

OPIMUM SMOKING IN BUTTE CITY

Breaking Up of the Regular Joints Leads to the Practice of the Habit in Secret, at Home, Where the Devotee of the Drug Is Safe, Comparatively, From Molestation.

Opium smoking in Butte has become not a business but a pastime, in the belief of those thoughtful students of sociology, the police.

The places where it used to be possible to spend 50 cents for a smoke which cost the owner of the outfit five cents to furnish have all but vanished. In their stead there are many houses in which opium is smoked by no one except the owner of the layout.

On the face of it this fact has nothing in it to interest normal people. Below the surface it has plenty of meaning for all the Chinamen in town and for students of social conditions in Butte who may have the advantage of more education than is at the disposal of the police.

It means that the city's deviance from police court fines levied upon those who kept opium dens and those who smoked therein is to be a thing of the past, and it means further that laundry work in many Chinese laundries will be better done.

In many of the laundries the condition of the opium pipe used to be of far greater importance than the condition of the polish on the shirts and collars consigned to the Chinaman's care.

Whether the new system of things is an improvement or a step backward is something that those interested must settle for themselves.

At any rate it has lifted a great load from the police. As is usual with many reforms (granting that this is a reform) economy was at the bottom of it, and the good old law of supply and demand.

Dens Were Once Common. To understand the condition that now obtains it is necessary to be acquainted with the situation as it was before opium smoking began to be practiced in homes instead of public meeting places.

In the old time it was computed that one would not have to pass more than five Chinese laundries before coming upon one in which it was possible to buy a pill of the drug and to rent a pipe.

No questions were asked of applicants. All that was needed was that the smoker be not a member of the police force or a person without money.

If those two questions were answered satisfactorily the would-be-smoker might enter and smoke to his or her heart's content.

It is a demonstrated fact that the vast majority of the criminal classes and the classes out of which the criminals are made are addicted to the use of drugs.

When it is not cocaine they use it is opium, and most often it is opium.

So most of the patronage the opium joints received was from men and women who were in active training for careers of usefulness. If not actual distinction, in the penitentiaries.

To Nip Crime. Of course, it was to the interest of the police to stamp out as many of these places as possible.

They were actuated by the same motive that sways them when they raid disorderly saloons—they wanted to nip crime in the bud.

The notion that in these opium dens might be seen criminals who were not engaged in burglarizing and other pursuits, and that with them might be seen strange slant-eyed Orientals, made many persons, who would not think of going to such places if the inmates were all normal white folk, venture into Chinatown to see what might be seen.

Some of the weaker minded visitors began to be habitues, and so the list of persons "well known to the police," as the phrase is, grew.

Then came curiosity seekers who thought that in opium dens they would see the gorgeous sights and magnificent furnishings so vividly described by persons who had only seen "hop joints" in imagination.

The cold, hard fact is that none of these dens ever was or is now a scene of splendor. The picture of what idlers expected to see and what they really did behold might be interesting.

Luxury Never Existed. Most persons thought that their eyes would meet rich hangings of thick and multi-colored tapestry. The lamps would burn in a semi-darkness. The carpets would bury every footfall, and over the whole place would be the indescribable air of refinement and the acme of luxury so often dreamed of by one De Quincey, who, it will be remembered, was something of an expert on opium, although in another form.

Seekers after new sensations looked in Butte opium resorts for dreams that by no possibility could come true.

A little thought would have shown that such pagantry would have been utterly impossible.

No opium resort ever was conducted with the official sanction of the police. Every one of them is likely to be raided at any time and all the furnishings destroyed.

So cheap stuff was put in instead of the magnificent fittings that new devotees and inexperienced slummers thought would be in place. The actual cost of fitting up a place where opium could be smoked and to which admission could be charged is astonishing.

Layout Costs Little. An opium lamp over which to heat the opium costs \$1.50.

A horn canister to hold the drug costs \$1.

A scraper to mold the opium and a needle to hold it in the flame may be had for 50 cents.

A bowl of the pipe costs the fiend 25 cents.

The pipe itself requires an expenditure of \$3.

These figures are not for the elaborate outfits or layouts, as they are called, that the wealthiest Chinamen use.

But when it is impossible to ask a wealthy Chinaman to allow a stranger to use his outfit.

The prices are those usually paid. It would be foolish to spend more, because every time the police raid a place they confiscate all the accoutrements.

At the prices quoted many Chinamen were able to set up opium dens, and the woe they wrought is not to be estimated.

The business oppressed by the police but supported by the criminals and curiosity-seekers flourished and many keepers of the places made money. But now comes the change.

It is a complete reversal of the situation. Instead of going to an opium place and putting into the yellow-



1/2 PRICE
Boys' and Children's Clothing
To-Night
AND

Saturday Only

We are crowded for room and we are closing out all our children's clothing. For tonight and Saturday, every piece of boys' and children's clothing in the house at

50c... On the... \$1.00

\$15 three-piece, long trouser suits, blue serge, black Clay worsted, all-wool, fast colors, new shapes, greatest bargain on earth. Half price. TONIGHT AND SATURDAY... \$7.50

\$5 three-piece, long pants, black chevrot, new goods. Half price. TONIGHT AND SATURDAY... \$2.50

\$12 three-piece, long pants suits. Half price. TONIGHT AND SATURDAY... \$6.00

\$7 three-piece, long pants suits. Half price. TONIGHT AND SATURDAY... \$3.50

\$3. knee pants suits, three-piece, fine blue or black serge. Half price. TONIGHT AND SATURDAY... \$1.50

\$2.50 two-piece cassimere suit, double breasted coat. TONIGHT AND SATURDAY... \$1.25

BOYS' OVERCOATS
\$15 black beaver, elegant material and make, swell style. Half price. TONIGHT AND SATURDAY... \$7.50

\$5. gray, all-wool, new shape, latest cut, box. Half price. TONIGHT AND SATURDAY... \$2.50

We give you our personal assurance that this is a bona fide sale to close out this department to make room for men's goods. Every article is offered.

Exactly Half Price Tonight and Saturday

4-ply linen Boys' Collars, 4 for 25 cents.

BOUCHER
The Park Street Clothier
45 East Park St.

of a Chinaman 50 cents or the 25 cents necessary for the "long draw," as the smoking is called, the American buys the outfit and takes it home with him. However, it is not to be imagined that the habit has hold of the really valuable portion of our population. That its effect is widespread and that that effect is growing it is idle to deny.

Any one who watches closely the faces of the criminals to be seen in the police court will see at a glance that the number of those addicted to the use of the drug is much larger than it was when the opium joints were allowed to run.

It was a wise man who said that vice that is not practiced in public is the most dangerous of vice.

So it is with the smoking of opium, and here happens the queer construction of the statute of Montana covering these cases.

Law Fails to Reach. It is plainly against the law to keep an opium den. It is against the law to gather two or more persons together for the purpose of smoking opium.

Every time that a man in the presence of one or more others takes a little opium off the card upon which the drug comes and puts in on a needle to heat and smoke in the pipe, that man acts contrary to the peace and dignity of the state of Montana and contrary to the statute enacted to prevent opium smoking.

But there is a loophole. It is not a crime to smoke opium by one's self in one's own room. Each time that opium smokers are arrested now they plead as a defense that they were smoking in their own rooms or that they were not smoking at all.

The presence of the pipe and the rest of the munitions of smoking is explained by the statement that the layout was left there by some one whose name they have forgotten.

SEES AWFUL SIGHTS.

Unfortunate Woman With a Liking for Liquor Taken by Authorities.

"Get way back! Don't you dare come to me! There's another. Oh, my God, they are eating me alive."

With wild screams of terror, laboring under enough opium-induced hallucinations sufficient to stock a dozen Bosco outfits, Nellie Valani charged back and forth in the women's department of the city jail this morning. She was suffering from an attack of delirium tremens and her screams could be heard on Broadway.

Her condition became so serious that she was removed to the county jail without trial and an order to secure the attention necessary.

Only one drunk came up before Judge Boyle this morning. He answered to the name of James Murray and was fined

Frank Chirra pleaded not guilty to a charge of petit larceny.

GORGEOUS AUTUMN HEADGEAR

New Season Exposition and Special Selling of a Hundred of the Superbest, Handsomest Patterns of the Year

\$12.00 Trimmed Hats
\$4.95



Lovely beyond the most beautiful pictures of the imagination, rich in their splendid artistic combination of handsome stuffs; modish to the extreme point of fashion's freshest fancy; low priced to the limit of littleness. What an ultra-desirable assemblage this is; how well it exemplifies the increasing cleverness of the American milliner; how thoroughly it upholds the Symons' reputation as best servants of Butte's fair ones. A hundred New York patterns and no two alike. A hundred dashing, sparkling pieces of headgear come to crown the costuming of a hundred women for the smallest sum such articles have cost. We are enthusiastic about this matchless headgear gathering. We know they represent the best value possible. We are sure that this announcement will be greeted with intense pleasure by everyone. There's quite a display in our middle window that you'll do well to see, and here's a description of some of the best styles:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>An Exclusive Pattern
Made from black velvet; crown is mediumly high, rim is trimmed with rather full draping of blue panne velvet, and hat is further beautified by a couple of brilliant ostrich feathers. A matchless value at..... \$4.95</p> | <p>A Box Turban
Having a flat crown of stitched panne velvet set off by two cut steel ornaments; the body of the hat formed by a very full silk sash; the facing also of panne velvet. All colors in this hat at..... \$4.95</p> | <p>A Quaint Little Poke
With a round crown of stitched panne velvet and rim of fancy tinsel and sequin material; large ostrich feather and big velvet ribbon bow in front; the new milk weed facing; all black. Price..... \$4.95</p> |
| <p>Another Exclusive Pattern
This hat is in royal purple velvet, entirely plaited. The rim is bordered by delicate colored chiffons artistically entwined, while velvet ribbons and multi-colored quills complete the affair. Price..... \$4.95</p> | <p>A Novelty Semi-Dress Hat
Made from the finest French felt, in the tan shades; crown stripped with black velvet ribbons, fancy liberty satin drapery in front, additional trimming of feathers, panne velvets and jet pins. Price..... \$4.95</p> | <p>Quite Pretty Turban
Made from black panne velvet with crown of the same or contrasting colored silks. These affairs are plain, yet rich, the only trimmings being a black breast and a couple of fancy pins. Price..... \$4.95</p> |

Cloak Store's Bargain Bulletin

Women's Jackets \$5.00

New lines of the popular priced garment just received. Coats are made from fine smooth kersey cloth in all shades and have storm collars, large revers and are lined with brilliant finish mercerized material; edges are finished in silk and value is from \$8.50 to \$10.00.....

\$5.00

\$32.50 Fur Jackets \$18.75

XXX electric seal jackets, with collar and revers of nutria beaver, made in freshest style; notched cuffs and heavy silk linings; as inexpensive as a cloth jacket and twice as handsome; value \$32.50. Price..... **\$18.75**

Ladies' Flannel Waist \$1.35

French flannel waists in all the plain colors with contrasting polka dots; gathered front and back; best style; well made and finished; \$2.00 value for..... **\$1.35**

\$4.50 and \$5.00 Ladies' Costume Waists \$2.85

A number of splendid lines at this price, the most notable being a garment of pure wool French flannel with tucked yoke of taffeta silk and elaborately embroidered front. There are also quite a few styles of handsome velvet waists, both the plain and fancies and some extreme novelty flannel affairs. Values in this broad assemblage range from \$4.50 to \$5.00. Special price..... **\$2.85**

The Finest Fur Jackets

- 24-inch full skin astrakhan jackets, worth \$42.00. At..... **\$26.50**
- 22-inch real kimmer jackets, worth \$85.00. At..... **\$42.00**
- 24-inch nearsail jackets, the finest grade; worth \$60.00. At..... **\$49.00**
- 24-inch real beaver jackets, worth \$100.00. At..... **\$76.00**
- 24-inch real otter jackets, worth \$150.00. At..... **\$108.00**
- 24-inch real Alaska sealskin jackets, worth \$250.00. At..... **\$185.00**

Women's Lounging Robes \$3.50

Pure wool elderdown lounging robes in cardinal and gray shades; collar and cuffs finished with satin piping; silk frog fasteners; cord and tassel at waist. A staple \$5.00 article at..... **\$3.50**

\$1.00 Ladies' Wrapper 59 Cents

The very fine cashmerette wrappers in French flannel designs; made with braided yoke and collar; gathered back; the waist lined with muslin; garment full cut and worth \$1.00. Price..... **59 cts**

Still Selling \$1.25 and \$1.50
Woman's Underwear at 79c
Symons ECONOMISTS FOR THE PEOPLE

"It's true I took those things, your honor," softly remarked the ex-doctor "But I asked for them, and another thing, they were not Nick Hughes' property, if I understand it rightly."
Chirra, who was at one time a physician and later a dentist, will be tried Tuesday afternoon.
John McLeod, Thomas McMahon, Alex McDonald and George Leahy were arraigned on charges of playing football in the streets. They pleaded not guilty and will be tried Tuesday.

HUMANE SOCIETY TO MEET.

Officers for the Organization Will Be Elected This Evening.

At the meeting of the Humane society, to be held this evening at the council chamber in the city hall, officers for the organization for the coming year will be elected and matters pertaining to changes in the running of the body will come up for discussion.

The meeting tonight will be really an adjourned meeting from one that was held two weeks ago, when the attendance was so small that it was thought best to put over some of the matters until a future date.

The reports of the officers were made at the meeting and suggestions were made for several changes in the manner of conducting the affairs of the organization.

Among other things it was recommended that the secretary of the body be paid a salary. The dues of the members was also a matter that was put before the body and that will come up this evening.

There seems to be two principal candidates for the presidency of the organization, as the present man in the position does not desire re-election.

These candidates are Dr. Bernheinz and Herman Rosenzweig, the former being the present vice president of the society and the latter its secretary.

"The society has done good work since it came into existence," said Mr. Rosenzweig this morning. "Plenty of people can be found who are willing to contribute to its support."

"The trouble is to get officers who can afford to devote their time to the interests of the society. I have found from experience that the position of secretary requires that one put in considerable time in looking after matters that come

A Little Ahead Again!
The long looked for Eastman plate camera is now on the market and as usual we are showing the first shipment in the city.
They come in series "C" and "D."
Series "C," short bellows..... \$20.00
Series "D," long bellows..... \$25.00
Both 4x5.
Call and see them.
PAXSON & ROCKEFELLER
Red Cross Drug Store,
24 West Park.

The Home Drug Store
Next to the doctor, the druggist should deserve the confidence of the family. The drug store should be a homelike resort for the family. Here is such a store. We sell postage stamps and street car tickets. We have chairs for you to wait for friends or car. We keep your packages till you are ready to take the car. We fill prescriptions promptly. We use only fresh drugs of full strength; and we make very moderate charges. We'd like you to try us with your prescriptions.
Christie & Leys,
12 N. Main St.
Right in the Heart of Butte

Dres With Individuality
Suits to Order Only
\$15.00
All Wool, 200 Different Patterns, made by Union labor, perfect fit guaranteed.
Better Quality, Better Style, Better Wear than any ready-made at any price.
Crown Tailoring Co.,
A. C. LYLES, Manager.
229 E. Park. Phone 771-B.
Men's suits cleaned and pressed, called for and delivered for \$2.50

up in connection with the work of the society.
"On that account I am in favor of making the position of secretary a salaried one."
HARRINGTON WANTS DAMAGES.
Has Sued Stromberg-Mullins Company For \$1000.
Con C. Harrington brought suit in the district court today to recover \$1000 damages from the Stromberg-Mullins company.
He alleges that he was damaged to that extent by the defendant, who, he says, sold out the saloon stock to Timothy P. Harrington, upon which he had chattel mortgages for \$1000, without regard to his rights.
Harrington alleges that he loaned Timothy P. Harrington \$1000, and took notes and mortgages upon the latter's saloon fixtures for the money.
Thereafter the latter went into bankruptcy, and the plaintiff alleges that the defendant took possession of the fixtures and sold them and appropriated the proceeds without satisfying his notes. Besides the \$1000 he asks for costs, an attorney's fee and interest.

Chandelier Sale
We have bought the entire stock of the Butte Plumbing Company, consisting of new designs in Combination and Electric Chandeliers, which we offer at
25 Per Cent less than regular selling prices
Montana Electric Co.
53 East Broadway

Dave Blake Visits Butte.
Dave Blake, formerly of Butte, and president of the Dave Blake company, which owns and operates the largest wholesale and retail liquor establishments on Puget Sound, is here from Tacoma visiting old friends. Mr. Blake was formerly in the wholesale and retail grocery business in Butte, where he laid the foundation for a fortune which came to him in after years on the Sound.