

extend the application of the terms "specious" and "inane"—by me explicitly limited to the three Head Centres—to the entire Council is so manifestly a high class "plausibility" that it may be dismissed with the contempt it deserves.

The microzymes of the bacteriologist, heretofore isolated and described, are, I believe, sir, all strictly homogenetic in kind, and possessed of but limited penetrative power, and it would therefore seem as if the phenomenon of microbic xenogenesis was a discovery reserved for our distinguished fellow countryman, Dr. Williams. His very modest remarks in this connection are, I confess, a little obscure. They cannot, however, mean that the microbes causing flatness in his June dishwater produced an outbreak of *flatness* in December, because the whole gravamen of my offence, and the very pith of his complaint, is that the December outbreak was not pleasantly and agreeably flat, but only too pungently *racy*. Ergo, the Williams bacillus of dishwater, in flagrant disregard of God's injunction that each created existence shall bring forth after his kind, is heterogenetic and procreates, not identity, but contrariety of type, the flatness in the parent microbe becoming raciness in its progeny! Further, the whole science and art of aseptic surgery is based practically upon the assumption that the living human skin is impervious to even the most virulent and insinuating bacteria. Dr. Williams rudely explodes this mistaken notion, and fills the Faculty with dismay, by citing an instance in which the Williams bacillus has passed through the toughest hide—has penetrated the integument of even the pachydermatous Dr. Sangster, and, such being the case, all other poor mortals are of course entirely at its mercy. Grand discovery! Wonderful man! What does it really amount to, sir? Does it mean that Canada is, at last, to be congratulated on having produced a truly great scientist? Or does it simply mean that Dr. Williams is as loose and inexact in his knowledge of bacteriology, as he has been shown to be hazy in his notions of lexicography, and lax in his ideas of official duty, and technical in his relations to truthfulness and honesty, and unrestricted in his selection of means *calculated* to win confidence in Council debates and in public discussions?

Dr. Williams' hysterically pathetic quotation from Cowper, "I would not number in (*sic*) my list of friends . . . the man who needlessly sets foot upon a worm," is, in this connection, almost too recondite for an ordinary intellect to grasp. If, as is presumably the case, it is intended to intimate that I have forfeited his friendship *because*, in his opinion, I have *needlessly* set my foot upon a *worm*, my loss, which I honestly deplore, is a melancholy illustration of the frailty of such ties,