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L-1431

Great Scientist Taken by Death Sunday Morning

(Continued from Page One)

tific books, Edison was led into chemical experiments, one of States had depended upon Europe The "Wizard of Menlo Park," as Edison had come to be known, then plunged into the mysteries of synthetic chemistry and evolved processes for the manufacture of various products that were needed in industry and which became essential in the manufacture of munitions after the United States entered the war.

Before that step was taken by the American government, Mr Edison had been named by Josephus Daniels, then Secretary of the Navy, head of the Naval Consulting Board, the membership of which included a score of Americans pre-eminent in the field of inventive research. At the time Edison was working nearly 18 hours a day to help overcome the handicap with which his own industries were confronted, but he said he was "not too busy to lend a hand to Uncle Sam." Later when the war became an actual part of the nation's business he devoted his entire time in his laboratory and aboard a vessel provided by the Navy Department to government problems of the war and continued those activities until the signing of the armistice.

Mr. Edison turned in his latter years to a new field of endeavor devoting a great deal of his time to investigations and experiments looking toward the production of rubber from plants, shrubs and bushes in the United States in order to meet a possible national emergency and to give the rubber trade a new "miracle" to round out his career of invention.

Thomas Alva Edison was born at Milan, Ohio, February 11, 1847 the son of Samuel and Nancy Elliot Edison. His ancerstors emigrated from Holland to the United States in 1730. The family of the inventor was noted especially on his father's side for longevity. His great-grandfater, a prosperous New York banker of Revolutionary times, lived to be 104, and his grandfather, 102. His father was 94 when he died.

Family Long-Lived

Commenting on that family record when he was 76, Mr. Edison said he was only in middle age and "I don't expect to lower the family average."

Mr. Edison's mother, who was born in New England, had been a teacher in a Canadian high school and from her he received most of his early education. It has been recorded that Edison spent not more than two months altogether in school.

About the age of 12 he engaged in a variety of business enterprises, including newsboy on the Grand Trunk Railway between Port Huron and Detroit, proprietor of a newsstand and book store and of a vegetable market, and employing 11 boys to assist him in these various activities At 15 he turned to journalism and with some old equipment purchased from the Detroit Free Press, set up his shop in the baggage car of his train. There he published the Grand Trunk Herald, said to have been the first newspaper published on board a train. This venture continued for nearly a year and was suspended when he was denied further use of the baggage car.

From his early reading of science which put an end to his railroad newspaper. While experimenting in the baggage car, a bottle of phosphorus tiped over and set fire to the car and he was ousted.

On one of his runs as a train boy, Edison proved a hero at Mount Clemens, Mich., where he snatched the young son of the station agent from in front of a train. In gratitude, the father taught Edison telegraphy. When he became proficient as an operator, his experience proved an aid to his natural bent for scientific work. The increased knowledge of the possibilites of electricity which he had ganed from telegraphy impelled him to delve further into its mysteries and into the work which eventually made him famous the world over.

After he learned telegraphy, Mr. Edison became an operator for the Western Union at Port Huron, Mich., and later night operator for the Grand Trunk Railway at Stratford Junction, Canada.

Edison left his job at Stratford Junction in haste without even the formality of a resignation when he permitted a train, which he was directed to stop, to pass by the station. Taking time to reply to the order, he found upon reaching the station platform that the train had gone by. A disastrous collision was averted only because the engineers of the two trains travelling toward each other on straightaway track were able to stop them in time.

In 1873, Mr. Edison married Mary G. Stillwell, by whom he had three children, Marion Estelle, Thomas A., jr. and William L. Mrs Edison died in 1884 and two years later the inventor married Mina M. Miller. Three children, Madeline, Charles and Theodore, were born of this union.

Mr. and Mrs. K. Hunter, who were recently married in Vancouver, were passengers aboard the Catala last evening bound for Anyox where they will take up residence. Mr. Hunter is in charge of the drug department of the Granby store at Anyox.

Funeral of Mrs. Andreasson Was Held Yesterday

With many friends of deceased and her family in attendance at the final rites the funeral of the late Mrs. Elena Andreasson, wife of O. Andreasson, well known local halibut fisherman, and mother of three small children, took place yesterday afternoon from the chapel of the B. C. Undertakers to Fairview Cemetery.

Rev. John H. Hanson, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, officiated and found an appropriate text in the Gospel according to St John 13:7: "What I Now Do Thou Knowest Not."

Peter Lien presided at the organ and the hymn was "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

Pallbearers were M. Jensen, N. Starvik, A. Selnes, B. Morgan, Peter Lien and Nels Luth.

There were numerous floral tributes.

Union steamer Catala, Capt. A E. Dickson, arrived in port at 7:30 last evening from the south and sailed at 9 p.m. for Anyox, Stewart and other northern points, whence she will return here tomorrow morning southbound. The vessel brought north a fair-sized list of passengers.

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Twenty Years Ago
In Prince Rupert

Striking a sunken rock in the tide rip in Kitkatla Inlet Narrows this morning, the steam tug A. R. Swallowgett, owned by William Miller of Porcher Island, sank within a few minutes. The owner and his mate, John Brogan, had a narrow escape with their lives. They were rescued by Rufus Taylor in his launch.

The McIntyre Hall was the scene of a colorful promenade concert staged by the ladies' of the local Roman Catholic Church. The priests of the church Father Bunoz and Father Hartmann, took an active part in the affair. The program was in charge of L. Bullock-Webster, and those taking part included C. L. Youngman, Miss Glaholm, little Bernice Lavelle, J. E. Davey, Miss Helen Hawley, A. Clapperton, Mrs. Chisholm, H. G. Fletcher, Miss Grant and Gillis Couture. A dance brought the evening's proceedings to a close, music being by Gray's Orchestra.

Indian Agent Thomas Deasy of Massett is paying a visit to town.

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