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THE ESPLANADE
Massachusetts Ave. at Beacon

Local Smoker Learns Bitter Lesson Abroad
New York, March 31, 1928
Boston Smoker, who has been living in England through the winter, has learned the hard way that England has its own brand of tobacco.

Smoker phoned the number of the local tobacconist to order some of his favorite brands of cigarettes.

He ordered 50 packs of cigarettes, and when they arrived, he opened them to find that they were of a different brand altogether.

The tobacconist apologized for the mistake and offered to make a refund.

Smoker was not satisfied and demanded his money back immediately.

The tobacconist explained that it was the local custom to substitute the local brand of cigarettes for any order that included a request for a brand that was not available.

Smoker was dumbfounded and said, "I thought England was supposed to be a democracy!"

The tobacconist replied, "Yes, it is, but not in this regard!"

Smoker was so angry that he decided to return to the United States immediately.

He packed his belongings and telephoned the local train station to make arrangements for a train to leave for the United States.

The tobacconist helped him carry his luggage to the train car and said, "Good luck, sir!"

Smoker said, "Thank you, I'll need it!"

He got on the train and sat down to enjoy a pack of the local brand of cigarettes, muttering to himself, "This is the life!"

Smoker was so happy that he decided to stay in England and live like a local.

He bought himself a new suit of clothes and started a new life as a local smoking man.

He was so happy that he decided to start a new business, making cigarettes and selling them to other smokers.

He became so successful that he opened his own tobacco shop and became one of the most successful tobacconists in England.

He lived a long and happy life, smoking his local brand of cigarettes until the day he died.

End of story.