

*History of Substance Use & Addiction
Treatment in Victorian Times*

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Cogs and Corsets: A Central Illinois Steampunk Happening

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Early Substance Use in U.S.

- Dr. Benjamin Rush (1746-1813)
- Growth in number of distilleries in U.S.
 - 1792 – 2,579
 - 1813 – 14,191
- Temperance societies – shift from moderation to complete abstinence
- Only spirits (hard liquor) contained alcohol; beer and wine didn't
- Native American “recovery circles”
- Frederick Douglass – “colored temperance movement”

The Washingtonian Societies & Movement

- Founded in 1840
- Martha Washingtonian Society for women
- Separate groups for juveniles and freed Blacks
- Washingtonian Program: 1) Public confession/“experience sharing”; 2) Public commitment to sobriety; 3) Visits from older members; 4) Economic assistance; 5) Continued participation in “experience sharing”; 6) Acts of service toward other alcoholics; 7) Sober entertainment
- 1845-47 – Slow demise of the movement

Fraternal Temperance Societies, Reform Clubs, & Early Moderation Societies

- Fraternal societies existed for men, women, and African Americans
 - Independent Order of Rechabites, Sons of Temperance, Independent Order of Good Templars, National Temple of Honor, Order of the Good Samaritans, Order of the Friends of Temperance, Daughters of Rechab, Daughters of Temperance, Sisters of Samaria, Daughters of Samaria, The Black Templars, & The True Reformers
- Reform clubs
 - Osgood's Reformed Drinkers Club, Reynolds' Red Ribbon Reform Clubs, & Francis Murphy's Blue Ribbon Reform Club
- Moderation societies
 - Business Men's Moderation Society, League of the Cross for the Suppression of Drunkenness, & Church Temperance Society

Growth of Addiction Knowledge

- Terms defined for various alcohol-induced conditions
 - Alcoholic cirrhosis
 - Alcoholic gastritis
 - Alcoholic polyneuropathy
 - Alcoholic psychoses – “delirium tremens”, Wernicke’s syndrome, Korsakoff’s psychosis, “drunken furor”, ‘mania a potu”, “pathological intoxication”, “alcoholismus chronicus”
- Alcoholic myth – alleged phenomenon of spontaneous combustion

Inebriate Homes, Asylums, & Private Sanitaria

- Inebriate homes
 - Washingtonian Hall, Dashaway Hall, Washingtonian Homes, The San Francisco Home for Care of the Inebriate, Kings County Inebriates' Home, Walnut Lodge
- Inebriate asylums
 - Massachusetts State Hospital for Dipsomaniacs and Inebriates, The New York State Inebriate Asylum
- Private sanitaria
 - Dr. Jansen B. Mattison's Brooklyn Home for Habitue
 - Pennsylvania Sanitarium for Inebriates

Differences Between Inebriate Asylums & Homes

Inebriate Homes	Inebriate Asylums
Etiology – Religious, moral, & characterological causes	Etiology – Genetic, biological, and psychological causes
Voluntary treatment	Involuntary and/or coerced treatment
Treatment goal – The patient's complete and continuing abstinence	Treatment goal – The patient's complete and continuing abstinence
Recovery – A process of moral regeneration	Recovery – An act of somatic/neurological regeneration achieved through the application of scientific (physical) treatment methods

Substance Use Treatment for Women

- “Fragile but morally superior creatures who needed the physical and economic protection of their husbands while they focused on the domestic duties of running the household and bearing and raising children.”
- “Causes”
 - Biological and psychological invulnerabilities associate with female reproductive system and processes
 - More “nervous” or “feeble” organization than men
 - Neurasthenic weakening of energy
 - Independence
- Martha Washingtonian Societies & Ladies Dashaway Association in San Fransisco

The Keeley Institutes

- Founded in 1879
- Based in Dwight, IL
- “Double Chloride of Gold Cure”
- Rapid growth from 1890-1893
 - 118 institutes across U.S., England, Finland, Denmark, & Sweden
- Treatment regimen:
 - 4 daily injections of Double Chloride of Gold remedy; participation in daily lectures; social and recreational activities/events in the Keeley League
- Mid 1890s-Early 1900s – decline & closure of branches due to higher than proclaimed relapse rates, public backlash exaggerated success claims, and general criticism of the gold cure

“Miracle Cures”

- Alcoholism cures
 - The Hay-Litchfield Antidote, The White Star Secret Liquor Cure, Dr. Chambers' Celebrated Remedy for Intemperance, Golden Treatment for the Liquor Habit
- Cures for the “drug habit”
 - The St. Paul Association Cure, Collins Painless Opium Antidote, Acme Co. Home Cure for the Morphine and Opium Habits, Carne Common Sense Treatment for the Morphine Habit

“Miracle Cure” Promotional Schemes

- Names that convey medical/religious authority
- Names that promise great value, comfort, & confidence
- Offered by places that sound like charities
- Supernatural intervention cures
- Just discovered breakthroughs in science
- “Secret formula”
- Testimonials
- 10s/100s of thousands cured
- Gimmicks
- Possible bonus effect (a cure for impotency)
- Appeal to magical thinking
- Druggist/physician incentives
- Broad advertising strategy

Exposes and Legislation Reforms on “Miracles Cures”

- 1886 – 19/20 “opium antidotes” contained opium
- 1888 – MA State Board of Health lab study on “cures” for inebriety
 - 13/13 – 7-44.3% alcohol content
- 1889 – The American Association for the Study and Cure of Inebriety
 - 50 alcoholism “cures” – 6-47% alcohol content; 19/20 opium “cures” contained opium
- 1905 – IRS regulation that manufacturers of medicine containing alcohol must obtain a liquor license
- 1906 – Pure Food & Drug Act

“Skid Row”, “the Bowery”, & the Urban Street Mission

- “Skid Row” & “the Bowery”
 - Blighted city areas frequented by alcoholics/vagrants and characterized by cheap hotels/lodging houses, bars, brothels, temporary employment agencies, pawn-shops, second-hand stores, soup kitchens, and missions
- 1872 – Founding of Jerry McAuley’s Water Street Mission
- Urban missions were an outgrowth of Evangelical Protestantism & its missionary societies

The Salvation Army

- Founded in 1865 by William Booth
- Plan: Bring salvation to the alcoholic by attracting him with food and shelter, then providing stability through temporary employment, and finally transferring him to rural areas, where he might learn the values of sobriety and responsibility
- 1891 – Street outreach to alcoholics, leading to development of special detox programs with Salvation Army's social services department
- 1900 – > 700 corps across U.S.

Addiction Treatment – 1900-1920

- Inebriate farm/colony
- Local general hospital
- Local psychopathic hospital
- State insane asylum
- Private hospital/sanitarium

Physical Methods of Treatment & Containment

- Sterilization
 - “Negative eugenics”
 - Degenerationism and degeneracy
- Natural therapeutics
 - Specialized diets, exercise, leisure activities, work, natural elements, water cures
- Drug therapies
 - “Alcoholism vaccine”
 - Drug substitution
 - Sedatives, tonics, & specifics

Psychological Approaches

- Psychoanalysis
 - Karl Abraham
 - Sigmund Freud
 - “Treatment” approach – psychotherapy
- Lay therapy movement
 - Emmanuel Clinic, Boston
 - Courtenay Baylor
 - Richard Peabody

The Harrison Act

- 1914 – The Harrison Anti-Narcotic Act
- 1915 – Treasury Department Decision 2200
- 1919 – *Webb v. United States*
- 1922 – U.S. v. Behrman

Morphine Maintenance Clinics

- 1912 – Beginning of clinic era in Jacksonville, FL
- Notable clinics – The Jacksonville Clinic, The New York City Clinic, & The Shreveport Clinic
- Mid 1920s – all clinics ceased operation

References

- White, W. L. (2014). *Slaying the Dragon: The History of Addiction Treatment and Recovery in America (Second Addition)*. Chestnut Health Systems.

Thank You!