

legislation known as bi-lingualism. Is there any truth in that report?

Mr. DOHERTY: Not to my knowledge, and I think I would have heard of the application if it had been made.

Mr. GRAHAM: I saw it in the papers.

Mr. DOHERTY: Many items that appear in the papers are not true.

Mr. GRAHAM: It seems that the attitude of ministers in regard to the Estimates will resolve into this: each minister will adhere to his Estimates, and the Finance Minister will finally have to explain to the country how he came to make the mistake in his Budget of \$30,000,000. None of his colleagues seem prepared to help him carry out his promise.

Mr. ROGERS: It will all be susceptible of explanation at the end of the session.

Progress reported.

On motion of Hon. R. Rogers the House adjourned at 11.10 p.m.

## Tuesday, February 22, 1916.

The House met at Three o'clock, the Speaker in the Chair.

### PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: With the consent of the House, I beg to move that Mr. Carroll be appointed to the Committee on Public Accounts, replacing Mr. Neely.

Motion agreed to.

### WHITE PHOSPHORUS MATCHES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Hon T. W. CROTHERS (Minister of Labour) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 37, to amend the White Phosphorus Matches Act. He said: The Act as it now stands prohibits the manufacture of matches from white phosphorus from and after the 1st of January, 1915, and also prohibits the sale or use of such matches after the 1st of January, 1916. The manufacturers ceased manufacturing on the 1st of January, 1915, but they were unable during the next year to dispose of all the matches they had in stock, and on the 1st of January, 1916, a great many people still had matches on hand, and under the Act they were liable to prosecution if they attempted to sell or use them. This Bill gives the manufacturers six months longer in which

to dispose of their stock on hand, and it gives those using these matches a year from the 1st of January, 1916, to use them up.

Mr. MURPHY: Has the minister proof that the manufacturers had actually ceased manufacturing on the 1st of January, 1915?

Mr. CROTHERS: Yes, I am satisfied as to that.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

### THE BUDGET.

Consideration of the proposed motion of Sir Thomas White (Minister of Finance) for the Committee of Ways and Means, resumed from Thursday, February 17.

Mr. J. A. CURRIE (North Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, it is some time since I have had the privilege of addressing my colleagues in this House, for reasons which are well known to us all. It is a great pleasure to be here to-day and once more to address those whom I have met on the floor of this House, sometimes in gladiatorial political combat, sometimes assisting in the various projects before the country. I congratulate the House upon the splendid spirit of unity which it has displayed throughout this great war. There is no question that this House has given to the whole British Empire an example of freedom from political controversy. For, although we here may fondly imagine that there is no such thing as controversy in the British House of Commons, any one who receives and reads the debates of that House, will see that the spirit of politics is still rife. In this House the criticisms have been rather mild, and the Opposition has given every assistance to the Government to carry on the great work that is before us all. The leader of the Opposition (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) has shown great patriotism in seconding the desires of the Government. I congratulate him upon that and upon the fact that he has, as it were, held back the restless spirits behind him, who, quite naturally, I acknowledge, feel a bit anxious to take a fall out of the Government. The conduct of the leader of the Opposition in this respect has made for himself a name in the political history of this country which will never be forgotten. Of course there is, and must necessarily be, a certain amount of political sniping going on in this House as well as in the country. Any sniping here is done in the broad light of day; but sometimes, I am sorry to say, it is done in the country about the way it is done at the front—by getting behind the