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LESS SHOCK FOR PLANES

Modern synthetic rubber serves a unique application in the fast-growing aeronautics industry, says a writer in the current issue of the magazine of Canadian Industries Limited. Entirely new principles of shock absorption have become necessary to enable the pilots of the heavier transport planes to land smoothly, and aircraft engineers have designed pneumatic shock absorbers which obtain a greater dampening effect by the use of a combination of oil and tar under pressure of from 400 to 1000 pounds. The efficiency of these shock absorbers depends upon the sealing material used, and Neoprene, a synthetic rubber material, has been found to be the only suitable substance which will withstand the sudden shocks, combined with the deteriorating influence of the oil and grease. Even natural rubber cannot do the job as successfully as this man-made material.

ELI: RESPONSIBILITY FOR OTHERS

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons, August 28th, 1938.

GOLDEN TEXT: "Train up a child in the way he should go." Proverbs 22: 6.

LESSON PASSAGE: 1 Samuel 3:11-14; 4:12-18.

O keep us building, Master: may our hands Ne're falter when the dream is in our hearts, When to our ears there come divine commands And all the pride of sinful will departs; We build with thee, O grant enduring worth Until the heavenly kingdom comes on earth.

Statements

We do not live our lives primarily as individuals but as members of a social order. We inherit the conditions among which we grow up. Throughout our lives our actions are conditioned by the actions of other people. A change in social conditions or a crop failure on the other side of the world may transform our outlook in a few days. Young people now growing up in Canada have had their careers decided by statesmen long since dead and politicians now in control are making decisions which will influence generations yet unborn. Too much of the time of parliament is spent discussing questions of trade and administration. Only occasionally is there a serious discussion of a great moral issue, as for instance, in the recent session of the Federal Parliament, there was examination of the questions of gambling and divorce. It is not always possible to make people good by acts of parliament and yet our legislators can weight the balance for or against good lives. Samuel as a judge was responsible in some measure for the conduct of the king, Saul, and the priest, Eli. He must accept blame in part for their failure.

Fathers

Let the fathers speak first. They say that industry drives them six days a week. They have to spend much time away from home. Financial cares press heavily upon them. Motion pictures, radio, even the church, do not provide the social life for the children and the father finds that he has a small place in the life of his own sons and daughters. In a time of depression if he can provide shelter, clothing, and food he has reason to be grateful. We may admit all this yet the father remains a priest in the family, responsible for the moral welfare of his children, even more than the school or the church. A teacher or a minister may only be in contact with a child for a brief time. Unfortunately many busy ministers are conscious of repeating Eli's mistake.

Sons

Let Hophni and Phinehas, the sons of Eli, speak. They say that they were a minister's sons and they had a bad reputation from the start. People expected them to live up to a standard which others did not observe. They had much free time as their father was busy caring for the Ark of God. Their father was asked to counsel with so many people that he had little time to counsel with his own sons. No, these alibis will not stand. Eli's sons were responsible for their conduct just as the sons of other men. They cannot plead flimsy excuses when they had opportunities beyond others. Many other young men handicapped by poverty and lack of education have made good by self-discipline and moral heroism. In our day we hear the children of poor men complaining that they never had a chance. We also hear the children of the rich complaining that they have been coddled since infancy and never allowed to stand upon their own feet. We are in a measure dependent upon our relatives and friends but before all others we have obligations before Almighty God. He has given us our lives to live and his direction is available if we are willing to receive it. Throughout the economic depression many young people have wasted years in self-pity while others, equally handicapped, have forged ahead and found opportunities for themselves. Usually, where there is a will there is a way.

Friends

Four boys grew up together on an Ontario farm. Three of them went to Texas and all four met at a family reunion twenty years later. From the tones of the voices no one would recognize that they were brothers. The environment had affected them even in their speech. There is also a moral environment constantly influencing us. When friends come into our home they leave us either better or worse. They make us either cynical or sincere. A great church leader when asked why he had been the dominant influence in his life replied that he had been profoundly affected by the conversation he had overheard from guests at his father's dinner table. Next door neighbors, fellow-passengers in street-cars and motor cars, people on both sides of the counter in a store, are all exerting an influence, which in its sum total, is very great. Perhaps the sons of Eli were not ready to respond to the good influence of the friends they had but some responsibility must be carried by the friends of these dissolute, young men for not having help for them in their need.

Society

We are influenced not so much by our environment as by that part of our environment to which we give attention. Interest determines influence. Yet society can do much by making the good life attractive. A traveller went into a small town and after two days went to the mayor and said: "You have the cheapest theatres, the shoddiest store windows and the most superficial advertise-

ments I have ever seen." Another family looking for a home, went to a village and having interviewed a number of people at once decided to make their residence there. The parents felt that good influences would surround their children. Each citizen has a responsibility for his community, not alone for the present, but for the future. Paul told the Colossians that Christ was the hope of glory in their city. What can we do to make our local communities more Christian?

Questions For Discussion

1. How far are members of parliament moral leaders?
2. Can a modern father place family before business?
3. Is the educational policy of self-expression justifying itself?
4. Have your parents' friends been a definite influence for good in your life?
5. Are you ruled by social conventions?

MOUNTAINS IN JASPER PARK BEAR MEMORABLE WAR NAMES

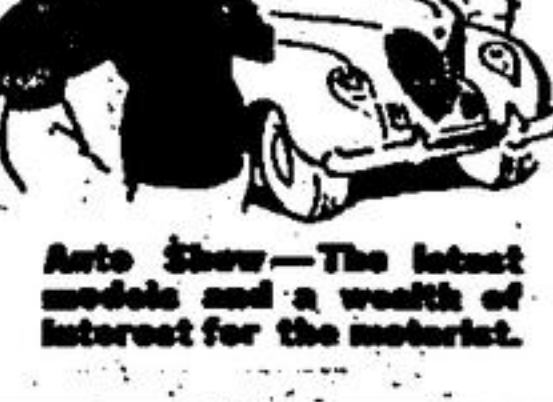
Among the mountain peaks of Jasper National Park are many whose names are perpetual memorials to men and battles of the war of 1914-1918. The most familiar is perhaps the beautiful ice-crowned peak seen from the Canadian National Railways station and from Jasper Park Lodge—Mount Edith Cavell. There is a Byng Pass, Kitchener and Clemenceau are remembered, as well as Captain Fryatt, and there is a Mount Hooper, named after a Canadian Brigadier-General and his only son who was killed. Places well known to Canadian troops, scenes of famous battles, are recalled: Cambrai, Douai, Farnbus, Hooge, Messines, Monchy, Mons, Oppy, St. Julien and Willerval are all mountain peaks in the park.

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A PICTURE A DAY-



Indoors... Outdoors... Wash-day... Birthday... family history is being made.

NOT long ago a young friend of mine married. He is a camera fan, like the rest of us, and he told me: "My family history is going to be kept in pictures. I plan to take at least one roll of pictures a week—many more whenever possible. Whenever we do anything—move to a new house—go on a week-end trip—plant flowers—celebrate a birthday or an anniversary—add a new member—whatever it is, the story will be told in pictures."

His plans go further than that, too. His picture record is to be kept in handy, useful form. "There will be a new picture book for every year," he told me. "I plan to have the best shots enlarged, and mount the others contact size. Everything goes into the book, where we'll always be able to find it and recall— from our own snapshots—what we did in past days."

There, now, is an idea for all of us. In every family, things happen each day that we would like to remember. We buy new furniture, plant gardens, build a trellis for roses, put new screens on the back porch, take vacation trips. Children are born, grow up, change year by year. We change, too. And a true day-by-day picture-history of all our everyday activities, as well as activities not-so-everyday, would greatly enrich our memories in later years. Let's make a mental note—make

Each family picture-book becomes more treasured as the years roll by. It is a household ritual, and abide by it. "A picture a day keeps the family history up to date. And a complete picture-book each year keeps it permanently."
John van Guilder.