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JOURNAL.

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*Published on the 15th of every Month.*

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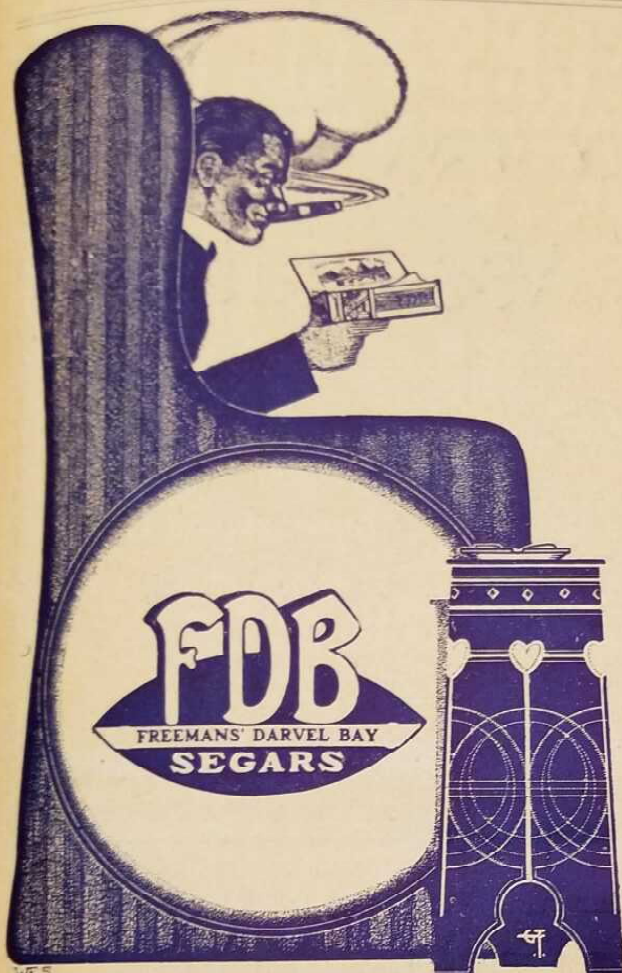
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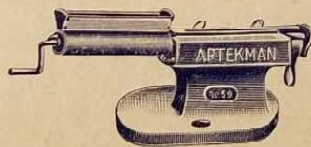
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We beg to draw the attention of those requiring the Finest Hand-made Cigarettes to the only Patent Cigarette Making Tool made for this purpose, which will work with equal effectiveness all grades of Tobaccos, absolutely preserving the natural aroma.

A Child can work the Cigarette Making Tool and make Highly-finished Hand made Cigarettes without previous experience.

For Further Particulars and Illustrated Booklet apply to Sole Manufacturers:—

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15, Queen Street, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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Trustees: BARON WINTERSTOKE of BLAGDON,  
J. S. GILLIATT, Esq.,  
CHAS. E. LAMBERT, Esq.

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*Every Half-Guinea contributed carries with it a vote at the next Annual Election of Pensioners.*

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**T. P. & R. GOODBODY,  
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Who are not connected with any  
Trust or Combine.

## The Cigarette World AND TOBACCO NEWS.

JUNE 15th, 1908.

All Communications to be addressed to Offices of "Cigarette World," 32, The Broadway, Wimbledon, S.W.

Blocks should be sent direct to  
Messrs. Chorley & Pickersgill, Ltd., The Electric Press, Leeds.

The Editors will be pleased to consider any articles which may be submitted on subjects of interest to the Trade. Prompt payment will be made for those accepted. MSS. must be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and stamps should be enclosed for their return in case of rejection. Designs for Advertisements are specially desired.

Advertisements of which proofs are required should reach us on the 8th of the month; samples can be dealt with up to the 10th.

We have much pleasure in announcing that we have secured the services of Mr. CHARLES BROMWICH, who is well known in the trade, and our readers will please note that our Advertising Department will in future be under his sole management and control.

All communications should, however, be addressed as usual—  
"Advertising Manager."

### THE TOBACCO TRUST AND THE GOVERNMENT.



OUR lively contemporary, *John Bull*, which seems to be thoroughly well informed on the subject, has the following in a recent issue:—

"THE TOBACCO TRUST AND THE GOVERNMENT.

"Under this head, in our issue of May 2nd, we published a letter in which the writer contended that 'The Imperial Tobacco Company, Ltd., which is the greatest monopoly in this country, is positively protected by the Government.' They (the Government) have built up within the last few years a colossal Trust, the worst the country has ever seen.' A correspondent now sends us an editorial taken from *Henderson, Ky., Journal*, of May 19th,

**ESTABLISHED 150 YEARS.**

**TADDY & CO.,**  
**Tobacco, Cigarette, and**  
**Snuff Manufacturers,**  
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**PACKET SHAGS, PACKET BIRD'S EYE, &C.**  
**ROLL, TWIST, and CAKE TOBACCOS.**

Flaked and all Descriptions of Fancy Tobaccos in Embossed  
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**45, MINORIES, LONDON, E.**

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which is along the same lines, and which, he thinks, will be of interest to our readers. Referring to Mr. Asquith's statement in the House of Commons that the operations of Trusts in Great Britain are necessarily circumscribed, and far less mischievous than in other countries because of the absence of a Customs Tariff, the *Journal* says that is true so far as coal, iron and steel, meat, machinery, and shipping are concerned, 'but it fails utterly when tobacco comes up for consideration. In fact, it proves to demonstration that what fosters and encourages the growth of the Tobacco Trust in the British Empire is the operation of the existing Schedule of duties.' Our American contemporary goes on to ask what gives the Trust its present commanding position, and provides it with a sort of vested privilege.

"It is the British tobacco tariff, a tariff which takes no account of values, which ignores trade customs, and which is contrived to make more profitable that branch of the trade which is already too profitable, and which the Imperial all but controls, while at the same time it starves those less remunerative channels which independent manufacturers are still permitted to enjoy.

"The remedy lies in a differentiated duty, preferably in a stamp duty on the package, one that recognises, as Mr. Asquith puts it, that 'trusts are fostered by Customs tariffs.'"

Though we give the article, we must not be taken to agree with the remedy proposed. With the condemnation of the Trust expressed no disinterested person will fail to agree, while those who are thoroughly acquainted with the trade must have smiled when they read Mr. Asquith's remarks about the operation of Trusts being circumscribed. Mr. Asquith is evidently completely ignorant of the terrible effects upon the trade of the operations of The Imperial, and it is clear that he does not know much about their methods. He will not find much enlightenment in the outside Press, and we would advise a careful study of our back numbers for some years past. This, we think, will change his views, if he survives such a task.

We shall be glad to have the views of our readers on the suggestion made above; at present we ourselves cannot see how the Government can take any useful action. The retail trade have deliberately hoisted on their shoulders the Old Man of the Sea, and he will remain there and drive them to destruction unless they can destroy him by their own efforts.

Messrs. J. Samuda, Ltd., have issued a prospectus of a company to acquire the whole of their extensive business. The purchase price has been fixed at £60,000. These are days when impudence goes a long way, but it is a piece of unparalleled effrontery to expect the public to subscribe such a sum when it is stated that "for trade reasons it is considered undesirable in the interests of the company's business to publish any details as to profits." The Board of Directors entirely consists of gentlemen in the employment of Messrs. J. Samuda & Co. This fact, in addition to the

facts we have above referred to, should be sufficient to prevent any prudent man from investing in the concern, and any of our readers who have subscribed should sell, even at a considerable loss, if they get the opportunity. We have not the highest opinion of the intelligence of the average investor, but we shall be surprised indeed if this venture secures support.

It will be remembered that Mr. E. J. Lusby, at the last dinner of the Wholesale Tobacconists' Protection Association, gave an excellent rendering of his song, "The Toast, The King," composed on His Majesty's last birthday and graciously accepted by him. We have learned with pleasure that Her Majesty the Queen has now accepted the following five songs, the words and music of which have been composed by Mr. Lusby, and are published by Messrs. Ascherberger, Hopwood & Crew, Ltd. :—

"Baby's Lullaby."

"Faithless."

"Above Rubies."

"The Cripple's Friend."

"Passion."

and also a book of eight church hymns. We heartily congratulate Mr. Lusby, and hope that the sale of his compositions will go up enormously.

#### FRANCO-BRITISH EXHIBITION.

Messrs. Murratti, Ltd., are being well patronised at their kiosk at the Exhibition, and thousands of visitors have received copies of the firm's price list. The list is charmingly printed in colours, and the necessary information is given both in French and English.

BONFIRE OF OPIUM PIPES.—In order to foster public sentiment against opium, an association of merchants recently purchased the stock of the largest opium palace in Shanghai and made a bonfire of pipes and smoking utensils, to the value of several thousand pounds. Two prominent native residents, who had been addicted to the use of the drug for twenty-five years, voluntarily sent in their pipes to be burnt, and solemnly undertook never again to smoke opium. The spectacle visibly impressed a large crowd of Chinese spectators.

TOBACCO FOR SINGERS. SIR C. SANTLEY'S TRIBUTE TO THE WEED.—The popular idea that smoking is bad for singers is refuted by Sir Charles Santley in his breezy little book, "The Art of Singing," published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. The famous singer's early experiences with tobacco were not happy, especially his first attempt, at the age of eight, with his grandfather's pipe. So great was his dislike to tobacco in after years that when his father paid him visits he made him smoke his after-dinner pipe out of doors. "But I changed my tune," he says, "when indigestion and domestic bliss began to interfere with my work and temper. I was advised to try the soothing effect of tobacco. I did, and in a short time I could digest tenpenny nails, anything, even slighting remarks made about the weed by feeble-minded scoffers, and I bore the squalling of the baby and smashing of crockery, not to mention other little disturbances, with perfect equanimity." Sir Charles Santley adds that he found smoking in moderation made his voice clear, and that he has never known more than two or three rather indifferent singers who did not smoke.—*Daily Express*.

W. T. OSBORNE & CO., 47, BLACKFRIARS ROAD, LONDON, S.E.—THE BEST HOUSE FOR MIXED PARCELS. SEND FOR PRICE LIST.

# Trade News and Notes.

A Bill making it an offence under the Criminal Code to sell cigarettes to boys under sixteen is to be introduced into the Canadian Parliament.

**DEARER LEAF TOBACCO.**—A large firm in connection with the Imperial Tobacco Company announces that owing to the continued advance in the prices of leaf tobacco which has taken place during the last few years, they have been compelled to revise the minimum prices of certain of their goods. The new prices came into force on 11th June, and will apply to all orders executed on or after that date.

**THE ANTI-TRUST CAMPAIGN.**—After over four months consumed in taking evidence, counsel, on May 19th, began their arguments before four judges of the United States Circuit Court, in the Government's suit to secure the compulsory dissolution of the American Tobacco Company. The suit was brought under the Sherman Anti-Trust Law, on the allegation that an American tobacco monopoly was being operated to the restraint of trade. It is declared that whatever the result of the present proceedings may be the case will be carried to the United States Supreme Court for a final ruling. The Imperial Tobacco Company is one of the co-defendants, and the British-American Tobacco Company is also represented.

**THE CIGAR TRADE.**—The annual meeting of the United Kingdom Cigar Manufacturers' Association was held at Nottingham under the presidency of Mr. A. S. Catlow, of Leicester. The report stated that a memorial had been presented to the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the question of the duty on imported leaf for cigar purposes in view of the excessive moisture in cigar tobacco generally, it being suggested that the duties charged should be based upon the quantity of actual tobacco after deducting moisture and sand. The desired alteration, however, had not been obtained, but the committee were determined not to relax their efforts until the object had been secured. Mr. A. Gledhill, of Huddersfield, was elected president. A discussion took place on the recent prosecution for using Spanish phraseology on the labels of British-made cigars, and action for the protection of home manufacturers' interests was decided upon.

**REBATES ON IRISH TOBACCO.**—The Chancellor of the Exchequer, replying to questions addressed to him by Mr. Leverton Harris, M.P., states that the amount of rebate paid out of the Exchequer to growers of tobacco in Ireland during the year ended March 31st, 1906, was £367 8s. 4d. For the year ended March 31st, 1907, the amount was £912 11s. 1d.; and for the year ended March 31st, 1908, the rebates amounted to £3,395 5s. 3d. Mr. Lloyd George, replying to further questions, states that the quantities on which duty was paid during the three years referred to were respectively:—7,353 lbs., 20,173 lbs., and 68,612 lbs. The gross duty paid in each year amounted to £1,103, £3,026 os. 6d., and £10,291 16s. 3d. respectively,

or (after deducting the rebates mentioned in the answer to the preceding question) to net sums of £735 11s. 8d., £2,113 9s. 5d., and £6,896 11s.

**REBATE ON IRISH TOBACCO.**—In the House of Commons on June 4th Mr. Leverton Harris asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether, in view of the 30 per cent. preference given to tobacco growers in Ireland, he would extend this preference to growers in other parts of the British Empire? Mr. Lloyd George: The Hon. Member apparently refers to the rebate of the duty which is granted in Ireland upon tobacco grown for experimental purposes in certain strictly limited areas. There is no preference in favour of tobacco cultivated upon a commercial scale. It is a necessary condition of such experiments that they should be conducted under the supervision of the Board of Inland Revenue. Therefore it would be impossible to extend the concession to any place to which the jurisdiction of that Board does not extend. Mr. Leverton Harris: May I ask the right hon. gentleman if he is prepared to consider the granting of a similar rebate on beet sugar grown in this country; and whether he calls

growing for experimental purposes 68,000 lbs. of tobacco, which had a duty of over £10,000? Mr. Lloyd George: The whole experiments only extended to something between 80 and 100 acres, and therefore that would be experimental. I will consider the other suggestion of the Hon. Member. Mr. MacNeill: May I ask if he is aware that the experiment is only a miserable advantage to Ireland for the tobacco industry, which was destroyed by English legislation? No answer was given. Mr. FitzAlan Hope: Are we to understand that if the experiment is successful the rebate will be withdrawn?

Mr. Lloyd George: We had a full discussion the other day, and I can hardly answer questions of that kind across the floor of the House. Mr. Smeaton: Is he prepared to grant a similar rebate to tobacco grown in Scotland. No reply was given.

## Foreign.

**CANADIAN TOBACCO.**—The Canadian Government is starting a vigorous campaign for the improvement of tobacco. Two years ago a tobacco expert, M. Felix Charleau, was brought from France to see what were the possibilities of Canadian tobacco culture. He has been conducting careful experiments in Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia, and, says *Canada*, a weekly published in London, has found that a high grade of tobacco can be produced, but that the methods of production and curing followed in the past have been defective.

**TURKISH TOBACCO REGIE.**—The directors of the Turkish Tobacco Regie Company recommend the payment of a dividend at the rate of 12 per cent. for 1907. Accord-

CONNOISSEURS SMOKE

## TEOFANI'S

HIGH-CLASS  
CIGARETTES.

PURVEYORS TO HIS HIGHNESS



THE KHEMIVE OF EGYPT.

HORS CONCOURS. MEMBRES DU JURY. GRANDS PRIX  
GOLD MEDALS, CROIX BIJOUX, CROIX D'HONNEURS,  
DIPLOMES D'HONNEURS, &c., &c.

FROM ALL WHOLESALE HOUSES, OR FROM

**TEOFANI & CO., LONDON.**

Tel. Address—TEOFANI, LONDON. Tel. No. 2783 AVENUE.

**LINES THAT SELL:—“NILO” EGYPTIAN BLEND CIGARETTES, 5s. 6d. lb.; “GOOD TACK” (32), 3s. 6d. lb.; “SPECIAL STRAIGHT CUT, No. 5,” 5s. 6d. lb.; “LOLAH” TURKISH CIGARETTES, 5s. 6d. lb.; “DOTS” VIRGINIA (40), 5s. 6d. lb.—W. T. OSBORNE & CO., 47, BLACKFRIARS ROAD, LONDON, S.E.**



ing to the Constantinople correspondent of the *Frankfurter Zeitung* the net profits realised by the company last year were about £40,000 higher than those obtained in 1906, and the reason for not declaring a higher dividend lies in the still unclarified situation with regard to the prolongation of the tobacco concession. The same reason places upon the directors the duty of still further strengthening the extraordinary reserve fund.

**AMSTERDAM TOBACCO SALES.**—The sixth sale of the season for Sumatra and Borneo tobacco was held at Amsterdam on May 15th, when 17,856 bales of the former and 1,531 bales of the latter were offered to tender. The quality of the tobacco was generally poor, most of the companies having, by general consent, decided to offer parcels of low-class leaf, and even the best tobacco coming forward was not of more than medium quality. One result of this was that Americans did not buy, and the market was consequently left chiefly to the German contingent. The highest price was obtained by the Rotterdam Deli Maatschappij, who sold 434 bales at 175c., or 2s. 11d. From this there was a drop to second place, which was obtained by the Deli Maatschappij, who realised 152c., or 2s. 6½d., for 728 bales; while third honours fell to the United Lankat Plantations Company, Ltd., which marketed 660 bales from its Soengei-Gerpa Estate at 146c., or 2s. 5d., and the last-mentioned company sold also 319 bales from its Brahang Estate at 133c., or 2s. 2½d. The Rimboen Tabak Maatschappij (formerly British-Deli and Lankat Tobacco Company, Ltd.) sold 733 bales at an average of 90c., or 1s. 6d., and the Serdang Tabak Maatschappij (formerly Netherlands, India, Sumatra Tobacco Company, Ltd.) 471 bales at 67c., or 1s. 1½d. The Borneo leaf sold well. A large line of 899 bales belonging to the New Darvel Bay Tobacco Company, Ltd., sold at an average of 113c., or 1s. 10½d. The New London Borneo Tobacco Company sold 214 bales from its Bandau Estate at 83c., or 1s. 4½d., and a parcel of 418 bales of its low-grade leaf from its Bongon Estate at 40c., or 8d.

## Fires.

**NEWPORT BLAZE.**—At 4.30 a.m. on May 25th a fire was discovered at No. 76, Commercial Street, Newport, a three-storey brick building occupied by Mr. Winfred King as a newsagent, tobacconist, and hairdresser's shop. The alarm was given by P.C. Drewett and Alfred Harrington, a foreman road sweeper, and the occupants of the adjoining houses, as well as Mr. King, were called up. The fire brigade, in charge of Lieutenant Lyne and Supt. Cottell, were at the spot within a few minutes, but by this time the flames had secured a good hold, the combustible stock feeding them rapidly. They were, however, prevented by the brigade from spreading. The stock at No. 76, which Mr. King values at £400, was completely destroyed. Mr. King says he retired to rest just after midnight, and was awakened by someone kicking at his front door. He tried to get out that way, but was prevented by the smoke, and was obliged to escape through the back premises of his next door neighbour.

**FIRE IN BELFAST.**—Shortly before four o'clock on May 25th a passer-by noticed smoke issuing from the premises of Messrs. J. & T. Sorahan, tobacconists, 6, North Street. He immediately communicated with the fire brigade from the Castle Junction fire alarm, and in response there was a strong turn-out from the Central and Whitla Street Stations. Fortunately the outbreak had not attained any serious proportions, and a few minutes' work with a hand pump sufficed to extinguish the flames, little damage having been done.

**FIRE IN HESLINGTON ROAD.**—At eight minutes past four o'clock on the afternoon of May 20th Mr. William Bell, tobacconist, Heslington Road, called at the York

City Police Office and reported that a fire had broken out on the premises of Mr. Rusholme, No. 1, Appollo Street, Heslington Road. An alarm was immediately raised, and at 4.10 p.m. No. 1 steamer, with a detachment of firemen, under the command of Inspectors Hare and Waud, was despatched, and arrived at the scene of the outbreak at 4.13 p.m. It was found that a bedroom was on fire, and the engine was attached to a hydrant in Appollo Street, and a good supply of water obtained. The flames were subdued, but not before the furniture and bed in the room had been destroyed. Damage was also done to the adjoining bedroom by fire and water, and the windows and doors on the landing were broken. The cause of the outbreak is not definitely known, but it is stated that the fire originated immediately over a baker's oven, which was in use at the time. Considerable damage was done, but is, we understand, covered by insurance.

## Law.

**BRITISH MADE "HAVANAS." SPELL IT WITH A "B."**—At Cardiff, on May 20th, E. Nelson, tobacconist, of Queen Street, St. John Square, &c., was summoned for selling a box of cigars "to which a false trade description, to wit, a combination of words and labels calculated to lead to the belief that the cigars were Havana cigars, had been applied," contrary to the provisions of the Merchandise Marks Act, 1887. Mr. Raymond Allen (instructed by Messrs. Mackintosh, Thomas & Co.) prosecuted on behalf of the Havana Cigar Protection Association, Ltd., and Mr. G. F. Forsdike defended. In opening, Mr. Allen, after describing the labels on a box of cigars purchased at Mr. Nelson's shop in St. John Square, said he could not describe this case as anything less than a gross fraud.—Douglas Vanson said that, acting on instructions, he went to defendant's shop and purchased at 4s. 9d. a box of 25 cigars. On the box was a label purporting that the cigars were Havana. In reply to Mr. Forsdike, witness said he did not ask for, or expect, Havanas.—Mr. Fisher, cigar expert, London, said the Havana cigar was manufactured in Havana, and of Cuban tobacco. The cigars purchased by Mr. Vanson were certainly not Havanas. The genuine Havana could not be purchased wholesale at the price at which the cigars were sold to Mr. Vanson.—In cross-examination by Mr. Forsdike, witness said the Merchandise Marks Act had been a dead letter for years in regard to Havana cigars, but the Association had been active during the last few months. He had never seen Havana spelt with a "v," but always with a "b" on the genuine boxes. The word was spelt with a "v" on the box purchased by Mr. Vanson.—For the defence Mr. Forsdike said Mr. Nelson had taken every care with his cigars, and if he had committed any offence it was done innocently and without any intention to deceive. This was the first prosecution of its kind in the district, and for over twenty years the offence charged against Mr. Nelson had been committed with impunity throughout the country. It was only within the last few months that the Havana Cigar Protection Association had been at work.—Defendant, in the witness-box, bore out his advocate's statement, and adding that the cigars bought by Mr. Vanson were manufactured at Nottingham.—The Stipendiary said there was much force in the argument advanced by Mr. Forsdike that it had been a practice for very many years to sell British-made cigars in the way that the box had been sold to Mr. Vanson. He thought, therefore, that this was a case in which there should be only a nominal penalty—1s. and ten guineas costs.

**HAVANA CIGAR PROSECUTION. CITY TOBACCONIST HEAVILY FINED.**—Before the Common Serjeant (Sir F. A. Bosanquet) at the Central Criminal Court on June 3rd, Leopold Ernest Butcher, tobacconist, Gracechurch Street, surrendered to his bail upon an in-

"NATIONAL SHAG," PACKED IN 1/32, 1/16, 4s. 6d. per lb.—THE PRIZE MEDAL SHAG FOR QUALITY.  
W. T. OSBORNE & CO., 47, BLACKFRIARS ROAD, LONDON, S.E.

dietment charging him with unlawfully selling two boxes of cigars to which a false trade description had been given. Mr. Bodkin and Mr. Symmons prosecuted, and Mr. Hume Williams, K.C., and Mr. St. John Morrow defended. The case was brought under the Merchandise Marks Act, and the defendant, when at the Mansion House, elected to have the case tried by jury. Under the Act in question it was an offence to sell goods to which a false trade description had been applied, and in this case it was alleged that two boxes of cigars purchased from the defendant by an agent of the Havana Tobacco Protection Association bore a combination of words and pictures which would lead persons to believe that they were of Havana manufacture made in Cuba, whereas in fact they were of British origin, and came, it was stated, one from Leicester and the other from Aldersgate Street. A large number of witnesses were called, and it was admitted that the cigars contained a large admixture of Havana tobacco. In defence it was urged that it was the custom of tobacco manufacturers to apply the Spanish language and illustrations of Cuban scenes to boxes of cigars which were made in this country. This custom was so well known, it was further urged, that the fact that the Spanish language was used was not likely to affect the mind of the purchasers of the cigars one way or the other. All that the purchaser desired was to get a cigar to his taste. These particular cigars were made and sold by well-known firms, but no proceedings had been taken against them, probably, said Mr. Hume Williams, because they would be certain to defend the case. The jury, after three-quarters of an hour's deliberation, returned into Court, but the foreman stated that they were unable to agree to a verdict.—The Common Serjeant explained the law to the jury, remarking that the jurors must take the law, which was very plain in this matter, from him. There was no question of fraudulent intent in this matter—the only question was whether a false trade description had been applied to these boxes. The jury again retired, and on again returning, in reply to the question whether they had agreed, the foreman said they had not, as the difficulty was that one juror had been unable to grasp what had been so very clearly put in evidence before them.—The Common Serjeant said every member of the jury had a right to form his own opinion of the facts, and he was unable to compel a juror to alter his opinion, but it was the duty of the jurors to take the direction of the Judge as to the law of the case.—A Juror: Perhaps the difficulty might be overcome if His Lordship would explain the duties of a juror under a juryman's oath.—The Common Serjeant said a juryman was bound to find a verdict when the facts before him accorded with the law as laid down by the Judge. It would be a pity that the case should have to be tried again. The jury again retired, and in a few minutes returned into court with a verdict of guilty.—Mr. Bodkin said the defendant was fined £20 for a similar offence in March last.—The Common Serjeant said this being a second

conviction, he should impose a fine of £50, or in default one month's imprisonment.—Mr. Morrow gave notice of appeal, and the defendant was released on bail. The case had occupied the attention of the Common Serjeant three days.

**INTERDICT AGAINST GLASGOW TOBACCONISTS.**  
—In Glasgow Sheriff Court Sheriff Balfour has delivered judgment in an action at the instance of the Imperial Tobacco Co. Ltd., Bristol, to interdict Abraham J. Binick, tobacco merchant, 108, St. George's Road, Glasgow, from infringing the brands of tobacco known as "Smith's Glasgow Smoking Mixture." Interim interdict was granted in May, 1907, and the Court was now asked to make the interdict perpetual and to award damages in respect of alleged infringement. The Sheriff has declared the interim interdict formerly granted perpetual, and finds defender liable in £20 as damages. In a "note" the Sheriff remarks that

purchases were made by respectable and intelligent persons on five occasions, when defender sold tobaccos which were not pursuers'. On these occasions Smith's Glasgow Mixture was distinctly asked for and imitation articles supplied. The trade name in this case was most distinct and special. It had been in existence for more than thirty-five years, and was well known in the trade and among the public, and pursuers had a right to prevent defender selling a spurious tobacco under that name.

**A CIGAR DEAL.**—Messrs. R. P. Warren & Co., cigar and cigarette merchants, of 101, Leadenhall Street, E.C., sued Miss R. Socker, tobacconist, of 10, Station Road, Finsbury Park, for £41 17s., as the amount due upon a bill of exchange. Mr. Macoun was counsel for plaintiffs, and Mr. E. Todd for defendant.—In opening, Mr. Macoun said the plaintiffs were agents for a firm of cigar manufacturers in Belgium. In August, 1906, they sold to Miss Socker some 4,800 cigars. The goods, sold by sample, were duly delivered, and with the exception of a few boxes were sold by defendant. When the bill which she gave became due, it was found that she had given her bankers instructions not to meet it. The defence set up was that when the goods were purchased, and the bill given, there was a warranty that the cigars should be made of Havana tobacco, and that the boxes should bear stamped upon them the word Havana, and that defendant should thereby be enabled to sell them over the counter as cigars made of Havana tobacco in Belgium. Further, that the goods were not made of Havana tobacco, and arrived with the word "Havana" covered up on the boxes. And further, that defendant was invited to commit a fraud on the public by steaming off the word "sublime" and leaving the word "Havana" disclosed. That defendant refused to do so, and had to sell the goods under their proper designation at the best price obtainable. Defendant also set up that plaintiffs committed a breach of contract to purchase cigarettes and

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a lamp from her, in respect of which she was entitled to counterclaim for her loss.—Mr. Macoun: Everybody in this country who knows anything about the tobacco trade knows that a Havana cigar is one made in Havana. They cannot be made anywhere else.—His Honour: To sell these goods over the counter as made of Havana tobacco there would be no fraud in that. There would have been fraud if she had sold them as Havana cigars, which, I understand, she declined to do.—Mr. Macoun: I deny that there was any attempt to defraud. I say that if there was any fraud at all, then she is certainly a party to it.—Mr. Todd (handing up a box of cigars) said His Honour would see that the word "sublime" was pasted over "Havana."—A member of the plaintiff firm said the cigars were sold at 12s. per 100.—Mr. Macoun: What is the proper way of testing a cigar? By smoking it.—His Honour: Not by smelling it? No.—Mr. Macoun said he thought the witness ought to have an opportunity of testing one of the cigars produced.—Mr. Todd: I have not the smallest objection.—Mr. Macoun: I suppose your Honour will not allow any smoking in court? (Laughter.) Might there be an adjournment for five minutes?—Mr. Todd: Surely the witness is not expected to smoke one of these cigars in five minutes? (Laughter.) I may say that the man we sold them to died shortly afterwards. (Much laughter.) I don't suggest, of course, that he died from the effects of smoking these cigars.—His Honour: I am glad to hear that.—Mr. Macoun: If he smoked 4,000 cigars he deserved his fate. (Laughter.)—Witness said he could test the cigar by breaking it up, which he proceeded to do. The filling, he said, consisted partly of Havana, Java, and Borneo. In cross-examination, Mr. Todd raised a legal point as to the endorsements on the bill, and submitted that plaintiffs were not the proper persons to bring the action. After a legal argument, His Honour upheld the point, and entered judgment in favour of defendant. Mr. Macoun said he should take the legal point in question to the Divisional Court.

**A TRANSACTION IN BRITISH TOBACCO SHARES.**  
—In the Chancery Division, on May 12th, before the Master of the Rolls, in the case of Kelly v. Kelly, Mr. Timothy Sullivan (instructed by Mr. Francis Clinch) applied, on behalf of the plaintiff, Mr. James J. Kelly, for an interlocutory injunction restraining his wife, Mrs. Julia Agnes Kelly, from transferring 500 shares in the British Tobacco Company, or otherwise disposing of same, pending the trial of the action. Counsel said the action was for a declaration that these 500 shares, now standing in the name of the defendant, were the property of the plaintiff, and were held by the defendant as a trustee for him, and there was also a claim that the defendant should execute a transfer of the shares to the plaintiff. The plaintiff carries on business as a tobacconist in several shops in Dublin. In March of the present year the defendant got herself registered as the proprietor of these 500 shares. Admittedly the money that paid for them was taken out of the business. Mrs. Kelly had given assistance in the management of the Camden Street shop, and her case was that her husband knew all along, and consented to her appropriating to her own use a certain proportion of the takings as remuneration for her services. The plaintiff's case was that the assistance given by the wife was voluntary, and that the money with which she bought the shares was his money. In the affidavits the plaintiff said the shares were bought at £1 2s. each, and were paid for by his wife, partly in cash and partly by a cheque on her account in bank. Mrs. Kelly, in her affidavit, said that the business was started by her husband and herself, with their joint money, and that the plaintiff knew and consented to everything she had done in connection with the business.—Mr. Harrison (instructed by Messrs. J. & J. Moran), for the defendant, submitted that under the circumstances no action lay, and that the Courts had never yet given an injunction at the suit of a husband in respect of property which was vested in the name of the wife, and which she claimed to be her property.

—The Master of the Rolls said that having regard to the circumstances of the case, it would be an extraordinary thing if the Court could not interfere, and prevent property being made away with. He expressed no opinion as to the merits of either side. He simply preserved the property, pending the litigation, and, in the interest of both parties, granted the injunction.

## Obituary.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. CHARLES ARTHUR GOODMAN, of the firm of Goodman & Harris, which took place from heart failure on May 27th. Mr. Goodman was in the 51st year of his age.

## Police.

**UNMANUFACTURED TOBACCO.**—John Webb (49), labourer, of Emily Street, Canning Town, was charged with concealing 1 lb. 6 oz. unmanufactured tobacco.—Constable M'Gillicuddy, of the Dock Police, said that on Saturday, June 6th, at 1.30, he was off duty in Nelson Street, Canning Town, and saw the prisoner showing some tobacco leaves to another man. He watched, and saw him go to a common lodging-house in Emily Street, returning with a parcel. Part of this he gave to the man, and the officer, stepping up, seized the parcel, and found it contained tobacco. When asked to account for it the prisoner said that he picked it up on the waste ground off Connaught Road.—The Prisoner: That's quite true. I was going along Connaught Road and saw it lying by the fence. He was ordered to pay treble value and duty 17s. 9d., or seven days.

## Public Companies.

With the title of J. Samuda, Ltd., a company has been formed, the capital being £75,000 in £1 shares, to acquire the business of Messrs. J. Samuda & Co., tobacconists, 34, Leadenhall Street.

**HERBERT BUTT & CO. LTD., Cigar Merchants, Bristol.**—A debenture dated 13th May, 1908, to secure £110 charged on the company's undertaking and property, including capital, has been registered. Holder, Miss B. E. Godson, 274, Wells Road, Knowle, Bristol.

**HAVANA CIGAR AND TOBACCO.**—After providing for depreciation, debenture interest, and the preference dividend to October 31st, 1907, the accounts for the year 1907 show an available balance of £11,414. Out of this sum it is proposed to pay £8,264 to Henry Clay and Bock and Co., on account of the balance of £8,685 still owing to that company, and provided by it to pay preference dividend for the year ended October 31st, 1905; and the balance of £3,150 to provide for preference dividend from November 1st to December 31st, 1907.

**NEW LONDON BORNEO TOBACCO.**—The report of the New London Borneo Tobacco Company, Ltd., for the year ended 31st December, 1907, presented at the meeting on the 1st inst., states that the crop of 1906 consisted of 7,056 bales, as compared with 6,919 bales produced in 1905. The average price obtained was 92½ cents per half kilo, or about 1s. 5d. per lb., as compared with 80½ cents per half kilo, or about 1s. 2½d., for the 1905 crop, and 39½ cents, or 7½d., for the 1904 crop. The accounts show that the 1906 crop realised £73,080, and the total sum chargeable against the same, including London expenses (less receipts) and depreciation, amounts to £49,780, showing a profit of £23,300. The directors propose a final dividend of 7½ per cent. on the ordinary shares Nos. 1 to 110,000, extra remuneration to directors £1,630, reserve

fund £2,330, and dividend on founders' shares £5,590. The expenditure on the 1907 crop to the end of the year amounts to £39,429, as against £34,953 in 1906. The Hon. C. H. Strutt, who presided, moved the adoption of the report. He stated that the year 1907, when the 1906 crop was sold, was a successful one. The company's tobacco was good, and there were no droughts to spoil it. The market was in a buoyant condition. The result was the company realised the good average price of 1s. 5d. per lb. They had from the 1907 crop 8,413 bales forwarded, compared with 7,956 bales in 1906, but the quality was not so good. Considering that the market felt the effect very much of the set-back in the United States, and that the year was not so favourable in Borneo, they must rest content with the prices they had obtained in Amsterdam up to date. Borneo had never compared so favourably as it had done this year with Sumatra in the prices which had been obtained. Mr. P. E. Lawrence seconded the motion, which was adopted.

## A TOBACCO VEGA.

FROM the days when cigars were the luxury of the rich Cuba has been noted for the quality of its tobacco and for the quantity of leaf and finished cigars which she exports.

The extent to which the prosperity of the island is dependent on the tobacco industry may be gauged from the following statistics. Two hundred and fifty million cigars, eleven million boxes of cigarettes, and thirty million pounds weight of tobacco are annually exported from Havana. The trade supports directly more than a quarter of a million persons, excluding proprietors of farms, retailers, agents, and travellers. In the city of Havana alone there are more than a hundred cigar factories, about fifty cigarette factories, and nearly one hundred and fifty leaf merchants and brokers. In the island there are over a thousand farms for the cultivation of "Nicotiana Tabacum."

Just as the east of Cuba is devoted to sugar, so the west, the provinces of Pinar del Rio and Havana, are devoted to tobacco. The choicest leaf comes from the region of Vuelto Abajo, which has always been famous amongst connoisseurs of the weed. The farms are called "vegas" and the cultivators "vegueros."

Some of the vegas are of great size, that of the Cabañas leaf covering more than 2,000 acres. The majority are named after Biblical characters, and this throws an interesting light on the extreme piety of the Spaniards who colonised the island. Repeated over and over again are found the titles Santa Maria, Santo Josepho, the Nazarene, Jesus, &c.

In many parts of Pinar del Rio if the traveller ascends one of the hills, he will see from the top as far as the eye can reach fields of tobacco. Some of these are covered with great areas of cheese cloth to protect the plants from the extremes of heat and damp.

In tiny palm leaf shacks are found the "vegueros." As nearly all the work of the vegas must be done in the early morning before the sun becomes too strong, the visitor is generally sure of finding the peasants in their huts. The furniture within is of the poorest quality and scantiest description. Chairs and tables of rural construction, with hammocks for beds. The "bohios," for so they call these habitations, often contain only one room, which is kitchen, bedroom, and parlour combined. A hole in the roof affords escape for the smoke, if the cooking is done in the house.

On every vega is a portion of land especially prepared and reserved for the raising of seedlings. Formerly this stretch of land underwent a peculiar preparation, which is still followed in some parts of the island. When clearing the ground, the trees were burnt down, and allowed to rot where they fell. This, it was believed, made a good manure for the young plants. When this process was in hand the country side for miles around was hid in clouds

of thickest smoke, and it looked as if some mighty conflagration was destroying it. The smaller branches and leaves were gathered by the peasants and burnt in trenches. This was known as "stoking" season.

Into the soil thus prepared the seed is placed, and within a very little time it was growing most flourishingly. If the seeds are sown in September the young plants, "posturas," are ready for transplantation in December, when they are about eight centimetres high, and are showing some half-dozen leaves. A bed of seeds half a metre square will produce about 15,000 posturas, and this proportion is fully necessary owing to loss incurred in transplanting them.

In the early morning in December the moving is done, before the sun is high and whilst the dew, still on the plants, supports them until they take hold of the new soil. In their new beds they are set half a yard apart, and if not under cheese cloth they are protected with broad banana leaves. This because there is a belief amongst the peasants that for three days they sleep. If the weather is cyclonic the transplantation is postponed for a month.

When about ten or a dozen leaves have grown, and the buds have arrived, the plants are budded and deflowered to give them greater strength. By this time they have grown to sixty or seventy centimetres. From the time of bloom to maturity is a little over a month. In January and February is the harvest, and tradition has it that the leaves should only be picked on the wane of the moon. Like all other farm operations, it is early morning work. Otherwise the tobacco will surely lose its aroma and flavour.

The exact period of maturity varies, and depends to some extent on the market for which the leaf is intended. The colour, the woodiness, the fibre, and the life of the plant all must be considered. For the German market the leaves are stripped off when they are barely half-yellow, because in that condition they are supposed to contain less nicotine.

There are three methods of harvesting employed. The first is to strip only the ripe leaves from the plants; the second is to cut the entire plant with a machete; and the third is to cut off opposite pairs of leaves. Only the first and last, however, are now employed in Cuba. The leaves are picked with the thumb and first finger, picking downward from the top of the plant. The leaf is then laid over the left arm, stem inwards, until they can be put over a frame to dry. A good hand can pick from 200 to 300 plants an hour without over-exertion, each plant producing on an average a dozen leaves. No tobacco is cut after the middle of April, because the quality is poor and, owing to the rain, watery.

After being picked the leaves are conveyed to the drying sheds, where they are hung on "cujes," or thin wands, to dry. These sheds are built of wooden palisades, with removable palm leaf sides, to give a greater amount of air when the weather is fine.

The next process is the grading of the leaf, which is divided into three classes of quality, damped and cut. The leaves are then arranged on tables in handsful—manojos—and a heavy weight is put on them, and again they are left to dry. It is during this last drying that the tobacco takes its final colour, aroma, and flavour. Care is taken that it does not become overheated, which would at once spoil it. The careful manager is constantly seen visiting the sheds, plunging his hand into the piles of leaf to see that it does not over-sweat. When this process is finished, after many days, the manojos are gathered for packing in "tercios." Each of these bales contains 60 to 80 handsful, weighs 100 lb., and is valued at £30 to £40.

Ever since the leaf has been in the sheds, and especially during the final heating, merchants have been coming from all over the island, and, indeed, the world, to examine and buy their stocks. To them the tercios are sent either by schooner to Havana or by rail if far in the interior. Then the proprietor gathers up his bills and cash, and leaves the vega in silence till September comes, and he returns for seeding the next crop.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

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## From the "London Gazette."

### Receiving Orders.

BATHEW, ERNEST WILMOT, late tobacco and cigar merchant, 77, Orford Lane, lately 39a, Horsemarket Street, Warrington. Date of order, May 15th, 1908.

HIRST, JOHN (the elder), and JOHN HIRST (the younger) (trading in co-partnership under the style of J. Hirst), tobacconists, 45, Sadlergate, Derby. Date of order, May 6th, 1908.

JONES, EVAN PETERS, formerly tobacconist, lately 43, Upper Dickinson Street, 48, Market Street, and Moot Hall, Wallgate, Wigan, now Carlton Manor, Carlton, near Yeadon, Yorks. Date of order, April 25th, 1908.

LUCKETT, WILLIAM JOHN, tobacconist, &c., 64, Luton Road, Chatham. Date of order, May 20th, 1908.

### First Meetings and Public Examinations.

BATHEW, ERNEST WILMOT, lately tobacco and cigar merchant, 77, Orford Lane, and 39a, Horsemarket Street, Warrington. First meeting at Official Receiver's Offices, Byrom Street, Manchester, June 3rd, 1908, at 2.30. Public examination at Court House, Palmyra Square, Warrington, June 5th, at 11.

HIRST, JOHN (the elder), and JOHN HIRST (the younger) (trading in co-partnership under the style of J. Hirst), tobacconists, 45, Sadler Gate, Derby. Public examination at 20, St. Peter's Churchyard, Derby, June 16th, 1908, at 11.

LUCKETT, WILLIAM JOHN, tobacconist, &c., 64, Luton Road, Chatham. First meeting at 115, High Street, Rochester, June 15th, 1908, at 12.15. Public examination at Court House, Eastgate, Rochester, same day at 2.30.

### Adjudications.

BATHEW, ERNEST WILMOT, late tobacco and cigar merchant, 77, Orford Lane, lately 39a, Horsemarket Street, Warrington. Date of order, May 19th, 1908.

HIRST, JOHN (the elder), and JOHN HIRST (the younger) (trading in co-partnership under the style of J. Hirst), tobacconists, 45, Sadlergate, Derby. Date of order, May 6th, 1908.

JONES, EVAN PETERS, formerly tobacconist, lately 43, Upper Dickinson Street, 48, Market Street, and Moot Hall, Wallgate, Wigan, now Carlton Manor, Carlton, near Yeadon, Yorks. Date of order, April 25th, 1908.

LUCKETT, WILLIAM JOHN, tobacconist, &c., 64, Luton Road, Chatham. Date of order, May 20th, 1908.

### Notices of Intended Dividends.

FARMER, HARRY, tobacconist, &c., 55, George Street, Walsall, formerly 59, King Street, Darlaston. Last day for proofs, June 10th, 1908. Trustee, S. W. Page, 30, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton.

POOLE, ALFRED ERNEST EDWARD CLAY, tobacconist, &c., 9, The Crescent, and Midland Studio, Northumberland Street, Morecambe, Lancs. Last day for

proofs, June 5th, 1908. Trustee, C. H. Plant, 13, Winkley Street, Preston.

SKELTON, ALBERT EDWARD, tobacconist, &c., 64a, Ramshill Road, Scarborough. Last day for proofs, May 27th, 1908. Trustee, D. S. Mackay, 48, Westborough, Scarborough.

### Notice of Dividend.

JACKSON, FRED, tobacconist, &c., Pasture Road, Goole, Yorks. First and final of 2s. 5½d., at 6, Bond Terrace, Wakefield.

### Dissolutions of Partnerships.

ALLEN, WALTER ALBERT VICTOR, and PARKER LUCAS COLLINS, tobacconists, &c., 163a, Hamlet Court Road, Westcliff, Southend-on-Sea, under the style of Allen & Collins. All debts due to and owing by the late firm will be received and paid by Walter Albert Victor Allen.

KESSELL, FRANK EVANS, and HERBERT ARTHUR LEE, tobacconists, &c., 41, Station Road, Portslade, under the style of Kessell & Lee. All debts due and owing to or by the late firm will be received or paid by Herbert Arthur Lee, who will continue.

MAWSON, HARRY THORNS, and CYRIL JOHN MAWSON, cigar manufacturers and merchants, Portland Street, Leicester, under the style of Mawson Brothers. All debts due to and owing by the late firm will be received and paid by Harry Thorns Mawson, who will continue.

THE SULTAN'S CIGARETTES.—"The Turkish Sultan," says *P.T.O.*, "has for generations smoked the finest cigarettes in the world. Cigarettes like his, bought over here, would cost over 1s. apiece. In the Royal palace there has been from time immemorial a small cigarette factory—a light, airy room, a bale of exquisite tobacco, one or two simple hand-cutting machines, a

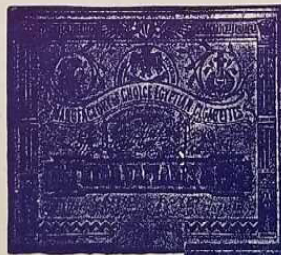
half-dozen workmen of marvellous skill. Here the cigarettes of the Sultan are turned out. The best cigarette tobacco comes from Turkey and the best of that goes to the Sultan. A hundredweight of leaves are rejected before a pound sufficiently fine and flawless is found for Royal use."

THE DANGER OF SMOKING IN BED.—About 9.15 on May 26th a woman named Margaret Vennos was proceeding along Ellesmere Street, South Shields, when she saw a glare of fire in the dwelling-house No. 37, occupied by Matthew Callender, ferryman. She looked in at the window, and saw Callender lying in bed, and the bedclothes on fire. She forced the front door, and dragged Callender, who was unconscious from the effects of the smoke, into the backyard, where he recovered in about a quarter of an hour. It appeared that he had been on night duty, and on going to bed in the morning had lit a cigarette, which had set the bed on fire. The flames were extinguished by the neighbours.

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## THE BOY SMOKER.

### RIGHT OF SEARCH ABANDONED.

In Standing Committee B of the House of Commons on May 21st Mr. Herbert Samuel, Under Secretary to the Home Office, promised amendments to the Children's Bill abandoning the proposal to give to constables and park-keepers power to search boys for cigarettes and tobacco, and considerably mitigating the clause relating to the prosecution of young smokers. These changes are to be made when the measure comes before the House on report. The chair was taken by Mr. Lawrence Hardy.

Mr. Atherley-Jones (North-west Durham) moved the omission of Clause 38, which authorises a constable or a park-keeper or any other person in uniform having the powers of a constable to take any cigarettes, cigarette papers, or tobacco from a boy apparently under the age of sixteen smoking in a street or other public place. The Hon. Member objected to the section because it would extend the criminal law to cases outside it in principle. Hitherto that law had only dealt with acts hurtful to the public. It had never concerned itself with the personal habits of individuals unless they inflicted immediate injury on the community.

Mr. J. A. Bright (Oldham) wished to see the clause struck out because by implication it would permit constables, park-keepers, and other officials to search boys whom they found smoking.

Mr. Harwood (Bolton) remarked that the present Government tried to do too much in everything. It would have been enough to stop the selling of cigarettes and tobacco to boys less than sixteen years of age. He feared that the Committee did not realise what searching was. He had been searched—(laughter)—and could testify that it was extremely disagreeable.

Mr. Maclean (Bath) assured the supporters of the amendment that constables and park-keepers were not the roving ruffians that they supposed. (Laughter.) Without the power of search the clause would be a farce, because when a boy had been deprived of one cigarette he might produce another as soon as the constable was out of sight.

Mr. Herbert Samuel promised to introduce on report an amendment preventing constables and park-keepers from searching boys whom they found smoking. Thus the cigarette or pipe which a lad was actually smoking would alone be confiscable unless he voluntarily gave up any stock that he might possess. If that change were agreed to he would suggest that girls should again be brought within the scope of the clause. (Hear, hear.) In view of this promise the amendment was withdrawn.

Clause 39 was then considered. It provided that if a child less than sixteen years old smoked in a street or public place or purchased, whether for his own use or not, any cigarettes or cigarette papers he should be liable on summary conviction to be reprimanded for a first offence, fined not more than five shillings for a second, and not more than ten shillings for a third.

Mr. Atherley-Jones proposed to strike out the section on the ground that if possible children should never be brought before a police-court, even if it were the special juvenile court provided by the Bill.

Mr. Samuel argued that bringing young smokers before a Court would be the most effective of deterrents, because it would greatly impress the parents.

Mr. Cochrane (North Ayrshire) complained that punishment would fall upon a boy sent by his father, or perhaps a lodger, to buy tobacco or cigarettes.

Mr. Richardson (South Nottingham) testified as a working man representative that the clause was likely to inflict great hardship on working-class parents.

Mr. Samuel undertook to propose on report that for a first offence the young person should not be brought before any Court, but a notification should be sent to his parents.

Moreover, he (the Under Secretary) would propose that if the child had been sent to a tobacco shop by an employer the latter and not the parents should be called on to pay the fine. By 17 to 15 the clause was retained.

The next clause declared that if it was proved to the satisfaction of a Court of Summary Jurisdiction that any automatic machine for the sale of cigarettes was being extensively used by children less than sixteen years old the court might order the person on whose premises the machine was kept to take precautions or to remove the machine.

Mr. Cowan (Guildford) failed to see why any use of these machines should be permitted to children. He therefore proposed to omit the word "extensively."

Mr. Samuel explained that at present automatic machines for the sale of cigarettes were not extensively used by children, as they only gave two cigarettes for a penny and boys wanted more. Juvenile patronage of them might, however, grow when the Bill became an Act, and therefore the Clause was needed. On the other hand, a capital of half a million was invested in automatic machines, and 25 per cent. of the owners' profits came from cigarettes. If the amendment were agreed to the purchase of a single cigarette by a boy might bring the law down on the person who had charge of the machine. Such a liability would seriously damage, if not ruin, the automatic machine business. The amendment was negatived by 12 to 10, after which the Committee adjourned.

### SMOKING CLAUSES ADOPTED.

In the Standing Committee on the Children's Bill, at Westminster, on May 26th, the clauses relating to juvenile smoking were further considered. Mr. L. Hardy presided. Mr. H. Samuel, the Minister in charge of the Bill, moved an amendment, applying the prohibition regulations to tobacco other than cigarettes, except in cases where a boy under 16 purported in good faith to be the emissary of a smoker of age. Mr. Leif Jones pointed out that very deleterious smoking mixtures, which were not tobacco, were sold for the purpose of consumption by children, and their case was not covered by the amendment. An analysis of one such mixture showed that it contained irritant poison which might lead to laryngitis. Mr. Byles professed acquaintance with the mixture referred to, and mentioned that he had endeavoured, without success, to persuade the Chairman to try it. (Laughter.) Mr. Gulland gave a practical illustration of the "slovenly way these Acts are drawn." When local authorities north of the Tweed got power some years ago to regulate the sale of ice-cream, the vendors altered the name to "Frostine," and in that way were able to circumvent the bye-laws. In the same way the term "smoking mixture" might be employed to defeat the object of this Bill. Mr. Samuel confessed the reasonableness of the objection. As the Bill stood it would be open for a boy to explain to a policeman that what he was smoking in his cigarette was not tobacco but "—'s smoking mixture." An amendment was inserted providing that the Bill shall apply to smoking mixtures intended as a substitute for tobacco, and the clause dealing with smoking was then adopted amid cheers.

### THE TRADE AND THE BOY SMOKER.

Mr. C. E. M'Connell, hon. secretary of the Wholesale Tobacconists' Protection Society Ltd., has addressed a letter to Mr. Laurence Hardy, M.P., Chairman of the Standing Committee which is dealing with the Children's Bill with regard to the clauses relating to juvenile smoking. The Committee of the Association, says Mr. M'Connell, consider that these clauses have been framed without due regard to the legitimate interests of the retail tobacconists, and that if passed in their present form would undoubtedly defeat the actual aim and intention of the Bill, inasmuch as a largely increased number of adults and children would thereby be

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brought within the purview of police or criminal courts under a newly-created criminal offence—a state of affairs which would inevitably have a degenerative effect. Tobaccoists as a body would be perfectly willing to co-operate in endeavouring to suppress juvenile smoking, but they strongly resent being placed under continual police surveillance. They are of opinion that while juvenile smoking may rightly be regarded as undesirable, its extent and effects have been grossly exaggerated, and that any evils or abuses that may exist could be far more effectually dealt with by securing the co-operation of the trade, the school-master, and the parents than by legislation on the lines adopted in the Bill. Tobaccoists, concludes Mr. McConnell, should be placed on the same footing as owners of automatic machines in being given an opportunity of rectifying any contravention of the Act, for which they or their assistants may unwittingly have been responsible, before any proceedings can be taken against them.

## BOYS v. THE STATE.

ONE cannot help feeling extremely sorry for the modern Governments that take up the terrible task of protecting men from themselves. To protect them from one another was long considered the sufficient task of government, and even that has always been troublesome enough.

But it is no longer considered sufficient. We recognise now that, just as important as preventing a man from injuring his neighbour, is to prevent him from injuring himself. If A breaks B's head, or if A drinks himself to death, the result is the same—namely, the loss of one citizen to the State. Therefore our modern governments which try to be very logical, have to come forward and try to save us from ourselves, as well as from other people. They are endeavouring to make us good in spite of ourselves.

Take the Bill which seeks, so laudably, to put a stop to juvenile smoking. It seems not only an important, but even a vital, a necessary thing, that boys, who are such ignorant little idiots as to want to wreck their bodies by smoking vile tobacco for swagger, should be protected from their own idiocy.

But what about the difficulty of the task? How can the State, in the person of the policeman, follow the boy about, and catch him "at it again," as he lurks smoking in corners? How can the obvious, bulky policeman follow the same "idiot boy" into his room and rob him of his cheap tobacco? How can espionage be carried so far?

That it cannot go so far is proved already by the concessions that the promoters of the Children's Bill have had to make to its critics in Committee. A boy, for instance, is to be allowed a cigarette if his parents are so depraved as to give him one. The State is not going to come and take it out of the youngster's mouth in that case. It is not going to be more parental than the parent.

Cigarette-seizing and boy-arresting will, however, in spite of this limitation, be an appallingly frequent sight in our streets and public places during the next few years.

Boys—need it be said—will go on smoking just the same. Many of them will never have heard of the preventive Act, and those who have heard of it will enjoy their smoking all the more that it is officially forbidden. The charm of the cigarette, for them already great, will be appreciably added to by the adventurous element imparted by a State prohibition. And as a result half the juvenile street population of huge London will be in guerrilla warfare with the police. Forcing boys to be good by government is a weighty matter.

It would be better, one cannot help believing, if some of this responsibility were to be taken off the policeman's shoulders by the boy's parents and by public opinion.

If all parents soundly thwacked their boys whenever they smoked, if public opinion, amongst boys and grown-ups, could really be stimulated into active hostility to the smoking habit, there would be more done to stop it in no time than will be done in many months of policeman and boy warfare in the streets. As it is parents are slack, and as to public opinion do we not know the familiar sight of a passer-by for a light? Does not the passer-by in most cases give it, with a tolerant smile and an amused remark? That is the attitude of the public. Whence we must conclude that the ugly habit can only be destroyed if the man in the street comes to the assistance of the poor policeman, in his forlorn chase of the cigarette idiot; and if all of us, as individuals, fight to stop boys from smoking, instead of leaving everything to governments that seek to replace parents by policemen.—*Daily Mirror*.

## The American Tobacco Trust's Idea of Moral Principles.

JUNIUS B. PARKER, of the counsel for the Tobacco Trust, in his argument in the suit of the United States Government against the Trust, proclaimed with a great show of injured innocence that not only had the defendants never aimed to keep just within the limits of the law, as many were inclined to charge, but, on the contrary, they had never even violated the moral principles of business.

To say the least, the Tobacco Trust has a most peculiar idea of the moral principles of business. Probably it was in pursuance of these principles that it instituted its infamous bribery and corruption department for the purpose of expending enormous sums of money annually in the bribery of members of State Legislatures, and of officials of State and Municipal Governments.

The Tobacco Trust may have had the moral principles of business in mind when they used the following threat against Frank D. Ware at the time he was planning to establish an independent cigarette business:—"If you start that factory we will follow you to the gates of hell, and crush hell out of you and your new company. We will do this by fair means or foul."

It was perhaps the same extraordinary idea of moral principles of business that led J. B. Duke in person to threaten R. P. Richardson, jun., the head of an independent tobacco factory which the Tobacco Trust was seeking to absorb by its own peculiar methods in the following words: "When we complete our plans in regard to Mississippi it will be a war of extermination, as I, myself, and not the boys, will direct the campaign."

The Tobacco Trust was presumably making heroic endeavours to live up to the moral principles of business when, after it had coerced the Richardson firm by threats of extermination to turn over a controlling interest, secured possession of Richardson's formulae for his various brands of tobacco, and began to make duplicates of those brands in other Trust factories, thus seeking to wantonly kill off a business in which it owned a 60 per cent. interest in order that it might not have to share the profits with the original owners, who still held a 40 per cent. interest.

The Tobacco Trust undoubtedly had in mind its own peculiar conception of the moral principles of business when it set up a number of what Hon. J. C. McReynolds has so aptly termed commercial wolves—that is, supposedly independent concerns, in reality owned and controlled by the Trust—to kill with murderous competition such genuinely independent firms as refused to sell out to the Tobacco Trust.

It was probably another phase of the Tobacco Trust's idea of the moral principles of business when it instructed its dirty spies to seek employment in the factory of a competitor for the purpose of secretly and regularly reporting the shipping marks on all goods sent out, as well as the quantities of goods which were shipped by the competitor to each customer.

It was also a demonstration of the Tobacco Trust's zealous attachment to the moral principles of business when it caused its most honourable vice-president to send a lying letter to a reputable business house, stating in black and white, over his own signature, "Of course all rumours to the effect that our company is back of the United Cigar Stores Co. are entirely without foundation, as we have no financial interest whatever in that company," when as a matter of fact the Tobacco Trust had for nearly a year before the letter was written owned two-thirds of the common stock, all of the preferred stock, and more than two million dollars worth of bonds of the United Cigar Stores Co.

The plain matter of fact is that moral perceptions of Duke and his associates have become so warped and perverted by their own greed that they can hardly be accepted as competent judges to pass upon questions of business morality.—*Tobacco, of New York.*

## TOBACCO AND HYGIENE.

### SMOKING AS A SHIELD AGAINST DISEASE.

It is a habit amongst many people to talk glibly about the evils of tobacco, to ascribe to it all manner of diseases, and to assert that its liberal use makes steadily for the deterioration of the human body. All this is very well in its way, although hardly supported by an inquiry into facts. The agitation against tobacco is peculiar when it is remembered that it was originally hailed—foolishly, no doubt—by the first Indian smokers as a panacea for all ills and diseases. For some diseases it was still used as late as the last century, when tobacco wine, made by steeping an ounce of tobacco in a pound of Spanish wine, was used in cases of dropsy. Sir Astley Cooper, it may be remembered, regarded it as the best drug for the reduction of hernia. The opportunity may appropriately be taken here to explain the physical constitution of tobacco. The green leaf contains a large percentage of complex organic bodies which retard combustion and emit a most offensive odour when burning. The curing and manufacture of the green leaf into smokable tobacco get rid of or modify these bodies. Excessive fermentation, however, blackens the leaves and produces ammonia compounds. Tobacco consists largely of mineral constituents which burn into ash of white or greyish colour. In good dry leaf the ash is not excessive in quantity, forming from 12 to 20 per cent. of the leaf. Reddish ash denotes the presence of iron, and black ash is due to excess of carbon, resulting in imperfect combustion.

### THE QUALITIES OF NICOTINE.

Nicotine, the essential characteristic alkaloid of tobacco, found in no other plant, is colourless and liquid at the ordinary temperature. It is a violent narcotic poison, but is also an antidote to strychnine. It is not present in large quantities in tobacco, forming from 1 to 9 per cent. French and German tobaccos contain the most, which is 9 per cent. It should also be remembered that small as is the percentage of nicotine in tobacco, it is largely consumed and destroyed in the smoke, the ratio depending upon the freshness of the combustion. The greater bulk of nicotine is, therefore, not inhaled. The dark, bitter oils which form in the bowls of pipes are popularly regarded as nicotine, but this idea is entirely erroneous. The oil is really a joint

product of the moisture from the tobacco produced by combustion, and impregnated by smoke. It is actually the water of tobacco in combination with the soot and tar of the smoke. Nicotine itself is colourless, and forms an infinitesimal part, less than one-ten-thousandth part of all the constituents of smoke.

It has been said by an acknowledged expert on this topic that the nicotine dissolved from one cigar would kill a dog, but that the same dog would be obliged to smoke 400 cigars without intermission before actually succumbing to nicotine poisoning. The great fact that strenuous anti-smokers seem to lose sight of when preaching the poison of nicotine is that tobacco is smoked and not swallowed. It is all very well for them to give concrete illustrations of the power of nicotine, as has been done in America, when the lecturer administered a grain of the poison to a cat. The cat immediately died, but had the lecturer seen fit to administer a similar dose of the essence of tea he could have killed ten cats without the remotest trouble. Theine and caffeine, the essential elements of tea and coffee, are more poisonous than tobacco.

### EXTENSIVE CLAIMS.

The action, of course, of tobacco depends entirely upon the individual, the time, and the circumstances. Mr. Penn, whose book on "The Sovereign Herb" is a classic amongst smokers, contends that tobacco helps digestion, and assists the healthy action of the intestines. An after-breakfast pipe, he says, is better than a dose of salts. He also asserts that tobacco preserves the teeth from decay, and that after an individual has reached the age of 30 years a use of tobacco will prolong life and preserve the mind by lessening the bodily functions of waste and repair. As a prophylactic tobacco is unequalled. It is deadly in action on all germs and bacteria. In bacteriological laboratories smoking is forbidden as destructive to the cultivation of bacilli. Smoke retards the growth of many kinds of microbes, and absolutely destroys many others, such as that of Asiatic cholera. It is worthy of comment that during the Great Plague in London not a single person engaged in the tobacco trade was seized, and its prophylactic values led to its general use on medical recommendation.

Mr. Penn declares that in epidemics of diphtheria, scarlet fever, typhus, and typhoid it is wise to let the youngest people smoke as a help against contagion. Only one smoker is attacked by diphtheria to twenty-eight non-smoking victims. When cholera was raging throughout Southern Europe in 1885 and people were dying by thousands, not one of the 4,000 women engaged in the National Tobacco Factory at Valencia was attacked. History amply proves, indeed, that tobacco properly used is a friend to man rather than the deadly enemy in which character it has been so frequently and luridly portrayed.—*The Tribune.*

**SMOKERS' CHURCH.**—More than 500 men attended the first services of the Rev. Sydney Goodmans, at the new "men's church" in Atlantic City, New Jersey. At the opening of the service men were invited to light their cigars, and at times the air was so blue with smoke that it was not easy to see the preacher from the back of the house. Moving pictures were used to illustrate Scripture readings, and professional music hall artistes from theatres and cafés furnished musical numbers, some of which won encores.—*Evening News.*

**TOBACCO CULTURE IN CANADA.**—Tobacco is grown in every province of Canada, and the total production increased from 4,277,936 pounds in 1891 to 11,266,732 pounds in 1901. The yield last year is estimated at 15,000,000 pounds, which means a large amount of money to the growers. Among the provinces Quebec is the largest producer, growing upwards of 7,500,000 pounds. Ontario comes next with 3,500,000. Nova Scotia is least, turning out only 560 pounds. British Columbia's culture of tobacco increased from 343 pounds in 1891 to 61,830 pounds in 1901.



# THE PATENT PIPE.

By CHRIS.



HE was a small-figured round-headed man. The few remaining locks of hair which adorned his scalp, and which waved about in the draught of the shop door, gave him the appearance of an anxious-looking woodpecker in a north-east gale. Around him, in all its infinite variety, with straight stems, crooked stems, and curly stems, together with vulcanite, ivory, bone, and amber mouthpieces in vast quantities, was the celebrated patent Umvalular pipe.

"No chance of catching in your mouth any nicotine or dist," said the woodpecker man. "Here is the patent valve which stores the pizin, and here is the patent blow-out for cleaning the pipe with one movement. Ah! nobody knows the dangers of nicotine; deadly pizin, sir. Why, only the other day a man rushes into this very shop, and yells out at the top of his voice, 'I've swallowed a pint of nicotine; give me a semetic!'" "An emetic," I mildly corrected. "Well, he heard him," said the woodpecker man, pointing to a big-headed boy, who, with a pair of large, round eyes, stared very hard at the woodpecker man, and nodded his head solemnly. "Mistook our place for a chemist, didn't he?" said the woodpecker man. "No, he mistook it for a pub," said the round-eyed boy. "Pish!" said the narrator of the evils of nicotine, impatiently waving his hand. "Then another man came in the other day with an under lip on him like an elephant's, and ordered two dozen Umvalular pipes. Told me that when a boy some bee out gathering parcels for the hive mistook his lip (which, it appeared, had been admired for miles around) for a new kind of tulip, and finding there was no honey in it, turned nasty and dug his hot hind leg into it, and hence its size. I knew better; it was the effects of nicotine, and I told him so, didn't I, eh?" "I only saw the two round eyes of the boy staring over the edge of the counter, but methought I saw one wink. "As for testimonials, we've thousands of 'em. Here's one written by a man who bought one of our pipes. You recollect him, don't you?" This query was addressed to the big-headed boy, whose eyes seemed every moment to grow rounder and larger. "It warn't 'im as bought the pipe who sent the testimonial, Mr. Cluckneck," said the boy. "It was," said Mr. Cluckneck. "It wasn't," said the round-eyed boy, shaking his head vigorously. "Who was it, then?" said Mr. Cluckneck. "'Is nevy, sir. He writes an' thanks us; sed 'is uncle only smoked the pipe twice an' then died.'" "My lad," said the woodpecker man, holding up a warning forefinger, which shook with emotion, "you get out well under a week, or else you'll find a few bruises under your slacks."

I think it was more through the outcome of a feeling of pity for the persevering Mr. Cluckneck that I bought an Umvalular pipe. Strange to say, from becoming a mere disinterested purchaser, I actually began, after investigating its mysterious complications, and reading the accompanying booklet on its manifold qualities, to take a strange and feverish interest in the patent pipe. I had never succeeded in enjoying the smoking of a pipe, but directly I started on the Umvalular pipe, I had a sort of far-off idea of what the pleasures of smoking a pipe really meant. I then waxed eloquent on its qualities to the Chieftainess. The good lady is not gone on pipes. She said that her greatest joy on earth would be the making of a universal bonfire of every pipe on earth. Therefore it is most difficult to convince the Chieftainess on the matter of smoking a pipe. I never despair, I really wish I did sometimes, because I think it would be better for my health. Anyway, whilst trying to show the good lady how it was really impossible to get the

nicotine in your mouth while smoking the Umvalular pipe, I gave a 40-horse-power suction draw at the thing, which brought enough nicotine in my mouth to last me a lifetime. I think I must have forgotten the "pull-out." Anyway, I was mortal sick for a moment, and felt for a full five minutes that life was hardly worth living. I am as a rule pleasant with children, but when my son and heir, after watching my tortured face, asked me to "do it again," I gave him a "swat" which sent him flying out of the room.

After drinking about 25 glasses of water and rinsing my mouth out with a small quantity of breath sweetener, I tackled the Umvalular once more. I put on the smoke checker, ran in the strainer, filled up the bowl, and started to once more test the Umvalular. I really never found out what had got in the main artery of the pipe. I still think it must have been a lump of pig iron, or some Roman cement. Anyway, I never drew so hard at a pipe before or since. But the thing absolutely refused to be drawn. I was sucking away at it very much after the manner in which a blind bull-pup would suck at a bronze statue of a she-wolf, when the next door man gave me a call. He stood quite two minutes at the door before I caught sight of him. He looked more than surprised, and asked me in the most guileless manner if I was trying to play a new musical instrument. I would have liked to have tuned what he thought was a musical instrument on his head, but being a man of peace and discretion I asked him if we were likely to have any rain? He seemed quite oblivious to my inquiry, and said he didn't know that I played the octoroon, and asked me to oblige him with a couple of bars of "Home, Sweet Home."

I told him not to make an ass of himself, and furthermore explained to him that it was a pipe. He seemed to doubt my word at first, and hit the table two or three times with the bowl of the pipe, very much after the fashion of a knock-out auctioneer. "Well, what's the matter with it, anyway?" he said, after repeating the "knock-out" performance. "It's a patent pipe," I said. "The celebrated Umvalular." "What!" said the next-door man. "Why, it's the greatest pipe ever invented. I know a man, his name is Jones, who wouldn't part with his Umvalular for a fortune. Takes it to bed with him, sleeps with it under his pillow; what's the matter with yours?" "It won't draw," I said. "That's your fault," said the next-door man, "and I'll take a bet on it. Let me see what I can do with it. Now light up; that's all right, old man, I can see what's the matter now. You've forgotten to push in the blow-out. Now, draw hard, while I push it in." I gathered up what remaining breath I had in my lungs, and sucked at the pipe like a ravenous lion cub. "Harder!" yelled out the next door man. "Harder still!" I plugged at the mouthpiece with awful force, then he pushed in the "blow-out."

I've heard some language, but his (the man's next door) was of the most variegated order. It explained itself when I saw portions of the face of the man next door trying to assert themselves through a mask of nicotine, ash, and damp tobacco plugs. The work of the blow-out had been effectual. I bathed his face for two hours, and almost the same length of time was industriously seeking with the damp corner of my handkerchief in the corners of his eyes for stray specks of the Virginia leaf which had found their way thither. He hasn't said a good word for the Umvalular pipe since, and has even, so I hear, given vent to innuendoes concerning myself. I tried my best at the time to mollify him by actually narrating one or two of my latest stories to him. He said they were rotten. I then went the length of

offering him the Umvalular as a pipe of peace. He said rude things to it, more especially its "blow-out," and told me that he wouldn't have it at a gift.

I was not to be discouraged over what may be described after all as a mere accident, and I once more glued on to the pipe of pipes. Strange to say, after losing two hairpins in the intricate body of the Umvalular, and getting about two yards of wire twisted round its bowels, the soothing companion of man came on with a rush. It seemed I had only to show my mouth to the pipe for it to pour smoke into it. Strange to say, it never seemed to want to go out, or to be replenished. It was only after the bowl suddenly raised a blister on the tips of two of my fingers that I found that its "innards" were smouldering. I put the rug over it, and tried to put it out that way. Then I blew water down it, with the result that the water came out of the bowl on the boil, and took two nice round patches out of the coat of our too inquiring terrier.

When you buy a pipe you want to smoke it yourself, not the pipe to smoke itself, but the Umvalular had strong notions of its own on this particular point, so had the Chieftainess, for she ordered it out of the house. I laid it on the wall, and for the best part of the day a thin, pungent stream of smoke arose on the still November air. About four o'clock I had a note from the lady who lives with her maiden aunt at No. 48. It ran as follows:—

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly put out your bonfire, as I'm suffering from a slight touch of bronchitis, and it's driving my cough mad?

Yours faithfully,

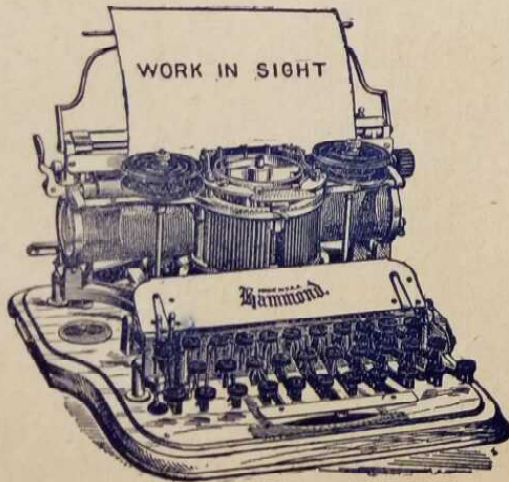
Alicia Julia Victoria Bunter McPherson.

P.S.—If you see anything of a black cat with yellow-puce whiskers will you kindly send it over in a basket to the stout man at No. 44?

The pipe went out of its own accord about five. All would have been well if young Simpson had not called. He no sooner heard me mention the Umvalular than he was seized with a feverish desire to possess it. I gave it to him; he found it would not draw; he said it was only the charred wood of the main pipe which prevented it, and then ran out to fetch some gunpowder to stuff the bowl with. He had well rammed it home in the bowl, and we were passing again into the garden with the idea of blasting the obstruction out of the pipe, when a fair arm (it belonged to the Chieftainess) seized the object of our fancy, and before we could say "whiskers" had thrown it into the kitchen fire. I never saw a lady and two gents, together with the three front bars of the kitchen range, come out of their places quicker. Bits of the Umvalular, together with a large portion of soot, were spread all over the kitchen. The wails of the Chieftainess at the scene of devastation were lost in my swelling notes of joy at seeing the last of the patent pipe.—*People.*

**TOBACCO SUBSTITUTES.**—The Committee which is dealing with the Children's Bill has been discussing the substitutes for pure tobacco used by many juvenile smokers. Are there any adults now who follow the example of the learned Dr. Parr, who, according to Talfourd, "took only the finest tobacco, used to half fill his pipe with salt, and smoked with philosophical calmness?" The strange mixture seems to have assisted him to calm. When he "saw Lamb smoking the strongest preparation of the weed, puffing out smoke like some furious Enchanter, he gently laid down his pipe and asked him how he had acquired his power of smoking at such a rate?" Lamb replied, "I toiled after it, sir, as some men toil after virtue." That is precisely how most of us learned to smoke at all.

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## IRISH TOBACCO.

On the resolution relating to the excise duties on tobacco grown in Ireland, Mr. Gwynn (Galway) moved an amendment reducing the duty on manufactured tobacco from 2s. 6d. to 2s. 10d. the pound. He said that though the amendment might perhaps be criticised as being of a protectionist character, the circumstances which called for it were of an exceptional kind. The tobacco industry once flourished in Ireland, but was absolutely stopped by law. The claim of restitution. In the seventeenth century tobacco was grown so successfully in that country that the colony of Maryland objected to Irish competition, and in the reign of Charles II. the industry was prohibited. At the end of the eighteenth century an Irish Parliament carried a law again allowing tobacco to be grown in Ireland. In subsequent years the smuggling of Irish tobacco into England caused some inconvenience to the Customs. The Bristol tobacco merchants also were jealous of the Irish growers, and though when the matter came up before the House of Commons in 1832 the arguments were all based on the inconvenience to the Customs, there was another note running through it all. The prohibition was enacted, and in the following year a regiment of dragoons was sent to root up the crops of the Wexford people. Experiments only began again in 1898, and from that time there has been continuous and successful experiments carried out by Colonel Everard, who had proved that any tobacco that could be grown in America could be grown in Ireland. It was simply a question of cost. The industry was of the utmost importance to Ireland. It employed an enormous amount of labour, and that all through the winter, when employment was slack. No man could grow tobacco without skill, and the real loss inflicted on Ireland in 1832 was the sacrifice of all the inherited skill of the people. In 1898 the Government recognised that it was necessary to subsidise this industry in order to carry it over the experimental stage, and up to the present the experiment had been tried in a very limited measure. The labour had not yet become thoroughly skilled, and the fact that during a period of eighty years no tobacco had been grown in Ireland had created a prejudice against the product. He claimed that the whole industry was in an experimental stage, and that the House, in consideration of what had been done in the past, was bound to encourage it. The total amount allowed in rebate probably would not exceed £5,000, and that was all Ireland had received by way of reparation. He submitted that the question of free trade and protection did not enter into the matter, and he most earnestly appealed to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to make a small remission—he did not suppose it would cost more than a few thousands a year—which would enable the industry to be carried on.

Mr. Kettle (Tyrone, E.) strongly supported the amendment, deploring the absence of the Hon. Member for East Clare, who was specially interested in tobacco culture in Ireland. For his part he could not speak with detailed knowledge. He had smoked Irish-grown tobacco, as had other Hon. Members, with satisfaction, and he had seen with interest the manufacturing operations. Whatever the official view the Chancellor of the Exchequer might be called upon to take, this proposal should commend itself to the Chief Secretary for Ireland for its influence against cattle-driving. Why were the cattle on the grazing lands in Meath in the possession of Colonel Everard undisturbed? Because of his tobacco-growing enterprise. It might become an established useful industry in Ireland, and no argument could be brought against it except that this proposal shocked the free trade principles of the Liberal Government. Well, Ireland had ever been sacrificed to the principles of English parties. This was an infant industry of feeble growth, though of great promise, and this rebate would so encourage it that fresh heart and hope would be given to the people of Meath.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer regretted the absence of the Hon. Member for East Clare, though his cause had not suffered in the hands of the two Hon. Members who had supported it. The difficulty, as Hon. Members must realise, was a practical one. This was, as the Hon. Member who moved it admitted, a protective proposal; it was, as he said, Government assistance to an industry, and if such assistance was to be given at all it should be given openly as a subsidy. To the assistance direct and indirect that had been given there was no objection so long as it was assistance to an experiment. But the Hon. Member wished support to be given to an infant industry by this proposal, and the danger was that it might be carried beyond the region of experiment to which extent the Government were willing to continue assistance, and the assistance might be given at the expense of the revenue, at the expense of the general tobacco trade of the country. The proposal being protectionist in character, it was quite impossible to accept the amendment. If it were accepted what could be said to the hop growers in Kent, or what to the suggestion that favourable terms should be given to the cultivation of beet for sugar? If the Government accepted this amendment it would be said they were willing to protect growers of tobacco in Meath but they would not protect the hop grower in Kent or the wheat grower in Lincoln. The amendment was purely protectionist, and it was absolutely impossible for a free trade Government to accept it. He regretted that it was not possible for him to do more to assist an industry of this kind.

Mr. Kettle.—Will the right hon. gentleman wait till he has received a sample of Irish tobacco before making up his mind?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said it might have a disastrous effect upon his views—(laughter)—but he knew the tobacco was warmly esteemed. As long as its cultivation was purely an experiment confined to the roo acres now devoted to the purpose in Ireland, they were willing to let it proceed. But once it went beyond that and became protectionist they could not possibly accept it.

Mr. Austen Chamberlain regretted, though he was not surprised at, the attitude of the Government. The request made in this amendment might be justified by the famous opinion of Mill, which would permit the protection of nascent industries in order to give them a start. If that principle was applicable at all, it surely was applicable in the case of tobacco growing in Ireland and the growing of sugar beet. Moreover, industries like these two would stem the flow of labour from the country into the town which they were always lamenting, and the more so because it demanded a great deal of labour, and labour when other agricultural industries were slack. He believed that for sugar beet there would be a great field in Ireland and in England, and he thought that, like tobacco, it might be able to hold its own without any preference whatever. Surely it was economic pedantry carried to an extreme to refuse to assist these industries on the ground that it was protection, and at the same time for the President of the Irish Board of Agriculture to give the same encouragement in the form of a bounty or a State grant.

Mr. Boland (Kerry, S.) welcomed the support of the right hon. gentleman. The case of Ireland in this matter was not a purely protectionist one; it was that England, having for its own interests deliberately put an end to an Irish industry, ought now in justice to make an act of reparation. He asked for an assurance from the Chancellor of the Exchequer that he would do his best to give further assistance to this industry.

Mr. Barrie (Londonderry, N.) supported the claim of the Nationalist Members.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, replying by the courtesy of the House, promised to go into the matter carefully in consultation with the Irish Department. He agreed that experiments of this character might very well be assisted, and even extended, without infringing the principles to which he adhered. Beyond this he could not go.

The amendment was thereupon withdrawn, and the resolution agreed to.

# A TOBACCO SHOP.



It is permitted to this generation to feel the romance of common objects. Knight-errantry leaves us languid; the motor-car calls forth whatever poetry may be in us.

Stevenson was largely responsible for persuading us that romance is an atmosphere, not an experience; and that the atmosphere lies over modern London as richly as over far Cathay. Who told Stevenson, goodness only knows. The "first begetter" might be traced if it were worth while, but we are justified in thanking the author of the "New Arabian Nights" for raising the corner of a veil.

Nor do we forget to thank him. We thank him so much that it is impossible for a living writer to indulge his fancy on prosaic things without being reminded he would never have done so had not a bigger man showed him the way. Mr. E. V. Lucas, for example, soliloquises in his light-hearted style on the fairyland one may reach in a hansom cab; and thereupon the critical reader spies the spirit of Stevenson. It is concluded that Mr. Lucas would only have seen in the hansom cab a vehicle for getting from the City to Piccadilly, or a thousand other intensely mundane spots, if the imp that was Stevenson had not suggested it is a chariot for tumbling one into the strangest adventures.

In like manner I might not have been charmed by a tobacco shop if Prince Florizel of Bohemia had not declined upon one in Rupert Street.

Yet this particular tobacco shop—mine, not the Prince's—possesses so distinctive a character that it might well call up dreams without assistance from any romancer. I came upon it suddenly one day. It is the tiniest shop you ever saw. Right in the heart of things, two big, blustering, prosperous-looking places guard it on either hand, as though they were afraid it would vanish if not carefully watched. They seem to be keeping their great eyes open till the proprietor puts up the shutters for the night and disappears to his repose; then they will quietly elbow it out of their way, and occupy the few scraps of yards it stands on. Every time I go past I dread to look lest the monstrous bullies should have got their way. But as yet I have always been able to catch a glimpse of its dark, mysterious, minute interior, which would surely smell, if one ventured in, of tobacco and cigars more divinely aromatic than man ever smoked.

Need I say I have never ventured in? One must preserve some illusions. The man behind the counter might prove less splendid in his courtesy, less majestically easy in his manners than the Bohemian prince. His wares might be quite ordinary wares. He might say "Best cigars on the market—finest mixture we keep, sir—won't beat it in London—half-a-crown, two and fourpence—ha'penny—your change, sir—fine day—glorious weather—we ought to be having it now—yes, indeed—thank you—good-day."

And I should never want to look at the place again. I should be convinced there are no princes keeping London tobacco shops, that such things as New Arabian Nights divans may be found only in story-books. . . . Of course I never go into the shop. I content myself with

envying the superb half-mortal half-divine creature who keeps it.

Who could help envying him. There he sits from morning till night enshrined, out of reach of the vulgar, pushing, hurrying crowd. His Jovian head is set magnificently on shoulders that combine the strength of Hercules with the grace of Apollo. The features are those of a man who has seen the world and its glories, who has sounded the abysses of vice and scaled the heights of virtue, who has thereby learnt a sublime toleration. They are surmounted by a richly embroidered cap of a curious design, handsomer than any cap one can buy. This Jove is clothed. . . . Now, here's a difficulty. It is necessary to keep some hold on earth; besides, our hero must get his meals somewhere, and his head will attract sufficient attention whenever he goes out let him be dressed as he will. . . . On the whole, it will be best to give him a plain tweed lounge suit, cut with exquisite art, and doing justice to the noble lines of his figure; in short, just such a suit as the lady novelist's hero is clothed withal. Shame that I should even seem to make a far-away comparison of this deific tobacconist with a tailor's model! But he must have a suit.

Such is, I have convinced myself, the proprietor of this ethereal shop. He may be otherwise. If I caught sight of him I might discover—an apron! He might say if I offered him dross for weed. . . . Well, I have already hinted at the dreadful possibilities, and decline to torture the sensitive by insisting on them. Let us have faith, friends, in our romantic London, in our Florizels, in our Bohemian oases in the turmoil of the City's central roar.

Fate has so far been kind to me; I have never seen the proprietor; I have never seen anybody in, or going into, the shop. But make no mistake. It is a real shop, though so small, so quaint, so richly endowed with invitations to fancy as to be ideal.

I have said I envy the proprietor. I indulge a dream of one day retiring into this haven of rest and peace, this little temple of Nicotia, and inviting the Muses to keep me company. It would be absurd to suppose that I could ever fill the place of him of the grand head, the regal manners, and the lovely head-dress. But the aroma of his presence, lingering at the back of the counter after he has left it, alas! for ever, will (so to speak) buck me up. I shall be enabled to entertain the great intellects, the sweet singers, the myriad-visioned musicians, the prophets of beauty. Those who have thought and dreamed and never found the power of putting their thoughts and their dreams into marketable substance, these also will come and pour out their richest ideas in that haven of beatitude. It will be a rarer kind of salon from which the whole world will be governed—not with loud obtrusiveness, but by the compulsion of the ideas there generated by the clash of magnificent minds under the spell of the rarest tobaccos. It will

What was that interruption? *I shall never make the place pay . . .*

Pardon me if, seeing you cannot enter into the spirit of my scheme, I say no more about it. *Pay!! . . .*

—THOMAS LLOYD, in *The Evening Standard*.

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