

Ayer's Sarsaparilla Company, Lowell, Massachusetts, employs hundreds of boys. March 1, 1902—Believing that the smoking of cigarettes is injurious to both mind and body, thereby unfitting young men for their best work—therefore, after this date, we will not employ any young man under twenty-one years of age who smokes cigarettes.

John Wanamaker's.—The application blank to be filled out by boys applying for a position reads:

Do you use tobacco or cigarettes? A negative answer is expected, and is favourable to their acceptance as employees.

Western Union Telegraph Company will discharge from their employ messenger service boys who persist in smoking cigarettes.

Northwestern University Academy.—Dr. Fisk has asked all pupils who will not give up cigarettes to leave. Last year not one of the boys who used tobacco stood in the first rank of scholarship. Careful observation has convinced me that tobacco is largely responsible for low rank in scholarship.

I quote the following letter addressed to the editor of the 'Lancet,' the foremost medical journal in Great Britain, on the danger of inhaling cigarette smoke:

Poisoning by the inhalation of cigarette smoke. To the editors of the 'Lancet':

Sirs,—In papers read some years ago before the Bolton and District Medical Society, and the Lancashire and Cheshire branch of the British Medical Association, I drew attention to and described some work I had done on this subject on the suggestion of Mr. Gibson Dyson, Ph.D. It was pointed out that the habit of inhalation rendered the cigarette the most dangerous form in which tobacco can be enjoyed. It was also pointed out that the connection of carbonic oxide with the evils attending the habitual inhalation of cigarette smoke hitherto had been overlooked, and it was further suggested that the enormous amount of damage inflicted by this vice on the younger members of the community constituted a national danger, and some means should be adopted to minimize or put an end to it.

I am, sirs,

Yours faithfully,

J. HILTON THOMPSON, M.D.,
Vict.

Dated Bolton, January 26, 1904.

I quote from an article in 'Chamber's Journal' the following:

It is no exaggeration to say that this new habit of inhaling the smoke of cigarettes—a habit which has only come into vogue in this country during the last few years, and which in the next few will inevitably tell a great tale upon the mental and bodily capacity of the nation—more quickly obtains a strong hold upon those who give way to it than any other habit which has for its object the gratification of the senses in one way or another.

It is now perfectly safe to assume that, whilst a smoker of only twenty or thirty cigarettes a week may or may not inhale—probably does not—every man who gets through more than a dozen in a day almost certainly does; otherwise the insipidity or nicotine taken in this form would very quickly pall upon him, and such a consumption would be

impossible. The man who is fond of his pipe, and has not learnt to inhale, is always more than satisfied with half-a-dozen cigarettes in a day, and cannot see any sense in smoking them. On the other hand, the confirmed inhaler, who has abandoned himself entirely to the habit, thinks nothing of forty in a day; surprising as it may seem to the uninitiated, it is by no means an uncommon thing for such a man to smoke as many as seventy, and I have even known this figure to be exceeded. Of course, the cigarettes are not smoked outright; as soon as the nicotine which collects at the lip-end begins to taste strongly the man who inhales rejects it, and lights a fresh one from the burning end.

I shall also quote the following letter, which is also published in the 'Lancet':

The cigarette craze.

To the editor of the 'Lancet':

I have had twenty-three years consecutive experience in the tobacco trade, as manufacturer and retailer, I have the pleasure of numbering among my clients many medical men, mostly cigarette smokers, and I have watched with interest how their purchase of cigarettes nearly always increase. As an example, one doctor returned from South Africa about a year ago and smoked about ten Virginian cigarettes daily. He now purchases and smokes fifty Turkish cigarettes daily. His appearance is deplorable, having all the pinched ghastly looks of an opium smoker, plus dull reddish eyes and shaking hands. My firm conviction regarding the insidious effect of cigarette smoking is that the cigarette does not nauseate, hence the appetite is never satisfied. Pipe smokers will agree with me that in most cases after smoking two or three consecutive pipes the tobacco appetite is satisfied, but never in the cigarette smoker.

In view of these expressions of opinions from those who have studied the question, whatever difference of opinion may exist among the members of this House as to the best mode of putting an end to cigarette smoking among our Canadian youth, we must all agree that it is a great evil. When we remember that this evil is growing in Canada, I believe that there is hardly any other question which can come before us of greater urgency than the devising of means to prevent our youths indulging in cigarette smoking. We are spending millions of money to bring settlers from other lands, but what avails it all if we continue to allow this deadly evil to sap the lives of our own Canadian youths who ought to be our best hope for the development of Canada. The right hon. gentleman. I am sure, is always anxious to have behind him public opinion. Upon that point I am offering no complaint. I would like to direct his attention to the fact that behind him in this country he has an overwhelming public opinion in favour of placing upon the statute-books this session a Bill to prohibit the manufacture, importation and sale of cigarettes. It may be that in some provinces the feeling would not be