

Mrs. —, residing at — worked in match factory for some years, and left on the advice of Dr. — fourteen years ago. Before leaving, she had fourteen teeth extracted, and was under medical and surgical treatment for a year. The doctor who attended this case states this woman contracted phosphorus poisoning in the match factory some years ago, but has been cured.

Miss —, aged 28 years, residing with her parents at —.

The following brief statement was given by her mother.

She commenced to work in the match factory at the age of fourteen. Two years ago she had two teeth extracted by Dr. —, when a piece of the jawbone was removed. Dr. — was consulted and he advised 'that she discontinue working in the fumes, as she was too weak to counteract its influence.' Her face is still inflamed and swollen, but her mother does not anticipate any serious results.

The doctor who removed a portion of this young woman's jawbone states that the cause of her trouble was phosphorus poisoning.

Miss —, aged 32 years, residing at —, stated herself that she had worked in the match factory for eighteen years; that for four years she was sick and unable to work. During this time she was operated upon at — and — hospitals, —, and at — hospital, —. She had worked only a few years in the match factory when her teeth began to loosen and ache. At one period of her illness her whole lower jawbone was removed. All her teeth have been extracted. It is twelve years since the last operation was performed, but the left side of her face is still inflamed and swollen. She has suffered more or less during all these years.'

Mr. —, residing at —, states that he worked for twenty years in the match factory at —; that he has had all his teeth extracted. About five or six years ago ulceration of the jaw commenced, and his teeth one after another, although perfectly sound, loosened and had to be removed. He was treated at — hospital, —, where he had five operations performed on the jawbones, and finally the entire lower jaw was removed. He was sick and unable to work for seven months. The surgeon who performed the operations told him that the cause of his trouble was due to phosphorus poisoning contracted in the match factory. He says he has great difficulty in masticating his food, being unable to eat anything of a solid substance. This man gave the names of three other men, employees of the same factory, whom he stated had been attacked with necrosis of the jaw. About four years ago a man had to have both upper and lower jawbones removed. Another man lost the left half of the lower jaw, including the ear. Another man named —, died, he says, from the effects of phosphorus poisoning.

Miss —, aged 41, residing at —, stated that she was employed in the match factory for a great many years. About thirteen years ago her teeth began to loosen, and she had a number of them extracted. About the same time she had portions of the lower jawbone taken out. After that the ulceration

continued, and affected her whole face. Dr. — performed a number of operations, finally removing the whole lower jawbone. These operations were performed at her home. She was confined to bed for four years, and for two years the suffering was so intense that opiates had to be administered. She recovered sufficiently to return to work, although she suffered afterwards from inflammation of the jaw. About three months ago she had all the remaining teeth in the upper jaw, thirteen in number, removed, and her face is still swollen. Her health has suffered on account of her being unable to masticate her food. This woman stated that during her illness portions of her jawbone became so ulcerated that they were removed by herself without the aid of the surgeon.'

Miss —, aged 46 years, residing at —, states that she worked in the match factory for 17 years, though it is now six years since she worked there. She had worked in the factory for 10 years before she felt the effects of the poison. For two years before she finally ceased work there she had suffered a great deal from toothache and ulceration of the jaw, and was ignorant of the true nature of the disease she was suffering from. Dr. — was her physician. She was confined to bed for two years. She had all her teeth extracted, and both upper and lower jawbones removed, necessitating many operations. She had never been admitted to a hospital, the operations being performed at her home. Her face is very much disfigured. As a result of the disease she has a hole under her chin which penetrates the mouth. Fluid taken into the mouth escapes through this hole unless prevented by holding the ball of the thumb under the chin, covering the hole. She says her health generally is poor; that at the time of her illness the pain was so great that she lost her reason for a while. She could remember cases of phosphorus poisoning in the match factory during her term of employment. She also stated that her mother had died from effects of blood poisoning while she was nursing her through her illness.

Dr. —, who attended this woman, was interviewed in reference to this case. He said it was a bad case of phosphorus poisoning, and it was almost miraculous that the woman survived all the suffering she had endured.

The report concludes by making mention of one or two other recent cases of phosphorus poisoning, of which an account was given by the physicians who attended the same.

When I read that report I hardly believed the statements that were made in it, and I decided that before I would mention the subject in this House I would verify the statements myself. The two last cases, I think, were about as bad as any reported in the list, so I went to the homes of these people myself and had a conversation with them. I will vouch from personal observation for the truth of every statement that is contained in the account of the two last cases I have read. One of the women I talked with had both of her jaws removed entirely and had the abscesses in her mouth to which I made reference. The bones taken from that woman's face are at the present

Mr. KING.