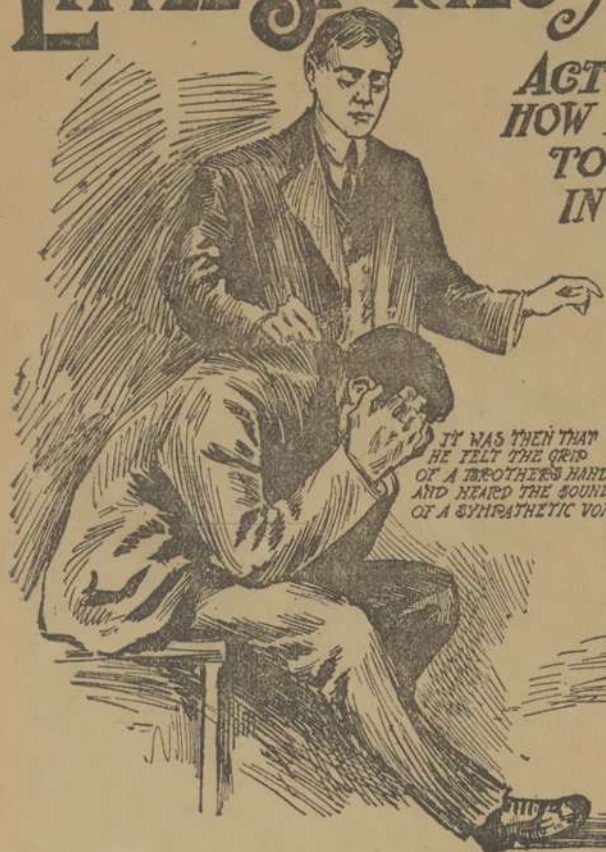


# LITTLE STORIES of the MAKING of MEN at the Y.M.C.A.

ACTUAL EXPERIENCES WHICH SHOW  
HOW MANY ARE "BOOSTED" UP THE LADDER  
TO FILL VALUABLE PLACES  
IN THE COMMERCIAL  
WORLD



left the steamer at New York he was handed a letter from his uncle in Kansas City saying the family had gone away for a time. The letter was brief and unsatisfactory, and it troubled him greatly. His ticket, which had been purchased in Europe, was only to St. Louis, and he mentioned this fact to a man he met on the train. The man thought the situation over, and said:

"I'll tell you what to do. When you get to St. Louis you go up to the North Side Branch of the Y. M. C. A. They speak German up there, and maybe they can get you a job till your uncle comes back."

The young man spoke German and French, but not a word of English, and his case looked rather hopeless. It so happened that only a few days before his arrival in the city a manufacturer had told the secretary of the North Side branch to be on the lookout for a capable young man who could speak German and French. Before evening the youth from the mountains of Switzerland had been set to work and had secured a boarding place in a German family. After some three months his uncle wrote for him and he went to Kansas City; but his position was held open for him and he found nothing that suited him so well, even with his uncle's influence to help him. Then a promise of a substantial "raise" settled the matter, and he came back to St. Louis.

There was a youth who held a position just above that of office boy. His education was limited and he felt himself unable to command more than the meager salary he was receiving. The secretary of the Y. M. C. A., with whom he came into personal contact, urged him to enter the night school and prepare himself for something better. At once his ambition was fired, and in a little over a year he had a far more congenial place at double his former salary. Two of his friends, who took night courses in telegraphy, and typewriting, have secured good railroad positions within the past month.

The classes in mechanical drawing are among the most popular in the Y. M. C. A. night school, leading the way to excellent situations for a great number of earnest young men. One of these was bundle wrapper in one of the department stores and it was utterly impossible for him to give up earning money long enough to fit himself for more remunerative employment. Three years ago he bent for the first time over a drawing board and to-day he is employed by one of the largest contracting firms in the city at an excellent salary and has added to his income by designing and erecting a number of buildings as a private enterprise. One of his classmates in the night school was a young Porto Rican, who knew practically no English. He wanted to be an architect, and there was no school he could enter, because of his need for personal instruction in both draughtsmanship and English. He was told that the Young Men's Christian Association had the right sort of school for such a case as his, so he was enrolled as a student, and he proved a most diligent one. He now speaks the language with scarcely a trace of foreign accent, and is employed as a draughtsman in one of the big architectural offices. A third member of this class was a boy who had just graduated from high school. His parents had kept him in school by dint of much economy and personal sacrifice, and it was necessary for him to go to work immediately. His first position was in a large manufacturing plant, where the services of a draughtsman were constantly required. The boy saw a chance to step into a paying position as soon as he could fill it, for the man who did the designing was overworked and would need help in a little while. He had a talk with the manager and was told to enter the night school at once. As soon as he had mastered the rudiments of his craft he was given supplementary instruction by the draughtsman, who was a member of the firm, and to-day he is doing all the draughting for a great manufacturing plant and is earning a man's salary, although he is barely past the voting age.

## TOOK HIS OWN PHOTOGRAPH

Clever Method by Which British Hunter Got Good Snapshot of Lion in Jungle.

Penetrating the wilds of British East Africa with a camera and a cinematograph, Mr. Cherry Kearton, the skilled "nature photographer," has brought back to England some amazing pictures of strange beasts. Mr. Kearton had one great disappointment. The lion eluded him so far as the cinematograph was concerned. For a week on end, night and day, the photographer fixed his apparatus in a tree and waited for a lion. But he found the lions extraordinarily wary. The nearest he ever got to one with the cinematograph camera in daylight, was 150 yards. Then the lion, not the photographer, bolted. At this distance the lion appeared so small upon the photographic films that the picture was useless.

But Mr. Kearton had his revenge. He left a camera shielded in a leather case near the lion drinking pool. Above it, in a tree, was a flashlight apparatus. From this a thread passed across the path the lion was known to tread. In the middle of the night down came the lion to drink. He broke the thread, ignited the magnesium, and took an instantaneous photograph of himself before the brilliant flash sent him crashing away in alarm through the forest.

## MOSTLY MADE IN TEN YEARS

Harriman's Immense Fortune Absolutely Without Parallel in History of Self-Made Men.

The final appraisal of the late E. H. Harriman places it at a value of \$149,000,000. This is more than \$50,000,000 over the most liberal estimate made when it was a matter of speculation. As a rule, when an appraisal of an estate of great wealth, which is much talked of, is made, the public estimate is found to be greater than the fact. Estates shrink under careful examination. But in the present case the contrary has been the fact. It is much larger than even his intimates supposed.

The wonder of it is that such a great estate should have been accumulated in the time it was. Mr. Rockefeller's great wealth was built up in a period covering 40 years; that of Mr. Carnegie in about the same time. It took three generations to build up the Astor and Vanderbilt fortunes to their present mammoth proportions. The Morgan estate was erected on accumulations made in a prior generation and the time in which the great Hill, Kennedy and Strathcona fortunes were made was not less than 30 years. Yet Mr. Harriman's great accumulations were made within a period of ten years. It is without parallel in the history of self-made fortunes of huge amounts.—Brooklyn Eagle.

## Steel Superseding Wood.

The substitution of steel for wood goes steadily on. Beginning with January 1, or thereabouts, the National Lead Company will pack its white lead in steel kegs, having decided to abandon the use of wooden kegs. This innovation is made because the company has concluded that steel kegs will have many advantages over the wooden kegs. In the first place, the steel package does not absorb the oil from the lead as porous wooden packages do, and there is, therefore, no drying and caking of the lead around the edges, making it possible to remove every particle of white lead easily from the steel keg. The new steel kegs also will be much lighter, as well as being stronger than the wooden ones, and this will effect a saving in freight charges. Taking up less room than the wooden kegs, the new steel package also will save storage space.

## Courtship Class for Jap Girls.

Japan has killed the last doubt as to its modern progress by the organization of a "class of courtship" for girls in each of the secondary schools. The Japanese maidens are taught that if they "should be so unfortunate as to fall in love before becoming engaged they must conceal the fact. Above all they must remember that women never propose. Another thing, they are warned that well-bred girls do not exchange photographs with their admirers. In Japan until now there has not been any trouble about courting, and this is the first evidence that the Japanese maidens need instruction in affairs of the heart. Classes to the contrary, however, the point is maintained that there is not a Juliet under the sun who does know the exact formula for dealing with a Romeo.

## Stanley's Estimate of Leaders.

In his recent published autobiography Sir Henry M. Stanley says: "The civil war only developed two first-rank men, and those were Grant and Lee, but in the second rank there were many who might possibly, with opportunities, have rivaled the first two. I believe if it were put to the vote of the military class as to which was the greater of the two greatest captains of the war the vote would be cast for Robert E. Lee. Nevertheless there was something in Grant which, though not so showy as the strategy and dash of Lee, makes me cast my vote for Grant."

## Restless Royalty.

"Before their marriage he said she should be treated like a queen." "Well," answered Miss Cayenne, "he has kept his word after a fashion. His household is very like one of those little European monarchies."

## TRUMPET CALLS.

Ram's Horn Sounds a Warning Note to the Unredeemed.



Even Solomon, with all his wisdom, made a blunder now and then. It never takes a young eagle long to find out that it has wings. You can see the sky in a mud puddle when you look at it in the right way.

Earnestness is no more afraid of lions than it is of flies.

When a lazy man looks toward heaven the angels close the windows.

The trouble with a good many folks is that they try to do too much at once.

Mountain-moving faith will move mountains now as certainly as in the time of Christ.

When a wise man goes down on a barrel hoop he gets up a step higher than he stood before.

The young man should not only aim high, but keep on shooting until he can make the dust fly.

There are still some folks who think that putting two cents in the basket is giving the widow's mite.

The stars are fighting against the man who puts off until to-morrow the thing he ought to do to-day.

Lazarus did more for the Lord without saying a word than Martha did by turning the house upside down.

Nothing has done any more to lift the world up to where the sun can reach every side of it than the little red schoolhouse and the old greer spelling book.

## A HOSPITABLE RAT.

In one of Rudyard Kipling's stories, the rat and the cat live peacefully together in a mill. That, of course, is fiction, but if one may believe a newspaper story, it might well have been fact. Cappybara is the name of the giant South American rat belonging to the New York Zoo. His surname is Hydrochaerus, and he is one of the objects of interest in the park. Kittle Snyder, the other character in the story, is a black and white cat which Billie Snyder, the keeper, took home one night, thinking that she would be a good killer of ordinary rats. A writer in a New York paper tells the story.

Rats are a positive nuisance round the zoo. That is, the small Norway rat of the cellars and back yard. Of course Cappybara, the giant water rat, that is worth a good deal of money and was imported from South America, is not. He is as big as a bulldog and as ferocious. But he is a rat, for all that.

Kittle Snyder grew up and early developed into the finest rat killer Central Park ever had. It was a very rare day when she did not come into the elephant house dragging three or four rats fattened on city corn and oats. Billie Snyder liked her, and that meant that every other animal in the park was jealous of her.

Saturday night, after Snyder shut up the zoo, Kittle made a sudden and anxious hunt for a moment. At last she came to old grouchy Cappybara's cage, and there in the corner was a big pile of clean straw.

He was ready to fight at first; but finally he politely moved aside and invited her to enter and take the whole house—which she did.

"When I got there next morning," said Billie Snyder, "I nearly dropped dead with surprise when I saw that ugly rat over in one corner, looking like the happy father of triplets, and over in the other corner on the straw, Kittle, the zoo cat, exhibiting four of the handsomest black and white and yellow kittens you ever saw."

"Cappybara is making old Mrs. Murphy, the hippopotamus, keep still to-day, so as not to wake the babies."

## A Story of Browning.

Browning himself couldn't always explain his meaning at first reading. Dr. Furnivall, founder of the English Browning Society, frequently consulted the poet as to the meaning of some passage in his works. "Bless me," Browning would say, "I really have forgotten what I did mean, and as I haven't got a copy of my works by me I really can't enlighten you. Just lend me the book, there's a good fellow. I'll look it over at my leisure and try to find out what was in my mind at the time."

## Folding Linen in Holland.

Folding linen is an accomplishment in which each one of the women in Holland is expected to be proficient before she becomes mistress of a home. In Holland especially the folding of linen requires considerable skill and training. Much of their fabric is of the finest texture and quality, and they fashion the various pieces in ironing into birds, animals, flowers and all manner of artistic shapes. Their linen closets are often shown to visitors with the same pride that china closets are shown elsewhere.

## Enlarging Her Chances.

"That ancient Miss Yellow told me years ago that she thought no man should marry until he was 25."

"Well?" "The other day she said that after a man has reached the age of 18 he was quite old enough to use his own judgment regarding matrimony."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

It is our theory that salads offer an excuse for spoiling a lot of otherwise nourishing and palatable food.



THIS is the age of the "business slogan." A catchy phrase is made to tell the public volumes concerning the purpose and aspirations of the organization that is sufficiently fortunate to hit upon just the right combination of words to cover the idea. And this slogan, says a writer in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, is a great thing, in spite of the fact that it does sometimes convey a wrong impression. The case in point is the adopted phrase of the Y. M. C. A., that institution that has as its purpose the upbuilding of Christian manhood and character. This purpose is admirably set forth in the words, "It is better to form than to reform," and because of this sentiment, blazoned all over the association's work, the idea has gone abroad that this institution gathers up its righteous skirts and steps gingerly aside when a case that requires reforming is seen to approach. In very truth the Y. M. C. A. does an enormous amount of reformatory work; but in such a way that the characters that are being formed are never brought into contaminating contact with the ones that were spoiled in the making and need to be patched together.

Some of the cases that are on record in the annals of the association have about them a glamour of exquisite romance, and occasionally there is a touch of genuine humor, although for the most part these records speak of grim tragedy narrowly averted, of wrecked lives and wasted forces. One of the most interesting cases is that of a young man, of good family and splendid education, who drifted into the railroad Y. M. C. A. in such a pitiable plight that only the lowest class of saloon would have harbored him at all. He was recovering from a prolonged "jag" and looked as if he had spent much of his time in a particularly filthy ashpit.

Too deeply humiliated to go back home, and having no ties to hold him in the strange city, he declared to the secretary that he might as well go down to the river and make an end of his worthless life. It was then that he felt the grip of a brother's hand, heard the sound of a sympathetic voice and awoke to the existence of a genuine friend in the person of this stranger who had taken him in and clothed him anew. His ability was such that a position was not difficult to find. He knew he could get another place, but he had no conviction that he could keep it, and for moral strength he leaned on his new-found friend. Every evening he fled in something like terror to the Y. M. C. A., working with feverish zeal in the gym and drowning his thirst in the swimming pool. He was not at all religious, but he began to attend the prayer meetings, and very soon he found himself begging to be permitted to assist the instructor in mechanical drawing. At the end of six months he was so deeply absorbed in the work that he had no time to think about the things that had been his undoing. That was eleven years ago, and the man is to-day a substantial man, with a beautiful home, a proud wife and three sons who would double up their small fists at the imputation that their father was ever on the verge of suicide because he was not strong enough to master his love of strong drink.

Last summer a young Swiss arrived in St. Louis with only about enough money to carry him to his destination, which was Kansas City. When he

## WHEN WIDOWS PREFER TO WED.

French Statistics Raise Questions Which Are Hard to Answer.

The French have been compiling some statistics as to the ages at which women most frequently seek husbands. The figures as published show that widows of 20 or younger and those of 30 or over are as ready for another husband as the maiden for her first one. But between the ages of 20 and 30 the desire for a successor to the departed one appears to be lacking. "Just what is responsible for this state of affairs cold facts and figures fail to show," says the Washington Herald, commenting on this phenomenon. "It is not a question of mathematics, but of heart pulsations, and as yet no machine or instrument has been invented which can keep account of Cupid and his wiles. It is needless to go deeply into these figures, but it is possible that between the ages of 20 and 30 the widow is so charming and so attractive that her suitors are so numerous she is unable to decide which one to favor. Then, again, it is possible that she is content with her station, whereas previous to 20 she is so young as to feel the necessity for some protector; while after the age of 30 she is eager to wed lest she be left without a life companion owing to her advancing years."

## Maxims and Mottos.

Other things besides events repeat themselves in history. Even our fads and fancies find prototypes in far countries and times. The mania for illuminated texts and quotations which runs riot in these days is nothing new nor distinctive. When the English mission of 1904 forced its way to the forbidden city of Lhasa and laid bare the mysteries of inner Tibet, they found that the native taste for illuminated mottos had been established for centuries. Lieut.-Col. L. Austine Waddell tells of the custom in his book on the expedition.

The Grand Lama's spell, "Om mani padme Hum!"—Hall! the Jewel is the Lotus Flower!—is carved everywhere on the rocks. Inserted stone tablets and plastered posters bearing pious sentences and texts in ornamental Tibetan letters are all along the way, to improve the minds of passing readers. These are mostly maxims of a moral kind. Some of these are as follows: "Speech should float forth freely like a bird in the sky, and be clothed in charming dress like a goddess."

"Speech should be bold as a lion, soft as a gentle hare, impressive as

a serpent, pointed as an arrow, and evenly balanced like a scepter held in the middle."

"The Ten Faults—Want of faith, disrespect for teachers, unpleasant conduct, covetousness, talking too much, laughing at another's misfortune, using abusive language, getting angry with old people, robbing and pilfering."

"The Roots of Quarrels are three, namely: Yes (assertion)! what (doubting sarcasm)! and you (abuse)!"

## INVENTS A NEW SEESAW.

Can Be Adjusted for Use by Children of Unequal Weight.

One of the most popular forms of amusement among small children is the seesaw, but up to the present time this exercise could only be indulged in by children of equal weight. A Virginia man, however, has invented a



SEESAW FOR CHILDREN.

seesaw that can be used by an adult and child and can be adjusted to make their weights equalize each other. An upright post rises from a firm base. Pivoted to swing on this post are horizontal bars with seats on their outer ends and handles by which the user may hold on. The horizontal bars are made in two parts, slidably mounted so that one side of the seesaw can be made different lengths, thus adding to the weight of the person who sits on the long end. The whole structure is strongly built and works easily and there is no danger of a breaking board or of children losing their balance on it as they have rests for their feet when in the air and a handle to grip. Such a device will be found a popular one for private or public playgrounds.

A woman thinks she is calm and self-controlled if fault found with her preacher in her presence doesn't jar a hairpin loose.

Don't be encouraged by a fool's promise.

## THAT OLD OAKEN BUCKET.

War Is Waged on the Romantic Utensil and Its Companions.

Since the germ theory got us in its grip the romance of "the old oaken bucket, the moss-covered bucket," with its companion, the rustic gourd or old tin dipper, has waned. As a picturesque decoration of the farm yard the moss-covered bucket is very good, but the enlightened grown-up, with a knowledge of hygiene, finds his enthusiasm for its use, in common with every passer-by, decidedly disturbed, says the New Idea Woman's Magazine.

And so it is with the tin bucket of the schoolroom, with the dipper dropped back into it after each drinker's thirst is quenched. War is being waged on that bucket and on the common dipper or drinking cup in all public places. It is a campaign of education and the purpose is to prevent disease and to minimize the slaughter of the ignorant.

The danger that lurks in the common drinking cup is silent, unseen and frequently unsuspected, and therefore has long been ignored. But with the public conscience awakening to the dangers of infection from tuberculosis and other diseases and its mind stirred to the possibilities of prevention the outcry against the public drinking cup—a source of many evils—is inevitable. Within a year's time—even in six months—there has been a tremendous feeling created on the subject. The boards of health of three different states—Kansas, Michigan and Mississippi—have passed ordinances abolishing public cups. The New Jersey board has asked railway companies whose trains pass through the state to use individual cups. The New York state board of health has passed a resolution condemning public drinking cups. Various cities have forbidden the use of common drinking utensils in schools and public places.

The manufacture of paraffin paper cups that sell for a penny has helped to solve the problem of providing hygienically for the thirst of the public.

In many department stores and business places in the large cities and on the trains of several railway lines these cups have recently been introduced. They come in automatic venders that operate in the same way as the chewing gum and chocolate machines.

In a few years we will doubtless look upon the common drinking cup as a symbol of barbarism and when

that feeling has been established much will have been done toward decreasing disease.

Those pioneers who are now providing individual drinking cups for the public are doing a broadly humanitarian thing of very positive benefit.

## On Byron's Island.

Once more a powerful syndicate is trying to purchase "Petite Ile," the pretty little island and chateau in Lake Geneva, the New York Herald says. The object is to start in Switzerland a gambling resort on the lines of Monte Carlo.

But the figure is high and the Swiss authorities are opposed to the scheme. A wealthy Parisian artist is the owner, and he is so pleased with his beauty spot that it would require a big magnet of gold to displace him. Several similar attempts have been frustrated by the Swiss government, which desires to keep Switzerland free from the undesirable and often tragic associations of the famous resort of southern France.

On this "Petite Ile" Byron wrote part of "The Prisoner of Chillon." It lies opposite Montreux, the resort of thousands of wealthy Americans every year, and would without doubt soon rival Monte Carlo if the syndicate got started in the Swiss casino business.

## Fish Eating Ponies.

"The Shetland peasants, as soon as the cold comes on, turn their ponies out to shift for themselves," said a horse dealer. "On those high, rocky, barren islands, amid the powerful and cold winds of winter, the ponies live on heather and seaweed, and it is indubitable that in their hunger they even scour the wild coast for dead fish. It is this life of exposure that gives the Shetland pony his shaggy coat. What gives him his kind and gentle disposition is the fact that he is brought up with the dogs and children—one might almost say in the house."

## Just Like a Man.

Mr. Kadley—How mannish she is! Miss Bright—Isn't she, though? Mr. Kadley—Yes, and the funny part of it is she thinks people admire her for being so. She doesn't seem to see that people are merely laughing at her. Miss Bright—Yes, she's mannish even to that extent.—Catholic Standard and Times.

It is expected that the new coal mine near Melbourne, which now yields five hundred tons a day, will be able next year to supply all the requirements of the Victorian state railways.