

CHINA'S ANTI-OPIMUM CRUSADE

THE AMERICAN TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT SURPASSED BY THE CELESTIALS.



TYPICAL REFORMERS.

All High Officials Must Give Up the Habit.

Peking, Nov. 12.—Suppose that President Taft and one national Congress should send out an edict tomorrow that every man and woman in the employ of the government must give up the drinking of liquor or be dismissed from office, and that no new appointment should be made to any one who had contracted the liquor habit or who would not sign the pledge. Let this edict relate not only to Washington, but to every post office and custom house, and let its effect be so extended as to include every state official, even to the county clerk, sheriff, and their subordinate employees.

Let another edict provide that all must show government permits before a glass of whiskey, stout or other liquor will be sold to them, and that every saloonkeeper be subject to fine and imprisonment if he breaks this law. Let the edict summarily shut nine-tenths of the saloons, and provide for the absolute destruction of all within the course of ten years. Let there be laws forbidding the distilling of liquors and their importation, and, in short, the inauguration of a scheme of government restrictions which would entirely wipe out the manufacture, selling and drinking of anything intoxicating within the space of ten years.

It would be a good, big contract, would it not?

Well, that is just what China is trying to do as to blotting opium and the opium traffic from the face of her country.

THE ANTI-OPIMUM EDICTS.

We have had crusades against liquor, but they have been mostly begun by the women and carried out with the opposition, rather than the assistance, of the government officials. This crusade of China begins at the top. Three years ago the great empress dowager and the chief barons of the empire at Peking sent out edicts cutting down the size of the opium farms, shutting up the opium dens and requiring all dealers in opium to take out licenses. The government commanded all farmers to reduce their opium fields by 10 per cent every year, and provided that no opium at all should be cultivated after the end of 10 years. It required that the merchants decrease their opium sales 20 per cent every year, and close out their whole business in the space of five years. It ordered that all public opium dens should be summarily closed, and that the retail opium shops should gradually be abolished. At the same time it inaugurated dispensaries where free medicines might be had to take away the opium craving, and encouraged the establishment of opium hospitals for those who had contracted the habit.

In the same edicts it was provided that all users of opium should be registered; that they should be examined by the police, and the habitual users should be allowed only a certain quantity of the drug at certain fixed periods. These allowances were to be gradually reduced so that at the end of five years all persons under 60 years of age would be free from the habit. All users of opium were required to wear badges, so that every one would know an opium fiend as he walked through the streets.

All government officials, including princes, dukes, viceroys and generals under sixty, had six months to give up the habit or to tender their resignations; and all teachers and scholars were required to stop opium smoking within the space of one year. As to the officers of the army and navy, they were commanded to abandon the habit at once.

This is what China is trying to do. The above proclamations have been followed by others, and today the prince

regent and the grand council are doing all they can to have these laws put into force. They are prosecuting those in violation, and they have inaugurated such a reign of terror as would create a revolution in the United States and turn our people and government upside down.

OFFICIALS MADE TO STOP SMOKING.

It makes one laugh to think what would happen if Uncle Sam should prohibit cold tea in the restaurants of the empire and not allow the clerks of the government to take a friendly tattle together. That is what is going to happen in the United States if less than 2,500 officials, more or less prominent, connected with the government service in Peking either have broken or are endeavoring to break off the use of opium. Some of these are habitual smokers, who have tried so hard to quit that they have died in the attempt. Take, for instance, Wen Hui. He was one of the highest seniors of the empire, and was connected with the grand secretariat. To hold his job he signed a declaration that he was not an opium smoker, and then stopped using the pipe. He died a few months ago. Tsai Chang, another noted official, was cashiered for smoking. He is ill in consequence, and it is said will not recover. Chi Chang, the acting governor of the province of Anhwei, died the other day for the same reason, and there are many other old smokers who are said to be ill.

According to the new laws, which are more or less evaded, the smoking of opium means immediate dismissal. Government detectives or censors have been instructed to shadow the officials, and those who claim to have broken off the habit are rigidly watched. Just the other day a private secretary of one of the cabinet ministers was found to have several ounces of opium on his person, and a request for his dismissal was promptly sent forth. In one of the papers this morning I see a dispatch stating that Prince Chung, one of the imperial opium commissioners, has just denounced 20 high officials who have lied as to their use of the drug, and that he demands their dismissal. Last October 20 of the imperial princes were ordered to resign their posts that they might give their names to the use of the drug, and at the same time, as an act of mercy, three months of extension were allowed to certain civil and military officials who had not obeyed the imperial edicts.

AMONG THE VICEROYS.

The work of stopping the evil among the clerks outside Peking has been delegated to the viceroys and governors. There are 22 provinces in China, and the work in each of these is going on rapidly, or the reverse, according to the energy of the governor. In Szechwan, a state in the far west bordering on Tibet, one of the new district officials invited all of his subordinates to a dinner. He feasted them well, but as they were about to leave, he closed the door, saying that he intended to keep all with him under lock and key for the next three days to learn whether they were free from the opium habit. He knew those who were not would show nervousness; and in this way he would learn how to enforce the new laws.

It is believed that many of the viceroys are still secretly smoking; and the anti-opium commissioners have asked the prince regent to call a meeting at

the capital of all the viceroys, governors and generals of the army who have reported that they have broken off the habit. When they appear they will be subjected to test to show whether or not they have lied. Since this one victory has asked for time for some of his officials, and others have established opium hospitals and curies.

CLOSING THE DENS.

In nearly every province of China there has been a general closing of the opium dens. In some cities a back door business is still going on, but the public smoking has become unpopular and dangerous, and the chief opium used is now behind closed doors. In Shanghai all the dens in the native town have been shut, and fully half of those in the foreign concessions wiped out. The foreigners propose to clear out the evil in their part of the city by 1910. In Wuchang the shutting up of the dens has considerably diminished the arrests for crime, and one of the policemen says this is largely because he does not know where to go to look for criminals.

In Foochow there were 320 dens at the time the edict was issued. They were all closed on the first of the fourth month of the year following and are still shut. The same is true of Ichang, although the shops for the sale of opium are still open. Kashi, which for years was one of the worst opium-smoking places in the province of Chekiang, has abolished its opium shops, and the day of the closing the opium pipes were burnt in public and the people rejoiced. The same is true of many other cities, in not a few of which the opium dealers have since secretly resumed business.

A MIGHTY CRUSADE.

Outside the officials a mighty crusade has been going on over China to stop the use of opium among the people. Indeed, there are so many different movements that I hardly know where to begin. Every province has its anti-opium societies. These meet regularly; they print and distribute anti-opium literature and send out men to lecture

upon the opium evil. There is one society in Canton which has distributed millions of pamphlets showing the terrible fate of the opium user. Pictures of the man before and after he has become the slave of the drug are published, and the horrors of the practice are vividly painted. Many of the societies require their members to wear a badge and sign the pledge, and many of them offer rewards for the detection of opium smokers and of the illegal selling of opium.

In some of the provinces the most rigid laws have been enacted against the users of the drug. In Kiangsu no habitual smoker under 50 can appear in court as a plaintiff. He can not institute a suit, and can have no protection from the laws as long as he continues to disobey them. In Canton there is a temple which has been given over to the anti-opium crusade, anti-opium pictures being posted upon its walls. In Yunnan opium lectures are everywhere given, and a large number of refugees have been created to take in confirmed smokers and cure them. Hundreds of opium pipes and lamps are nailed to the walls of the government buildings, and the viceroy is rapidly reducing the area of the opium farms.

At the capital of Peking province there have been eight burnings of opium and opium fixtures during which 1,235 ounces were destroyed and the following items burned: Pipes, 4,431; pipe bowls, 4,482; lamps, 3,497; boxes, 2,497; vessels for opium cooking, 500. About 9,000 needles used for morphine injections were all given up and broken. In that province it is absolutely necessary to have a certificate to buy opium, and the same person can only get his supply once a month, the allowance being fixed by the opium commissioners.

OPIMUM CURES.

I find a general belief among the Chinese that the opium habit can be cured. Everywhere pills to take away the craving are sold, and, in most of the great cities, hospitals and refuges have been established where the slaves of the drug go to break off the habit.

In Foochow there are six such hospitals, and four of these report that they have already cured 3,320 persons. Such institutions have been established at Peking, Nankin, Tientsin, Wuchang, Canton and in many other places. Foreign doctors have also come in, and profess to be able to cure the opium habit. One of these who is well recommended is an American, Mr. C. B. Towne. He professes to be able to cure any one of the opium habit in three days. He established hospitals at Tientsin and Shanghai. He has started one at Pao Ting Fu, where it is said that 100 patients came to him during the first month and were cured. Then the number of applications mysteriously decreased, and Mr. Towne found that this came from a report to the effect that, although the cure was successful, it always killed the patient within 100 days thereafter. This story was false, but it almost broke up the hospital.

Mr. Towne's institution at Tientsin was established at the expense of the viceroy, and officials who were cured received a certificate certifying that fact.

OPIMUM VERSUS MORPHINE.

One of the great dangers in the use of many of the anti-opium remedies is that they contain the drug in some other form. The government has had to extend its laws to morphine, and in one of the recent edicts the importation of morphine and of hypodermic syringes is prohibited and their sale is limited to practicing physicians.

The morphine habit has long been prevalent in many parts of the Chinese empire, and a vast amount of morphine pills are still consumed. In certain cities the Yangtze-Kiang the hypodermic injecting of morphine is common. They have professional peddlers who go about with hypodermic syringes up their sleeves and give injections at the rate of about two cents apiece. Such men are to be found in the tea houses, and are ready to give one a

jab in the arm upon asking. In the past it was customary for the members of a party to stand up in a row and hold out their arms with the sleeves rolled up to their shoulders. The most common place for the injection was about the biceps, but many of the opium fiends were tattooed on their necks to their wrists, and also on other parts of their bodies. The morphine injectors make their own solutions, and, as they use dirty water, the danger of their communicating diseases is great.

The government is doing all it can to abolish these morphine practices. It has stringent laws against them, but they are still secretly carried on in most of the cities. In the meantime, I understand that the English and Germans have been flooding China with cheap hypodermic syringes, since the great trade began, and that the Chinese imperial customs board has now issued regulations prohibiting their importation, except by the foreign medical practitioners and foreign druggists. Hereafter all morphine and syringes landed without a special permit from the customs will be confiscated.

AS TO RAISING OPIMUM.

The greater part of the opium used in China is raised at home. That imported from India amounts to millions of dollars a year, but a far greater quantity is grown upon Chinese soil. Poppy plantations are cultivated as far north as Manchuria, and there are provinces in southern and western China where opium is one of the principal crops. The reducing of the areas of cultivation is causing a considerable loss to the farmers. The government realizes this, but, nevertheless, it insists that the laws be enforced. According to them, no new ground can be planted in poppies, and the old fields must be cut down one-tenth of their original size every year.

In some provinces the viceroys have ordered the immediate stoppage of all cultivation of opium, and in others they have remitted the laws for five or 10 years upon opium lands which have been turned over to other crops. In Yunnan the soldiers have been directed to dig up the poppyfields, and thenceforth of Nanking recently issued an order that his farmers must destroy their opium seeds, and that such as had planted them should dig their fields over and put in something else.

All the opium-raising lands have been registered and the government at Peking is keeping a close watch over the amount cultivated. The prince regent has offered medals and rewards to those who have changed their crops from the poppy to grains, and they are to be freed from national taxes for a fixed period.

In short, there is no doubt about the earnest and active efforts of the officials and of a large part of the people to do away with the opium habit. Many are resolved that it must be cut out of China at any cost, and the government is willing to submit to the enormous loss of revenue which it entails, for the good of the people.

MILLIONS OF OPIMUM SMOKERS.

On the other hand, it is a question whether the opium evil is anything like so great as is generally supposed. It has been stated that more than 100,000,000 of the Chinese are opium users. Some will tell you that the whole race is drugged and that all the men, women and children use opium daily. This is untrue on its face. I doubt whether the opium habit is as prevalent among the Chinese as the whiskey and beer drinking habit is among the English, Germans or Americans. In the first place, it is costly, and the bulk of the Chinese are poor. Again, the amount of opium raised in China is pretty well known, and we have accurate statistics

of all that is imported. Foreigners estimate the total annual consumption at something like 40,000,000 pounds. If this were divided equally among the people per head, it would equal only one ounce per year. Now the average Chinese smoker takes about three ounces a day, or 30 ounces in one month.

Ten mace make an ounce, and this would equal nine ounces a month, or 60,000,000 pounds a year. Dividing the 40,000,000 pounds by nine gives a quotient of less than four and one-half millions, the total number of confirmed smokers required to consume all the opium raised in China. In other words, if one-tenth of the population were habitual opium smokers they would consume all the opium which China now has. If the estimate is doubled the number would be less than 10,000,000.

George Morrison of the London Times, who is one of our most careful writers on things Chinese and who knows the country better than any Chinese I am acquainted with, estimates the possible consumers at less than 4,000,000.

WHISKY VERSUS OPIMUM.

In fact, opium is consumed here about as much as spirituous liquors are in England and the United States. Both habits are a mighty evil, and both cause a vast deal of misery, but to say that every man, woman and child in China is an opium fiend is as false on its face as it would be to allege that every man, woman and child in England and America is addicted to drunkenness.

In closing this letter I would say that it will be a long time before the hope of the Chinese statesmen and patriots can come to fruition. The work of eradicating the opium habit is still a long and arduous task. It is still smoked largely in secret, and enormous amounts of underground money are just as human as we are and to same conditions prevail as we are to abolish the drink habit within a short time as the Chinese have allotted to the wiping out of this terrible drug. Some of the officials are hypocrites, others are openly disobeying the law, while others, bound in the Lascars grip of the opium, are secretly smoking the drug or are injecting morphine into their persons behind their closed doors. The movement for the most part is earnest and honest, and it has already accomplished a vast deal of good.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

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GENEALOGY

All communications for this department should be addressed to the secretary of the society, Elder Joseph F. Smith, Jr., care of historian office, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Just now, when even Society—written with a capital S—has elected to study and make popular all matters, and habits attached to early colonial times, the text of the compact entered into by those religious refugees as they neared the bleak shores of Massachusetts, not then named, in that crude cabin of that crude but staunch old ship, the Mayflower, will be of especial interest to all. We recommend all readers to study the list of names appended to the compact for possible ancestors. These men were the bulwark of the after-civilization which has made New England the cradle of letters and liberty in the United States, and they are as dear to the hearts of their descendants as are the precious land of pioneers who built our own civilizations, first in Ireland, second in Nauvoo, and then in Utah.

MAYFLOWER COMPACT.

In ye name of god Amen, We whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our dread sovereign lord King James by ye grace of god, of

great Britain, France, & Ireland king, defender of ye faith, & having undertaken for ye glory of god, and advancement of ye christian faith, and honor of ye king's country a voyage to plant ye first colony in ye Northern parts of Virginia, do by these presents solemnly & mutually in ye presence of god, and one of another, covenant, & combine our selves together into a civil body politic, for our better ordering, & preservation, & furtherance of ye ends aforesaid; and by virtue hereof to enact, constitute, and frame such just & equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions, & offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meete & convenient for ye general good of ye colony; unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names at capcodd ye 11 of November, in ye year of ye reign of our sovereign lord king James of England, France, & Ireland ye eighteenth and of Scotland ye fiftie fourth. Ano. Dom. 1620.

John Carver, William Bradford, Edward Winslow, William Brewster, Isaac Allerton, Myles Standish, John Alden, Christopher Turner, Francis Eaton, James Chilton, John Craxton, John Billington, Jofes Fletcher, John Goodman.

Samuel Fuller, Christopher Martin, William Mullins, William White, Edward Warren, John Howland, Steven Hopkins, Digery Priest, Thomas Williams, Gilbert Winslow, Edmund Margeson, Peter Brown, Richard Hilderidge, George Bole, Edward Tilly, John Tilly, Francis Cook, Thomas Rogers, Thomas Tinker, John Ringdale, Edward Fuller, Richard Clark, Nicholas Gainsbury, John Allerton, Thomas English, Edward Doten, Edward Liefert.

"Although the Plymouth colonists, like those of Jamestown, had a definite and positive commercial aim, it was subordinate to the higher purpose of securing for themselves ecclesiastical and civil freedom. The Plymouth colony was distinctly, and from the outset, a colony of families, and rendered honor to woman. The Plymouth colony exercised a much more direct and powerful influence upon the American character in shaping the republican character of the United States." Morton Dexter.

KING FAMILY.

All parties interested in the genealogical work of the King family or who are doing similar work, kindly send to communicate with J. O. King, 143 Pearl Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

FAMILIES OF TIDSWELL, TURPIN, ET AL.

Members of the Tidswell, Turpin and Washington families of England are requested to communicate with Mrs. Mary T. Benning, 291 Seventh East Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

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Cough preparations, as a rule, are mostly sugar. Granulated Sugar Syrup is both clean and excellent. Pinex is the most valuable concentrated compound of Norway White Pine Extract and is rich in all the healing pine elements.

None of the weaker pine preparations can compare with the real Pinex itself. If you doubt this, let it be can easily get it for you.

This recipe is also splendid for chest pain, whooping cough, hoarseness, bronchitis, etc.

Strained honey can be used instead of the syrup, and make a very fine honey and pine for cough syrup.

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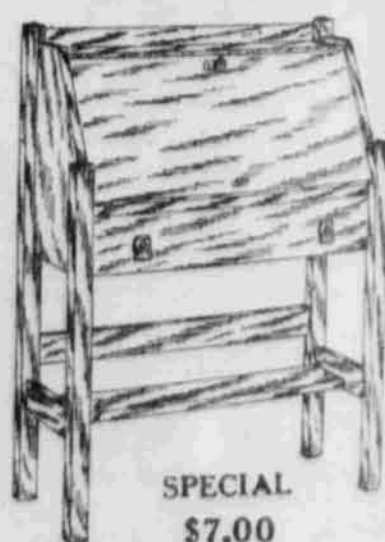
All styles and sizes go in this exceptional sale commencing Monday morning. Never was a more opportune sale of Stoves and Ranges announced. It is the eve of winter—months of cold and storms are ahead of us yet notwithstanding this fact, Monday morning ushers in the greatest STOVE AND RANGE SALE in our history.

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