

ing of a very sad thing, but of a very true thing, and I say that the great majority of our young Canadians below the fifth year are dying for the want of proper knowledge, and I have a very strong conviction that it is the duty of the government to instruct the people in the proper way to rear their young. I was reading the other day of a large amount of expense that was gone to—and properly gone to—to prevent the death of cattle down in Pictou county from a weed that grew there. This government sent a veterinary surgeon all the way down there to investigate and save the lives of these cattle. There have been thousands and thousands of volumes issued this year, properly and rightly so, by Dr. Rutherford on 'The conservation of the health of domestic animals.' I would like to know how much has been expended by the government on the conservation of the health of our babies. There is more money spent by the government in properly raising a bull calf than in raising a baby boy. I do not know that this has very much to do with the question of cigarette smoking, but I could not help saying it. I would join with the hon. gentleman who gave notice of that motion in anything that I thought would be feasible, but I do not think that what he has embraced in it would be altogether feasible. I do not think we can prevent the importation of tobacco or cigarettes. I do not think we can really prevent the sale of them. I do not think we can prevent the manufacture of them, because the manufacture of them is so extremely simple that any child can learn in a day or two to roll up a cigarette for himself in the most perfect manner. Indeed, those of us who have ever gone to Cuba or been with Cubans know the dexterity with which the Cuban, in a moment, pulls out his packet of papers, puts the tobacco on the paper and rolls it and then it is only a moment until he has it lighted and in his mouth. I do not think that any law can prevent the manufacture of cigarettes. I think that surely some master mind can invent some way by which this evil can be lessened.

Mr. A. BRODER (Dundas). I think it is quite evident from what has already come out in the debate that the longer the question is delayed the more difficult it will be to deal with it. I am not an advocate of the theory that the old man should sow the wild oats for himself and the boy too. That is about the argument that has been used by some hon. gentlemen who say: Oh, the old man must get his cigarettes and the boy must run the risk. I think we ought to give the boy a handful of wild oats once in a while and I do not see why it should not be possible that the older people should make some sacrifice in the interest of the young. I believe it is difficult, as has al-

ready been said, to teach the boy in the parlour that he must not smoke, while the old man is smoking in the kitchen. The boy is an imitator and the argument that the father uses to the boy that he must not smoke while he himself is smoking has not much weight with the boy. I once heard of a reverend gentleman who chastised his boy for having his eyes open while the reverend gentleman was having family prayer. The young lad asked: How did you see me if your own eyes were shut? The boy wants to know why you are doing it if it is wrong for him to do it. I can quite understand the difficulties surrounding this question and the difficulty that there is in dealing with it, but no man can shut his eyes to the fact that the youths of this country are being very seriously injured not alone by the use of cigarettes, but by the use of tobacco generally. I read some few years ago a report made by a board connected with the schools in France which found that in these schools which were getting large public aid a great many of the pupils were not making the progress they should make. An investigation was instituted and they found that in nearly every case where boys were not making the headway they should in the schools they were using tobacco. That was several years ago. I do not think there is any use in talking of the injury that follows the use of tobacco, but the question before the House is whether or not it is possible to deal effectively with this question. I do not think the resolution should call upon this House to deal with it this session, because I do not believe that a Bill of that sort, having the proper scope to deal with this matter effectively, should be brought in and put upon the statute-book hurriedly.

I believe the matter ought to be thoroughly canvassed before it is dealt with, and then it should be dealt with in the most intelligent way. It is quite easy to say that you can put a law upon the statute-book prohibiting a boy from buying cigarettes or prohibiting the vendor selling to a boy, but I know that in my village where we have such a prohibition, the elder boys buy the cigarettes and distribute them among the minors. They get around the law in that way and they are likely to do it more or less no matter what law may be passed. However, any law that proposes to deal effectively with this question, shall have my hearty support, no matter from what quarter it emanates.

Mr. J. B. KENNEDY (New Westminster). I am heartily in sympathy with the spirit of this resolution, but judging from some letters I have received from members of the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Ontario, I am afraid that those who are interested in working along this line, have not been consulted on this occasion. I understand it was their intention to have a Bill