

The doctrine of Re-incarnation and Karma is not held by him as a dogma, but taught as an hypothesis explaining the problems of human life and its developments and showing the inconsistencies when reasoning from a purely materialistic basis or when depending on any of the theological systems. All truth dovetails into all other truth, and Mr. Smythe, erudite student and mystic scholar, as well as most careful analytical critic, has found no inconsistencies in Theosophic teaching.

It takes years of careful research and intelligent study as well as unselfish devotion to an ideal to reach the pedestal on which today Mr. Smythe stands, and that he gives freely of his knowledge to any one who wishes to profit by it deserves all the appreciation and gratitude it is possible to give him.

It was a very fitting tribute to his worth that he was elected president of the Walt Whitman Fellowship of Canada.

Many have been first introduced to Whitman through "Crusts and Crumbs," and many will still be as it is Mr. Smythe's policy to frequently devote space to the "Democracy of Whitman."

Mr. Smythe has a very extensive library. Many rare and out-of-print books, many first editions. These books receive his devoted care and are his most precious possessions.

How often he has sacrificed creature comforts in order to obtain a coveted book it might be difficult for even him to remember.

In an article necessarily short it is difficult to do justice to the influence of Mr. Smythe since his coming to Canada, and I as a Canadian born, want him to know and feel how far-reaching his work has been in moulding Canadian thought.

We are better and nobler because of him, and I want to present him with a boquet of varied flowers of appreciation in the centre of which I will place a Wild Irish Rose whose beauty and joyousness, charm and grace may ever be a benediction to one whose life is a benediction to so many.

(Mr. Smythe's President's address at the Whitman supper is published in a "Crusts and Crumbs" reprint in this issue.)

