

that formula to the manufacturers of this country.

Mr. KING. Section 44 of the Patent Act gives the power I have reference to.

Mr. DANIEL. The hon. minister, in his introduction, mentioned the fact that what is called sesquisulphide might be used instead of white phosphorus; but if my information is correct sesquisulphide itself contains white phosphorus, so that under this resolution and the Bill founded on it, this very sulphite could not be used at all and matches could not be manufactured with it or imported. How are you going to manufacture matches in this country if white phosphorus is not to be used at all? With regard to the horrible disease sometimes caused by the use of phosphorus, I remember very well seeing cases of it in London when I was a medical student, and I quite recollect the discussion and agitation that took place there with regard to it. I have not heard much about it lately, but new regulations were enforced in the old country to put a stop to the disease, and from what was said to-night regarding the report of the Royal Commission, no doubt these regulations had the effect of largely, if not entirely, stamping it out. I did not know, until this matter came up, that there were any cases of this disease in Canada. We have had for a number of years a match factory at Hampton, 20 miles from St. John, where they have been using phosphorus, and there has never been a case of this phosphorus necrosis that I know of among the employees there. Has the minister any different information?

Mr. KING. I am not aware of any.

Mr. DANIEL. I have been connected with the hospital of St. John a good many years, and if there had been any cases of phosphorus necrosis in the Hampton factory they would have been taken to that hospital, so that I feel quite satisfied there has been none; and judging by the report of the Royal Commission it would seem that the disease can be eradicated from our factories, if it exists in any, by the enforcement of proper regulations. No doubt in by gone times, in these large factories where phosphorus was used, and there was very little ventilation, the fumes of the phosphorus occasioned this disease; but down with us, under better circumstances, this disease is unknown. I quite agree that even if in one factory in Canada there has been found a case of this disease, the danger should be put a stop to by legislation if possible; but at the same time I would like the minister to state if he has information whether the sesquisulphide does not itself contain white phosphorus, and therefore, would be interdicted by the passing of this resolution.

Mr. KING. I will just read a memo. I have from one of the examiners, in the Patent Branch, Mr. Charleton, who has given me much useful and helpful information in connection with the preparation of this measure. He has been experimenting in the government laboratory and has manufactured sesquisulphide himself; the past few days he has succeeded in making matches from it. In the memo. he says:

Sesquisulphide of phosphorus may be made by mixing, in the proper proportions, red phosphorus and sulphur and heating carefully to 260°C. The sesquisulphide, if properly made, contains no phosphorus, and is not poisonous if taken internally. The manufacture of the sesquisulphide on a large scale appears to be an unusually simple process in comparison with other chemicals of this class. It could probably be made as cheaply here in Canada as any place in the world. Perhaps more cheaply in the future when the country is further developed and the sulphur and iron pyrites are utilized.

White phosphorus enters into the compound but the compound is made away from the factory altogether, and apparently the fumes of the phosphorus are given off in the preparation with the result that in the case of the compound when used by the match workers the poison has disappeared altogether.

Mr. DANIEL. But it is made with white phosphorus all the same.

Motion agreed to, and the House went into committee.

Resolution reported, read the first and second time, and concurred in.

Mr. KING moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 96, to prohibit the Manufacture and Importation of Matches made with White Phosphorus.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

PROHIBITION OF OPIUM.

House in committee to consider the following proposed resolution:—

Resolved, that it is expedient, in connection with Bill 22 now before this House, to provide for the prohibition of the importation, manufacture, sale and use of opium for other than scientific and medicinal purposes; to empower magistrates to grant warrants, to search for opium in any place in which it is suspected that opium may be found, and to authorize the destruction thereof; to provide penalties for violations of the Act; and to empower the Governor in Council to make such regulations as are necessary.

Resolution reported, read the first and second time, and concurred in.

Mr. KING moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 97, to prohibit the Importation,