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HON. MR. JUSTICE KILLAM.

As we go to press the news comes of the death of the Chairman of the Board of Railway Commissioners. He passed away suddenly at Ottawa yesterday, March 1, from an attack of pneumonia.

The death of this eminent judge is a calamity, and especially so at the present time when the need of such a man is so great, and the necessity for increased strength in the Commission has been recognized, and steps taken to increase it. There is no one on the Board who can fill his place; nor does there seem to be at present any man who would care to leave his practice at the Bar who could as well perform the difficult and onerous duties which fall upon the Chairman of such an important Court as the one over which Mr. Killam lately presided.

As to the loss which the country has sustained we may well quote the words of the Minister of Railways on hearing of Mr. Killam's death: "He was a man of many-sided genius and his great ability seemed to have found the proper sphere for its full exercise. As Chief of the Board of Railway Commissioners he was solving the problem of railway transportation difficulties in a manner at once acceptable to all concerned and in the interest of the whole country. I am simply appalled at the loss I have sustained as head of the Railway Department." To the duties of his position he brought an impartial and receptive mind stored with legal lore and a unique capacity for applying the law to the facts before him; to this was added a calm, courteous and dignified judicial demeanour which greatly facilitated business. It is said of him that he did not talk much while on the Bench, but, listening most attentively, nothing escaped him. In this respect he shewed an example which might well be followed by others.