

Mr. OLIVER: 'Let us dash away and spend the public money.' It may be that the hon. member from Prince Edward Island did not use these words.

Mr. HAZEN: Who alleges that he did?

Mr. OLIVER: The Globe alleges that he did. Its authority should be sufficient to warrant us in drawing attention to the statement. If the Globe has made a mis-statement, it certainly should be corrected. If the Globe has made a correct statement, then 'Hansard' should be corrected.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is not permissible to bring into the House a publication or paper contradicting a statement of any member. In my judgment, however, it would be quite proper to draw attention to the matter so that the 'Hansard' staff might be communicated with to ascertain whether they gave a verbatim report according to what they heard in the House.

Mr. OLIVER: That would be my desire.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: I have heard it rumoured that the 'Hansard' report was corrected in that regard by the member. If that is so, it is a matter which ought to be brought to the attention of the House, and on which the Debates Committee should take immediate action.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will refer the matter to the Debates Committee.

#### DOMINION ELECTIONS ACT AMENDMENT.

Mr. J. H. BURNHAM (Peterborough West) moved second reading of Bill No. 2, to amend the Dominion Elections Act. He said: This Bill is not at all of a revolutionary character, but proposes to amend the Dominion Elections Act so as to bring it into conformity with the spirit of that Act. It will be noticed that by subsection 2 of section 8 of the Dominion Elections Act, being chapter 6 of the Revised Statutes of Canada of 1906, the lists are based upon the provincial voters' lists; that is to say, the provincial voters' lists are adopted, and they shall be, as far as possible, observed and followed. That is the spirit of the qualification necessary to entitle any person to vote in a Dominion election. Section 96, however, which deals with deposits at elections, does not carry out the spirit of the rest of the Act, but requires that there shall be a deposit, no matter what the law is in any particular province. This Bill proposes to amend

[Mr. Carvell.]

that and to bring the Dominion Elections Act automatically into conformity with the provincial Act, as it is or is supposed to be in all other respects. That is to say, in a province where no deposit is required by a parliamentary candidate in a provincial election, there shall be no deposit required in a Dominion election; and in a province where there is a deposit or some modification of it required in a provincial election, the Dominion Act shall automatically conform with that also.

This matter, while apparently not of vast importance, is really of importance, in principle at least, to a great many people. I am speaking by the book when I say that the representatives of 100,000 workmen of Canada have requested that at least this measure of reform should be adopted. I am also able to say that a vast majority of the journals of this country have approved of this amendment. This Bill follows strictly the Dominion Elections Act in this respect, and is advancing by slow degrees into conformity with and not as at present in violation of the Dominion Elections Act.

Hon. C. J. DOHERTY (Minister of Justice): The proposition of this Bill is not that this Parliament should determine for itself whether, as qualifying a person to present himself as a candidate for election as a member of this House, he should be required to make a deposit or not; the proposition is that we should legislate that, whatever the provinces desire for their respective elections with regard to this question of making a deposit, shall govern with regard to the Dominion election. If I understand the hon. member rightly, he says that that is in accordance with the spirit of the Dominion Elections Act generally, because we under the present system accept the voters' lists as prepared under provincial legislation. I think that the two matters are perfectly distinct. I am prepared to concede that there might be a good deal to be said in favour of the idea of this Government undertaking to determine the matter of the franchise or right to vote but I am not concerned with that for the moment. I would point out that it does not necessarily follow that, because our legislation accepts for use in Dominion elections the voters' lists as prepared by the different provinces, in order to be consistent we should also determine that the qualifica-