

THE WEEKLY ONTARIO.

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WHEN WILL WE PASS THE CREST?

When will the worst be over? When will the crest of the influenza wave be past? These are questions that are being anxiously asked by multitudes of sufferers from the plague or by those who fear they may soon become victims. The questions are difficult to answer.

In New York the pestilence has been raging for five weeks and still the number of cases shows a daily increase. The same is true of nearly all large centres of population along the east coast where the epidemic obtained an early start.

There is no doubt that the disease is decidedly on the increase in Belleville although it has been bad enough for a whole week past. In all probability we may look for at least two or three weeks yet of progressive virulence before the contagion begins to subside.

This looks like cold comfort, but it is better to prepare for what may be before us than to go on deceiving ourselves that Spanish influenza is a joke or a disease whose dangers lie chiefly in the imagination.

The city hospital is now overcrowded and the faithful but sadly depleted band of nurses grievously over-worked. A number of families in the city are all prostrated with the disease and are unable to procure nurses or help.

We are of the opinion that the Council and Board of Health should take immediate steps to procure temporary hospital accommodation. More urgent appeals should be issued for volunteer nurses. Mr. L. C. Yeomans, who has just returned from Ottawa, has told The Ontario of a splendid work being done by amateur nurses to assist in coping with the scourge in that city. We would like to see something of the same kind done here. There is the greatest necessity for it.

The famous gripe epidemic of 1889 was here and away in two or three weeks, except for a few sporadic cases. The present visitation, however, is far more deadly and more tenacious of its hold on the community. It is the part of wisdom to deal promptly with the situation in the adequate manner that its seriousness demands.

HEROES WHO FOUGHT NO BATTLES

All Belleville will mourn with those two lonely mothers, Mrs. Dillow and Mrs. Cox, who left this city yesterday on their melancholy journey to McKeesport, Pennsylvania. With them, on the same train, were two baskets containing the mortal remains of their two sons, who were two cousins, Ete. Edgar Dillow and Pte. Henry Cox. These two cousins, belonging to the Depot battalion, the one twenty and the other twenty-one years of age, had passed away within a few hours of one another at the city hospital from the deadly pneumonia, now so prevalent. Pte. Henry Cox was an only child. These two young men were English by birth but had spent the greater part of their lives on this side of the ocean. They were denied the glory and the sombre satisfaction that comes from death amid the sustaining clamor of battle but their sacrifice was no less willing and no less great. No hero has any greater gift to lay upon the altar of his country than his life. This finality of sacrifice these two valiant, young British-born Americans performed freely, uncomplainingly, regretting only the bereaved ones left behind and that they were not permitted to achieve their full share in the extermination of Hunnish brutality and despotism. Their heroism was none the less real because it failed to reach its full fruition.

MISS L. M. MONTGOMERY

We wish to thank most heartily our special contributor, "Wayfarer", author of those bright, versatile, impressionable and scholarly weekly talks in The Ontario, under the heading of "Thoughts by the Way", for her kindly words of appreciation of our articles published a few weeks ago, descriptive of our tour of the Maritime provinces. She inquires if we had read Miss Montgomery's latest book, "Anne's House of Dreams", before our visit to Prince Edward Island, "The Garden of the Gulf." We regret to admit that we had not done so. We have read Miss Montgomery's two earlier books, "Anne of Green Gables" and "Anne of Avonlea", but our limited spare time has not yet permitted a perusal of the later work. We must confess that we greatly admire Miss Montgomery's literary style, with its vividness of imagination, delicacy of touch, originality of design and appealing humor. Her "Anne Shirley" we regard as quite the most winsome and outstanding character that has yet been created by any Canadian writer of fiction. We are sorry that our hurried tour of only two days about the Island did not permit a visit to Miss Montgomery's

former home at Cavendish and the scenes that have become a part of her delightful works of romance. Miss Montgomery, as most of our readers are aware, is now Mrs. (Rev.) Ewan Macdonald and has a wee family of her own and a home at the village manse at Leaskdale, Ontario.

Miss Montgomery's first book, "Anne of Green Gables", met with a phenomenal sale, hundreds of thousands of copies having been disposed of in a short time. "Anne of Avonlea" sold almost as rapidly.

Miss Montgomery is also a poet of merit and distinction. Her volume, "The Watchman and Other Poems", issued in 1916, met with ready welcome, and like her prose work shows a joyous outlook upon life, wholesomeness of sentiment and rare facility of expression. Her "When the Dark Comes Down", "Sunrise Along the Shore", "Of the Fishing Ground", "The Old Man's Grave" and "The Old Home Calls" are becoming very popular.

Lucy Maud Montgomery was born at Clifton, Prince Edward Island, but lived from her infancy at Cavendish, in the same province. Her father was Hugh John Montgomery of Park Corner, P.E.I., a son of Hon. Donald Montgomery, senator, and her mother, Clara Woolner Macneill, of Cavendish, a great-granddaughter of Hon. William Macneill, speaker. Hector Macneill, the minor Scottish poet, author of the popular lyrics, "I Lo'ed ne'er a Laddie but Anne", "Saw Ye My Wee Thing?", and "Come Under my Plaidie", was a first cousin of her great-grandfather.

Until sixteen years of age she attended the "district" school in Cavendish and then went to Prince of Wales College, Charlottetown, for a year, taking a course for a first-class teacher's license. Later, she attended for one winter, Dalhousie College, Halifax, taking special courses in English and in languages.

"Anne of Green Gables" was published in 1908. "Anne of Avonlea" appeared a year later. In 1911 Miss Montgomery married. To supply the eager demand seven other books have followed the first two, "Kilmeny of the Orchard", 1910, "The Story Girl", 1911, "Chronicles of Avonlea", 1912, "The Golden Road", 1913, "Anne of the Island", 1915, "The Watchman and Other Poems", 1916, and "Anne's House of Dreams", 1918.

Of Miss Montgomery's first book Mark Twain wrote, "Anne of Green Gables" is the sweetest creation of child life yet written."

SHOULD INFLUENZA CASES BE QUARANTINED?

A correspondent, "Reader", in a well written and reasonable letter in Wednesday's "Ontario" asks the question if we think cases of Spanish influenza, in view of the very contagious character of the disease, should not be quarantined.

The question is a fair one and worthy of careful consideration. All cases of smallpox are sedulously quarantined, yet of the many hundreds of cases of that disease in Ontario in the past fifteen years there have not been more than half-a-dozen that have had a fatal termination. Spanish influenza, on the other hand, will, if it persists a few weeks longer, cause more deaths to Canadians than have been occasioned by four years of war.

Notwithstanding the extremely virulent and deadly character of this new influenza as compared with scarlatina and smallpox, which are always subjects for quarantine, but which are trifling in the loss of life they bring about, we would state frankly to "Reader" that we do not see how it is possible to set up or maintain with the Spanish "flu" a strict or effective quarantine.

We do not know of any town or city where close quarantine has been attempted. In London, Ontario, we note by yesterday's despatches that a regulation has been put into force making it a punishable offence for all persons with colds, coughs or influenza to leave their homes. This is supplemented by another regulation making it illegal for a person to sneeze or cough in public without covering the face. The law against spitting on the streets or in public places is also to be enforced in the most rigorous manner.

Such regulations as these are, we think, as far as it is practical to go. To these might be added a proviso making it illegal for a subject of influenza to leave his home until his physician declared him free from the disease.

There are special difficulties in the way of quarantining Spanish influenza. In the first place the period of incubation is extremely short. It does not come on the patient with the leisurely progress of smallpox or measles but generally with very slight premonitory symptoms or almost at a bound. A man may be stricken with the "flu" while walking along the street or while eating his dinner and, inside half an hour be intensely ill. In its early stages it may easily be mistaken for common cold, the sneezing and chills being symptomatic of both. Some people take it so mildly as to be scarcely sick at all. They do not call a physician but

go on about their work and thus pass the disease along to others who may develop it in its aggravated or fatal form. The pandemic or exceedingly wide-spread nature of the disease, with nearly every household having one or more victims, is another big difficulty in the way of quarantine.

The Local Government Board of London, England, has handed out the following four practical suggestions:

"The sick should be separated from the healthy. This is especially important in the case of first attacks in a locality or household. "The sputa of the sick should, especially in the acute stage of the disease, be received into vessels containing disinfectants. Infected rooms and articles should be cleansed and disinfected. "When influenza threatens, unnecessary assemblages of persons should be avoided. "Buildings and rooms in which many persons necessarily congregate should be efficiently aerated and cleansed during the intervals of occupation.

It has now been absolutely established that Spanish influenza is a new disease and entirely distinct from the old-time influenza that visited Canada in 1889-90. The germ causing ordinary gripe was discovered and isolated by Professor Pfeiffer during the last great epidemic of that disease. The specific microbe causing Spanish influenza has been proved to be a new species and distinct in every particular from Pfeiffer's bacillus, by the researches of three surgeons with the British army in France, Captains L. R. Little, C. J. Garafalo and F. A. Williams of the Canadian Mobile Bacteriological Laboratory, attached to the British base-hospitals.

The new malady is distinguished from the old influenza by greater malignancy, a sharper fever, higher temperature, but of shorter duration. The total course of the new scourge is briefer with a greater tendency to pneumonia complications but with less disturbance of the digestive tract. Spanish influenza seems also to be more strictly propagated by personal contact or by being in the vicinity of a person who already has the disease and does not appear capable of disseminating itself for any considerable distance through the air. The influenza of 1889-90 would often affect a whole town in a few hours.

As far as we have been able to observe, or learn by consulting the best authorities who have so far written upon the subject, the Spanish influenza is spread from person to person by discharges from the nose and the throat in the process of sneezing and coughing. There does not appear to be any great danger of people who have been exposed to it carrying the infection about in their clothing as is the case with diphtheria and smallpox. But it is highly contagious and communicable from person to person when one of the parties has it in its active stage.

In view of the above facts, therefore, we would say to "Reader", that while strict quarantine is not practical with this disease, it is quite feasible to obtain a reasonable segregation or isolation of those who have the "flu" in a more or less acute form. Every patient who has the disease should be compelled to stay in until he has completely recovered. Those who have not had the disease should stay away from it with quite as strict caution as if we were having an epidemic of smallpox.

If you are sick with influenza, keep by yourself. If you are well, stay by yourself and avoid taking it. If you contract influenza observe the three brief rules laid down by Dr. Hastings, M.H.O. for Toronto: "Take a laxative; go to bed; send for the doctor."

SUCCESS

What is your idea of success? On Saturday afternoon we went to Trenton to attend the funeral of a woman whose work in life came very close to filling our ideal of success. She was not one of the wealthy residents of the town. She was not a leader in society. Her name was not coupled with the membership list of any of the women's societies, nor was her name generally known outside of the confines of the immediate circle in which she made her home. She had neither wealth, elevated social position nor any of the more sought-after honors. She kept a small grocery store in the eastern suburbs of Trenton. She achieved no exalted station in life. And yet her career was, in our estimation, a shining success. The little gathering of friends who assembled at the home on Saturday afternoon to do reverence to her memory felt indeed that a true, gentle, Christian spirit had taken its departure from earth and that this world was a poorer place because of the absence of her example and unassuming ministrations.

Evangelist Thomas Rich, in his brief reference to the life that had closed, said that no one had ever come to her door, at any hour of the day or night, in need of assistance, and had been turned away.

We knew this lady years ago as the wife of a school teacher. Her husband was struggling along on a mere pittance of a salary such as was then paid by the poorer country schools and was endeavoring to bring up a family of six children in respectability and at the same time to keep even with the world. Of the economies practiced by the housewife in the endeavor to make ends meet, no one who did not know the innermost family circle could ever realize. And yet the children always went abroad decently clothed and had no reason to feel ashamed to mingle with their neighbors. Only an amazing capacity for business-like management could have brought about so remarkable a result with such slender means.

We wish to speak more particularly however, of the characteristic that called forth the tribute from Mr. Rich. No one ever sought her assistance in vain in case of illness. She was a Florence Nightingale of the rural settlements.

When will Ontario learn to do proper homage to those noble women, who, before the days of professional nurses, went about on their errands of relief and mercy? We have known these Florence Nightingales to leave their homes in the midst of driving storms, at the darkest hours of the night, in order to answer the call of some neighbor who sorely needed assistance. These untrained nurses were present with the mothers in the agony of childbirth; they came when any members of the household suffered from disease, contagious or otherwise; they helped to ease the bed of the dying and to close their eyes in death. Their natural skill and long experience was often more fruitful of beneficent results than all the academic acquirements of the regular physician. But at the particular time and place to which we refer the doctors lived at some distance and telephones were unknown. The amateur nurse was oftentimes the sole dependence.

For all this great work for humanity we never knew of one of these neighborhood nurses to ask or to receive or to look for one cent of remuneration. They sought no other reward than the knowledge of duty done. Their pay was in the unstinted gratitude of those whom they had ministered to and benefited.

Ian MacLaren in his "Doctor MacLure" has immortalized the noble work of self-sacrifice of the country physician. When will we have a writer whose pen will do adequate justice to that great, unrewarded labor of love of the pioneer nurses of the rural settlements of Ontario?

Two things stand lyke stone— Kindness in another's trouble, Courage in your own."

These words of an old English poet form a fitting epitaph for Mrs. Adelaide Ely, whose life was a continuous benediction.

And we speak of such a life as a success because it was a big, full, fruitful life, replete with acts of kindness, magnificent in its courage, and rich in all the things that make life worth living.

THANKSGIVING HYMN

When in thy dawn of grace Was in its dawn of splendor, A nation on its knees, With chastened hearts and tender, Besieged Thy mercy-seat With many an earnest plea, And trusting in Thy truth Cast all its care on Thee.

In lowly, grateful love We kneel today before Thee, For mercies manifold To praise Thee and adore Thee. On many a hill and plain We scattered wide our seed; The sunshine and the rain Thou gavest at our need.

Our hands, now clasped, have reaped Full harvest of our sowing. Our fruits are gathered in, Our barns are overflowing. We hold these gifts in trust From Thee from whom they came. With voices love-attuned We magnify Thy name.

We thank Thee for the love That answered to our calling. When, set in slippery ways, Our feet were kept from falling. When duty's clarion voice Called forth our manhood's flower, We thank Thee that unashamed They met their testing-hour.

We thank Thee for the hope That in the midst of sorrows Can catch the dawning gleams Of beautiful tomorrows. And so with clearer faith Our Promised Land we see. And holding fast Thy hand Press on to victory.

—Lillian Leveridge, in Toronto Globe.

FARMS FOR SALE

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY FARM. For Sale—Sited at Blenheim, 160 acres in fine, close state of cultivation, 30 acres tillable. Three quarters of a mile from station. Canning factories, cheese factory and house, fine concrete basement barn, Farm well watered, suitable for stock raising, canning factory produce, stock general farming. For further particulars apply H. W. Beckett, owner, Picton, Ont. 017-219.

FARM FOR SALE—SIXTY ACRES of Plained, well fenced, double frame house, barn, winter basement, stables, two wells, small orchard. Mrs. Stewart, Plained. 818-219.

FARM OF 120 ACRES, FIRST CLASS, on Thurlow, parts of Lots 15 & 16. Good buildings and good water. 1 1/2 miles east G.T.R. station. Apply to Geo. Sprackell, R.R. 16, Belleville. 424-219.

FOR SALE

GENERAL STORE, POST OFFICE in connection; thriving business, good locality, well equipped, best of reasons for selling. Full particulars on application to J. F. Herity, Motra P.E. 83-219.

HOUSE AND ONE ACRE LAND—5th concession Thurlow on Tweed Road, Barn. Apply P. B. Hamilton, Rossmore 015-212, 219.

FOR SALE

Good milk cow, grade Jersey and Holstein, 3 years old, at Century Church. Absolom Parks, Belleville, R. R. 2. 19-4 t.d. 2 t w

WANTED

A COOK, GENERAL WITH REFERENCE. Good references. Apply 03-wtf. Corby, 152 George St.

Do You Like Marshmallows?

We will have a Special Sale of Marshmallows, plain, and Marshmallows, toasted on Saturday, Oct. 19th. Regular price 60c lb. Saturday Sale Price— One Pound 46c. Two Pounds 90c.

Chas. S. CLAPP

MONEY

PRIVATE MONEY TO LOAN ON mortgages of farms and city property, at lowest rates of interest, on terms to suit borrowers. J. S. WALLBRIDGE, Belleville, Ont. Cor. Front & Bridge Sts., Belleville (Over Dominion Bank).

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ST. THOMAS CITIZENS WEARING GAUZE MASKS

St. Thomas, Oct. 21.—Physicians reported today to the St. Thomas Board of Health that the influenza is still spreading and that there is a shortage of nurses. Miss Hobson, who is the head of the St. John Ambulance Corps in this city, called a meeting of the nurses. About fifty were addressed by Dr. T. T. Gray on their duties in the care of influenza patients. A lecture will be given each day by Dr. Gray for a week to these voluntary nurses. The citizens are wearing gauze masks on the streets and the workers in the local factories are all using these as a preventive.

Mr. Miriam Long, road master of the C.P.R. in Belleville, is leaving town to accept a similar position at Hamilton and will be succeeded here by Mr. John Telford, Havelock.

The That Write

This week brings a gift of gratitude. We seek for causes and find Providence. We are deavoring to do good among the people. Blessings, there have passed a shadow of this world to exclaim "This thankful for!" must admit that the stress and suffering, the have never been. Here we can be pessimistic, man fine thanksgiving. Yesterday in of an October day over the field tops and the rot inated the count fields the early d thered and horse grazing peaceful pasture. Buckwh cut and curing several farms, in ting corn. In a and wife, picking the finest ears to husk the corn in it in the barn in the ears were pe stalks would be a farmer was e sickle in the old tieing it up in co setting it with corn in a field, a farmer w with a modern co wheat were green and over all was autumn day and me on the calm wealth of the s arose. "This is o to be thankful fo nada, undevoted. When we think of ders with homes a ed, land torn by woods, mere blacl ly we Canadians f for gratitude. We shall also be bonifant harvest, tario and the great minion the crops h barns and granar providing food for allies. "Our hands, now e ed Full harvest of Our fruits are sat Our barns are ov We hold these gift For These gifts With voices love- We magnify Th Then we certain for the courage a soldiers. We rea dreads no part of as she does the O whom she places ces. Certainly Can be written large of tory. And then of brave boys; not a v always bright and I hear a protest" wounded, the dry How can we be th For the wounded a the hearts of Cana a deeper, broader them our country, gratitude that can the utmost consid Bowles in an add Conference, at Har ing of the despise grants who were themselves to cond spoke as follows: what you said of Englishmen, as you lows! Those Englis to be able to adj But the war came o went and these we the line at Langem They were splendi worthy men. I kno war is over there w work, but the time Government can st and say that noth Surely the Chancel these mained and be worthy the utm and the highest hon a great nation. fallen heroes, the their lives in the