

cigarette smoking, more particularly on those of tender years; but I will quote for you opinions of those who have made a study of this matter. In selecting opinions regarding the evil effects of cigarette smoking, I have tried as far as possible to select them from people that I know something about myself, believing they will have more weight upon the House than the opinions drawn from foreign sources. I propose to deal with these opinions under three different heads. The first class comprises the opinions of people who are engaged in education in this country.

I will read first a statement from Mr. F. J. Johnston, M.A., assistant master, Richmond high school, Ont.

After a few years observation it is my firm conviction that the cigarette is not only injurious to the system, but is also demoralizing in its tendency. A vigorous crusade against the habit should be welcomed by every one who is interested in young Canadians.

Rev. Frank W. Gunsaulus, D.D., president of Armour Institute, Chicago, Ill., U.S.A., says:

I do not believe there is an agency more destructive of soul, mind and body, or more subversive of good morals, than the cigarette. The fight against the cigarette is a fight for civilization. This is my judgment as an educator.

Dr. C. A. Clinton, of the San Francisco Board of Education, has made a special study of the effect of cigarette smoking among the public school children of that city, and expresses himself in the following unmistakable language:

A good deal has been said about the evils of cigarette smoking, but one-half the truth has never been told. I have watched this thing for a long time, and I say calmly and deliberately that I believe cigarette smoking is as bad a habit as opium smoking. I am talking now of boys, remember. The effect upon grown men is, of course, not so marked.

These are opinions of gentlemen who are engaged in the education of the youth, and who know something of the effect of cigarette smoking upon boys particularly those who are attending school. I will now give you something from a medical standpoint, and I will first quote the opinion of Sir Wm. Hingston, of Montreal, a senator of this Dominion, one whom everybody knows:

'To youth generally, hurtful, sometimes disastrous, never beneficial.' When asked in what way or on what organs, replied, 'the digestive, nervous, and circulatory, chiefly.'

Dr. Sheard, medical health officer, expressed a most emphatic opinion on the injurious effects of cigarette smoking:

'You can say that the whole trend of medical opinion is diametrically opposed to boys smoking cigarettes,' said he. Dr. Sheard described how the cigarette got in its deadly work, exciting certain functions and nerves at the most critical period in a youth's existence, giving him

illusions which he should never have. 'Such a youth,' said the medical health officer, 'is next door to an insane asylum. I can give you case after case where the cigarette has got in its work with ruinous effect.'

Dr. Benjamin King, of Philadelphia, who was a military examiner in four states during the war of rebellion, has given this testimony:

I have been inspecting the papers in a number of cases under the present recruiting Act (Spanish American War) and I observe that most of the men who failed to pass the medical examination have weak hearts or lack the vitality necessary to make a good soldier. I had expected that the percentage of rejections would be greater now than in 1861, but I did not dream for a moment that it would be about three times as great. The examining physicians with whom I have talked have generally told me that the excess of rejections is due to the large number of young men applying for enlistment who have become victims of the cigarette habit.

Now we find a good many large employers of labour taking up this question, more particularly in the United States, and are refusing to have boys in their employ who are confirmed cigarette smokers. I find this statement issued by the chief of the United States weather bureau:

Since our cigarette order was issued many business concerns in Chicago have taken the same course as that taken by the Weather Bureau. Cigarette smoking is not permitted in the office of the Board of Education; Montgomery Ward & Co. have refused to employ boys addicted to the cigarette habit; Marshall, Field & Co. now provide bi-monthly lectures on the evils of the practice for the benefit of their employees, believing the physical energy and mental acuteness of their working force are injured by the use of the cigarette.

In an interview with President Harriman, of the Union Pacific Board, he is quoted as saying that the new rule has been found necessary, because cigarette users become 'dopy' and worthless. He said that the company might just as well go to the county lunatic asylum for its employees as to retain cigarette smokers in its service at big salaries. When our boys and young men begin to realize that the use of cigarettes erects a barrier in their path of promotion in business, it may be they will come to their senses and abandon the offensive habit.

The action of the officials of the Rock Island Road in placing a ban on cigarette smoking on the part of employees will not fail to impress the public mind with the fact that the movement against the cigarette is one of business and not of sentiment.

Here is a quotation from the Farmers' 'Advocate,' of London, Ont.:

Acts like that in Ontario, against the sale of tobacco to minors, have been found to be practically inoperative.

In Canada in 1900 there were consumed 116 million cigarettes, 121 millions in 1901, and 134 millions in 1902, so that the habit is increasing with frightful rapidity. Productive of evil, and only evil, and without a single redeeming feature, the manufacture, importation and sale of the cigarette should be absolutely prohibited