

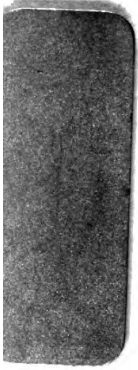
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The Case Against the Little White Slaver



Volumes 1 and 2

COMPLIMENTS OF
HENRY FORD
DUBLIN, IRELAND



The Case Against the Little White Slaver

Volume I

**Bentley Historical
Library
University of Michigan**

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HENRY FORD
Detroit, Mich.
1914**

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Detroit, Mich.**

TO MY FRIEND, THE AMERICAN BOY

While spending some time in Florida with Mr. Thomas A. Edison, the noted electrical genius, and Mr. John Burroughs, the eminent naturalist, the question of cigarette smoking and its evil effects, particularly upon boys and young men, came up for discussion.

Mr. Edison advanced some pronounced views in condemnation of the cigarette. For several years he had been experimenting with combustion of various substances for the purpose of discovering a suitable filament for use in incandescent lamps, and it was during this research that the harmful effects of acrolein were observed. I asked Mr. Edison to put his conclusions in writing. He did so, and the letter is herewith reproduced in facsimile.

Following receipt of this letter I authorized an interview in which I went squarely on record as opposed to cigarettes, making it plain that "I do not feel called upon to try to reform any person over 25 years of age because by that time the habit has been formed. Then it is only a question of the strength of will or mind of the smoker which will enable him to stop. He knows the injurious effects and controls his own destiny.

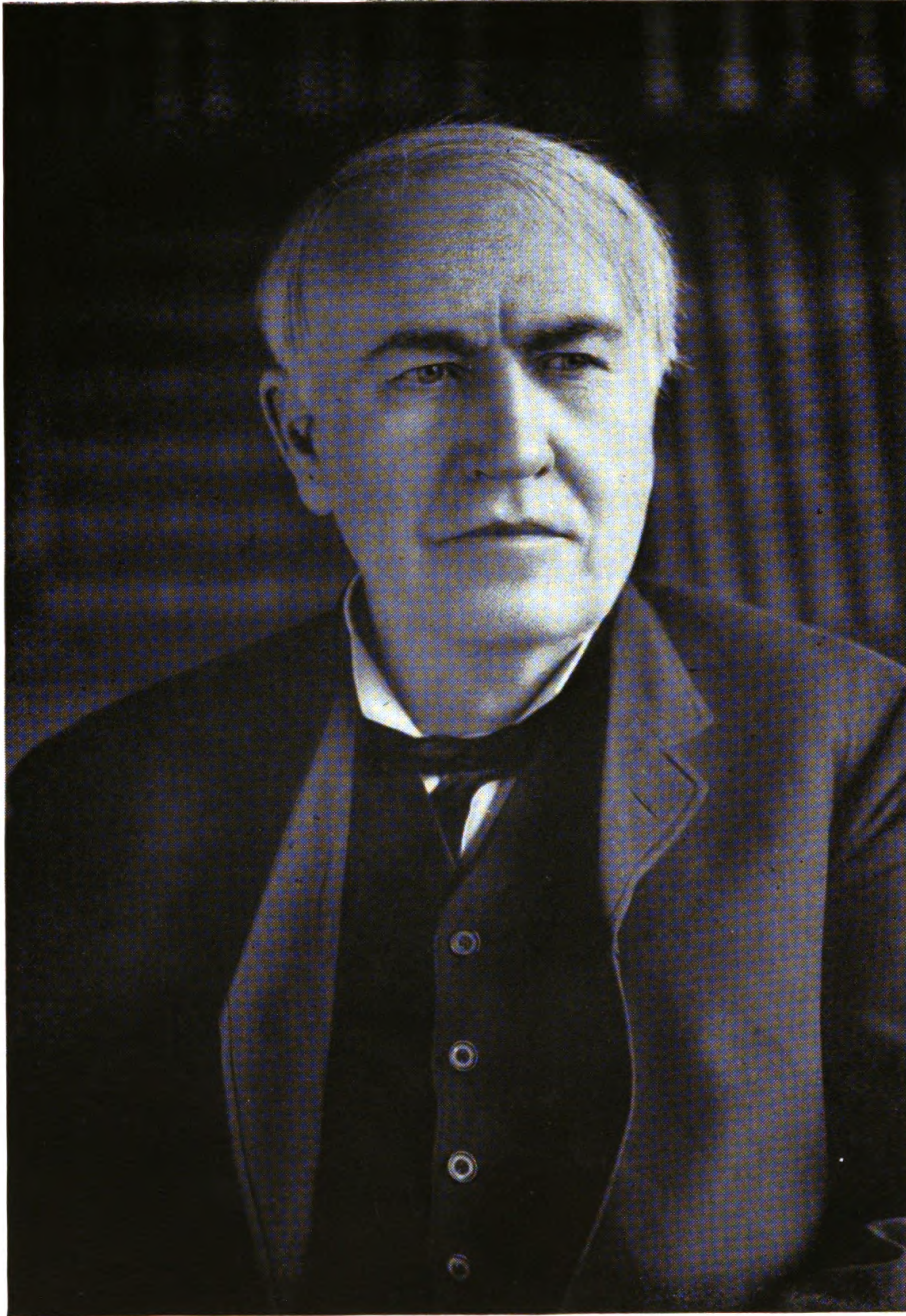
"With the boys it is a different matter. Most boys are told to refrain from many things. Seldom are they given a reason. Boys must be educated so they will know why cigarettes are bad for them.

"If you will study the history of almost any criminal you will find that he is an inveterate cigarette smoker. Boys, through cigarettes, train with bad company. They go with other smokers to the pool rooms and saloons. The cigarette drags them down. Hence if we can educate them to the dangers of smoking we will perform a service."

Mr. Percival I. Hill, president of the American Tobacco Company, in a letter sent broadcast, challenged me to produce proof of assertions he charged me with making, he declaring among other things that "the scientific facts are all in favor of the cigarette;" "that it contains less nicotine than any other form of tobacco products; that it is absolutely pure; that the combustion of the paper is harmless in its effects on human physiology." I was challenged to either prove my contention or enable the manufacturers to disprove it; to give as much publicity to the retraction Mr. Hill felt certain would be forthcoming as was given to my "original unwarranted attacks."

I *do* not ask you to accept my word alone in this matter. I want you to read carefully Mr. Edison's letter, Mr. Hill's defense, and the opinions of doctors, judges, university instructors, athletes, etc.—a few selected at random from hundreds who have willingly testified. Then you will be in a position to judge for yourself whether "the scientific facts are all in favor of the cigarette;" whether you can afford to become a slave to a habit that a no less noted person than Hudson Maxim declares is "a maker of invalids, criminals and fools."

HENRY FORD.



Thomas A. Edison

MR. EDISON'S LETTER

"Hall's Address" Edison, New York"

*From the Laboratory
Thomas A. Edison,*

Orange, N.J. April 26 1914

Friend Ford

The injurious agent in Cigarettes comes principally from the burning paper wrapper. The substance thereby formed is called "Acrolem".

It has a violent action on the nerve centers, producing degeneration of the cells of the brain, which is quite rapid among boys.

Unlike most narcotics this degeneration is permanent and uncontrollable.

I employ no person who smokes Cigarettes.

Yours

Thos A Edison

MR. HILL'S DEFENSE

New York, May 17, 1914.

Mr. Henry Ford,
Detroit, Mich.

Dear Sir:—Statements relative to cigarettes, credited to yourself and Mr. Thomas A. Edison, have appeared in the newspapers recently.

These statements are erroneous and so misleading that in justice to the millions of intelligent men who use cigarettes we are compelled to resent your unjustified attack. Slander of the cigarette by parties of less prominence than yourself attracts no attention, certainly from us. Since your prominence and fame give your words greater weight than the words of men of no importance there is imposed upon you a corresponding responsibility to make no statement reflecting on a product—and one million of users of such product—without investigation and the certainty that comes from investigation.

The form of your statement is of a character that denies us an opportunity to demonstrate its falsity and to prove the harmlessness of our product in a court proceeding. If you see fit to make a statement of the harmful effect of any of our brands, in such form that being false it is libelous, we will be delighted to institute suit for damages, and will devote the proceeds to some designated charity.

The scientific facts are all in favor of the cigarette, and no man can change these facts because he personally prefers a pipe to a cigar or a stogie, or a chew of plug to a cigarette.

Several years ago it was quite the fashion to attack cigarettes. Lurid statements of the evils of cigarette smoking were circulated extensively by well intentioned, ignorant people, by notoriety seekers and thrifty legislators. Anti-cigarette bills swept through the assemblies of several states.

The agitation was such that medical men and other scientists undertook thorough examination of the cigarette. Everything in connection with cigarettes—the tobacco, the ingredients with which it is treated, the paper, even the printing on the paper—were analyzed by the ablest chemists in America and Europe. Packages of all the leading cigarettes were purchased in the open market by representatives of state and municipal health boards, medical journals and other investigators, and analyzed thoroughly by public and private chemists. Scores of such tests were made in practically every state in the union, in London, and, I believe, in various other European cities.

Every one of these investigations resulted in exactly the same act of finding, viz.: that the cigarette is absolutely pure; that it contains less nicotine than any other form of tobacco products; that the combination of the paper is harmless in its effect on the human physiology; that its temperate use is in no way injurious to normal users.

I am enclosing herewith extracts from the *London Lancet*, a famous British medical journal, which has been making examinations of tobacco since 1853. Also an extract from the *Medical Journal* of New York; also an extract written by Leonard K. Hirshberg, M. D., M. A., A. B., Johns Hopkins University, taken from an article in *Harper's Weekly* entitled "The Truth About Tobacco," in which he quotes Dr. Osler and other prominent authorities.

Pages of extracts from medical journals could be published and more pages could be filled with the statements of famous physicians and chemists, all of whom testify to the same general effect.

As a rule, attacks on cigarettes are so vague and indefinite that it is impossible for manufacturers to bring the slanderers to account. However, some years ago a prominent Chicago newspaper gave a manufacturer an opportunity for action, which he promptly embraced by suing the newspaper for libel. Scientific examinations were then made by the newspaper—which might have made them before publishing its falsehoods—and the cigarettes were found to be absolutely pure. The newspaper settled the libel suit out of court and published a retraction and apology in its own columns and in various other newspapers at its own expense.

Certain customs officials of Great Britain made a similar attack, and the manufacturers immediately called the matter to the attention of the government. The government, in its desire to be fair and unbiased, caused a complete scientific examination to be made by experts, with the result that a public retraction was authorized and made by the officials.

As the results of these various scientific investigations and court actions became known, and as doctors and thinking men generally came to study the cigarette carefully, the prejudice against it died out even more quickly than it had arisen.

Aside from the overwhelming weight of scientific testimony, common sense will convince any reasonable man that the cigarette is not injurious. That this must be true is proven by the number and types of men who use cigarettes. Unquestionably the cigarette is the favorite smoke of doctors in every city and large town throughout the country. Preachers, lawyers, bankers, business men, laboring men and men

of all classes have deliberately turned from cigar and pipe to the cigarette. Inasmuch as ten or twelve million American men use cigarettes, and perhaps even a larger percentage of Europeans, your charge of feeble-mindedness lies against an overwhelming proportion of the commercial, professional, artistic, musical and industrial world.

The increase of cigarette smoking in the United States in recent years is significant. In 1900 two billion six hundred thousand cigarettes were made in this country. In 1913, fifteen billion eight hundred million cigarettes were made here, an increase of 700 per cent.

This tremendous popularity, which is growing all the time, is possible only because millions of American men have convinced themselves that cigarettes are good for them.

If cigarette smoking is to be treated fairly, you must admit that the subject is one that can be discussed only as a matter of personal taste. You may or may not like cigarettes. That is, of course, the right of any man. But it is hardly wise to use one's personal likes and dislikes as a basis for declaring that several million men are feeble-minded—especially when that sweeping indictment is directed against thousands of doctors, lawyers, college professors, ministers, business men and other leaders in every department of thought and activity. Also, when one confuses his dislikes or likes with scientific facts he certainly can hardly be expected to be taken seriously.

You may exercise your personal privileges in liking or disliking anything, but you place yourself in an unfortunate light when you attempt to use your position as an employer of labor to coerce your employees into an agreement with your personal points of view. Americans cling tenaciously to the belief that they have the right to entire freedom of opinion and freedom of action so long as they do the work for which they are employed. The man who happens to be working in a factory has just as much right to his personal likes and dislikes as his employer; and the employee might as well resent any effort on the part of the man who happens to be at the time his superior in authority to tell him how he must regulate his personal private affairs.

In fairness to our industry, and in fairness to the millions of intelligent men who smoke cigarettes, you should either prove your contention or enable us as manufacturers to disprove it. We believe that upon investigation and reconsideration you will admit your error and give as much publicity to your retraction as you gave to your original unwarranted attacks.

Respectfully,

PERCIVAL I. HILL,
President The American Tobacco Company

REPLY TO MR. HILL BY MR. FORD'S SECRETARY

Mr. Percival I. Hill, President
The American Tobacco Co.
New York, N. Y.

Detroit, Mich.,
May 19, 1914.

Dear Sir:—Your letter of May 16, addressed to Mr. Ford received during his absence from the city, and, inasmuch as the matter mentioned therein has had the attention of the writer, I take the liberty to reply thereto.

Not being entirely familiar with the extent to which the newspapers have referred to our attitude on the cigarette, I am not in a position to qualify their statements, except to say that the interview referred to in the clipping enclosed was given out by the writer and will be defended.

Our efforts have not been directed against any manufacturer, nor against the tobacco industry; but primarily to prevent our youths from acquiring and continuing the cigarette habit.

That this practice is injurious, even to adults, is evident from your letter, which defends the cigarette if used only to a temperate extent by normal users.

That the smoking of cigarettes is injurious is further evidenced by the fact that reports from college and other educational institutions show that young men addicted to the cigarette habit seldom if ever lead in their studies.

I also call your attention to the statement of one of the magistrates in your city, who states that 99 per cent of the boys between the ages of 10 and 17, who come before him charged with crime have their fingers disfigured by cigarette stains.

If, as your letter indicates, scientists and others have thus far failed to find any injurious element in the cigarette, then we must laud Mr. Edison for being the first man to find the reason for the degenerative effect of cigarette smoking.

I doubt very much the statement you make in your letter that the popularity of the cigarette is possible only because millions of American men have convinced themselves that cigarettes are good for them, and would, therefore, ask you to point out what beneficial result has ever been experienced by anyone through indulgence in this habit.

It would appear that the statements contained in your letter are not of such a nature as to be for the benefit and uplift of our wayward lads, and in justice to the American youth who knows not what permanent injury accompanies this habit, this growing evil should be combatted.

Very truly yours,
E. G. LIEBOLD,
Secretary to Henry Ford

SOME SCIENTIFIC FACTS

Non-Smokers More Efficient

Dr. A. D. Bush, who enjoys a world-wide reputation as a physiologist, recently decided to conduct an investigation along the lines of tobacco smoking in its relation to mental efficiency. In its issue of May, 1914, *Efficiency Magazine* had this to say in regard to the results:

“As a result of a series of experiments by Dr. A. D. Bush, it has been ascertained that tobacco smoking causes a decrease of 10.5 per cent in mental efficiency. There was a series of 120 tests on each of fifteen men in several different psychic fields. The men who volunteered for the tests were all medical students ranging in age from 21 to 32 years, of varying previous experience, from the farm laborer to the life-long student. The mental capacity of the students varied from the failure to the honor student. The subjects were attendants at the University of Vermont, where Dr. Bush is an instructor in physiology.”

The Brain Acts More Slowly

As superintendent of Walnut Lodge Hospital, Inc., in Hartford, Conn., Dr. T. D. Crothers had exceptional opportunities for observing the effects of cigarette smoking. Here are some of his conclusions:

In young persons who begin on cigarettes there are always pronounced symptoms of poisoning, such as pallor and dullness of activity. The brain seems to act more slowly to outside impressions, and the reasoning is always more or less inaccurate; minute statements of events and capacity to carry out work that requires steadiness, accuracy and persistency is lacking.

Later there are distinct marks of palsy, twitching of the nerves of the face, absence of expression from loss of nerve force. In older persons these symptoms are not so prominent, but are all present in greater or less degree. I consider cigarette smoking the most dangerous because the products of combustion are drawn into the mouth directly and absorbed.

Loss of power, loss of control, diminished vitality and general inefficiency and profound weakness are almost certain to follow. Other diseases are invited, and show greater persistency and fatality. The one conclusion, to which there are no exceptions so far as we are able to determine, is that tobacco is a more or less dangerous narcotic to the senses and the

higher brain activities, and no person can be in complete possession of his faculties and power of control and exercise the highest efficiency possible who uses tobacco.

Nervous System is Paralyzed

For thirty years Selby A. Moran, of Ann Arbor, Michigan, has been a teacher of shorthand. He is recognized the country over as one of the most capable operators as well as an instructor of wide experience and exceptional attainments. This is what Mr. Moran has to say regarding cigarette smoking and the handicap it imposes on the young man and boy:

“During my experience, covering nearly a third of a century, I have yet to discover among the thousands of young men whom I have had in my classes a single instance where a young man who became a slave to the cigarette habit during his early years has ever been able to develop into more than a third or fourth-rate stenographer. Such people seem to have their nervous systems so paralyzed and their mental faculties so dulled or stunted, and the control of their physical organism so weakened, that it seems utterly impossible for them to become first-class stenographers, although in many cases I have known such young men to struggle heroically to fit themselves to do high-grade stenographic work. I recall many cases where the efforts of young men to overcome the stupefying effects of cigarette smoking have been pitiable. In every case the efforts of such pupils have resulted in failure. If this is true in the development of shorthand ability, it is undoubtedly true in every other kind of work where steady nerves, clear minds and physical skill are required.”

Cigarette Evil is Most Serious

As a principal of Eastern High School, Detroit, Mr. J. Remsen Bishop has each year had under him hundreds of youths who were at the formative stage. Here is how he regards cigarette smoking:

“Experience of many years, chiefly with boys between the ages of thirteen and nineteen, has persuaded me that of all the agencies which make for non-success in high-school work the cigarette evil is the most serious with which we have to deal.”

Makes Slaves of Boys

Writing in the *Scientific Temperance Journal*, Rev. Ozora S. Davis, D. D., president of Chicago Theological Seminary, says:

“The power of the cigarette habit is greater than we would be inclined to think. Boys in school who are in the clutch

of it become its slaves. They cannot put their minds on their work. They are incapable of remaining long without the stimulant of another cigarette. Their whole physical and moral condition is involved. This is the universal testimony of teachers, and it is something that is known to the writer from experience as a high school principal. The fetter of the cigarette habit becomes welded at last with a grip that no act of the weakened will alone can break. This is the terrible and tragic end of the matter in case after case. Boys think that they can smoke a little now and then when they please and that they can stop when they are ready to do so. They do not know that the very continuing of the use of cigarettes involves their wills so seriously that when they want to stop they cannot. This can be proven from every school in the country."

Smokers in Football Tryout

To the athletically inclined boy who enters college the greatest honor attainable is that of "making the team." With a view to ascertaining what effect, if any, smoking had on athletic fitness, Dr. Frederick J. Pack, of the University of Utah, gathered statistics from a number of colleges, selected at random, the football tryout being chosen as affording the best comparable evidence.

Twelve colleges and universities in all parts of the country supplied the facts, according to the *Scientific Temperance Journal*. A total of 210 men contested for positions on the first teams. Of the non-smokers 65.8 per cent were successful; of the smokers only 33.3 per cent were successful. This was not only true in the six institutions which furnished data about the tryout when taken as a total, but in each of the six the non-smokers far outstripped the smokers. In one institution not a single smoker obtained a place on the team.

Smoking Causes Lower Efficiency

Dr. Charles B. Towns, of New York, is a recognized authority on neurotics. He has for many years specialized in the treatment of nervous diseases. Recently he has been assisting Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, Sr., in her crusade against drug habits. Here is his estimate of the cigarette as expressed in an article in the *Century Magazine*:

"It is generally admitted that in the immature the moderate use of tobacco stunts the normal growth of the body and mind, and causes various nervous disturbances, especially of the heart—disturbances which it causes in later life only when smoking has become excessive. That is to say, though a boy's

stomach grows tolerant of nicotine to the extent of taking it without protest, the rest of the body keeps on protesting. Furthermore, all business men will tell you that tobacco damages a boy's usefulness in his work. This is necessarily so, since anything which lowers vitality creates some kind of incompetence. For the same reason, the boy who smokes excessively not only is unable to work vigorously, but he does not wish to work at all. If there were some instrument to determine it, in my opinion there would be seen a difference of fifteen per cent in the general efficiency of smokers and non-smokers. And despite the fact that cigarette smoking is the worst form of tobacco addiction, virtually all boys who smoke start with cigarettes."

What Dr. Wiley Has to Say

When Dr. Harvey W. Wiley was chief of the federal bureau of chemistry at Washington he had impure food and drug manufacturers on the run all the time. He is unquestionably the leading health and food authority in the United States to-day. Would you know his opinion of the cigarette?

"I commend Mr. Ford, Mr. Edison and all people who join them in efforts to curtail or restrict, obliterate or destroy the pernicious habit of cigarette smoking. The use of cigarettes is making inroads on the strength of the nerves of all who smoke them, especially boys of tender years or women who smoke them because they think that the practice is smart. The effect may not be so bad on people of more mature years, but not in any case, no matter how old a man or woman, is smoking helpful. Besides constituting a nuisance, the financial strain connected with use of tobacco stands between millions of people and home comforts."

Undermines Success

Dr. Winfield S. Hall, Ph. D., M. D., is professor of physiology in Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago; Fellow of the American Academy of Medicine, Member of the American Physiology Society. He looks at the use of tobacco from a scientific standpoint. His are the views of a man who knows by experience and observation, as he was for years a smoker before he came to realize that he was forming a "drug" habit, and quit:

"Tobacco does much to undermine the success of young men. Why? Because it is the entering wedge of two lines of dissipation, either of which may defeat success. The first line is the dissipation of money for things unnecessary. The second line of dissipation is that of sense gratification. One uses

tobacco partly because of its flavor and partly for the sedative action which it exerts upon the nervous system. It is just this sedative effect which steals away a young man's vigilance and alertness and handicaps him in the struggle for success. The use of tobacco paves the way to other dissipation by requiring a compensating stimulant to overcome its sedative effect and by making the common wholesome food taste insipid and flat. A vast majority of drunkards were smokers before they were drinkers. The mental attitude and lack of resistance which permits a man to smoke is likely also to permit other forms of dissipation more destructive in their influence."

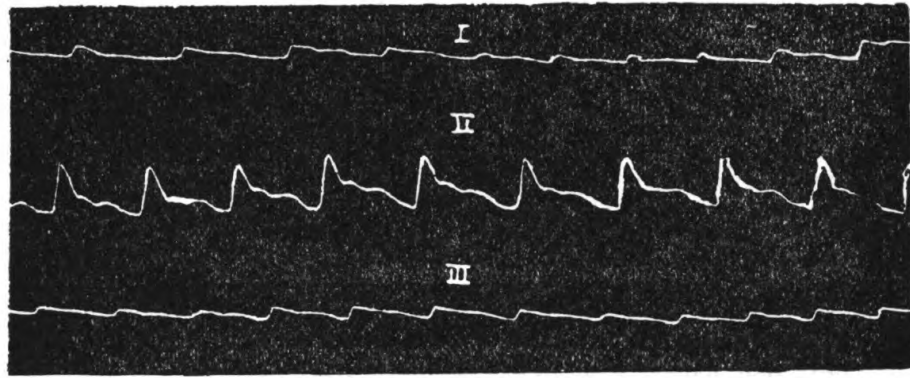
Cigarettes Injure Morally

Dr. D. H. Kress is the man who perhaps more than any other single individual has helped boys and men who desired to break away from cigarette smoking through the administration of treatments that effect a cure.

"The cigarette," says Dr. Kress, "strikes a direct blow at the most vital organ of the body. It weakens the heart action. For this reason it is difficult for the cigarette addict to engage in athletics. He finds he is easily winded and is lacking in endurance. He soon loses all ambition to engage in sports, or, in fact, in any useful occupation. Associating with others of his kind, he soon begins to visit the pool rooms. In time he may end up in the juvenile court, reform school or penitentiary. It is estimated that 96 per cent of our youthful criminals are cigarette addicts. The boy with a weakened heart is more apt to succumb to typhoid fever, tuberculosis or other acute diseases which especially tax the heart, should he be stricken down with them. The cigarette injures the boy morally. He is almost as difficult to impress as the cocaine fiend."

How Smoking Affects the Heart

There are those who insist that smoking does not affect the heart. Let us see whether this is so. Dr. D. H. Kress, of Washington, who has given much time to the subject, says it is an easy matter to single out boys and young men who are habitual cigarette users. For detecting them he uses a small, delicate instrument known as the sphygmograph. It is placed on the wrist so that it covers the radial artery, and as the artery pulsates against a delicate spring a tracing is made on a smoked paper which is propelled through the little mechanical apparatus. Here is what results, showing the difference in pulsation under the several conditions. No. I shows the condition of the heart before smoking. No. II



is during smoking. No. III is twenty minutes after smoking. Does this look as though the use of cigarettes did not affect the heart?

Cigarettes—Drink—Opium

The relation of tobacco, especially in the form of cigarettes, and alcohol and opium is a very close one, declares Dr. Charles B. Towns, of New York, in an article in the *Century Magazine*. "For years I have been dealing with alcoholism and morphinism, have gone into their every phase and aspect, have kept careful and minute details of between six and seven thousand cases, and I have never seen a case, except occasionally with women, which did not have a history of excessive tobacco. A boy always starts smoking before he starts drinking. If he is disposed to drink, that disposition will be increased by smoking, because the action of tobacco makes it normal for him to feel the need of stimulation. He is likely to go to alcohol to soothe the muscular unrest, to blunt the irritation he has received from tobacco. From alcohol he goes to morphine for the same reason. The nervous condition due to excessive drinking is allayed by morphine, just as the nervous condition due to excessive smoking is allayed by alcohol. Morphine is the legitimate consequence of alcohol, and alcohol is the legitimate consequence of tobacco. Cigarettes, drink, opium, is the logical and regular series."

What Mike Donovan Says

Mike Donovan has been a familiar figure in athletics all his life. For thirty years he has been athletic director of the New York Athletic Club. His work has brought him in touch with all classes of men and boys under the most trying conditions. His word is law with those who know him. And when it comes to smoking he speaks out with characteristic directness. Listen to this:

"Any boy who smokes can never hope to succeed in any line of endeavor, as smoking weakens the heart and lungs, and ruins the stomach and affects the entire nervous system. If a boy or young man expects to amount to anything in athletics he must let smoking and all kinds of liquor alone. They are rank poison to his athletic ambitions."

Worst of Tobacco is in Cigarettes

Says the *Medical World*, speaking editorially of cigarettes:

"The worst of tobacco is found in cigarettes. The feature of their use which makes them most dangerous, and which is so subtly enslaving and demoralizing, is the practically universal habit of inhalation of the smoke. This brings it into contact with many square feet of vascular tissues in the mouth, throat, bronchial tubes and air cells in the lungs, which almost instantly absorb the poisons from the fumes and nearly as quickly infuse them into the circulation. In young boys the effects of cigarette smoking are quickly noticeable and soon become alarming. If the habit is not checked, sallow skin, sunken eyes, loss of appetite, stained fingers, listlessness and loss of memory, of application or concentration of the mind, shortness of breath, nervousness, palpitation of the heart, insomnia, giddiness, irritable throat, impaired digestion, malnutrition, and in many of the cases impaired or permanent loss of vision results. Unquestionably, in the face of the facts, it is the plain duty of every practitioner of medicine not only to oppose with all the vigor at his hand the use of the cigarette among the boys of his clientele, but also to do all in his power to enforce the laws against their sale to minors."

How About This Experiment

Mrs. T. E. Patterson, of Griffin, Georgia, president of the Georgia Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and a woman of exceptional mental attainments, takes issue with Mr. Hill, president of the American Tobacco Company, regarding the harmfulness of cigarette smoking. Says Mrs. Patterson:

"I have heard amateur chemists say, 'I have investigated and find that cigarette papers contain no poison.' We are told that they do contain lime, lead and arsenic, a solution used to toughen the paper.

"Several years ago I stepped into a grocery store and asked to buy a package of cigarette papers, such as were given away at that time with Durham smoking tobacco. I took two small bottles, each holding about three tablespoonfuls of water. In one I placed 15 of these cigarette papers, and in the other an equal thickness of leaves of tissue paper from between visit-

ing cards, for the tissue papers were much thinner and it took a larger number of leaves.

I found that a few drops of the water from the bottle containing the cigarette paper would kill a mouse quicker than you could say 'Jack Robinson,' and a teaspoonful of the water from the other papers seemed to cause a mouse to suffer no inconvenience.

"I have killed dozens of mice with this water and there are others who have tried the experiment with the same success. Will Mr. Hill please tell me what made the difference in the same water, in the same kind of bottles, except the papers that were placed in the bottle?"

What a Noted Sport Writer Thinks

Grantland Rice is a writer of recognized authority on all sports. He has been sporting editor of some of the largest newspapers in the country, and is an athlete of renown. He should know what he is talking about. And here are his views:

"For the last eighteen years I have been either playing or covering for newspapers all different forms of sports and competition. In this way my observation has been from close range—close enough to develop facts and not mere theories.

"Smoking by the young brings a double burden to carry—a burden in both a physical and a mental way. I have noticed that those who do not smoke, who keep in clean if not exactly strict training, have far more energy, much greater stamina, much better control of their nerves, and they also appear to develop a much keener knack at picking up a game.

"In addition to this I have found that they think quicker and better. Under 25 years of age they are developing both physically and mentally, and if this development is hampered by smoking the loss can hardly be made up later on.

The young in sport make up for their lack of experience by nervous energy and vitality. Smoking cuts in heavily upon both, wearing away the reserve force which youth needs. A cigarette smoker would have but little chance in any red-blooded competition against one who stuck to training. He would have neither the speed for the short sprint nor the stamina for the long race. If I am wrong in this the statistics of 18 years are wrong, and records and results mean nothing."

Tobacco Killed a Cat

Dr. David Paulson, president of the Anti-Cigarette League of America, tells of an experiment he conducted when a stu-

dent at Bellevue Hospital Medical School, in New York, that impressed upon his mind the fact that nicotine is a deadly poison. A large, healthy cat which made night hideous for everybody in the neighborhood was the victim. Here is the incident in the doctor's own words:

"I soaked enough tobacco to make an ordinary cigarette in water. Then I injected under the cat's skin a hypodermic syringe full of this tobacco juice. In a few minutes the cat began to quiver, then tremble, then it had cramps, and in less than twenty minutes it died in violent convulsions. The poison destroyed the nine lives a cat is popularly supposed to possess.

"I take no pride in relating this experiment, for I knew a shorter as well as a more merciful way of ending that cat's life; but what distresses me now is the fact that thousands of boys are repeating that experiment upon themselves with as certain though less immediate results, and only a few people seem to be concerned over what is taking place right before their eyes."

And This is from the London Lancet

The *London Lancet*, perhaps the foremost medical publication in the world, made an exhaustive examination of cigarettes some two years ago. Portions of its finding were given wide publicity by tobacco interests, particularly that section in which doubt was expressed as to the quantity of nicotine found in a cigarette exerting a harmful influence. Here is an excerpt from that report, under date April 13, 1912, which was not given such wide publicity by these same men:

"To aldehydes the poisonous effects of crude, immature whisky are ascribed, although they occur in relatively small quantities, but the furfural contained in the smoke of only one Virginian cigarette may amount, according to our experiments, to as much as is present in a couple of fluid ounces of whisky. The presence at any rate of aldehydes in the smoke of the Virginian cigarette, which is so often smoked to excess, accompanied at the same time by an almost insignificant amount of nicotine, gives material for reflection when approaching the broad question of evils of the cigarette habit. Furfural, the principal aldehyde, which we have found present in marked quantities in the cigarette smoke of a very popular tobacco, is stated to be about fifty times as poisonous as ordinary alcohol, and small doses cause 'symptoms of transient irritation, such as ataxia, tremors and twitching,' while in adequate quantities furfural 'gives rise to epileptiform convulsions, general muscular paralysis, ending in paralysis of the respiratory muscles.' Again, 'one of the commonest effects of over indulgence in tobacco is a chronic inflammation of the throat and

upper parts of the respiratory passages, leading to hoarseness and excessive secretions of the mucous glands. This is explained by the constant application to the throat of an irritant alkaline vapor, and is probably not due to the specific action of the nicotine."

Connie Mack Speaks

The boy who does not know of Connie Mack is not old enough to read the newspapers and take an interest in baseball. As leader of the Philadelphia Athletics, Connie Mack takes rank as one of the greatest generals baseball has ever known. He reads men and boys as an ordinary person reads a book. He contributes to the *Scientific Temperance Journal* this characteristically clear statement:

"It is my candid opinion, and I have watched very closely the last twelve years or more, that boys at the age of ten to fifteen who have continued smoking cigarettes do not as a rule amount to anything. They are unfitted in every way for any kind of work where brains are needed. No boy or man can expect to succeed in this world to a high position and continue the use of cigarettes."

Cigarette is One of Worst Habits

Hon. Benjamin B. Lindsay is judge of the Juvenile Court in Denver, Colorado, where are handled the cases of boys and girls who have gone wrong. He is often referred to as "the golden rule judge" because of his kindness, and the deep interest he takes in boys and girls. In telling "What I Have Seen of Cigarettes," Judge Lindsay says in part:

"One of the very worst habits of boyhood is the cigarette habit. This has long been recognized by all the judges of the courts who deal with young criminals, and especially by judges of police courts, before whom pass thousands of men every year who are addicted to intemperate habits. These judges know that in nearly every case the drunken sots who appear before them, a disgrace to their parents, themselves and the state, began as boys smoking cigarettes. One bad habit led to another. The nicotine and poison in the cigarette created an appetite for alcoholic drink. The cigarette habit not only had a grip upon them in boyhood, but it invited all the other demons of habit to come in and add to the degradation that the cigarette began."

Hudson Maxim on the Cigarette

Hudson Maxim has won world renown as the inventor of high explosives for use in battleship guns and torpedoes and for

various other purposes. He comes out squarely against the cigarette in this fashion:

"The wreath of cigarette smoke which curls about the head of the growing lad holds his brain in an iron grip which prevents it from growing and his mind from developing just as surely as the iron shoe does the foot of the Chinese girl.

"In the terrible struggle for survival against the deadly cigarette smoke development and growth are sacrificed by nature, which in the fight for very life itself must yield up every vital luxury such as healthy body growth and growth of brain and mind.

"If all boys could be made to know that with every breath of cigarette smoke they inhale imbecility and exhale manhood; that they are tapping their arteries as surely and letting their life's blood out as truly as though their veins and arteries were severed, and that the cigarette is a maker of invalids, criminals and fools—not men—it ought to deter them some. The yellow finger stain is an emblem of deeper degradation and enslavement than the ball and chain."

Makes Boys Soulless

"Several of my young acquaintances are in their graves who gave promise of making happy and useful citizens," declares Luther Burbank the wizard of the plant and vegetable kingdom, whose experiments have caused the civilized world to wonder, "and there is no question whatever that cigarettes alone were the cause of their destruction. No boy living would commence the use of cigarettes if he knew what a useless, soulless, worthless thing they would make of him."

Want Cigarettes More Than Liquor

At Dwight, Illinois, is located the Keeley Institute, where men from all parts of the country are sent to be cured of drug and liquor and tobacco habits. Dr. Charles L. Hamilton is superintendent of the Keeley Institute, and knows what is going on there at all times. He is in close touch with every case. What does he say?

"Our experience here at Dwight, where many hundreds of cigarette cases have been treated, is that persons applying for treatment for both liquor and cigarettes dread giving up their cigarettes more than they do the liquor. Moreover, those who return to the use of cigarettes in after life are almost certain to resume the use of liquor to allay the irritability on the nervous system produced by tobacco smoke inhalation."

(END OF VOLUME I)

The Case Against the Little White Slaver

Volume II

Every day I am more sure of the mistake made by good people universally in trying to pull fallen people up instead of keeping the yet safe ones from tumbling after them; and in always spending their pains on the worst instead of the best material.—*Ruskin*.

TO THE MAN OF TOMORROW— THE AMERICAN BOY OF TODAY

When I first made public the letter sent me by Mr. Thomas A. Edison, the world's greatest electrical genius, in response to my request for an expression on the harmful effects of cigarette smoking by boys, Mr. Percival I. Hill, president of the American Tobacco Company, denied the truth of Mr. Edison's findings.

Mr. Edison, a facsimile of whose letter was published in the preceding volume, said:

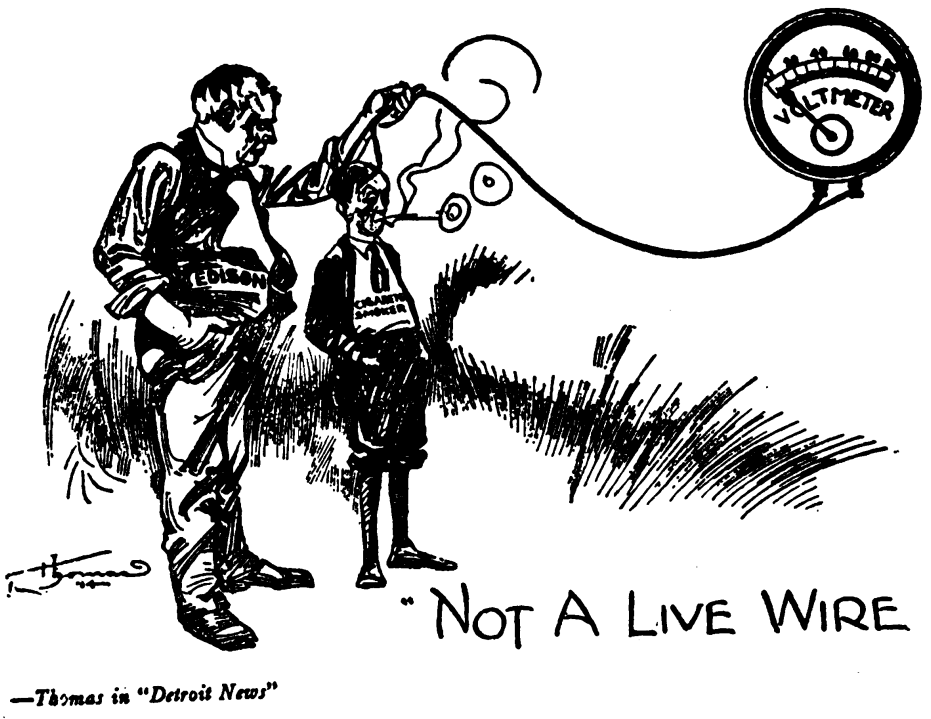
“The injurious agent in cigarettes comes principally from the burning paper wrapper. The substance thereby formed is called ‘acrolein.’ It has a violent action on the nerve centers, producing degeneration of the cells of the brain, which is quite rapid among boys. Unlike most narcotics, this degeneration is permanent and uncontrollable. I employ no person who smokes cigarettes.”

Among other statements made by Mr. Hill in his letter to Mr. Edison and myself, which was sent all over the country, was this:

“Aside from the overwhelming weight of scientific testimony, common sense will convince any reasonable man that the cigarette is not injurious.

“The increase of cigarette smoking in the United States in recent years is significant. This tremendous popularity, which is growing all the time, is possible only because millions of American men have convinced themselves that cigarettes are good for them.”

I want you to notice how Mr. Hill speaks of American *men* in his defense of the cigarette. In the interview I authorized as an accompaniment to Mr. Edison's letter I made it plain that *men* did not enter into our discussion of the subject; that I was



—Thomas in "Detroit News"

interested in the boys of America—who are going to be the men of to-morrow—and their welfare. To quote that interview:

“I do not feel called upon to try to reform any person over twenty-five years of age because by that time the habit has been formed. Then it is only a question of the strength of will or mind of the smoker which will enable him to stop. He knows the injurious effects and controls his own destiny.

“With the boys it is a different matter. Most boys are told to refrain from many things. Seldom are they given a reason. Boys must be educated so they will know why cigarettes are bad for them.

“If you will study the history of almost any criminal you will find that he is an inveterate cigarette smoker. Boys, through cigarettes, train with bad company. They go with other smokers to the poolrooms and saloons. The cigarette drags them down. Hence if we can educate them to the dangers of smoking we will perform a service.”

Replying to Mr. Hill's defense, Mr. E. G. Liebold, my secretary, called attention to reports from colleges and other educational institutions showing that young men addicted to the cigarette habit seldom, if ever, lead in their studies; that one of the magistrates in Mr. Hill's own city, New York, stated that 99 per cent of the boys between the ages of 10 and 17 who come before him charged with crime have their fingers disfigured by cigarette stains, and challenged Mr. Hill to point out what beneficial result has ever been experienced by anyone through indulgence in this habit.

To date no proof has been forthcoming.

So much for the moral side of the question. Let us pass that by for the time being, and consider another aspect of the subject—the economic. Let us see whether you as an ambitious American boy can afford to ruin your prospects by doing those things which are disapproved by employers generally,

and which in many, many cases must put you out of the running entirely.

If "millions of American men have convinced themselves that cigarettes are good for them" they have not succeeded in convincing their employers of this fact, and this is especially true as regards boys. I want you to read the expressions of opinion from some of the large employers of the country as they are set forth in the following pages; to consider the views of others who have voluntarily stated the case as it appears to them. I know that you will then be in a position to judge for yourself whether you can afford to take chances on losing everything, and I am willing to leave the decision in your own hands.

HENRY FORD

HOW EMPLOYERS FEEL TOWARD CIGARETTE SMOKERS

Here is An Automobile Company's Attitude

NOTICE

"Cigarette smoking is acquiring a hold on a great many boys in our community. The habit has grown in the last year or two. Since it is such a bad practice and is taking such a hold upon so many people, we think it is a disgrace for a grown man to smoke cigarettes, because it is not only injurious to his health, but it is such a bad example to the boys.

"Boys who smoke cigarettes we do not care to keep in our employ. In the future we will not hire anyone whom we know to be addicted to this habit. It is our desire to weed it entirely out of the factory just as soon as practicable. We will ask everyone in our factory who sees the seriousness of this habit to use their influence in having it stamped out.

"We have two objects in interesting ourselves in this matter: First, to help men and boys; second, we believe that men who do not smoke cigarettes or frequent the saloon can make better automobiles than those that do."

The foregoing notice was posted conspicuously by the Cadillac Motor Car Company throughout its large factories at Detroit, Mich. Commenting on this action, the company says further:

"Several years ago we began a somewhat active campaign against this evil. We made a study of the effect upon the morals and efficiency of men in our employ addicted to this habit and found that cigarette smokers invariably were loose in their morals and very apt to be untruthful, and were far less productive than men who were not cigarette smokers. We might mention a large number of instances which substantiate this latter statement, but space does not permit. We put up notices in conspicuous places about the plant. This had quite an effect among the employees in general. We allow no cigarette smoking about the plant; in fact, will not hire men who we know use cigarettes.

"We are proud to say that none of the prominent or executive men in this company use cigarettes for two reasons: First, that they believe the effects to be injurious, and, second, that it would be difficult to enforce a rule they themselves did not adhere to."

Where the Employee Shares the Benefits

“Factory to family,” is the slogan of the Larkin Company, Buffalo, N. Y., in whose immense plants thousands of persons are constantly employed under the most favorable conditions. Mr. Wm. R. Heath, vice-president of the company, in outlining his company’s attitude on the labor question, says:

“Mr. Roosevelt spoke very wisely the other day when he said:

“The problem must be, so far as it concerns the great industries in which the immense majority of wage workers are engaged, to combine efficiency with the proper sharing of the rewards of that efficiency. There will be no rewards for anybody, no adequate wage for the working man, no proper service to the public, unless the business pays.

“A business run at a loss will have to shut its doors. No prosperity can be passed around until the prosperity exists. The main element in the success of any business must be efficiency, and the wage worker must do all in his power to contribute to this efficiency. But the wage worker who by his efficiency adds to the productivity must have that added efficiency recognized in increased wages. The benefit must in part accrue to him exactly as it in part accrues to the man who furnished the capital, without which the business could not go on, and in part to the general public.’

“So there are three parties involved in this great industrial question, three parties to be benefited, three parties charged with the responsibility, and three parties who must make their contribution—the possessor of capital, the possessor of labor, and the general public.

“Mr. Gompers, in speaking with reference to the New York Workmen’s Compensation Act, said:

“We should speak out in thunderous tones our severest condemnation of employers who are attempting to nullify the act by the enforcement of physical examinations of employees, which is contrary to the spirit of the law.’

“So, then, business must be successful, the country must be prosperous, and the ability of the individual to deliver must not be questioned, and the general public must be relieved of its responsibility to initiate means of efficiency by encouraging the use of leisure hours for healthful recreation and wholesome play, and by extending its protecting arm for the benefit of its subjects.

“If the general public will not awaken to its responsibilities how can the business be successful, unless the employer to the

extent of his ability selects that employee and that only one who is capable of efficient performance?

“All applicants for employment in this business must submit to a physical examination by a competent physician. Those passing a satisfactory examination are to this extent eligible for employment. Those requiring medical or surgical attention, or requiring a course of treatment or a change in personal habits, are accepted subject to conforming to instructions imposed, some of them may receive financial assistance from the company, while carrying out these instructions. Others are barred entirely from the eligible list. Among those whom we do not employ or place upon our eligible list are boys who are habitual cigarette smokers.”

Cigarettes Spoil Boys for His Business

George W. Alden is head of the big mercantile establishment in Brockton, Mass., that bears his name. Here are his views on the efficiency and desirability of the cigarette-smoking boy:

“So far as I know none of my employees smoke cigarettes. We don't hire that kind of boys or men. I should not consider for a minute any candidate for a position if I knew he smoked cigarettes. It would be pretty strongly against him if he applied for a position with either a cigar, pipe or cigarette in his mouth. With the general knowledge prevalent in this state as to the injurious effects of cigarette smoking, any boy should have ambition enough and decision enough to let cigarettes alone. My observation has taught me that cigarette smoking boys are woefully lacking in both ambition and decision. They soon become dull, smoke-befuddled boys. I let them know that cigarettes spoil boys for my business.”

Non-Smokers Given Preference

The Burroughs Adding Machine Company's plant at Detroit, Mich., is one of the country's model industrial institutions, every attention being paid to the physical and mental well-being of the employees. Only the highest grade of machinists are employed and these are selected with care. Writes General Manager Laurer:

“We have taken no definite steps to suppress cigarette smoking other than to forbid the smoking of cigarettes in our office. I wish you success in your effort to correct the evils of cigarette smoking on the part of young boys, and am frank to say that, other things being equal, we will always give preference for employment to boys and young men who do not smoke cigarettes.”

Puts the Ban on Cigarette Smokers

Believing that smoking 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.

J. C. AYER CO.

This notice may be found throughout the great laboratories of the J. C. Ayer Co., manufacturing chemists, Lowell, Mass. It was prompted not by unwarranted prejudice but by careful study of the situation on the part of Charles H. Stowell, M. D., treasurer of the Company. Commenting on this attitude, Mr. Stowell says:

“Close observation for many years among the boys employed by this company has shown that those who are most energetic, active, alert, quick, spry, do not smoke; while the listless, lazy, dull, sleepy, uninteresting and uninterested boys are, we find upon investigation, those who smoke cigarettes.”

Cigarette “Fiends” Not Employed

Writes A. M. Phifer, superintendent of the Joseph Horne Company, dry goods, Pittsburgh, Pa.:

“While we have no fixed rule on the subject, if we know an applicant for a position is a cigarette ‘fiend’ we will not employ him. We might add further that a state law in Pennsylvania makes it an offense punishable by fine or imprisonment or both to either give or sell to anyone under twenty-one years of age cigarettes, or for minors to have cigarettes in their possession.”

Cigarettes Detrimental to Development

Marshall Field & Company, Chicago, the greatest department store in America, if not in the world, bar cigarette-smoking boys, giving this as their reason:

“For many years it has been our policy not to engage boys who make a practice of smoking cigarettes, as we believe it to be detrimental to their development.”

What a Merchant Prince Says

The fame of John Wanamaker, merchant prince, with immense establishments in New York and Philadelphia, where thousands of persons are employed, is world-wide. Mr. Wanamaker says:

“The question of the use of tobacco and cigarettes by the young men who make application to us for employment comes

in for serious consideration, and where there is evidence of the excessive use of cigarettes the applicant is invariably refused a place in our ranks."

No Cigarette Smokers Employed

Brown Durrell Co. are importers and manufacturers of hosiery, underwear, handkerchiefs and furnishings, with headquarters in Boston, and large branches in New York and Chicago. Great numbers of men and boys are in their employ, and they have excellent opportunities for judging who are worth while and who are not. Mr. Thomas B. Fitzpatrick, president and treasurer of the company, comes out squarely against the cigarette in this manner:

"We have found in the main that the young fellow addicted to cigarette smoking is not a profitable or desirable hand to have in our employ. This fact is so apparent that we have made a rule against employing such young men if we know that they have contracted the habit. Therefore, for business reasons, independent entirely of the moral consideration, the cigarette smoker has a handicap that interferes with his value to himself or to us."

No Smoking is Better All Around

Wm. T. Isaacs, vice-president and general manager of the Gurney Heater Manufacturing Company, Boston, says:

"The policy of our company when employing young men has been to insist upon their refraining from the use of cigarettes, as we feel this is not only for their own benefit, but we get better service from them."

WHY CIGARETTE-SMOKING BOYS ARE NOT WANTED

The opposition of employers to cigarette-smoking boys and young men, their refusal in many cases to hire them, is not a matter of sentiment. It is a plain business proposition. They know that the boy who is not addicted to the use of cigarettes will return larger dividends on the investment both to himself and his employer; that, other things being equal, he will get to the front more rapidly, and that he is better equipped mentally, morally and physically to assume the responsibilities that come with promotion.

Some time ago Mr. Chas. H. Stowell, M. D., general manager of the J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass., a physician of long standing, made an extended study of cigarette smoking in its effects upon boys and young men. His views on "The Cigarette and the Coming Business Man" are reprinted herewith because they illustrate in a forcible manner the reasons why boys and young men of this class are counted undesirable:

"It lessens the natural appetite for food and injures digestion. Any close observer will know at once how true is this statement. The boy who smokes has a bad digestion and a poor appetite. Because of this interference with appetite and digestion, the food is not properly digested and assimilated, cellular activity is checked, and the growth and development of the body seriously interfered with by this early poisoning.

"It seriously affects the nervous system. We often hear about the 'tobacco heart' of the adult. If tobacco is strong enough to affect the beating of the adult heart, how much stronger must be its effect on the heart of a young person, long before tissues have become fixed. The rush of blood to the head, the dizziness, the unsteady beating of the heart, the distressing dreams—all show how seriously is the nervous system affected.

"But a more serious charge can be brought against it under this heading. This effect on the nervous system is sufficient to produce the most marked changes in the mental activity. Recent statements from the University of Michigan, Northwestern University, Yale College, Union College, together with scores of other institutions and hundreds of the most eminent teachers of the country, all testify to the fact that cigarette smoking interferes with scholarship. If it interferes with the scholarship of young men over twenty-one

years of age, how much more seriously must it interfere with the mental activities of those under this age.

“It lowers the moral tone. Boys who would not tell a lie on any other matter, not for a fortune, our best and noblest boys, do not seem to hesitate a moment to tell any kind of a falsehood in order to keep from their parents the fact that they are smoking cigarettes. They hide the cigarettes. They smoke them away from home. They try in every way to conceal the truth. Indeed, they will do all manner of things in order to deceive those who are nearest and dearest to them.

“It creates a craving for strong drink. There has been a great deal of discussion on this point, but I am convinced that the statement is logically true. The hot smoke from the cigarette tends to make the mouth and throat dry, and creates a peculiar sinking sensation in the stomach. Water may temporarily relieve this dryness and may temporarily check the sinking sensation. But with the moral tone lowered and the mental power weakened, the desire to yield to the first temptation is strengthened, because of the slimy excuse that the boy must have something to wet his throat. And so it goes on, from bad to worse. In other words, the boy who smokes more easily accepts an invitation to a treat than one who does not smoke.

“It is a filthy and offensive habit. No matter how stealthily the boy may do his work, sooner or later his clothing becomes saturated with the odor of tobacco.

“It is unlawful. In nearly every state in the union there are most stringent laws forbidding the furnishing of cigarettes or tobacco to minors under a certain age. In most of these states there are laws against selling to such minors.”

Prof. Selby A. Moran, of Ann Arbor, Michigan, is one of the best known instructors in stenography in the world. The nature of his profession has made him a close observer of boys and young men. Here is what he writes:

“I have been a teacher of shorthand almost constantly for the past thirty years. During this time I have taught thousands of young people, ranging from students of grade school age to university graduates.

“During my experience, covering nearly a third of a century, I have yet to discover, among the thousands of young men whom I have had in my classes, a single instance where a young man who became a slave to the cigarette habit during his early years has ever been able to develop into more than a third or fourth rate stenographer. Such people seem

to have their nervous system so paralyzed and their mental faculties so dulled or stunted, and the control of their physical organism so weakened, that it seems utterly impossible for them to become first-class stenographers, although in many cases I have known such young men to heroically struggle to fit themselves to do high grade stenographic work. I recall many cases where the efforts of young men to overcome the stupefying effects of cigarette smoking have been pitiable. I have tried every possible method to help such students to overcome their weakness. In every case the effort of such pupils has resulted in failure. If this is true in the development of shorthand ability, it is undoubtedly true in every other kind of work where steady nerves, clear minds and physical skill are required.

“To the close observer the number of young men who, without realizing it, are to-day in this deplorable condition is appalling. It is therefore, very fortunate that powerful influences, such as will result from the action of your company and that of other great commercial organizations, are being added to the forces which are opposing this evil, one which is really threatening the stability of the American people.”

THE WAY OF THE TRANSGRESSOR

By Len G. Shaw

I shall not mention their names. That would be revealing identities that might better not be disclosed, for the sake of both. Neither shall I sketch the two careers too intimately. If I did it is more than likely that even in his pitiable mental state the one would recognize the portrait of himself, and there is no desire on my part to add one jot to the mental anguish he must suffer when in the few lucid moments he is permitted he looks back over opportunities that were worse than wasted.

* * *

It was in the heat of a gubernatorial campaign in Michigan that I first met them—two fellows whom to know was to like. One was the star political writer on a metropolitan newspaper, the other a reporter on a small city daily.

They had struck up an acquaintance during the afternoon, while one of the gubernatorial candidates the political writer was accompanying on a spellbinding tour was making a speech at the country fair grounds.

We sat up late that night in the hotel lobby, swapping stories and talking over matters of mutual interest, and I was impressed by the striking similarity of characteristics in the two men. Both were splendid physical specimens of manhood, clean-cut, alert, immaculately attired—men who would attract attention in a crowd.

Scarcely had we settled down in our chairs when the political writer produced a box of cigarettes, and after extracting one for his own consumption passed them to his new-found acquaintance. They were declined with thanks.

“Ha,” laughed the political writer, jokingly, “you have no small vices, eh?”

The reporter looked grave.

“I am not sure that is such a small vice,” he replied slowly.

“Oh, well, we’ll not quarrel over that,” went on the political writer. “I do not smoke much myself.”

But during our session that evening he emptied one box and had made serious inroads on a second.

* * *

It was some months later, in Lansing, that I met them. They were “covering” the legislature for rival papers in the same city, but this fact had no bearing on their friendship.

They were inseparable and had come to be known as Damon and Pythias, so devoted were they to each other's interests. Only, wherever Damon was encountered he would be found puffing at a half-burned cigarette, or with feverish haste rolling a fresh one.

* * *

The years rolled by. I had kept close track of the small town reporter who had developed into a star metropolitan man, and was turning his attention to theatrical reviewing with marked success. But the political writer had dropped from view, following a disagreement with the newspaper he had served.

One day a shadow fell across my path, and I looked up to come face to face with the one-time star. He was bronzed. His clothes were in sore need of a valet, and his linen had not been on speaking terms with a laundry for some time back. He grinned at my gasp of astonishment.

"I don't wonder you are surprised," he went on. "You see, I've been down in Georgia, working on a peach farm. I had to do something, so I thought I'd cut out the old life for a time. I'm pretty near down and out—but I'll come back. I'm just as good to-day as I ever was, and I'll show those fellows that have turned against me. By the way, can you spare me a cigarette?"

* * *

A month or so later I was wandering along the docks, watching the operations of a gang of lumber shovers, when an overalled figure separated itself from the rest of the party and came shuffling over to where I stood. There was something familiar about the man, yet I had to look a second time before certain as to the identity of the grimy, perspiring individual.

"Yes, it's me," he volunteered, extending a calloused hand, on the fingers of which the telltale yellow cigarette stains showed through the dirt. "You'd never have thought it of me, would you?"

There was a wistfulness in his tones, and it seemed almost as though tears glistened in the shifting eyes.

"You see," he went on, "it was a little dull in the newspaper business, and I had to live while something was turning up in the old game, so I'm down here for a little while. It doesn't pay very much—and it's awful hard work—but it's enough to keep me going until I get back. I can make good again. All I need is a fair show. I've got the stuff in me if I get a chance. And by the way"—

I hadn't. If I had possessed a cigarette I think it would have been his without the asking. He craved it like a man recovering from a long spree craves a drink of whisky to slake his thirst.

From time to time strange stories reached me concerning the one-time political writer. He was successively panhandler, hobo and potato peeler in the kitchen of the county infirmary, to which he obtained admittance through the good offices of men who had known him in the prime of his career.

It was a crisp October morning suggestive of winter apparel. At a downtown corner stood a gaunt figure, from whose parchment-like countenance two fishy eyes stared forth uncomprehendingly. Under his arm he carried a small bundle of newspapers that he essayed unsuccessfully to dispose of to passersby. And as he called the papers in a rasping monotone he pulled away at a cigarette "butt" he had picked from the gutter.

* * *

I saw him again the other day, moving unsteadily along the street, having eyes but not seeing, possessed of ears yet not hearing. The overalls that partly encased his withered limbs were frayed at the bottom and flapped about forlornly with every step. A checked blouse took the place of a coat. A ragged straw hat, whose original color had long since disappeared beneath a coat of grime, surmounted his tousled hair. His face resembled that of a coal heaver at the end of a day's toil. His hands, swinging loosely at his sides, were dark as those of an African.

I have seen men in the throes of delirium tremens, screeching for help at the top of their voices, while hospital attendants fought to restrain them. I never saw so horrible a spectacle as was presented by this one-time Beau Brummel, who had forfeited every claim to consideration, and sunk to unbelievable depths—victim of the Little White Slaver.

Not one of his former acquaintances would have recognized him in this pitiable condition—and it was well.

Possibly before you read these lines Death will have mercifully laid hold on this human derelict, and he will have passed to the great beyond.

* * *

The other man—the one who had "no small vices?" He is to-day dramatic editor of one of the leading New York newspapers, standing well toward the head of his profession, a man known personally by every actor and actress of consequence in the country, and whose opinions are accepted as authoritative.

(END OF VOLUME II)

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