

THEY WILL BE BUSINESS MEN

Two Young Lads Who Are Displaying the Wisdom of Presidents of Railways.

To modernize an old prophecy, "Out of the mouths of babes shall come much worldly wisdom." Mr. K. has two boys whom he dearly loves. One day he gave each a dollar to spend. After much bargaining, they brought home a wonderful four-wheeled steam boat and a beautiful train of cars.

For awhile the transportation business flourished, and all was well, but one day Craig explained to his father that while business had been good, he could do so much better if he only had the capital to buy a train of cars like Joe's. His argument must have been good, for the money was forthcoming. Soon after, little Joe, with probably less logic but more loving, became possessed of a dollar to buy a steamboat like Craig's. But Mr. K., who had furnished the additional capital, looked in vain for the improved service.

The new rolling stock was not in evidence, and explanations were vague and unsatisfactory, as is often the case in the railroad game at which men play. It took a stern court of inquiry to develop the fact that the railroad and steamship had simply changed hands—and at a mutual profit of 100 per cent. And Mr. K., as he told his neighbor, said it was worth that much to know that his boys would not need much of a legacy from him.—Lippincott's Magazine.

Light on Habits of Snakes.

The popular theories regarding the cobra's musical ear, and the snake's power of fascinating birds, are upset by a statement made the other day by Professor Barnard who has been studying this species of snake in Ceylon. The serpent's traditional love for music is a pure fable, he says. The only effect of music is to arouse the reptile's curiosity, which is excited by any loud and acute sound. The cobra protrudes its head from its burrow alike on hearing the snake charmer's flute, the rattling of a chain, or the sounds made by beating the ground with a switch. Barnard also concludes that the power of fascination upon birds is purely imaginary.

SAVED FOR FURTHER SERVICE

Good Old Teapot, Precious Relic, Could Not Be Allowed to Become Prey of Flames.

The hotel is in flames. Sadly the guests and servants gaze at the roaring pyre. Suddenly they see the proprietor dash madly in at the blazing doorway.

"He has gone to rescue someone!" they gasp.

Tensely they wait his reappearance. One minute. Two minutes. Three.

Has he perished in that crackling furnace?

No! No! See, there he comes, singed and scorched, but safe.

What is that he carries so carefully in his arms? It is the hotel teapot, half-full of nice black tea.

Cheers rewarded the proprietor for his noble act of sentiment.

For twelve years the teapot has stood on the back of the kitchen range, boiling faithfully away. For twelve years it has poured out its life-blood in response to the calls of the transient world for drink, and the tea leaves in its dark old depths will do for many years to come.—Newark News.

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GRIPS AS MUSCLE BUILDERS

Traveling Salesman Seems to Have Idea Which Might Really Be Called a Good One.

After dinner they were discussing athletics, and each had his favorite method of reducing or building up. The traveling salesman proudly called attention to a remarkable development of biceps which swelled up beneath his coat sleeve.

"Very good, indeed," said the professor, testing with his fingers. "How do you accomplish it?"

"My method is extremely simple and takes no time away from my work. In fact, it is a result. These muscles have been developed by carrying heavily loaded 'grips,' as we usually call our big handbags on the road. I always carry two, loaded as nearly alike as possible, so I shall not grow one-sided. I began with only one grip, and swung it from one hand to the other; as fatigue impelled, but I found that it is actually easier to carry two than one. I am perfectly balanced with two, and I assure you I need no extra gym work for strengthening my arms, shoulders or back. I almost could carry a piano in each hand if the instruments were not so cumbersome."

Wanted the Day to Himself.

Nothing makes us quite so weary as these elaborate, gotten-up-ahead-of-time jokes that some people stage and spring with such a dramatic effect. Our Washington correspondent told us of one of these, the other day. A man went into the patent office, last week, and said he wanted a copyright. They steered him to the right department, and he opened up like this:

"This is Saturday, is it not? Thank you. I understand that you will not issue a copyright on Sunday?"

"No, sir. That is the rule."

"But you will issue a copyright on any other day of the week?"

"Yes, sir."

"I'm so glad. I want to get Friday copyrighted. It's my birthday, and I don't want any other fellows using it. How much will it cost?"

THING HE CAN'T DO WITHOUT

His Regular Sleep, and This He Finds He Must Have at His Regular Hours.

"One thing that I find I must have," said a man of mature years, "is sleep, and in order to keep fit and able to work I must not only have my full amount of sleep, but I must have it in my regular sleeping hours.

"When I was a youngster I could go without sleep, or I could take an hour or two at any time of the night and get up the next morning and go at it fresh as a daisy, but it isn't so now. If I cut off an hour or two's sleep now I am dull next day. Not until the next day after that, after a full night's sleep, do I come back all right. And even after my full number of hours of sleep, if these have been begun an hour or two later than usual, with the sleep continued later, I don't feel chipper; I must have my full sleep in my regular hours. I account for this on the supposition that I now have strength enough to keep me going through the day in good shape, just so long and no longer; if I work or sit up later I overtax my strength and so make myself correspondingly overtired; and to recover from this I must come back to my accustomed ways of living."

Light to Banish Sorrow.

Sorrow dwells longest where the sun is shut out.—Florida Times-Union.