



REFLECTIONS

IIII BY ★ ST A R F ★ W R I T E R S IIII

IT is the time of the year when the colleges of the land are sending out their grist of graduates, and the jokes, that for a year have been kept in the ice chest, are now due. College graduates are depicted seeking for

THE REAL COLLEGE MAN

managerships of businesses, their sole qualifications being four years of college life; we also hear of men who have worked on college papers seeking, in the light of this experience, for managing editorships of metropolitan dailies. And the moral of the paragraphist is as ready as that of the Duchess in Alice in Wonderland. The real college graduate is a rather modest young fellow, rather prone to underestimate his powers of doing. He desires to do things, it is true; but he rather shivers at the sharp leap from the hard yet easy tasks of college days—easy because they are concrete and seen—to the keen and unknown competition of the real world.

What has the college taught him? As the days go on it will be impressed on him that the power of seeing things in a wider perspective, the forming of general ideas, the training which has in mind getting at essentials, these are the main things which abide. Along with this goes no doubt a considerable amount of culture. But culture for culture's sake is a selfish ideal which few of our educational institutions, and especially those supported by governmental aid, can afford to have before them. To be or to do something better, to achieve real success in the bread and butter struggles of life and to see that in these principle as well as interest plays a part, to uplift higher and truer ideals of citizenship—in all these varied lines the college training should assist. In the struggle of daily life where men are judged not by past training but by present achievement the college bred man is but one of many. It is a truism that the college degree is no insurance against failure, no guaranty of success.

But if the college-bred man has equipped himself both to know and to do, then it will be true for him, as for all men, that the world steps aside for him who knows where he is going. The four years of training in clear thought is not a training in aloofness but a training for life—a training which looks inward to later look outward, and which realises that education is for one's country as well as for one's self. The stage Irishman is going. In the light of what college men have done may it not be said that the comic-journal college graduate has well nigh disappeared?

HON. FRANK OLIVER, Minister of the Interior, and therefore in charge of all immigration matters, has been talking to the Canadian Club of Edmonton on the treatment to be accorded to new citizens.

NATIONAL IDEALS

The immigrants from the United States, Great Britain and Europe are welcome but they must accept Canadian ideals and Canadian ambitions. The Canadian clubs of the country should take in the newcomers and make enthusiastic citizens of them. These new citizens must be impressed with the fact that we do not want them here to help build up an annex to the United States nor a duplicate of the conditions in Europe.

Hon. Mr. Oliver spoke frankly and freely and because

these sentiments are expressed by him they are particularly worthy of note. Mr. Oliver is a thorough believer in the possibility of building up on this part of the continent a civilisation and a nation which will be superior in many ways to any others in the world. He holds the torch high and it is well that we have leaders able and far-sighted enough to do what he seems to have done well on this occasion. A united Canada is not sufficient; it must be an ideal Canada as well. If Canada's national ideals, morals and institutions are not better than those elsewhere, then she will not have lived up to her opportunities. She is the newest nation, and she has the experience of added centuries to guide her as to what is to be desired and what to be avoided. To do as well as Great Britain or as well as the United States is not sufficient. She has opportunities which those countries never had. She has been born in a day when order, equality and liberty have new meanings. If her people realise these advantages and press forward along the right line, the world will freely and gladly say "Well done!"

THERE is a story to the effect that an Irish caddy once informed an English visitor to Dublin that the curse of Ireland is "that same oratory." But man is a conversational animal and, whether for good or evil,

ONTARIO ORATORY

he is likely to go on talking, either in private or in public. Within the last few years the people of Ontario have been brought to realise that there are few public men in the province who are effective speakers. Comparisons are, in some cases, inevitable, and when an Ontario audience listens to a speaker from Quebec or the Maritime Provinces, a conviction is forced upon the listener that few natives of the province could do as well. Tory Toronto may not agree with Mr. Bourassa's political convictions; but on the King's Birthday in 1903 it listened with pleasure to his graceful expression of the faith that is in him and privately wondered why the Local Legislature could hardly provide his peer. Hon. G. W. Ross is a notable exception to the prosaic and formless speaker produced in Ontario, but Mr. Ross has been translated to the Senate, the land where it is always afternoon. However, Ontario is making money which has its own way of talking.

HITHERTO the repute of England for the disinterested public service of her citizens has been unsullied. It has been left for the Board of Guardians in charge of the workhouse at West Ham to put the blot

ENGLISH MORALS AND JUSTICE

on the 'scutcheon. All the members of the Board, save one, were convicted of taking bribes. The sentence followed upon the investigation into the extravagance and waste which marked the administration of the workhouse. It is characteristic of our time that we should resent any exceptionally good treatment of the poor, the giving to them, for example, of any such food as we should naturally require each day. And equally curious it is that those guarding the interests of the poor should seek thereby to become rich. But the incident points to the spread of American ideals in England. Englishmen cannot continue to admire American methods and progress without giving way to the craze