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TWO DOCTORS PASS.

Today, Kingston mourns the passing of two of its medical sons. One, Dr. Robert S. Minnes, died in Ottawa yesterday at the zenith of his career. On the same day at Staten Island, New York, Dr. Alban Phelan succumbed to the same disease, pneumonia, at the beginning of his career of healing.

Dr. Minnes was one of the foremost oculists and ophthalmic surgeons on this continent, and of whom Kingston has long been proud. A new generation has come since Dr. Minnes passed through Queen's University and then went across the Atlantic to take post-graduate work, but hundreds of Kingston citizens will recall the young doctor when he left here thirty years ago and afterwards when he became the Canadian Capital's great eye surgeon.

It is a remarkable coincidence that Dr. Alban Phelan, the young physician just about to set out on his career of healing after a post-graduate course, should pass away of the same treacherous disease, pneumonia, on the same day as the older surgeon. Dr. Phelan, who followed in his father's footsteps as a medical man, had chosen the diseases of the eye, ear, throat and nose as his specialty, just as Dr. Minnes did three decades ago. The mysterious ways of Providence in the taking of the young doctor about to begin his work of the healing of the sick, baffle us as they have ever done. We cannot understand, but yet believe that all things work together for good.

THE LOCOMOTIVE WORKS.

The steel tank contract received by the Canadian Locomotive Company of Kingston may mark the beginning of a new era in this industrial establishment. For more than fifty years this Kingston works has manufactured railway locomotives, the demand for which has of late decreased owing to the great inroads made on the short-haul freight and passenger carrying by the motor bus and truck. True, the small western crop of last year gave the railway companies a setback, but there is no doubt that there will be less demand in future for the steam locomotive in view of the possibilities of the electric and oil engine. Further orders for locomotives will come to the local works, but it is not expected that the works will ever again be steadily engaged building steam motive power for hauling railway trains. Conditions have changed and the works will have to face the new conditions as other concerns have had to do during the past ten years. For some time the management has been endeavoring to get into the manufacture of mining machinery, but has been unable to get sufficient orders to make it worth while. Its venture into tank manufacture will perhaps open a new field, and the plant, which represents a capital expenditure reaching into several million dollars, may be adapted to other steel construction besides locomotive work as was done during the war when shells were made.

Had the Liberal Government been given a working majority at the recent federal election, there is no doubt that an order would have this month been received from the Canadian National Railways, but owing to the unsettled political conditions at Ottawa, this expected order has been

BIBLE THOUGHT

FOR THIS IS THANK WORTHY, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully.—1 Peter 2:19.

held up because it is advisable to wait until the Department of Railways knows what Government is to determine the policy of the road during the coming year. Anyway, the shareholders of the company, not to speak of the city of Kingston, will welcome the increased activity at the works through the Quebec order, and will also welcome a transformation that will keep the plant going steadily, whether locomotive, or other steel construction work is done.

MACKENZIE'S ROCK.

Splendid work has been done by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada in locating and marking many of the historical forts and points of interest in Canada which would otherwise have been forgotten or allowed to go into decay. The board's latest achievement is the location of the famous stone upon which Sir Alexander Mackenzie, the Canadian explorer, chronicled, according to his diary, his arrival upon the Pacific coast, the first white man to have crossed the continent.

In his account of his voyages, published in 1801, Mackenzie has the following: "I now mixed up some vermilion in melted grease, and inscribed, in large characters, on the southwest face of the rock, on which we slept last night, this brief memorial: 'Alexander, from Canada, by land, the twenty-second of July, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three.'"

There have been many efforts, says the London Free Press, to locate the famous stone, marking the completion of the first land trip across not only Canada but the continent. During the summer of 1923 Capt. R. P. Bishop, a trained surveyor, was instructed to make an effort to locate the rock. He went at the task thoroughly and systematically and has finally identified the rock at Bella Coola. Capt. Bishop even followed the route of Mackenzie's voyage through the Rockies in his efforts to make certain that he was following in the footsteps of the famous explorer. The results of Capt. Bishop's inquiries and his location of the rock have been published in an attractive little volume issued by the Department of the Interior.

WOMEN'S SENSE OF TIME.

Johns Hopkins University submits another triumphant bit of research work, says the Oswego, N.Y., Palladium-Times. Its psychologists have solved the problem, "Why does a woman keep a man waiting?"

The old explanation that women's dressing and decorating necessities are responsible is found to be inadequate. That is not the fundamental reason. The real truth of the matter, as revealed by tests of 1,084 students, half women and half men, is this: Women simply have no sense of time.

According to the specialists' announcement, women show nearly 100 per cent. error in estimating how long it will take them to dress for an engagement or perform a given task. Men, on the other hand, show an average of only forty-five per cent. error.

To clinch this startling conclusion, the subjects were asked to sit still for a certain period of time and then estimate the time. The actual time elapsed was a minute and a half. The women's estimates ranged from a few seconds to 10 minutes. The men's ranged from half a minute to three minutes.

Scientific conclusion: "Men estimate time more accurately than women. The inaccuracies of women are predominantly under-estimated, implying that time really seems shorter to women than men."

You can tell her that, next time she makes you wait. But it won't do any good. Women are changeable—but not by scientific argument. The only use in this sort of research is that it satisfies the impractical masculine instinct for finding out why some things are more so than others.

DOING GOOD SERVICE.

Switzerland is following her people to the lands they emigrate to and is seriously seeking to improve their prospects and conditions. Her co-operative efforts are highly commendable. She has sent colonies to Canada, has through voluntary subscriptions supported the experiment and has been rewarded by satisfactory reports of contentment and success. The people find support in the Swiss society, feel that they have friends definitely interested in their welfare and to whom in time of difficulty they can appeal to with assurance of a most friendly hearing. The society is building up goodwill, both in the hearts of its own people and in the Canadian born and in the Canadian government who know how admirably the Swiss settlers are becoming acclimatized and absorbed into the activities of Canadian life. Let the good work continue!

ORIGIN OF BATH TOWEL.

You know it as it hangs over the silver rail in the bathroom, a radiant joy as it courses over the back premises of a man and tangles the very

marrow. Well that rough hand grained article came into existence through accident. A manufacture of fine smooth towelling had trouble with his machinery. Instead of the firmly woven material coming through as usual, the threads were loose and tangled, and from his point of view, quite unfit for sale. He set to work to readjust matters, and after much trouble got the machine working smoothly. But in the course of his work his hands had got coated with oil and grime, and he used a length of the faulty and apparently useless fabric to wipe off the grease. He was quick to note that the rough discarded stuff did the work much better than the ordinary towelling, and, being always on the alert for a new idea, he added rough towels to his stock. The new stuff became popular, and the fluffy towels soon became his chief output.

CODDLING CRIMINALS.

General Hughes, superintendent of penitentiaries in this country, has taken the responsibility of saying, according to report, that penitentiary accommodation in Canada is better than that afforded by ninety-nine per cent. of the hotels, excepting those in the larger towns and cities. It may very well be that there is too much coddling of criminals these days and that that is one of the reasons why crime has become so prevalent, suggests the Woodstock Sentinel-Review. Perhaps in the old days people accused of crime were treated too harshly. There was probably too much of the spirit of vengeance abroad; but now there is danger of the pendulum swinging to the other extreme. After all it is not the duty of society to furnish first class, or even second class, hotel accommodation for people who break the law, especially while there are so many law-abiding people who find it a hard enough struggle to get the necessities of life.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

"Teeth need exercise," says a newspaper headline, but the advice seems hardly necessary at this festive season.

The Toronto Star says it gives the news from day to day and Premier Ferguson denies it from morn to morn and there you are.

Down at Miami, Florida, the schools are so crowded that many children are not able to go to school at all. Don't let that boy of yours read this.

The coal bin may furnish a reason for being content with the recent "rainy season," but other reasons might be adduced for preferring real winter weather.

Secretary Kellogg says the United States will remain aloof from Europe and avoid entanglements. And Canada will do the same in relations with her good neighbor.

"Many a workman drinks beer to minimize the effects of his wife's cooking," says a British physician, but the workman is probably too diplomatic to offer that explanation in the domestic circle.

The county council of the county of Ontario has decided to purchase 973 acres of waste land in Uxbridge township and to set this area out in pine, as a reforestation move in which the county will have the support of the Provincial Government.

Bibles in twenty foreign languages were issued this year by the Upper Canada Bible Society. The Hamilton Spectator adds that any one of which might be substituted for the English version in some of our homes without fear of discovery.

County jails are no longer in competition, to make records for cheap living under the new system of catering. Jail governors used to vie with each other to make a three-cent meal, in spite of which none of the prisoners ever contracted the gout.

Mr. Meighen says he will have a lot more to say about his Hamilton speech, where he said he would have an election to decide if Canada should go into war at any time in the future. He sure will have to say a lot to justify his statement and to harmonize the party he leads.

A prediction from Ottawa is to the effect that the session of Parliament will last fifty days, because that is essential under the law for the M.P.'s to draw their indemnity of \$4,000. It is so obvious a prediction, says the Brockville Recorder and Times, that it is almost incontrovertible.

The Sault Ste. Marie Star, remarks: "We should have a Minister of Undeveloped Resources, and he would pay our national debt in his lifetime. A man like Dr. Goodwin, if we would listen to him about our mineral resources and heed his advice, would make us individually the richest people in the world."

News and Views.

A Severe Test.
San Francisco Chronicle: The test of ability is to win applause from people who don't like you.

Where Muddle Begins.
Calgary Herald: Theory and practice are proverbially two very different things directly opposed to each other.

Why He Gave Up Golf?
Buffalo Post: A fat man who has recently given up golf expresses a perfectly satisfactory reason: "When I put the ball where I could see it," he said, "I could not reach it; and when I put it where I could reach it I could not see it."

The Old Style of Stuff.
Border Cities Star: The old-fashioned, rugged type of journalism still flourishes in the west. A coast editor says of a political candidate: "If there is an idea in his head, it lives the life of a hermit."

Appropriate Name.
London Sphere: The late Sir George Alexander was fond of telling a little story about his real name, which was Samson. Somebody had commented on that fact at a dinner party where one of Sir George's friends was a guest. "What a pity he doesn't use it," suggested a fellow-diner. "It's such a lovely name for an actor. Samson brought down the house, didn't he?"

Mr. Meighen in Quebec.
Ottawa Citizen: Senator Lesperance may be right in prophesying that under certain circumstances "in five years Mr. Meighen will become the idol of Quebec." But Conservatives elsewhere in Canada must be asking themselves whether they are prepared to pay the price of this new idol-worship. It is a stiff price: no less than a general election on the question of whether Canada shall break away from Great Britain, rather than send troops abroad in another war.

The Friendly Crow.
Toronto Globe: It now begins to look as if the crow has been unjustly condemned. His most uncompromising enemy in the past, the corn grower, is not so sure that there is only one side to the question. During the past fall great flocks of crows have been scouring the corn fields in the southwestern Peninsula, and it is believed that the corn-borer has been the chief object of their quest. If the common examinations prove that this belief is correct, it is quite possible that the seed corn fed to crows in the spring may prove to have been a profitable investment.

Business Background.
Philadelphia Public Ledger: Harvard has gathered a gallery of 1,000 pictures of business, commerce and transportation before 1900 to hang on the walls of the new business school buildings which the \$5,000,000 given by George F. Baker is to put up. The idea is to impress the students with the fact that a great deal was going on in the business world before they consented to prepare to "accept a position." The sound conduct of business affairs demands a background and horizon no less surely than artistic pursuits and literary culture.

Wit and Humor

Hereditary.
"Late again, O'Malley!" roared the boss. "How do you account for this persistent tardiness?"
"It's inherited, sir," answered O'Malley. "My father was the late Michael O'Malley."

Just the Same.
Brown: "Did you hear those fool roosters crowing early this morning?"
Mrs. Brown: "Yes, dear."
Brown: "I wonder what on earth they do that for?"
Mrs. Brown: "Why, don't you remember, dear? You got up early one morning yourself, and you crowed about it for a week."

Precautions.
"Where is the manager's office?"
"Follow the passage until you come to the sign reading 'No Admittance.' Go upstairs till you see the sign 'Keep Out.' Follow the corridor till you see the sign, 'Silence,' then yell for him."

Ungrateful Man.
"My dear," said hubby on Christmas eve, "this is a handsome smoking jacket you've given me. And the picture on the box of cigars is very pretty."
"Glad they please you," said his wife.
"I've just been wondering," he continued, as he took a light puff, "whether these cigars were not made of the same material as the jacket."

Somewhat Different.
The professor of geology had placed some specimens of rocks on his desk and was going to describe them to his students.
While his back was turned for a moment one of the students placed a piece of old brick among the rocks.
The professor went through the specimens, saying as he picked up each: "This is a piece of sandstone; this is a piece of granite," and so on. At last he came to the brick and, holding it up, he said: "And this, gentlemen, is a piece of impudence."

Thief shot and killed New York woman and wounded her husband, wrenching earrings from dead victim's ears.

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