

lightened part of the State's population will be duly grateful to the Governor for protecting it from the innumerable ills and dangers which an ignorant and complaisant Legislature would have brought upon us by putting innumerable pestilent cults, with Christian Science and osteopathy at their head, on an equality before the law with scientific medicine. As a result, criminal negligence in the treatment of the sick is still punishable, at least in theory.

But of course the quackish tribe will try again for free and irresponsible access to the vast funds in the hands of dull credulity. They are a persistent lot, the "healers," for greed is a mighty motive and its "reach" is long. Evidently we must trust to our Governors for safety; it does not lie with our law-makers.

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

**Intimidated
Witnesses
Speaking Up.**

Nothing could more conclusively prove the quality and effect of the influences brought to bear by prevailing

public sentiment in Atlanta on the trial of LEO M. FRANK for the murder of MARY PHAGAN than does the fact that only at this late day do witnesses who have all the time known who committed the crime venture to give their testimony.

The Judge himself, at the time of the trial, frankly confessed apprehension as to what might happen to the prisoner if a verdict of acquittal were brought in, and so fierce and open was then the demand for a conviction that presumably the Judge's fears were extended to cover the jurymen and perhaps himself. These dangers having passed with the recovery of calm and reason by the city, people who did not speak then, in order that they might avoid what they vaguely describe as "trouble," are now coming forward with information not only as to the identity of the real criminal, but as to the means which were taken to create false impressions as to the accused man's character and to suppress evidence in his favor.

Some of these are negroes of such a class that their stories, however plausible, have only corroborative weight, if that. But like insignificance cannot be ascribed to the testimony of the Rev. C. B. RAGSDALE, a member in regular standing of the Atlanta Baptist Ministers' Conference and pastor of a church there for years. He now swears that soon after the murder he by chance overheard a full and accurate account of the murder, given by the murderer himself, but the friend to whom Mr. RAGSDALE disclosed this important episode warned him to keep silent. And though an innocent man's life was at stake, the clergyman deemed it, whether right or not, at least expedient, in the circumstances, to heed the warning till the popular excitement subsided. Even more enlightening, perhaps, is the present assertion by a Mrs. BARRETT, with the corroboration of her mother, that evidence highly favorable to FRANK was by the intimidation of the prosecution in part suppressed and in part turned against him.

The present denial by the head of the Police Department that either it or the State ever charged FRANK with moral perversity is incomprehensible to anybody who has read the report of the trial and therefore knows how directly contrary to recorded fact the denial is.

**Precedent
Rudely
Violated.**

New Rochelle, perhaps the most frequently astonishing of our suburban towns, has just made another

addition to its record for desperate recklessness in the conduct of its municipal affairs. To the visiting stranger the little city seems calm enough, but could he look below the smiling surface and read the local papers with understanding, he would realize that things strange, new, and perilous are happening there.

The latest of them is the suspension on charges of persistent negligence of a Health Officer whose work had long satisfied New Rochelle's politicians of both parties. At last, however, he was assailed by what one of the papers calls "a few meddling women," and by another "devoted and efficient agents of reform," and out he goes, at least temporarily, and if he gets back the place that seemed to be his for life it will be only after the hardest kind of a fight.

But that was only the beginning. The office—with its comfortable salary—has been given to a man without one of the familiar and orthodox claims upon it. He is a newcomer in the town, he has never rendered any party services whatever to anybody, he has not endeared himself to "the boys" in either usual or unusual ways, and he doesn't even "need the money."

So far as can be found out he was selected for the single reason that he chanced to bring to New Rochelle, when he went there, an international reputation as a sanitarian, with years and years of experience in protecting the health of large bodies of men—a reason about as un-American for giving a good job as could be imagined by the oldest of our politicians. If he had won fame in some other and unrelated line of activity, one could understand the choice, for the assumption that the man who can do one thing well will do equally well something wholly different is very dear to us all. But he hadn't!

It helps a little, however, toward understanding this selection when one learns that it was made under the earnestly applied influence of a Mayor who was himself chosen on the queer ground of known competency and in violation of all political custom. Nobody should be surprised at anything such a Mayor does, and New Rochelle isn't, really. It only grows, "Just wait till the next election!"

**Saved Again,
But for
How Long?**

After taking for consideration time long enough to cause some disquietude, Gov. GLYNN took

exactly the right action on the bill which would have opened "medical practice," with all its privileges, immunities, and profits, to anybody who refrained from using knives or drugs. He vetoed it.

There will be, of course, deep lamentation from the world of quack "healers" of every brand, but the sane and en-