

Peculiar Vocations Which Bring Financial Success in New York

Success sometimes lies in wait for the young man with an original method of wooing it. I have just met two such.



A Patient for the Nose Doctor.

One is a boyish looking doctor, not yet 30, yet he has just refused an offered \$500 fee for taking a trip to Bar Harbor. He could not afford to leave his New York practice.

His specialty is making noses. If a man's nose is ground to powder, smashed flat, pushed to one side, it's all one to this doctor. He removes the wreckage, picks out the pieces that are too small to use, and studies the former contour of the nose from a photograph.

Then into the cavities left by crumbling bone and flesh he puts paraffin filling which assumes the proper shape and becomes encysted in the flesh. When the nose heals the shape is as it was before, and the paraffin gives the wearer no trouble.

The nose expert has never advertised or otherwise won the disfavor of his confreres; his methods have been favorably received and his practice profitable. Almost anyone can spare money sooner than get along without a nose.

My other friend doing well in an odd trade is a "wrecker." Not one who lures ships upon the rocks, nor a railroad operator of the Jay Gould type, but a house wrecker, who buys houses subject to removal and uses up the old material. Of course there have always been wreckers. But the digging of the subway has caused the tearing down of hundreds of houses. The new East river bridge has driven 10,000 people from their homes to make way for the approaches; and all over the town old private and commercial structures are being torn down to make room for "sky-scrapers." Big fortunes are being made by wreckers who have capital and boldness enough to expand their business rapidly.

Money in Tearing Down Houses.

A rich man came the other day to my wrecking friend and said: "I've bought the house number so-and-so; brownstone, three-stories, 189 by 69. It completes a plot on which I've been figuring to put up a big building. I want it out of the way. What's it worth? I've never been inside it."



The Spoils of the "Wrecker."

"Ought to be worth about \$500, but if you want an exact figure I'll examine it and—"

"No, that'll take time. Take her for \$500 and raze her quick."

Next day the sky-scraper man was fussing about with his architect when my friend called to him from the house which he was dismantling: "Come in and see what I've got," he said.

The other man entered. "That mantel," said the wrecker, "must have cost \$3,000 to build. It's hand-carved and of beautiful design—right in the present style, too, being many years old. And see those pier-glasses. Rich man must have lived here in the seventies."

"Say, I'll give you \$300 for the mantel," began the former owner, insinuatingly.

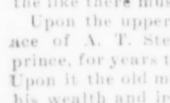
"Not much you won't; I'll put it in my own house."

Out of a dismantled building the wrecker gets lead pipe which is worth several cents a pound; iron pipe, kindling wood, marble grates, slabs, mirrors and chandeliers, mantels, windows, doors and door trimmings. The brick and brown-stone is literally "as good as new." So are the flooring beams and boards.

But they don't look as good as new? Quite so, they do not—until they have been run through special machinery which isn't afraid of nails and leaves them as clean and fresh as you please!

The Wreckage of a City.

Think of what the wreckage of a street like Thirty-fourth must have been first and last! Upon its lower corner with Fifth avenue stood the home of William Astor. When the brown-stone mansion was razed to make way for the Waldorf-Astoria hotel, what loot of mantels, mirrors, woodwork, built-in sideboards and



A. T. Stewart.

the like there must have been! Upon the upper corner was the palace of A. T. Stewart, the merchant prince, for years the finest in America. Upon it the old merchant had lavished his wealth and ingenuity. It was the dream of his old age, an unexpected streak of poetry in his arid heart. He had secret passages built into it. Workmen from Italy were imported to do the wood carving. Processes were invented to give it absolutely unique effects. Then the owner died, as many men do after building their castles for all time. Presently it was found that Mrs. Stewart was poorer than men thought, and the house was turned over to the Manhattan club, representing the respectable element of the

real democracy opposed to Tammany. When Croker's carnival of loot began, the Manhattan club shrank in importance, while the democratic club grew suddenly great under his eye. The marble mansion was neither wanted for a club nor fitted for a house, because of the turmoil of the street outside.

So the wreckers got it! For a few months they were tearing it away; now upon its site is rising the new building of the Century Realty company. Think what richness for the wrecker among those great mirrors, those matchless carvings; what wealth of material, even, in the three feet thick walls, built for eternity, but lasting less than one generation!

The house cost more than a million dollars—a great sum in those days. Now it's wreckage; and you may be sure that every piece of it is utilized.

Country and City Homes.

Vast as are the city mansions which Clark, Carnegie, Schwab and others are building—to fall in turn into the hands of the wreckers of 1950, perhaps?—the most startling change is coming over the country places of the wealthy. Time was when a "cottage" at Newport was sufficient. This is the fashionable must still have, but it is merely the summer place. Somewhere—if possible near the "ancestral" home—must be a princely domain, counting its acres by the hundred or thousand. There must be a house more costly by far than the city house or even that at Newport. There must be automobile tracks, paddocks, horse barns huge and all the appliances of scientific farming.

Thus the Stokes' "Shadebrook" at Lenox, with its 800 acres and its 80 rooms. Thus Whitney's 6,000-acre estate on October mountain at the same place, his three townships in the Adirondacks, his two homes on Long Island. Thus Levi P. Morton's "Ellerslie" on the Hudson—though on Fifth avenue Mr. Morton lives in a house 35 feet wide.

The Vanderbilts, who have reason for it, have no pride of ancestry. No one of them has a home on Staten Island, where the great founder of their line worked as a ferryman, or in New Brunswick, where earlier he was born. The Twomblys have a place in "Floram," near Morristown, N. J., that cost over a million. Dr. Seward West's place in Sherburne, Vt., has become an issue in politics. Does he really live there, or in New York?

Upon the answer may depend some gubernatorial and senatorial problems.

Bears, Moose, Wild Boars, Deer. When Austin Corbin became president of the Long Island railroad he got the estate fever. He stocked a 1,000-acre farm on Long Island with buffalo and other things. That wasn't big enough, so on Crocydon Mountain, N. H., where he was born, he laid out a 6,000-acre reservation and put there buffaloes, moose and wild boars. Little

enough it looked like his birthplace when he had swept away the houses for several miles. It was on this preserve that Mr. Roosevelt recently killed a wild boar when he was in the state. Few of the Corbin blood can now enjoy its sweep and beauty. His daughter is the wife of a foreign nobleman. The rest are scattered.

This process is going on all the while. Frank Jones has become fabulously rich building telephone lines in Brazil. He buys Bear Top Mountain, near Hartford, Conn., his old home, and plans a baronial estate. Richard Montgomery wins money on Wall street, and goes to Richfield Springs, N. Y., and lays out 820 acres, his father's old farm and several others, into a private park.

The eastern states are not so big that this sort of thing does not make an impression. The estate mania is the biggest "bull" factor on farm property in the east. A few game preserves the size of Whitney's in the Adirondacks would exhaust the state of Rhode Island.

And how the deer thrive under the new fashion! Deer are more plenty than they have been for 20 years. The other day W. C. Whitney gave 45 moose to the state of New York, simply to turn wild in the woods. It is forbidden to kill them; they will multiply until they are fairly common. There are bears; wolves are not so scarce as they were.

Long Island is most rapidly filling up with landed estates. The type of the land that is "wanted" there is a rolling hill or "knob" where a great house can be built and command a wide view, if possible, of the water; then at its foot an expanse of flat land that works up steeply into trim fields, paddocks, race tracks. A combination like this, which may have been little valued even five years ago, will sell now for \$250 an acre, even if far from the water.

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OIL FIELD IN FLAMES.

Great Damage Done in Texas by the Flery Demon—Oil Men Endeavoring to Smother the Burning Liquid With Steam.

Beaumont, Tex., Sept. 13.—It was discovered yesterday that the fire in the Beaumont oil field, which started Thursday evening and is still burning, was caused by carelessness. A white man whose name has not yet been learned, went into the settling tank of the Keith-Ward tract on Spindle Top, with a lighted lantern and an explosion followed. The man escaped with serious burns, but a moment later the tank burst and blazing oil spread over the Keith-Ward tract, which comprises ten acres. Derrieks were ignited and burned like tinder. The numerous small wood settling tanks scattered over the tract were also burned.

A blazing ember floated 200 feet into the Higgins Oil and Fuel Co.'s tank No. 2. The oil was ignited and is still burning. As soon as the disaster was known in the city, hundreds of people went to the oil field, but darkness, the dense smoke and gas prevented any effective work before daylight. Yesterday morning the fire fighters were organized and with the work which had been done during the night, succeeded in confining the blaze to the Keith-Ward tract, though other parts of the field were frequently threatened. While the destruction of the settling tanks entailed a great loss to individual companies, the real danger to the field was not apparent until daylight.

It was then discovered that the Woods gusher was ablaze, the well spouting a column of burning oil and gas more than 100 feet in the air. Efforts of the fire fighters are centered on the burning gusher. Levees have been constructed to confine the burning oil, and preparations are now being made to smother out the burning gusher with steam, as was done in the Jennings field.

Beaumont, Tex., Sept. 13.—At daylight today the fire in the oil field burned itself out and last night only four wells and two tanks were burning. One of the wells is a big gusher and there will be much trouble in extinguishing it. The smaller wells can be easily handled as the fire is fed principally by gas. The oil is drawn from the tanks as rapidly as possible, and they probably will burn themselves out. A breeze is blowing, but it is sweeping across the field and toward the fire.

The loss caused by the fire is estimated at from \$75,000 to \$250,000. So far as can be ascertained, about 30 derrieks have been destroyed. The loss on these was comparatively small.

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SITUATION UNCHANGED.

Gov. Stone, of Pennsylvania, Falls in His Effort to End Miners' Strike—Must Surrender Unconditionally—Two Conferences Held.

New York, Sept. 10.—Gov. William A. Stone, of Pennsylvania, who came to this city and made an effort yesterday to see what could be done towards settling the anthracite coal strike, returned to Harrisburg last night without apparently having been able to accomplish a settlement.

Gov. Stone was accompanied to the city by Attorney General Elkin, of Pennsylvania, and Senator Flinn, of Pittsburg. The three held a conference of several hours' duration with P. A. B. Widener, of Philadelphia, in the offices of the United States Steel Corporation.

After the conference had lasted an hour Mr. Widener went to see J. Pierpont Morgan at the latter's office and asked him to use his influence to end the strike. Ten minutes later he returned to his fellow conferees and told them that Mr. Morgan had declined to interfere.

Before leaving the city Gov. Stone gave out the following statement: "Attorney General Elkin, Senator Flinn and myself have been in consultation for several hours with P. A. B. Widener, of Philadelphia, who is a director of the United States Steel Corporation and associated with Mr. Morgan in many business interests. Mr. Widener is very anxious to see the strike settled and took the matter up with Mr. Morgan. We are doing what we can."

President George F. Baer, of the Philadelphia & Reading and Jersey Central; President William H. Truesdale, of the Lackawanna, and President Thomas P. Fowler, of the New York, Ontario & Western railroad, had an informal conference. After it was over President Fowler said that the situation had been gone over thoroughly. Mr. Fowler emphatically declared that there was no change in the attitude of the operators and that nothing could end the strike but the unconditional surrender of the striking anthracite miners. Later in the day, when Gov. Stone's statement was submitted to President Fowler, he sent out word through his secretary that he had no comment to make on the statement and did not even care to learn of its contents.

Harrisburg, Pa., Sept. 12.—The conference committee of the People's Alliance, appointed at the convention last Thursday, appeared before Gov. Stone Thursday and submitted a plan for effecting a settlement of the anthracite coal strike. Their plan consists of calling an extra session of the legislature to enact laws for compulsory arbitration, better control of foreign corporations doing business in Pennsylvania, and enforcing the sixteenth and seventeenth articles of the constitution.

Harrisburg, Pa., Sept. 13.—A conference was held at the executive mansion after midnight tonight between Gov. Stone, State Senator William Flynn and M. K. McMullin, of Pittsburg, President Mitchell and District Presidents Duffy, Fahney and Nichols, of the United Mine Workers for the purpose of discussing means of settling the anthracite coal strike. The conference was held at the suggestion of Gov. Stone, who has devised a plan by which he hopes to effect a settlement between the operators and the miners without the necessity of an extra session of the legislature.

Philadelphia, Sept. 13.—President John Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers of America, came here last night and was presented with about \$5,000 by the organized workmen of this city for the benefit of the striking mine workers. The presentation took place at a point mass meeting of the United Trades association, the Allied Building Trades and the Central Labor Union, held at Labor League hall. The money was gathered by these organizations through house to house collections, jars placed on street corners and other places and proceeds from picnics.

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GERMANY'S WAR GAME.

Emperor William Led 9,000 Horsemen in an Assault on Artillerymen and Infantry.

Frankfort-on-Oder, Sept. 10.—The war maneuvers began Tuesday. A swift spread of country west of here was covered by cavalry searching for the supposed enemy; by batteries galloping into action and by long lines of riflemen advancing along a 12-mile front. War balloons swung high in the air, and there were many other signs of warlike activity. The day was spent by the contending armies in playing for positions. It was an artillery duel, with occasional brushes between cavalry. The infantry never got into action. The German army of defense captured one gun from the Russians, but this was retaken by the invaders.

Frankfort-on-Oder, Sept. 11.—Tons of powder were burned yesterday in the sham battle. Sixty thousand infantry and 200 pieces of artillery were in action. The reports of thousands of rifles were broken at intervals by the tearing, rip-sawing effect of the firing of the machine guns.

Frankfort-on-Oder, Sept. 12.—Maj. Gen. Young and Brig. Gen. Wood and their aides-de-camp, Lieuts. McKinley and McCoy, charged with the cavalry led by Emperor William yesterday. The Americans did not draw their swords, but rode with the garde du corps, one of the household regiments, and the emperor's bodyguard. This charge was the climax of the maneuvers. About 9,000