

FAMOUS ROAD

The Burma road, highway for supplies to China in the Second World War, is 770 miles long.

LENGTHY POEM

The Ramayana, one of the great Sanskrit epics of ancient India has 48,000 verses.

KINGSTON UNITED W.M.S.

The December meeting of Kingston United Church Auxiliary of the W. M. S. was held at the home of Mrs. Heber Barrett. The Christmas program was carried out, the theme being, "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us."

Roll call was answered by 13 members each repeating a verse of scripture. At this meeting the birthday box and mite boxes were opened and realized a good amount.

The treasurer reported that the allocation was reached. At the November meeting two faithful workers, Mrs. Zylpha Newson and Mrs. Owen Younker and Mrs. Edgar Newson.

Next meeting to be held at the home of Mrs. Elmer and Mrs. Ralph Younker. Lunch committee are Mrs. Edgar Newson, Mrs. Elmer Younker and Mrs. Bert Willis. Mrs. Willard Proud was appointed to have charge of the worship service.

Following are the officers for 1954: President, Mrs. Zylpha Newson; vice-president, Mrs. Edgar Newson; treasurer, Mrs. Lyman Newson; rec. sec'y., Mrs. Lloyd MacKinnon; corresponding sec'y., Mrs. Willard Proud; community friendship secretary, Mrs. James Jewell; M. M. sec'y., Mrs. Edgar Newson; supply sec'y., Mrs. Elmer Younker; Christian stewardship sec'y., Mrs. Lorne Smith; press sec'y., Mrs. Owen Younker; sympathy cards, Mrs. Ralph Younker; birthday box, Mrs. Muriel Green; M. B. leaders, Erma Newson and Olive Barrett; Baby Band leader, Mrs. Edgar Newson.

Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

The epitaph was known to the classical nations of antiquity, and nearly every poet from Chaucer to comparatively recent times, has perpetrated epitaph to the memory of the living and the dead.

That some of these epitaphs are queer and highly amusing goes without saying.

Here are a few more which have come to my notice recently:

RUTH SPRAGUE Died in 1846, aged 9 years, 4 months, 3 days. She was stolen by Dr. Roderick Grew; her body was dissected at his office at Hoosick, N.Y., where her mutilated remains were found and deposited here.

Her body was dissected by fiendish men, Her bones anatomized; Her soul, we trust, has risen to God.

Where few physician's rise. The following couplet on a miser's tomb is epigrammatic:

Here lies old Billy Gripe, who never cried "Jamritis," 'Twould make him mad did he know You read his epitaph gratis.

This couplet, too, from Prince Edward Island is not without its merits, though the rhyme is far from satisfactory. I have copied it from the Canadian Illustrated News of August 4, 1883, and unfortunately or perhaps fortunately the magazine does not tell us from which cemetery it was taken.

Here lies the body of poor Charles Lamb, Killed by a tree that fell slambang.

About a century ago a fellow in Woolwich, England, died leaving a testamentary order that his gravestone should be inscribed with the well-known lines:

Youngster passing by, As you are now, so once was I. As I am now, so you must be. Therefore prepare to follow me The widow of the deceased, who did not honor her husband above the ordinary run of wives, obeyed her late husband's injunctions, but added the following postscript to her own:

To follow you I'm not content, Until I know which way you went.

This strange epitaph could be seen in Woolwich churchyard for a long time, but after some persuasion the rector prevailed upon the widow to let him remove the flippant lines.

The following quaint inscription on the tombstone of a noted beer-drinker, is still to be read in a churchyard in the city of Durham, England:

Beneath these stones repose the bones Of Theodosius Grimm. He took his beer from year to year, And then his bier took him.

An eccentric old fellow in Houghton-le-spring, England, ordered the following inscription to be placed on his tombstone:

Here lies the body of Thomas Round Who went to sea and never was found; His people imagine he must be drowned.

And crossing the channel to Belfast, Ireland, we see another gravestone with these lines:

Here lies the body of W. W. Who never more will trouble you, trouble you.

And so we joke with the grim reaper, living as though we thought all men mortal but ourselves.

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PEAK'S W. I.

The December meeting of the Peake's Women's Institute was held at the home of Loretta Devine with a good attendance of members.

It was decided to pack a Christmas box and to make one cuddly toy for the orphanage. A donation was given to the teacher to buy treats for the children for Christmas. A contest was put on by Miss Noreen Mooney and won by Mrs. A. J. Mooney.

Mrs. Reginald MacDonald invited the members to her home for the January meeting.

death of the husband, can unite. Educated Hindoos hate this custom, yet they are married when mere children, and therefore can do nothing about it.

CLERMONT W. I.

The December meeting of Clermont W. I. met at the home of Mr. Cecil Mill.

Roll call was answered by members exchanging Christmas gifts. The Institute was pleased to welcome a new member; four visitors were present. It was decided to leave the date of parlor social until next meeting. Roll call to be answered by donation to fish pond.

Two members offered to make toys for orphanage. Fruit was sent to three who have been sick. Program committee are Mrs. Albert Stafford, Mrs. Harold Mill.

Christmas cards were enjoyed by the members with Mrs. Albert Stafford and Mrs. Wilfred Curley at the piano.

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