

Q. We have our chairman here, who does not smoke?—A. He is much better without it. Any man is better off if he does not smoke.

*By Mr. Charlton:*

Q. You say you agree that any man who does not smoke is better for it?—A. I think if tobacco could be wiped off the face of the earth it would be better for the earth.

*By Mr. Morphy:*

Q. What would you put in its place?—A. Nothing. No man is benefited by the use of tobacco.

Witness discharged.

Dr. GEORGE VILLENEUVE, SWORN.

*By the Chairman:*

You are superintendent of the Longue Pointe Asylum?—A. Yes, I am superintendent of l'Hopital St. Jean de Dieu, commonly called Longue Pointe Hospital.

*By the Hon. Mr. Lemieux:*

Q. And Dean of Laval Medical Faculty?—A. Just now, I am dean. I am professor of mental and nervous diseases in the faculty, and during the absence of the dean I have been acting in his place.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. How long have you acted as superintendent?—A. Twenty years on the 4th of February of the present year.

Q. The witnesses have been making a statement without questions and then questions have followed. If you care to do that perhaps it would be easier.—A. I understand that the Committee requested my presence to find out, as I am superintendent of an insane hospital, what would be the connection between tobacco and the intelligence, and especially the influence of cigarettes upon the system. Since January 1, 1894, up to December 31, 1913, I admitted into the hospital 8,489 cases about equally divided between men and women; and on looking closely into my records, and discussing the matter with the medical staff, we find that among the women tobacco did not enter into any account. We received perhaps five or six women who smoked, old country women smoking pipes, and perhaps we had about two women smoking cigarettes, but the cigarettes had nothing to do with their mental condition, which was due to other causes, especially cocaine and morphine. Among the men, who cover about half of the other cases, we cannot attribute insanity directly to the excessive use of cigarettes and no other cause in more than five cases out of the total number.

*By Mr. Proulx:*

Q. Were they young or elderly people?—A. They were young people, between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one.

*By Mr. Kyte:*

Q. How do you arrive at the conclusion that their condition was due to cigarette smoking?—A. Because they were addicted to the excessive use of cigarettes; there was no other cause, and because the character of their disease had the appearance of what we call intoxication. Thus we came positively to the conclusion that it was due to no other cause but excessive cigarette smoking.

*By Mr. Schaffner:*

Q. How often do you get the real cause of insanity?—A. In every case we examine very thoroughly the physical and mental condition of the patient, we study