

Mr. R. L. BORDEN (Halifax). We should give the hon. gentleman (Mr. Maclaren, Huntingdon) every possible facility to introduce the motion and if I intervene it is only with the desire to have the proceedings of the House absolutely regular. It would seem to me that either one of two things must be concluded, that the hon. gentleman should have introduced his motion when motions were called or that the order paper should have been amended so that when the motion was called it would correspond with the motion which the hon. gentleman makes. I think that would logically follow from the rules of the House. I am not saying this with the slightest desire to prevent my hon. friend from proceeding with the resolution because I am desirous that he should have an opportunity to do so, but it is desirable that we should follow the rules of the House in reference to this resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER. If any violation of the rules has taken place it has been in printing on the order paper the notice of motion which the hon. gentleman (Mr. Maclaren, Huntingdon) gave the other day. That is the only error as far as I can see.

Mr. M. K. RICHARDSON (South Grey). Mr. Speaker, in rising to second the resolution which has been moved and so ably supported by the hon. member for Huntingdon, (Mr. Maclaren) I recognize the fact that the subject which is brought to the attention of the House is one of a unique character differing from those which ordinarily occupy the attention of the House. It is a question which rises above the din and the dust of ordinary partisan political strife; one which makes for the highest well-being of this country for the present and for the future. This resolution appeals to our highest instincts. If the cigarette habit is the evil which we believe it is; it is an evil that demands a prompt and effective remedy. I recognize that the application of a remedy presents difficulties, but I believe that the difficulties are not insuperable. I do not believe, that they can prevent legislation doing away with the evil as it at present exists. I myself am a non-user of tobacco in any form. I do not, however, presume to make an attack on the use of tobacco in general, because I recognize that many of my own friends whom I esteem very highly use it, and I have every occasion to respect these gentlemen for their mental and intellectual attainments; for their good judgment and for their manly qualities. Were I to attack a habit to which these friends of mine are addicted, I might be regarded as one of those who

Compound for sins they are inclined to  
By damning those they have no mind to,

I may be asked, why I should favour legislation not only of a restrictive character,  
The SPEAKER.

but of a prohibitive character as this resolution proposes. The objection has been taken in this House often, that prohibitory legislation is generally ineffective and is vicious in its character. But as has been wisely observed by the member for Huntingdon (Mr. Maclaren) we find prohibition in every page of our statute-book. All law, human and divine, has in it more or less the character of prohibition. Thou shalt not, is written in the Divine Law and we, putting it in other words say, that the citizen shall not do so and so without rendering himself liable to certain penalties. A good deal is said about liberty; a good deal is said about interfering with the liberty of private judgment in matters pertaining to personal habits. Let us ask, what is liberty? There are many different notions as to what liberty consists of. I believe, Sir, that all liberty is law, because liberty is protected and ensured by law, and being so ensured and protected by law, then law is liberty in its highest form. Then, Sir, we need to cast aside that bugbear of interference with personal liberty. We know that the very foundation of society essentially interferes to some extent with personal and private liberty. I believe that this resolution will meet with the support of men who use tobacco in certain forms; men of high, noble, wide, liberal patriotic views, who recognize that this is a great evil which demands a drastic remedy. I believe that there are thousands of men in this country who now use cigarettes, and who would be willing to make some small sacrifice for the general well-being of the nation. The law of self-sacrifice appeals to the highest characteristics of humanity. Only by self-sacrifice can the highest ideals of life be obtained, and all the blessings which have been conferred by mankind on society, have something more or less of the character, of self-sacrifice. What do we admire most in the statesman who gives his life's efforts, and the best of his abilities, mental and physical to the well-being of his country? We admire most in that man his spirit of self-sacrifice. We admire and revere men and women in every walk of life who are willing to subordinate their own habits for the general good of their fellow creatures. It may be asked, is this evil as great as it is represented to be; does it really exist to the extent we have been told; are we to believe or are we to discard the expert evidence which has been adduced again and again to prove that it is an evil and an evil that is widespread in our country? We have the evidence of medical men; we have the evidence of men engaged in education; we have the evidence of men in charge of public institutions such as asylums and hospitals; we have the evidence of men in large business enterprises; we have the evidence of men in various walks of life, that the use of cigarettes is an evil and an evil which is widespread. I may be excused if I adduce some