

GILBERT'S What Young People Think

Teen Smokers Feel 'Adult' And Don't Worry Much About Cancer

By EUGENE GILBERT

Why do teen-agers smoke? Because, they tell us, it gives them a wonderful feeling of being grown up. And they aren't much fazed by reports that there is a link between cigarettes and cancer.



"At 13 I was smoking in movie theaters," says an older teen. "I couldn't stand the taste, but it was the thing to do."

Another says: "All my friends were doing it, so I started too. What's the diff? I would have taken up the habit sooner or later anyway."

How many young people smoke? A cross country survey of high school students shows that 31 per cent of the 13-to-15-year-olds

puff regularly at cigarettes, and that 61 per cent of those 16 or older smoke.

Cancer Kept in Mind
Time after time, youngsters brought up the subject of cancer. About 94 per cent of all the young people queried in this study feel there must be a definite link between tobacco and lung cancer, but most of them have not stopped smoking.

On this point the science editor of the American Cancer Society, Pat McGrady, recently wrote: "Prudent parents probably will not encourage youngsters to smoke without first having them study all the evidence pro and con relating to cigarette smoking and its possible link to heart disease and cancer, particularly lung cancer."

"I guess I'm a fatalist," says a Midwestern 16-year-old. "Only 26 per cent have given up cigarettes since cancer studies have been made public, and most of them deny cancer was their reason. One Missouri sophomore explains: "My family made me give up smoking. They felt it was dangerous and since they, too, stopped at the same time, I went along with them."

Then there are the young pessimists, like the one who says: "Listen, cigarettes won't kill us. Believe me, with all the new kinds of bombs and so on that they are inventing each year, there won't be enough of us left with in 10 or 15 years to keep a cigarette company in business."

They Want a Free Hand
Many teen-agers think 16 the age when youngsters should be allowed to smoke—47 per cent of

the boys and 35 per cent of the girls. The next favorite year is 15, advocated by 31 per cent boys and 27 per cent girls. Six per cent of the boys and 7 per cent of the girls do not think smoking should be permitted under age 18.

But most youngsters feel they should be allowed to smoke when they want to. If parents refuse permission, they say, it only builds up animosity and the desire to seek independence in some other way, perhaps a far more harmful way than smoking. "Let us smoke," teens advise their parents, "because if we want to do it, your 'no' is not going to stop us. And it is better to do anything with parental approval than without it."

A majority of smoking high school students — a good 75 per cent — say their parents know about it — and that they want them to know. They would rather have them approve but in any case do not want to go under false pretenses.

"Even though Mom is not completely in favor of my smoking," says a Southern girl. "I'm glad she knows about it."

Boys Heaviest Smokers
Nevertheless, among students

who say their parents are in the dark about their smoking, girls outnumber the boys 2 to 1.

Young people don't go along with the "stolen fruit is sweeter" theory. They assert that adult opposition doesn't make smoking more desirable; 65 per cent say it wouldn't affect them either way. "My father thinks tobacco is the world's biggest evil," says a Baltimore girl. "That didn't make me take up smoking. I don't think it would be fun simply because a parent disapproves. I just smoke because I like it."

Girl smokers tend to do less of it than boys. A majority say they use a quarter pack or at most a half pack a day, while the lads prefer a half pack to a full pack daily.

Teen-agers take a responsible stand on smoking in school. A healthy 90 per cent feel it shouldn't be permitted on high school property. They say cigarettes should continue to be banned in school corridors, classrooms and on the playing field.

One 15-year-old explains his view: "Smoking is not such a necessity that high school students

cannot do without it during school hours. There is plenty of time for that in the afternoon and evening."

A large number of students suggest, however, that there ought to be a lounge set up in every school for a quick—and legitimate—cigarette during lunch hour or a free period.

"This would stop the sneaking around corners," one youth explains. "If kids knew they had a place to smoke, lots of them wouldn't bother to go out of their way for a secret cigarette."

What about the non-smokers? Well, their reasons are several: health, athletics—boys say cigarettes affect their wind—expense, and just plain dislike. Girls often say they think girls look silly or unladylike smoking.

One 19-year-old lass asserts: "It is a silly habit developed because teen-agers want to follow the crowd."

A 16-year-old New York boy explains: "I have better sense than to smoke. It's ruinous for athletics and general health. Show me how it helps you."

What do you think?



MANY TEEN-AGERS have heard reports that cigarette smoking may have a link with cancer—but they still smoke.

Melrose Man Leaves Wednesday For Portland

By NETTIE WOODRUFF

Paul Demmer left Wednesday for Portland to enter the Veterans Hospital where he will undergo an operation. Jim Howard is staying on the Demmer ranch during his absence.

Back At Work

Mr. and Mrs. D. N. Busenbark have received word from their daughter, Miss Helen Busenbark, that she was to return Dec. 12 to her work as manager of the Army Engineers' office at Allen Dam in Idaho following a month's vacation.

She sailed aboard the Queen Elizabeth to Paris, where she spent eight days. She had planned a Mediterranean cruise, but because of delay in sailing due to the dock strike in New York, was unable to go. She visited the United Nations and other points of interest in the East while awaiting passage. Miss Busenbark is a former local resident and makes her home at Newport, Wash.

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Ranlett and son, Chris, and daughter, Ellen, visited recently at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Abel, and with her sister, Mrs. C. G. Trusty, and family.

Moving last week from the Frank Smith rental to a residence on Vine Street were Mr. and Mrs. Michael Wootton and daughter, Adele.

Harold Parker was treated at a Roseburg Hospital Thursday evening for a badly cut finger, suffered in a home accident.

Robert Hill and son, Robert Jr., attended business Friday in Eugene.

Mrs. Grant Pickens, the former Joyce Clark of Melrose, visited friends and relatives here and in Sutherlin and Roseburg last week.

Iraq Planning To Withdraw From Jordan

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq says she is withdrawing her troops from Jordan because the Jordan government demanded that the Iraqi forces there be put under Egyptian command.

The dispute appeared to further isolate Iraq from the rest of the Arab world. Egypt and Syria already have been directing propaganda attacks against Iraq for remaining in the Baghdad Pact, which includes Britain.

Iraq sent part of her army into Jordan — under the joint defense treaty of 1947 — when Israeli troops knifed into the Sinai Peninsula in late October and the Amman government feared they might also attack Jordan.

Over the weekend Iraq announces she was pulling back at Jordan's request, although the Baghdad government said it felt the Israeli threat was still growing.

Iraqi-Jordanian relations have been worsening steadily since Jordan elected a pro-Egyptian parliament in October.



Two Washday Favorites!



SAFeway

Canyonville Students Set Christmas Pageant

All of Canyonville's grade school pupils and the high school chorus, a total of 375 students, will present the musical Christmas pageant to the public at the school gym Wednesday, Dec. 19, according to Gene Southwell, school music teacher and director.

The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. The children will be dressed alike or costumed according to their part, Southwell said.

The annual Christmas recess at Canyonville will begin Friday afternoon, Dec. 21, at the close of school and school will open again Wednesday, Jan. 2.

Britain, France Seek Egypt Meet

PARIS (AP) — Western diplomats say Britain and France are seeking an early meeting with Egypt to settle the Suez Canal controversy.

The two Western powers were said to have indicated clearly at the current NATO meeting here that they now will accept less than full international control of the waterway.

Britain, France, the United States and 15 other nations previously have backed a plan calling for creation of an international authority to run the canal. Egypt rejected the international control, saying it would infringe on Egyptian sovereignty.

Secretary of State Dulles was reported to be firmly supporting the new Western approach, which envisages a resumption of negotiations by the British, French and Egyptian foreign ministers and U.N. Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold.

JUDGES TO MEET

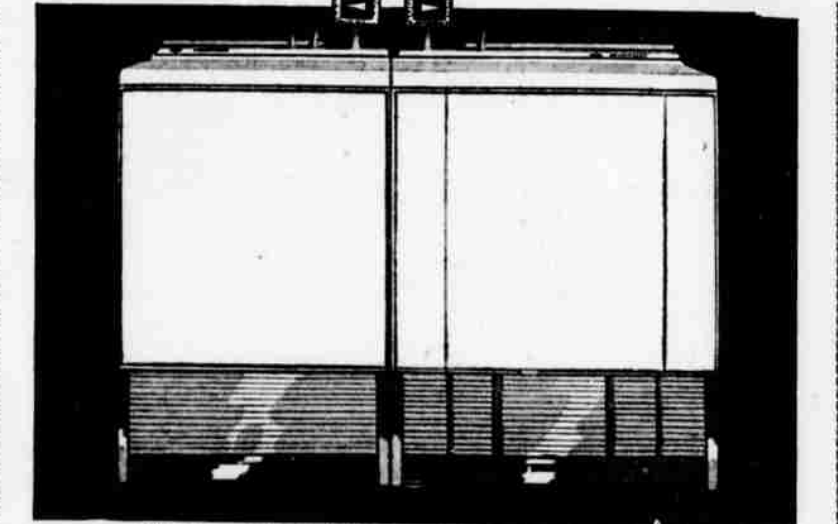
PORTLAND (AP) — The Circuit Judges Assn. of Oregon will open its annual two-day meeting here Friday.

One of the main speakers will be Chief Justice Harold Warner of the Oregon Supreme Court. A joint session of the association and the Oregon State Bar board of governors at noon Friday will be addressed by Arden X. Pangborn, editor of the Oregon Journal.

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