

chief done by tea and coffee is exceeded only by the harm caused by alcohol and tobacco. Tea and coffee are baneful drugs and their sale and use ought to be prohibited by law.

Superintendent Barnes and Superintendent Kellogg have very divergent views. Perhaps "There's-a-Reason."

What the people want to know from the medical profession about coffee, tea, alcohol and tobacco is the maximum quantity which can be partaken of daily without injury to their economies. There will always be some who will abstain from one, two, three or the whole all the time; and it is equally true there will always be some who will partake of one, two, three or four for all time. The total abstinensians want no scientific knowledge upon the subject. The others want to know what quantity can be consumed without danger to themselves or their progeny.

The Massacre of the Tonsil, published in full on other pages of this issue, is so sane, so timely, and so important in its pronouncements that it is adjudged worthy of reproduction so as to give it as wide circulation as possible.

Coming from an undoubted, authoritative source at a time when medical inspectors, many practitioners and others have gone mad with an insane desire to rip the tonsil up the back, no matter what the cost, it cannot fail to make a profound impression upon all, and, indeed, upon those even who would harass, fine and imprison people who would fail to bow down and worship this golden calf of latter-day surgery.

Whilst laying no claim to any extended or far-reaching observations upon tonsil disease, there must be many practitioners of medicine who have, time and again, seen many tonsils right themselves as time went by under simple treatment. There must be many, too, who have often treated diseased tonsils successfully without hasty reference to the surgeon's hands, and had the joy of seeing them restored to their natural functions, whatever they may be, without running the danger to life and other diseases which these operations assuredly entail.

It was high time someone called a halt, and it is exceedingly satisfactory that the call has issued from one so eminently qualified by knowledge, experience and position.

The pronouncement has been deemed so important by the Editor of the *Maryland Medical Journal* as to call for reproduction in its September issue, an almost unheard-of proceeding in the history of medical journalism.