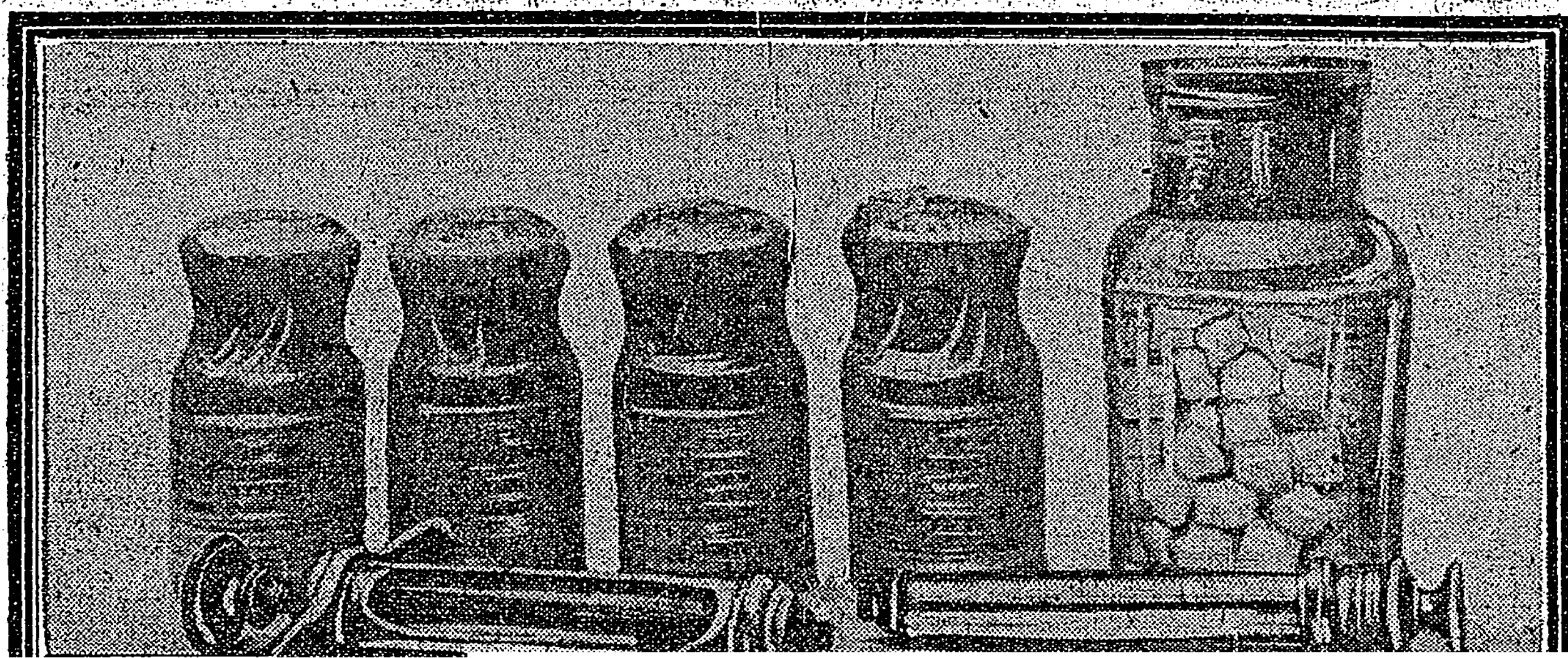
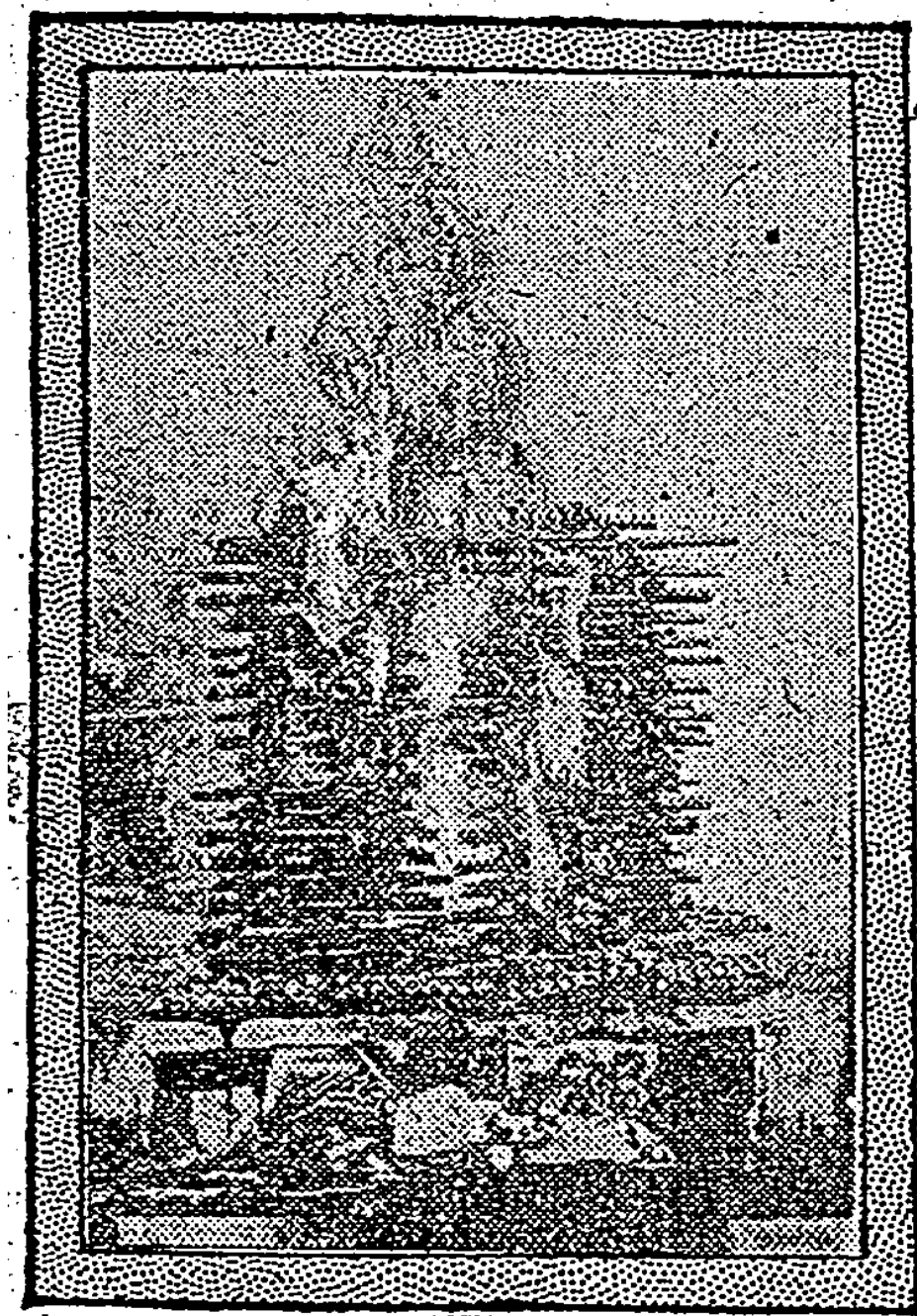


NATIONS UNITING TO STAMP OUT THE USE OF OPIUM AND MANY OTHER DRUGS

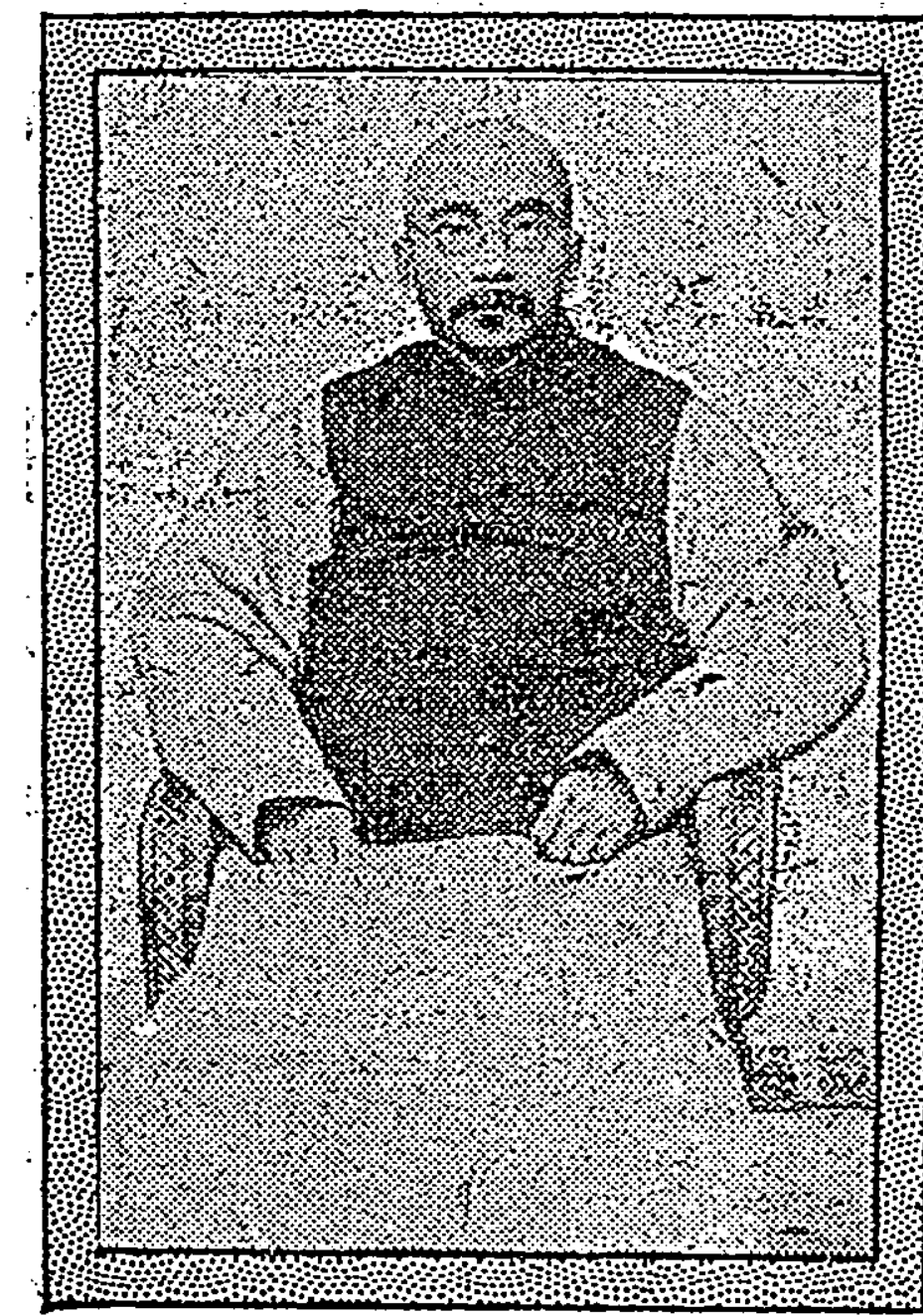
Great Britain Ready to Sacrifice \$35,000,000 a Year—Increase in the Sale of Cocaine in the United States



Cocaine and Injection Syringes as Offered for Sale in New York.



Opium Pipes of Ivory and Costly Woods Being Burned in Shanghai.

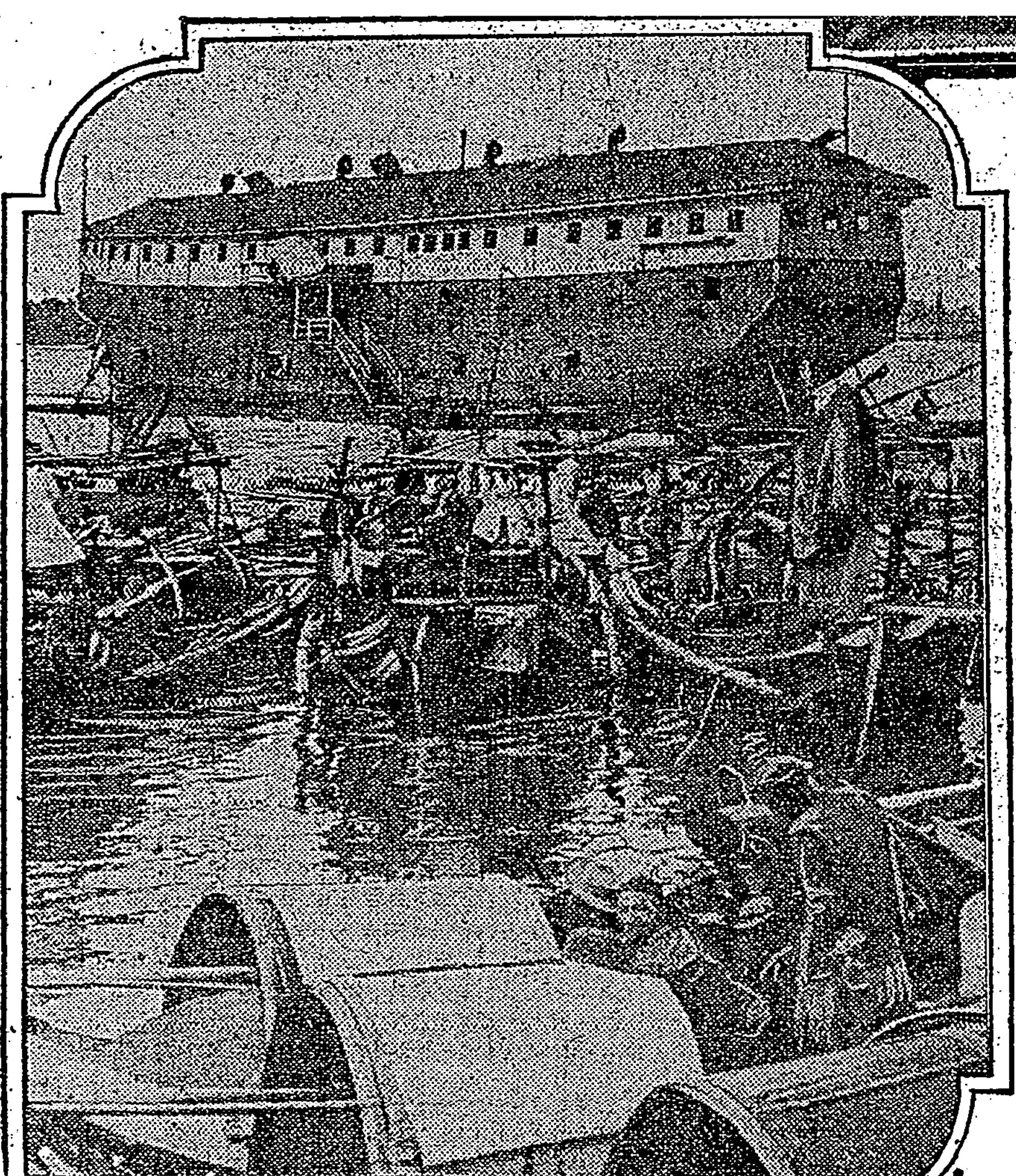


Tong-Shao-Yi, Who Drafted the Chinese Edict Against Opium.

URGED on by the United States, the great powers of the Old World have entered into a pact to drive the opium smoker and opium eater out of existence. In so doing they will sacrifice many millions of revenue every year. As soon as the crusade against the poppy has been won and the day of victory may be said to be dawning—the United States will take just as resolute steps to abolish in every civilized land the growing traffic in cocaine, hashish, heroin, absinthe, chloral, and other drugs that fasten themselves upon mankind.

Statistics prove that, as the importation of opium subsides, the incoming of other harmful drugs increases at an alarming rate. To-day in the United States, from coast to coast and from Canada to Gulf, there is a steady increase in the use of drugs that are almost as destructive as the Oriental flower that furnishes opium. Hundreds of thousands of the inhabitants of this country are addicted to the constant use of "headache powders" that contain deadly acetanilid; thousands of others seldom go to sleep without swallowing a quantity of chloral hydrate, which is the "knock-out drops" of the professional thug; unnumbered others daily use preparations of cocaine to give them fancied strength for their work, while a legion of others habitually use belladonna, arsenic, and strychnine without consulting a physician.

To stamp out the use of these drugs among the people will require the best efforts of the National as well as the State Governments. Every physician must be a volunteer in the service, every school teacher, minister, and parent, who real-



An Opium Storage Ship, Shanghai.

the opium farms of the Straits Settlements and Hongkong, France was interested to the extent of millions in Indo-China, Japan in Formosa, and the Netherlands in its East Indian possessions. In view of the enormous sums the other powers stood to lose, our delegation was in rather an embarrassing position, but we stood for the moral uplift of the world and won out. Great Britain agreed to reduce the exports of opium from India 10 per cent a year for ten years, and China agreed to reduce the production of the drug within her boundaries at an equal rate.

Our English friends have kept faith with the powers in fulfilling their promise, and from all we can learn China will reduce her acreage of opium this year by more than 15 per cent. The Dominion of Canada is doing her utmost to help us

suppress the importation of smoking and eating opium. Our law prohibiting the importation of any opium except for medicinal purposes went into effect last April. Canada went one better by passing a similar law that became effective last January.

As a result of these laws, smoking opium, which sold formerly for from \$150 to \$6 a pound, is scarce in the Chinatowns of the big cities at \$50 a pound. Of course some is smuggled in occasionally and gets to the Chinese in San Francisco and New York, but the quantity consumed is infinitesimal compared with what was formerly used.

The hardest task we had at the conference was to secure the passage of a resolution pledging the various Governments to prohibit the exportation of opium in any form to any country which prohibits the entry of opium, its alkaloids,

derivatives, or preparations. We strongly urged upon the commission the fact that we had in our National pure food laws the same penalties on the shipment of deleterious articles to foreign countries as on the shipment of these same articles in our inter-State commerce.

I pointed out that we had done this, not as a result of pressure from foreign States, but as a matter of international courtesy, and the American delegation felt that it was time that the principle of do unto others as you would be done by was recognized in regard to such matters, especially the opium traffic. The British delegation at first led the opposition, but finally agreed to it, and it was passed unanimously.

In passing a Federal law that will prevent the traffic in undestrable drugs it will be necessary to look well into the future. I would not be at all surprised if, when we get rid of the opium danger, the chloral peril and the other now known drug evils, we shall encounter new ones. The habitues will feel that they must adopt something to take the place of the "dope" they have lost through legal enactment. Hashish, of which we know very little in this country, will doubtless be adopted by many of the unfortunates, if they can get it. In India the natives take hashish as a drink, called bang. The Arabs, Egyptians, and Malays eat it dry.

That the United States was a pretty good opium customer is proved by the fact that ten days after the prohibitory law went into effect in April barring out all smoking opium, the Portuguese "opium farm" on the Island of Macao broke up its business, Macao imported the opium in its crude state and prepared it for smoking. Nearly its entire product was sold in the United States.

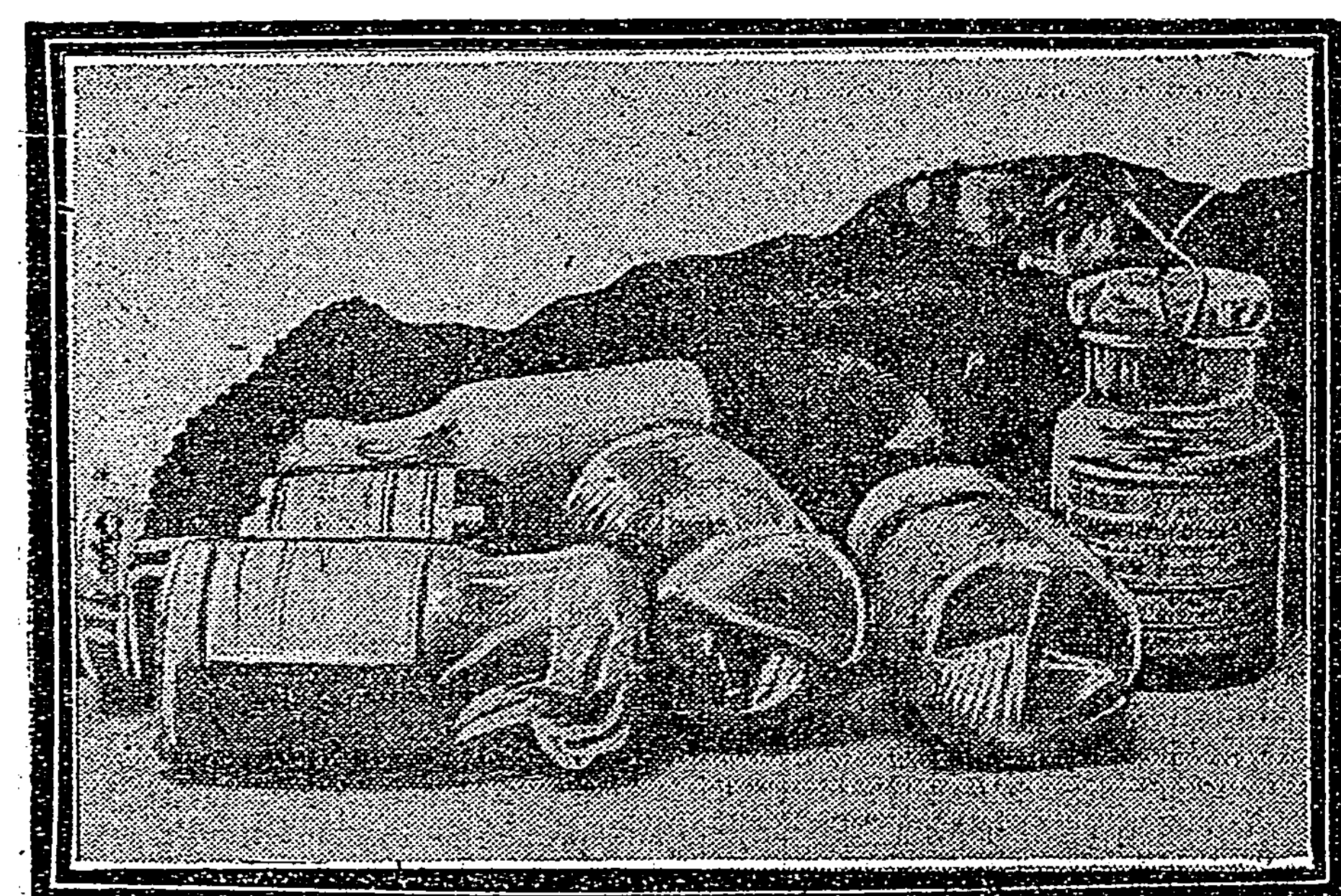
The importation of smoking opium into the United States reached its high-water mark in 1907, when 160,397 pounds were imported. Last year the imports were a little less than 150,000 pounds and this year, under the restrictive law that went into effect in April it is expected that the sum total will be about a quarter of that amount. Next year there will be no imports of smoking opium declared at any of the ports. In 1908 the imports of smoking opium registered at San Francisco alone amounted to 145,345 pounds. Hawaii got 1,400 pounds; Puget Sound, 156; Willamette, Wash., 119; and the district of Montana and Idaho combined, just one pound, valued at \$6. Of crude opium New York imported last year 123,427 pounds, valued at \$483,747. Philadelphia's imports of crude opium for the same year were 153,081; St. Louis's, 6,885 pounds, and De-

troit's, 2,430. All the United States ports combined showed during 1908 an importation of 285,845 pounds of crude opium, valued at \$1,151,207. During the same period the smoking opium brought into the country was valued at \$1,330,703.

Federal officials regard the New York laws applying to the sale and use of baneful drugs as being peculiarly well fitted to serve as a copy for other States. The essential sections are as follows:

Section 218 of the Public Health Law, Prescription of opium, morphine, cocaine, and chloral. No pharmacist, druggist, apothecary, or other person shall, refill more than once prescriptions containing opium or morphine, or preparation of either of them, or cocaine or chloral, in which the dose of opium shall exceed one quarter of a grain, or of morphine one twentieth of a grain, or of cocaine one-half of a grain, or of chloral ten grains, except upon the written order of a physician.

Section 405 of the Penal Code of the State of New York. Regulations as to prescriptions of opium and morphine. A person who, except on written or verbal order of a physician, refills more than once prescriptions containing opium, morphine, or preparations of either, in which the dose of opium exceeds one-fourth grain, or morphine one-twentieth grain, is guilty of a misdemeanor.



Cocaine Taken from a Street Peddler of the Drug by New York Police.

izes the awful importance of the subject, must help.

The tremendous increase in the use of cocaine that followed the passage of the restrictive laws against opium may be gathered when it is known that in 1904—before the United States took up the cudgel against the Oriental habit—the importation of cocaine was only 58,000 ounces, and of coca leaves, from which cocaine is made, was 53,000 pounds. In 1905 300,000 pounds of the leaves were imported, but the importation of cocaine had fallen off to about half what it was the year before because, rather than pay a duty of 25 per cent. ad valorem, the chemists had started the manufacture of the drug in this country on a large scale. In 1906 the importation of coca leaves was 2,600,000 pounds.

By this time, however, many of the States awoke to the fact that cocaine was a pretty dangerous drug to have sold about the cities and towns without any safeguards or stint, and many of them passed restrictive laws. The passage of these statutes resulted in the shrinkage of the importations of coca leaves in 1907 to 1,515,000 ounces, and in 1908 to 633,000 ounces. In 1908 the importation of cocaine from abroad was only 3,792 ounces,

ment takes a hand by prohibiting the movement of the drug in inter-State commerce, a great deal will be smuggled across the State lines and used. The same may be said of all the other drugs that the communities would exclude. No matter how stringent local laws may be, if the drugs are allowed on sale without restriction in any of the States, they are bound to find their way into the forbidden territory.

It is proposed to have Congress pass a law that will force the manufacturers and dealers in all habit-inspiring drugs to take out a Federal license and to make regular periodical returns to the Internal Revenue Bureau. By this means every ounce of cocaine, chloral, &c., may be traced from the time it is manufactured until it reaches the consumer; and if the consumer lives in a "closed territory" it is believed possible to cure him of the habit by taking from him the means of continuing it. The State Department, through its Opium Commissioner, Dr. Hamilton Wright, took the initiative in the matter of suppressing the production and sale of opium for eat-

ing and smoking purposes, and will lead the fight for the eradication of the other drug habits.

"The cocaine and chloral habits are just as bad in their way as the opium habit," said Dr. Wright, "and we are going to draw up a bill for presentation to Congress for the suppression of the sale of these drugs to the general public. We have no doubt that the lawmaking power will promptly pass the legislation, for there is no greater enemy to the community than a man who has become the victim of a habit of this sort. He not only loses the money that he spends on the drug, but he loses the time that he is under its influence, and impoverishes his family. He becomes not only utterly worthless as a citizen but is likely soon to join the criminal class.

It was, therefore, not entirely from altruistic motives that the State Department went about the crusade against opium. Out in the Philippines we had a large Chinese population that had the habit. Here in this country from 40 to 45 per cent. of the entire Chinese population were opium smokers and spent a large share of their earnings on the drug. It looked like a good business move, as well as a long stride in the direction of the good of mankind, for us to take the initiative. To do so it meant that we would lose more than \$600,000 a year revenue in the Philippines alone, but that was a small item when the resulting benefit was considered.

So the department launched the movement. As a result of that move we held a conference in February at Shanghai, and in addition to the United States there were represented Great Britain, France, Germany, Austria-Hungary, Italy, Russia, Japan, the Netherlands, China, Persia, and Siam. Great Britain was making \$95,000,000 a year from her opium in India, but, despite that fact, very cheerfully joined hands with us in declaring for the suppression of the traffic in all its branches except for medicinal purposes.

In addition to the Indian revenue in opium Great Britain had also at stake