

caries—tobacco chewers are especially free from caries ; but there is the objection that it stains the dentine wherever exposed. Many in our own ranks use it. I think it is one of our duties to curb the habit in the young as much as possible, where we have a chance of doing so. Wherever I find a youngster smoking cigarettes, I try to give a warning, and if under age threaten him, because dealers are not allowed to sell to boys under sixteen years. Sometimes the effect has been good and the youngsters have abstained for a time at least. I do not think to a mature person, the smoking of an occasional cigar is injurious and, when a man is in the habit of smoking, after a heavy meal it is quite soothing to sit down to a pipe ; but I do detest and abhor this spitting around everywhere. I do not see why a man should desire to see how big a mark he can make on the floor or sidewalk.

Dr. F. A. GODSOE, St. John, N.B.—I do not want in any way to criticise this paper, because I do not think anyone can possibly do so ; it is a paper of which you should feel proud. It could not but be forcibly impressed upon our minds as true in almost every respect, and I for one think the effects of tobacco upon the system are not what we should desire. I am a user of the weed myself ; but during the day-time, unless I am upon a holiday, I never feel disposed to use it ; but I do at night, and find a great deal of recreation, especially when alone. Our friend, Dr. Cates, says he will be one to form an anti-tobacco society and give it up. He has been a habitual smoker for many years, and if it has a disastrous effect upon his constitution, it certainly might have such upon mine. For myself, Mr. President, just at present I do not feel disposed to join such a society. I tell you the plain truth when I tell you I enjoy a smoke. I do not indulge in it to such an extent that I think it has an injurious effect upon me. It may come gradually as to effecting absorption of the gums, which you speak of there. I have seen cases where teeth were, as I took them to be, preserved by the use of tobacco, as far as caries was concerned. In the same mouths where you find this parboiling, I have also found the palatine portion of the molars thickly covered with tobacco and there has been shrinking of the gums to a great extent. I always attributed it to pyorrhœa alveolaris and found on examination of these roots I could bring away a great deal of calculus. I could not for a moment consider tobacco was the real cause of raising of these gums. The spongy condition of which you speak, I have found. I have also seen the roof of the mouth in the condition of which you speak in heavy smokers. I deplore the habit of standing on street corners and filling the sidewalks with tobacco juice so that ladies cannot pass ; but I do not think the members of the dental societies in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island would be guilty of such a habit.

My object when I got on the floor was simply to ask if the time