

Tobacco Psychosis Illustrated in Spain

Though Greatly in Need of Food the Loyalists Asked for Tobacco.

(Condensed from Paris-Soir, Paris)
On my trip through Loyalist Spain I did not come across a single man, no matter how famished, who mentioned his hunger in my presence. If the women voiced their complaints at times, it was for the sake of their children rather than for themselves.

There was but a single flaw in this proud stoicism. The people who turned their heads away when you opened a tin of food or unwrapped a chocolate bar, who would not consent to share your provisions with you unless you brought great pressure to bear, these same people developed an avid look and beseeching eyes as soon as they saw tobacco.

Can it be that man is so constituted that his acquired appetites hold him in greater thralldom than those that Nature has planted in him? Or is he less inhibited in giving expression to the former precisely because they are artificial?

I cannot presume to answer these questions. Nor do I know whether the Spanish people are more addicted to tobacco than others. I can merely describe the veritable psychosis that has gripped the country on the subject of tobacco.

I first came in contact with it as I was travelling in a bus full of cabineros from the frontier town of Las Junqueras to Barcelona. When I lit a cigarette my companions visibly showed great nervous strain. Some of them, unconscious of their facial expression, began twitching their lips as though they were parched with thirst. Others clenched their teeth. Some tried desperately to feign unconcern. Several fixed their importunate gaze on me. In their eyes one could read the idea fixe that obsessed them.

Slightly embarrassed, I offered to pass my cigarettes around. Rarely have I seen such eager, grasping hands. Yet these men were hardened soldiers, steeled in deprivation and struggle.

In Barcelona I soon became accustomed to this sort of thing. I could not walk across the lobby of my hotel without the janitor, the elevator man and the bell boy asking me for a cigarette. If I smoked on the street I would be followed by well-dressed men whose eyes were riveted on my cigarette. They hoped to pick up my butt.

In a country that is passionately fond of its children, adults would scrap with little tots over cigarette butts in the gutter. The organized waiters in the cafes who indignantly refused tips as an insult, stretched out their hands for tobacco.

One day a street cleaner accompanied me for a whole hour to help me find an address. When I gave him a few cigarettes out of gratitude, he began trembling with emotion.

"I . . . had quite forgotten how to smoke," he mumbled.

In the stores it was possible to buy only chopped up eucalyptus leaves, mixed with moss and hay—a combination that turned your stomach.

How many times did I hear people say, "You could buy the whole city of Barcelona for a single package of tobacco!"

All usage and custom were upset by the tobacco famine. Tobacco had become a veritable monetary standard. Money could no longer entice eggs, butter or chickens from the countryside or lure goods from their hoarding places in the cities. But tobacco never failed to turn the trick.

The music hall stars were feted not with bouquets of flowers but with cigarettes. Artists who were confident of their hold on their audience even inserted direct allusions between their lines. And when the precious offerings fell at their feet, they stooped to pick them up as they sang and hid them in their bosoms.

During a performance one evening a whole package of cigarettes was thrown from the loges by a group of English volunteers. The audience gasped and then sent up a cry of admiration that was not unmixd with pain. The performance was interrupted for a few moments. A roll of banknotes thrown onto a stage in America could scarcely have created a greater sensation.

I soon became hardened to such scenes. But my sangfroid could not make me indifferent to the following incident.

A young woman who was not connected with the official propaganda department had offered her services as interpreter to me. She spoke a limpid French; before the civil war she had made a habit of spending several months in Paris each year. She did her utmost to dress fashionably, and was reserved almost to the point of timidity. The evening before my departure I learned that her little daughter had the gripe and offered her a box of aspirin tablets—not obtainable in Barcelona. She thanked me in a distracted way.

As I was taking leave of her, she suddenly asked, "Have you any cigarettes to spare by any chance?"

Before she had finished the question

she had already stretched out a beseeching hand.

These are people who have lived in the shadow of starvation for months and months. Not one of them would dream of begging food of a stranger.

Discuss Refugees And Unemployment

London, England, View of Immigration.

(From The Spectator, London)
The Government are keeping a tight hand on all refugees who wish to take up residence and work in this country; for the Government have to face the criticism, which is being increasingly heard at present, that our own unemployed must be the first claimants for our assistance. Refugees, it is contended with much reason, must not be given jobs at the expense of our own people. But there is quite another side to the picture. The testimony of leading economists is over-whelmingly in favour of increased immigration as a policy for this country. In certain circumstances refugee immigrants can and do actually increase employment; they are increasing it in Great Britain today. There is already concrete achievement to point to, and the work is only just beginning. Complete figures are not available. As yet it has been nobody's business to compile them. But all over the country industries and businesses large and small are springing up which are employing British work-people who were previously unemployed.

There have been some events of major importance. In some cases whole industries, or sections of industries, have been transferred completely to this country. The whole of the valuable fur trade of Leipzig, for instance, has been transferred to this country. The greater part of the present leather-bag industry now established in England has since 1931 been built up by German Jews, the majority of whom of course took up residence here and increased their businesses after 1932. In Lancashire there is one leather-bag business which employs over 750 British subjects. The factory of another one, established on the St. Helen's Estate at Bishop Auckland, which was burned down some time ago, was employing at the time 250 British subjects and the program which is to be carried out this year will employ up to 600 people. In all these cases work is being done here by British workmen that was formerly done in Germany by Germans.

The Northeastern Special Area has benefited especially from the refugees' enterprises. A German Jewish refugee and his family for instance, are establishing a fine furnishing-materials factory employing 40 British subjects; an Italian Jew, along with some Germans, is starting a mass production furnishing-fabrics factory which, beginning with 175 British employees is expected ultimately to employ about 2,000. Other firms are manufacturing soups, delicatessen, furnishings, lamp shades, electrical equipment, work boxes and furniture, and a cement hardening process is being started. Already a number of men have booked factories and proposals coming to the Team Valley estate as soon as they are able to get out of Germany.

Similarly in the South Wales Special Area, refugees are bringing work to the districts where the need for work is greater than anywhere else. Here are some instances. A silk printing factory now employs 40 and will soon employ 70 British workpeople; a leather glove factory employs 50; a new factory for the manufacture of patent fasteners will employ 50; confectionery and cakes will employ 20; wrist-watch straps already employ 22; chrome leather 84; silk printing 44; bottle caps and gelatine products 26; surgical adhesives 40; leather belting 8; plain kid and fancy leather gloves 11.

One effect of the transfer of industries has been that firms in this country who previously bought goods abroad find that they can still purchase from the same firm, but that it has now been established in this country. This has been the case with one of the largest London departmental stores, which previously bought women's dresses and costumes in Germany. The manufacturing firm now make the same dresses in this country. It is estimated that the ladies' clothing trade alone is responsible for the employment of about 1,000 additional British subjects. Two allied businesses introduce another important aspect of the whole subject of refugee industries. A successful wholesale millinery business which was established only nine months ago is already employing 40 girls. The interesting feature of the work in this case is that it is actually exported from England to continental countries. Exports have also been expanded by the introduction of an entirely new business to this country—the manufacture of novelty woollens through the instrumentality of a group of refugees who do not themselves actually manufacture but are dealers and prepare designs for novelty woollens for export abroad. The designs are manufactured for them by British firms, and the distributing side of this business alone employs 50 Bri-



Above are two groups in the "Musical Party in an English Home in 1900" presented with appropriate music, manners, modes and costumes by the Porcupine Women's Music and Literary Club in the McIntyre Community Hall, on Tuesday evening.

In the picture at the left those shown are: Standing, left to right: Master Douglas Leiterman, Mrs. Stanlake, Mr. Carl Struck,



Mrs. Webb, Seated Mrs. Wilkins.

At the right the group shown includes: Standing left to right: Mrs. Barry, Mrs. Douglas, Mrs. Wilkins, Mr. Wm. Kenney, Mrs. Webb, Miss Betsy Dodge. Seated Mrs. Austin Neame, Miss Alice Dodge.

Advance Staff Photo & Engraving

tish subjects. The indirect employment must obviously be very considerable.

A London firm brought into personal contact in the course of its business with some 3,000 refugees is able to calculate that at a low estimate each of these entrants has given employment to an average of not less than three British subjects. In addition to the direct and tangible results indicated here it is clear the secondary effects, whilst they are not directly measurable, are equally important and even more widespread. The refugees, and the people they employ, have to be housed. Their demand for housing accommodation is a stimulus to investment. They have to be fed, clothed, amused and transported from place to place. In addition it must be remembered that the transfer of many of these businesses involves other imperponderals. The refugee manufacturers bring with them the goodwill they built up on the Continent. That is why they so readily find, as many of them are now finding in Switzerland, Holland, Denmark and other countries, markets for the goods they manufacture in this country.

On humanitarian and other grounds there is a strong case to be made out for a generous policy of refugee immigration. When this case is further strengthened by the appeal to our own interests it would be folly to resist it.

Gillies Lake May Lease to Hollinger

Meeting of Shareholders of Gillies Lake Called to Consider Plan.

Notices have been issued for a meeting of the shareholders of Gillies Lake Porcupine Mines on Thursday, March 9th, to consider and if approved to pass agreement under which the property would be leased to Hollinger Consolidated.

Under the terms of a by-law which will come up for discussion, directors are empowered to lease the company's property in Tisdale township to Hollinger for a term of 99 years, subject to renewal. A minimum of \$50,000 is to be spent in exploration during the first two years. Then a minimum of \$6,000 is to be expended on the property in every six months period after the first two years, in order to keep the lease in good standing; otherwise it is forfeited. Profits remaining after all operating and capital costs have been deducted are to be divided in the ratio of 75% to Hollinger and 25% to Gillies Lake.

Serious Charges Against Haileybury Young Men

Suggests Higher Curbs Would Prevent Accidents

Early this week two Haileybury young men, R. Trowbill and R. M. Fleming were arrested on the charge that they held up a Haileybury taxi driver. The taxi driver said that when he answered a call he was met by the two young men who attempted to force him to drive them to Toronto. He managed to escape them at Cobalt and notify the police. After the arrest of the two young men, Cecil Palmer, North Bay taxi driver, who was suggested and had his taxi taken from him at North Bay, charges the two young men as being the guilty parties. This was followed by a charge laid by Albert Powell, Toronto taxi driver, who was forced at gun point to drive to North Bay and Cobalt last week. He charged Trowbill with kidnapping him. Powell incidentally complains about lack of police co-operation, saying that the

Medals For Two After Double Rescue



Simon Yuen and his Newfoundland dog, Bruno, have S.P.C.A. medals now. They earned them by their rescue of a woman and a boy in Riviere des Prateries near Montreal. A schoolboy was carried away by the current and the woman tried to save him. Simon rescued the boy and Bruno saved the woman.

police acted as if he were trying to tell them a tall yarn and paid more attention to questioning him than seeking his assailants.

High Grade Samples From Week's Run of the Press

Blairmore Enterprise:—Jerry says that gaelic is a conglomeration of a Scotchman, a Welshman and a Swede in an argument.

Exchange:—Eye defects are supposed to cause many automobile accidents. Also imperfectly filled spaces behind the eyes probably cause still more.

North Bay Nugget:—We're promised an upward swing in business in April. Hope it doesn't prove to be an April 1 joke.

Sudbury Star:—The Committee Opposed to Carrying Coals to Newcastle will look into the matter of Gossbels asking the public to send him jokes.

Exchange:—Formerly the people were satisfied with the full dinner pail. Now it takes the well-filled automobile garage.

Exchange:—The world is said to need a breathing spell. With all the war-like talk, it is more likely to get a coughing spell.

Toronto Telegram:—Thieves entered a Hamilton store and stole the cash-register. So all the owner could ring up was the police.

Picton Gazette:—More thinkers are said to be necessary. They should not do so much thinking that they don't get around to do any work.

Toronto Telegram:—It's a good thing the quints are wealthy or Mr. Dionne would have a hard time keeping five girls in silk hose.

North Bay Nugget:—For breaking a traffic law in Germany, the stern officer deflates your tires. Our minions of the law start differently . . . they go after your ego.

Montreal Star:—A bankrupt is one who gives everything to his lawyers in order to prevent his creditors getting it.



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