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W. H. THURSTON EDITOR

TOO MANY WHITE COLLARS

When Premier John Oliver was East recently he spoke at Hamilton before the Canadian Club, and during the course of his remarks said:

"For one thing, there are far too many white-collared men who are afraid to lose a little honest sweat, but who yet exact a fat living from the grime of the toiler. Men and women were crying for bread, while countless acres that would produce food for all were lying idle. The rewards of industry were not equally distributed. Too many parasites were living on the men who are really producing the wealth of this country."

There is a lot of truth in this theory. Young men want to get away from the country and don the white collar, and there are none to take their places. Can it be that we are paying too much attention to education and not enough to the manual side of life? In order to gain physical perfection and guard against degeneration we build gymnasiums and swimming baths, stadiums for sports, make new jobs for the graduates of our colleges and universities, and taxes in a multitude of ways have to be raised to support these while the farming community is supposed to raise sufficient produce to keep the white collar brigade fit and strong so that it may excel in athletics and the professions. The toil on the soil does not produce an attractive return, and with educational facilities so convenient, and returns more assured, it is no wonder so many try to get away from the plow handles to the pen and pencil. But the time will come, if conditions do not alter soon, when things must change or the result will be disastrous to our community life.

AN UNCOMFORTABLE THOUGHT

What a small thing this world is, to be sure. An earthquake occurs in Japan or Hong Kong and the seismograph in Toronto registers the fact. Some scientists think that some day the floor of the ocean will drop out and let an ocean of water drop through into the internal fires. Then an explosion will occur that will send this old world in minute fragments out through space and make of it star dust that will float through space in endless procession around the sun, probably in another quintillion of years to gradually gain cohesion until another world is formed to take the place of our annihilated orb. Comfortable thought, isn't it?

Well, there would be some compensating features. All the worries that are now troubling the world would be settled, and the coal barons would be sent whirling through space along with their coal. Let us hope it would take fire on the journey.

A NEW DISCOVERY

It is now announced that the grippe microbe has been discovered, and we are told that the thing has to be magnified 1000 times before it can be seen by the human eye. It don't have to be magnified to any appreciable extent in order to feel the best. It is one of the marvels of nature that an atomic fiend like this can exert such an influence on the human frame. Now that his identity has been made plain surely some of our scientists will discover some way of hogtieing his impship and making him impotent for all time to come.

Clergyman Dies Suddenly

Startlingly sudden was the calling of Rev. Benjamin Murray Smith, Presbyterian minister at Walters Falls, who was called home after a brief illness of only nine days of pneumonia.

Just two weeks previously he had been in good health, and took part in the induction ceremony here, when his brother minister, Rev. W. J. Gallagher, was installed in his new field of service. Rev. Mr. Smith attempted to drive home that night, but only got within four miles of home when the impassable roads forced him to spend the night in a farm house.

Mr. Smith had two charges—St. Paul's in Sydenham, and Knox in St. Vincent. He was almost 65 years of age and when sickness came was unable to throw it off.

He had been laboring in the Walters Falls field for two and a half years, having come here from Dromore. In passing Mr. Smith leaves to mourn his loss a wife and son and daughter—W. G. Smith, auditor, of Chatham, Ont., married, and Isabella F. Smith of Hamilton. Death came on Monday, Jan. 28, and the body was lovingly taken to Simcoe, Ont., for interment. Mr. Smith was a native of Caithness, Scotland—Meaford Mirror.

More Reminiscences.

The following little reminiscent note from Miss Emma Wright of West Toronto explains itself:

Mr. Thurston,—Father advises me to say thank you for quoting from the Globe of Jan. 3 We remember you quoted in full a former article by Miss Robins.

The church bee mentioned was to build the first church at Inistioge and Will Armstrong's grandfather and the Sniders (their land agent there) gave dinners and timber. That was the first church on the Toronto Line outside of Owen Sound.

We enjoyed very much the article on Eugenia. Dad says Sandy Brownlee was the first man to find Eugenia. He lived about three miles toward Markdale from Flesherton. There were almost no settlers there then, and on a Sunday evening when all was still he heard the noise of a waterfall and went next day to find out where it was. Father spent two days and a night digging "gold" at Eugenia. About thirty others were at the same job. Dad thinks that was in 1850, the year he went into Grey. He says the Purdys came in by way of Meaford.

As you know so much of the early days I just put down what he talked of as we read your article. He was interested, as he knew the Purdy and the Visitors Book so well.

Salt the Fleas.

The best means of controlling fleas in most instances is very simple. Fleas usually originate in the basement of the house, or in some covered place such as woodsheds and stables, to which hogs, dogs, or other such animals have access. The remedy is to give the basement, shed, or other breeding place a thorough cleaning, burn the litter, and then sprinkle the floor or ground in the building or shed with common salt. The salt should be sprinkled thickly enough almost to cover the ground and should then be wet down with water. It should not be wet sufficiently to cause it to run, however. If there are about the place any houses, cribs, or the like built on piles so that hogs and other animals can go under them, salt should be applied there. Generally speaking, it is fairly easy to determine where the fleas originate, and it is usually such a place as can be reached by the salt treatment. It may be necessary to repeat the operation two or three times at about three-day intervals.

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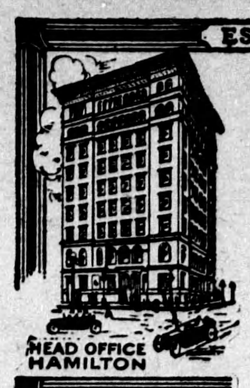

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