

Scientists' Views on Cigarettes.

The word "cigarette" was introduced into English in 1842 by L. S. Costello. According to the figures of Prof. H. W. Wiley, chief chemist of the Department of Agriculture, a cigarette is composed of about $\frac{1}{8}$ of an ounce of tobacco wrapped in fine paper weighing $\frac{7}{100}$ of an ounce. The same expert is authority for the statement that the paper is pure and the tobacco wholly unadulterated.

"The tobacco used in the manufacture of cigarettes is much less frequently flavored and otherwise artificially treated than is ordinary chewing or smoking tobacco and that employed in the manufacture of cigars," says Prof. Willis G. Tucker, analyst of the New York State Board of Health, in his Ninth Annual Report.

"Never was a case stronger. The chemical purity of the cigarette is attested by the official chemist of the State Board of Health, and by an official analyst of seventeen years' experience in the Health Department of New York City, together with the chief chemist of the United States and the chemists of colleges and of other cities."—*The Mail and Express* (N. Y.).

"The fact that cigarettes do not cause insanity finds confirmation from such experts as the president of New York State Commission in Lunacy, a former State Commissioner in Lunacy, the superintendent of the State Lunatic Asylum, and a qualified examiner in lunacy in the Superior Court of the city of New York, together with a score of other experts all over the United States."

Deputy Coroner Edward J. Donlin, of New York City, says: "I have made thousands of autopsies and I do not recall a case when death could be directly charged to cigarette smoking."—*The Mail and Express* (N. Y.).

The superintendent of the Iowa Hospital for the Insane recently reported that after an examination of 28,081 cases of insanity he found only one in which the alleged cause was cigarette smoking. "That the cigarette is a cause of insanity is most positively denied," he adds. It is a curious fact that although "Death from Cigarettes" is a familiar headline in carelessly edited or sensational papers, the mortuary records of the Board of Health published in those same sheets never have been known to bear the words: "Cause — cigarettes."

Mr. Goschen, when Chancellor of the Exchequer in England, attributed the falling off in the use of "heavy wines" after dinner to the "circulation of the cigarette."

"The cigarette has but little strength, it can do you no harm," says Joseph Baker in his quaint little book, "Smoking and Smokers: an Antiquarian, Historical, Veritable, and Narcotical Disquisition." Joseph wrote before science had had a say, but Joseph was right, as recent papers read before the New York Medico-Legal Society prove.

In all the experiments made by chemists to test popular brands of American cigarettes, no trace of any adulterant has ever been found. If this does not demolish the "opium-arsenic" theory of adulterants in cigarettes, then the science of chemistry is valueless as a means of arriving at truth.

"The status of the cigarette is this: It is just tobacco and paper. It does not contain poison. It does not cause insanity. Science proves both these statements."—*The Illustrated American*.