

# Dale Carnegie

## 5-Minute Biographies

Author of "How to Win Friends and Influence People."



JACK LONDON

### The "Tough Guy" Who Went Through High School In Three Months And Wrote Fifty-One Books in Eighteen Years

A little over forty years ago, he made very little money from hobo rode the rods of a freight train into Buffalo and began to beg for food from door to door. A policeman arrested him for vagrancy, and a judge sentenced him to thirty days at hard labor in the penitentiary.

Yet six years later this hobo was the most sought-after man on the Western coast.

He was Jack London, author of The Call of the Wild.

When Jack London wrote The Call of the Wild back in 1903, he became famous overnight. Editors clamored for his work. But

he made very little money from his first big hit. The publishers—and later the movie producers in Hollywood—made a million dollars out of it; but he himself sold all his rights to The Call of the Wild for only two thousand dollars.

If you want to write a book, the very first requisite is to have something to write about. That was one of the secrets of Jack London's astonishing success. He packed ten thousand colorful experiences into his short and feverish life.

Jack London's childhood was

seared with poverty and hardships. He laughed at schools and played hockey most of the time. Yet one day he wandered into a public library and began reading Robinson Crusoe. He was fascinated. The next day he rushed back to the library to read other books. From that time on he had an unquenchable passion for books. He often read ten and fifteen hours a day. He devoured everything from Nick Carter to Shakespeare—everything from Herbert Spencer to Karl Marx. When he was nineteen, he decided to stop selling his muscles and sell his brain instead.

So, at the age of nineteen, he entered high school in Oakland, California. He studied night and day, took hardly any time at all for sleep and did a phenomenal thing. He actually crammed four years of work into three months, passed his examinations, and then entered the University of California.

Obsessed with a driving ambition to become a great writer, he studied Treasure Island, The Count of Monte Cristo, and the Tale of Two Cities, studied them over and over and then wrote feverishly. He wrote five thousand words a day, that means a full length novel in twenty days. He sometimes had thirty stories out in the hands of editors at the same time. But they all came back. He was merely learning his trade.

Then one day one of his stories entitled Typhoon Off the Coast of Japan won first prize in a contest sponsored by the San Francisco Call. He got only twenty dollars for the story. He was broke and couldn't pay even his room rent.

That was 1896—a year of drama and excitement. Gold was discovered in the Klondike. The gold-diggers were on the move. The locust swarm of humanity took wings and headed for the golden land under the northern lights.

And Jack London was with them. He spent a hectic year hunting for gold in the Klondike. He endured incredible hardships. Eggs were worth twenty-five cents apiece and butter sold for three dollars a pound. He slept on the ground with the thermometer at 74 degrees below zero. Finally he drifted back to the States without a penny in his pocket. He did whatever odd jobs he could find. He washed dishes in restaurants. He scrubbed floors. He worked on the docks and in factories.

Then one day, with only two dollars between himself and hunger, he decided to give up manual labor forever and devote all of his time to literature. That was in 1898. Five years later in 1903, he had published six books, and one hundred and twenty-five short stories, and was one of the most talked-of men in literary America.

Jack London died in 1916, at the age of forty, only eighteen years after he really started to write, and during that time he wrote an average of about three books a year besides countless stories.

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ville with Mrs. Sneed's father, W. A. Brown.

Rev. A. B. Hayes of Mountain View will fill his regular appointment at Union Cross Baptist church Saturday and Sunday. The public is invited.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Snow, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Snow, Miss Pansy and Joe Bill Snow, all of Greensboro, were the Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Humphries.

### MINE RIDGE

Mr. and Mrs. Arnie Smith of Danville, Va., are visiting his parents here, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Smith.

Mrs. Paul Norman of Thurmond was visiting her mother here, Mrs. L. C. Lowe, and was taken seriously ill and rushed to Hugh Chatham Memorial Hospital where she underwent an operation. We hope for her a speedy recovery.

Mrs. Florence Harper of W. Va., has recently moved to our community.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Smith of Asheville are visiting his mother here, Mrs. M. W. Smith.

### PLEASANT HILL

Although the weather was disagreeable we had a large crowd in Sunday school Sunday. Special music was rendered by the "Sunshine," "Happy Day" and "Rainbow Girls" quartettes.

Sunday night the prayer meeting was very impressive. Several interesting talks were made. The "Happy Day" quartet was in charge of the special singing.

Mr. and Mrs. Gwyn Bauges of Cool Springs were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Couch Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. David Day, David Day, Jr., Misses Irene Day and Cooper Jolly spent Saturday in Winston-Salem shopping. They also visited Mrs. Day's mother, Mrs. Ida Howell.

We are glad to note that Mrs. Luther Day has returned home from the Hugh Chatham Memorial Hospital.

### BETTER HEALTH

By DR. J. ROSSLYN EARP  
Director, New Mexico Bureau of Public Health

#### EARLY TUBERCULOSIS

"Early tuberculosis is not characterized by any special signs or symptoms." This sentence comes from a talk to the 4,500 delegates that attended the recent convention of the American Public Health Association. It must have given a shock to many others beside myself.

Some of us have been describing the early signs and symptoms of tuberculosis for the last twenty years: fatigue in the afternoon, cough, loss of weight, blood-spitting, indigestion... We were not mistaken. These are symptoms of tuberculosis. But what we called "early" a few years ago is not early any more. The use of X-rays has made possible the discovery of tuberculous disease before any symptoms develop.

How many thousands of patients with chronic tuberculosis must wish that someone had used X-rays to discover their disease before signs and symptoms developed! If that had been done they might now be healed and enjoying good health as only those can that have lost it and found it again.

Why is not everyone's chest X-rayed so that all tuberculosis may be discovered in the earliest curable stage? Well, because those that could easily afford this safe-guard do not appreciate its importance and because very many of us cannot afford it. Alert health departments make their appropriations go as far as possible. Since they know that each case of tuberculosis comes from another case (or cases) they look for early disease first among "contacts" of known cases. Since disease can only develop after infection, they use the more expensive X-ray only on those that are positive to the cheaper tuberculin skin test. Even so, health departments can not do much until they have more public health nurses to visit the contacts who must be showed the value of these tests; more money to pay for testing those that cannot afford to pay the doctor.

The Thistle was the first National flower. Scotland adopted it during the reign of King James II.

Outworm. A girl, aged six, came into the house with a slight cut under her chin. Her mother asked her to tell how it happened whereupon, she replied, rather absent-mindedly: "I guess a worm did it."

"But," said her mother, "it looks as though it's been cut." "Well," she said, "it was a cutworm."

### Journey to Bethlehem Not Like Today's Travel

ACUSTOMED to our swift and modern transportation, it is difficult to visualize the hardships of that journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, or the great fatigue and weariness suffered by Mary and Joseph. Consternation filled their hearts at the decree of Caesar; yet there was nothing to do but obey the summons. They must make the long, tiresome journey, and at once!

No shining motor car waited outside their gate; no silver-winged plane stood throbbing in a nearby field; not even the meaneast ox-cart was available. While others rode by in gorgeous caravans, a patient little donkey was their only means of transportation. We can imagine the tall and bearded Joseph leading the animal along, glancing back every now and then with words of cheer and encouragement for Mary, or pointing out some landmark along the way.

Behind them now was the Sea of Galilee and Mt. Tabor. Through the plain of Estraelon they labored; then came the rough and uneven trail through Samaria, where even the sure-footed donkey stumbled at times. To the west, the Jordan ran its course, to empty farther south into the Dead sea. Along their way they passed many places whose names would be known and revered around the world in the dim future... Did Mary have a vision as she went by that one day the Son whom she was about to bear would go up and down this country preaching a new Gospel of love and peace and hope for man, and that His birth would be held in happy and blessed remembrance by all the peoples of the earth until time would be no more?—Katherine Edelman. © Western Newspaper Union.

### First Christmas Carol When Christ Was Born

CHRISTMAS is the time when men are drawn together in a great unity. Much of this may be attributed to our response to familiar songs, sung year after year to commemorate the advent of a little Child on earth. The first Christmas carol ever heard, we like to believe, came over the field of Bethlehem, when Christ was born—"Glory be to God on high, and on earth, peace, good will toward men."

But it was 1,200 years later that St. Francis of Assisi and his brothers took up the singing in public carols at Christmas to combat the unbelief of their time. With lighted tapers they went about the streets of the small Italian village pouring out their hearts in songs of praise. In the 800 years since then the singing of Christmas carols has gone around the world. Wherever Christianity is known carol singing follows.

The simple vision of a mother hushing her babe to sleep gives Christmas music its strength. Some sing as a tribute to their religious faith, others as a custom they enjoy. But whatever the reason, the important thing is that more and more people do it. From such widely different sources as churches, theaters, schools, clubs, radio stations, come the words of "Away in a Manger," "Silent Night," "Joy to the World," "Little Town of Bethlehem," "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," and "Come All Ye Faithful," sung by soloists, choirs, choruses or the voices of school children. So each year new joy is expressed through old channels. — Frances Grinstead. © Western Newspaper Union.

### CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

IF YOUR Christmas tree is a balsam—and that is the loveliest kind of all, both for appearance and for fragrance—then when you first light it a cheerful old superstition urges a glance at your shadow on the wall—if you dare. Should it appear headless you will not live to see another Christmas. Then, later, when the tree is burned, another tradition suggests keeping a partly burned stick to ward off lightning.

### Palat Brightens Toys

In the basement or the attic many of us will find old toys the children have discarded. Christmas is almost here and much joy can be brought into the lives of less fortunate youngsters if we get out these toys, give them a coat of gayly colored enamel and distribute them ourselves or turn them over to a social agency to be handed out to needy youngsters on St. Nick's day.

### In England's Wassail Bowls

Brewed in England's Yuletide wassail bowls are baked apples, hot ale seasoned with spice, orange juice and rind and whipped eggs.

### Plan Christmas Dinner

Plan to prepare as much of the meal as possible on the day prior to Christmas so that the housewife can enjoy the day with her family.

Lost Is Found  
"Look here, Walter, I just found a collar button in my soup."  
"Oh, thank you, sir. I have been looking all over for it."

Earthquakes are known to occur at depths of 180 miles below the surface of the Earth.

Like Adam.

"Did he take his misfortunes like a man?"  
"Precisely. He laid the blame on his wife."

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BUT WE'VE BEEN SO BUSY WE JUST DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO WRITE AN AD. THIS WEEK.

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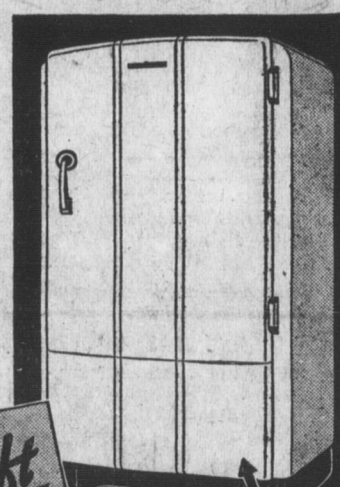
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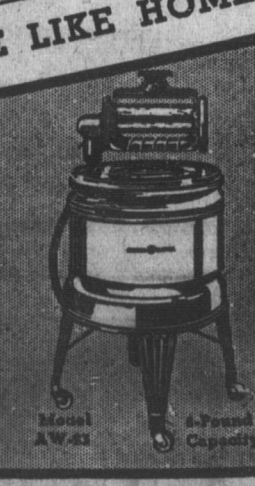
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### The Bank of Elkin

E. C. Lewellyn, President  
Garland Johnson, Vice-President  
Franklin Folger, Cashier

## Public Sale

SHERIFF W. T. FLETCHER FARM AND PERSONAL PROPERTY AT AUCTION

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16TH  
At 1:00 P. M.

We will sell the (Sheriff) W. T. Fletcher Farm, located about 1 mile East from Boonville on Highway No. 67. This farm contains 84 acres of land, one 6-room house, 2 tobacco barns, 1 pack house, feed barn and other out buildings. About 75 acres of the land is in cultivation, and this is one of the best tobacco farms in Yadkin County.

We are subdividing it into lots and small farms so you can buy just what you want, or you could buy the farm as a whole. We are selling some personal property consisting of farming tools, 2 fine mules, 1 four year old saddle horse.

We are giving away absolutely free a nice flock of Christmas Turkeys.

**DON'T FORGET THE DATE—**  
**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16th**  
**AT 1:00 P. M.**

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