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TORONTO.

The most important question, probably, from any standpoint that touches the life and interest of a great city, is its water supply.

Toronto is to-day not in a satisfactory condition as regards its water supply and sewage disposal. This is of more importance to the masses than to the classes.

The two questions in Toronto of water supply and sewage disposal cannot be separated to obtain the results which are needed, namely: first, a pure water supply; second, the freeing of our bay from the continuance of the depositing of crude sewage into it, the solids of which in 1901 were estimated at ninety-five tons per day, and which are now no doubt double this amount. The general impression has been that the trouble was solely in the depositing of crude sewage at so near a point to the intake pipe from which this city derives its water supply, which is 2,250 feet from the south side of the island shore, at a depth of 75 feet.

The taking away of the sewage beyond the possibility of contaminating our water would not even then guarantee a pure water supply to the citizens, as contamination may arise from other points, and as the population of the suburbs and districts around Toronto, as well as possible pollution carried from other cities at times by currents in the lake will still infect the water supply, it would seem that treatment of our sewage alone will not settle the question.

I have studied the reports made by Mr. Jennings in 1890 and others down to the present time, and I believe the faults may be corrected:

1st. By establishing a proper filtration plant at the island, from which, by means of the water tight tunnel now being constructed under the bay, the citizens of Toronto would obtain water purified by filtration.

2nd. By the construction of a trunk sewer from the western portion of the city along some of the lower level streets along the water front to a point in the eastern portion of the city, probably at the east end of Ashbridge's Bay, and into which trunk sewer intercepting sewers from all portions of the city would empty.

3rd. By construction of proper septic tanks at the terminal end of the trunk sewer, and from these tanks outflow pipes at some distance into deep water in the lake.