true. As regards the denial made by the hon. member from Joliette (Mr. Dubeau), I have accepted it as coming from a gentleman and I still accept it; but I am bound to say that the remainder of the story is entirely in accordance with the facts and that if the government papers persist in representing me as a spy and a slanderer, I shall apprise the House and the aforesaid papers of the picturesque and coarse expressions made use of by a certain member on that occasion to designate the Minister of Finance.

#### MOTIONS AGREED TO WITHOUT DISCUSSION.

For a return showing: 1. The chief differences in principle between the Ross rifle and the 'Snider Enfield,' the 'Martini-Henri,' and the 'Lee-Enfield.'

2. The average annual number of each, the 'Ross' rifle and the 'Lee-Enfield' rifle manufactured.

3. The various kinds of rifle 'sights' for which adoption has been sought in recent years.

4. The number of accidents to men in Canada from each, the Lee-Enfield and the Ross rifle.

5. The breakages or disabled rifles of each class recorded.—Mr. Sam. Hughes.

For a return showing: The number of desks of every kind and description, with prices of the same, bought for the House of Commons by the government, since 1896.—Mr. Bergeron.

For a return showing: All coal lands leased, sold, or otherwise disposed of, from the 1st of January, 1906, to date, giving the area disposed of, the party to whom, the consideration therefor, the assignments made, if any, the date thereof, and the name of the assignee in each case.—Mr. Lake.

For a copy of all memoranda in the possession of the government, showing the amounts from month to month reported by the company and verified by the officers of the government, as having been duly expended in connection with the construction of the western division of the National Transcontinental Railway, whereon the government of Canada guarantees the bonds to the extent of seventy-five per cent of the cost.—Mr. Ames.

For a return showing: 1. How much money has been paid by the government of Canada in the form of bounties on lead.

2. To what companies the same has been paid.

3. Where the mines are located.—Mr. Marshall.

For a return showing: 1. What properties in Ottawa have been purchased by the government since January 1, 1904.

2. What amount of commission has been paid on each purchase, and to whom paid.

3. What amount has been paid for legal expenses, outside the Justice Department, on each purchase.—Mr. Blain.

#### IMPORTATION, MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF CIGARETTES.

Mr. R. BLAIN moved:

1. That the object of good government is to promote the general welfare of the people by

a careful encouragement and protection of whatever makes for the public good; and by an equally careful discouragement and suppression of whatever tends to the public disadvantage.

2. That the smoking of cigarettes has been proved by overwhelming testimony to be productive of serious physical and moral injury to young people; impairing health, arresting development, weakening intellectual power, and thus constituting a social and national evil.

3. That the legislation, licensing and restricting the sale of cigarettes has not proven sufficient to prevent these evils, which will continue while the public sale of the cause of the mischief is permitted to go on.

4. That this House is of the opinion, for the reasons heretofore set forth, that the right and most effectual legislative remedy for these evils is to be found in the enactment and enforcement of a law prohibiting the importation, manufacture and sale of cigarettes; and that it is expedient to bring in a Bill at this session to prohibit the importation, manufacture and sale of cigarettes.

This motion, Mr. Speaker, I believe to be one of great importance to the present and future welfare of Canada. This parliament authorizes the expenditure of large sums of money to bring European immigrants to assist in the development of our fertile Northwest; we devote a considerable portion of our time in this House to the discussion of the railway and transportation question; we give great attention to the development of the natural resources of Canada. All these are matters of great importance to the people, and all are questions that should receive the careful attention of this House. But the resolution which I move to-day is one of vital importance to the youth of Canada; and, whatever differences of opinion may exist among representatives here as to the use of tobacco in its various forms, I am quite sure no hon. member will venture to say that it is in the best interest of the people of Canada that cigarettes should be used by our growing boys, those who are to be the men of Canada in the coming generation. This is not a new question in the House of Commons. On April 1, 1903, my hon. friend from Montreal, St. Lawrence division (Mr. Bickerdike) moved a similar resolution. At that time a pretty general discussion took place. The members on both sides of the House agreed that this was an important question and the House decided in favour of the resolution by a vote of 103 yeas to 48 nays. Following that resolution the hon. gentleman (Mr. Bickerdike) introduced a Bill to prohibit the manufacture, importation and sale of cigarettes in Canada. The Bill was introduced on April 29, and the motion for its first reading was passed unanimously. The second reading was proposed on the 18th of May, but on a technicality, the Speaker ruled the Bill out of order, and the mover withdrew his Bill.