

Dale Carnegie

5-Minute Biographies

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



H. G. WELLS

If H. G. Wells Hadn't Broken His Leg He Might Still Be Clerking in a Drygoods Store

Sixty years ago, a group of boys were playing on the streets of a London suburb when an accident occurred. One of the bigger boys picked up a little chap, called Bertie Wells, and tossed him high into the air; but instead of catching Bertie when he came down, the big boy dropped him and broke his leg.

For months, Bertie lay writhing in bed with a heavy weight tied to his leg. But the bone didn't set properly. It had to be rebroken. It was a terrible experience. Little Bertie screamed in agony and terror.

That seemed like a tragedy then, but Bertie knows better now. Today he is one of the most famous authors in the world. You know him not as Bertie, but as Herbert George Wells. You have probably read some of his books. He has written over seventy-five volumes; and he himself admits that that broken leg was perhaps the luckiest thing that ever happened to him. Why? Because it kept him confined to the house for a whole year. He devoured every book he could get, because there was nothing else he could do.

Today, H. G. Wells is one of the highest paid authors on earth. He has probably made a million dollars with his pen; yet he was brought up in pinching poverty.

Finally, the crockery shop fail-

ed. The family was desperate, so his mother had to take a job as a housekeeper on a big estate in Sussex. Naturally, she lived with the servants, and H. G. Wells often went there to visit her. And it was there that he got his first peep into English society life—and he got that peep from the servants' quarters.

The future author of The Outline of History started out in business life, at the age of 13, as a drygoods clerk. He had to get up at five o'clock, sweep out the store, build the fire, and slave for fourteen hours a day. It was drudgery, and he despised it. At the end of one month, the boss fired him because he was untidy and slovenly and troublesome.

He finally got a job clerking in another drygoods store. He had eat, so this time, he held out a bit longer. But when the floor-walker wasn't looking, he would sneak down into the cellar and read Herbert Spencer.

After two years, he could stand it no longer. So he got up one Sunday morning and, without waiting for breakfast, he tramped fifteen miles on an empty stomach to find his mother. He was frantic. He pleaded with her. He wept. He swore that he would kill himself if he had to remain in the shop any longer.

Then he wrote a long, pathetic letter to his old school master. Wells told him he was miserable,

heartbroken, that he no longer wanted live.

And the school master, to his utter astonishment, wrote back, offering him a job as teacher.

Presto! That was another turning-point in his life.

A few years after he began teaching, disaster overtook him with the suddenness of an explosion. It happened in this way: He was playing football. In the heat and excitement of the game, he was knocked down, trampled on, and almost killed. The doctors gave up all hope; and for months he lived in fear of imminent death. For twelve terrible years after that, he clung to life as a semi-invalid; and yet, during those years, he developed the ability that was to make his name known throughout the civilized world.

For five years, he wrote furiously. The books and articles and stories that he turned out were dull and amateurish. And he had the good sense to realize it. So he burned up almost everything he wrote.

Finally, in spite of being half an invalid, he got another job teaching. There was a pretty girl in the biology class. Her name was Catherine Robbins. Presently H. G. Wells found that he was far more interested in Catherine than in biology. She was frail and sickly. So was he. They wanted to grab all the happiness they could, at once. So they were married.

That was forty years ago; and instead of dying, Wells regained his strength, turned out to be a human dynamo of energy and has been grinding out two full-length books each year, books that have sent their reverberations around the world.

Illusion

Leon, age three, on a long trip with his parents, amused himself by looking out the Pullman window. While passing through a wooded section of the country, Leon turned suddenly to his mother and exclaimed, "Oh, Mother, look quick. All the trees are going back home."

BETHEL

Rev. R. J. Pardue, the pastor, filled his appointment at Bethel church here last Sunday morning at eleven o'clock, then attended the service at Swan Creek, where the corner stone was being laid at the new church there in the afternoon. Rev. Mr. Gilley brought the message for the evening service here.

It being time to install pastor and officers for the church, the present pastor, Rev. Mr. Pardue, was unanimously elected. He has been serving the church here for seven years. D. J. Melton for clerk and treasurer, and W. H. Jones for Sunday school superintendent each were re-elected by a unanimous vote because of their fine service previously rendered to the church.

Delegates were elected to attend the Brier Creek Association, to be held with Holly Spring church near Harmony, beginning on Friday before the first Sunday in October, as follows: Fred Melton, Elmer Morrison, T. N. Geen and Eugene Jones. The alternates were D. W. Burchette, Martin Green and W. H. Jones.

Mrs. Lillard returned to her home at Reidsville last Sunday, following a visit of several weeks here with her daughter, Mrs. Max B. Pardue and family. Mr. Pardue's sister, Mrs. M. F. Bumgarner and daughters, Misses Bonnie and Iris, from Millers Creek, were guests in their home last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Gilliam, Jr., and children, Charlie and Mary, and Mr. Douglass of State Road, were here for a while Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Walker and little daughter, Linda, returned to their home at High Point last week, following a week's visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. N. Green, here. They, with Mr. and Mrs. Green, visited several relatives and friends during their stay here.

Mrs. Charles Morrison accompanied members of Mrs. R. G. Myers' family to see her last Friday at the Davis hospital in Statesville. We trust she will soon be able to return to her home here.

Mr. Robt. Wood of High Point, came up last week-end to accompany Mrs. Wood home, she having been here on a visit of several days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Grover Johnson, and to be with her sister, Mrs. Ralph Pinix of Jonesville, who has been seriously ill at the Hugh Chatham hospital at Elkin.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Eckenrod and family moved from the Armstrong residence to Elkin last week, where their sons, Clay and Norton, will enter school there today (Monday).

Most all farmers through this section have finished saving fodder and hay and are busy preparing to sow small grain.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Mathis attended a prayer meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Rose at Arlington last Sunday afternoon.

Rebecca Pardue, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Pardue, was able to return to her home here last week from the hospital at Elkin, where she underwent an operation for appendicitis. She will soon be able to enter school at Ronda, where she is a fifth grade student.

Mrs. C. W. Gilliam, Sr., is spending two weeks at Wilkesboro visiting her daughter, Mrs. W. A. Stroud, and Mr. Stroud.

Mr. W. H. Jones missed Sunday school for his first time this year to attend the Statewide quartet singing at Greensboro last Sunday. He was accompanied by Mr. D. S. Gilliam and daughters, Misses Norma and Kathlene, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. T. Jones and Eugene Jones, all from here. Mrs. Gilliam and Mrs. Jones enjoyed lunch and a pleasant afternoon visiting Mrs. W. A. Pardue and family, while the others attended the singing.

Some of the folks from here expect to attend the fair at North Wilkesboro this week.

Mr. R. B. Pardue accompanied his niece, Miss Lillie Woodruff, who has been their guest the past week, to her home last Sunday. She will enter school at Boonville Monday.

Eugene Jones attended two services at Charity church, near Boonville, last week, during the revival, where Rev. R. E. Adams was assisting the pastor. While there he assisted in the music and was entertained in the hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. Stinson.

Several children in the eastern part of this community entered school at Jonesville this week. Miss Pauline Morrison is a member of the senior class there this year.

Mrs. W. A. Pardue visited her daughter, Mrs. A. P. Woodruff, and family, near Boonville, a few days last week.

Roscoe Triplett was a business visitor in the eastern part of the state last week.

Rev. Mr. Gilley reports that he with an assistant, closed a very successful meeting at Big Ivy church, near Mount Airy, last Sunday. They baptized seven.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Green of

Winston-Salem, visited his mother, Mrs. J. B. Green and family, here last Sunday.

PLEASANT HILL

The following people visited Glenn Hope Baptist church at Burlington Sunday for the annual home coming: Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Couch, Mr. and Mrs. Calloway Hawks and son, Douglas, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Couch and daughter, Margaret, Mrs. Ray Haynes, Mrs. Lou Atkins, Mrs. Ida Atkins, Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Atkins, Miss Irene Day, Mr. Russell Casey, Miss Nettie Adams, Mr. David Day, Jr., and Mrs. D. W. Day. Dinner was served on the grounds.

Next Sunday, September 18, is Cradle Roll Day. All cradle roll mothers are expected to be present at the eleven o'clock hour.

Miss Irene Day of this community and Mrs. Ida Howell of Winston-Salem, left for New York City Monday, for a visit of about two weeks.

Mr. Avery Wall, Jr., of Jonesville, visited Leo and Eugene Col-

lins last Friday and Saturday.

A large number of pupils from Pleasant Hill community are attending Elkin high school this year.

Mr. and Mrs. Calloway Hawks and son, Douglas and Miss Nettie Adams, of Mount Airy, visited Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Couch the past week-end.

The F. H. C. class gave Mrs. Bill Ellis of Winston-Salem, a shower of kitchen equipment. Mrs. Ellis is a former member of the F. H. C. class.

Mrs. Bill Ellis and Mrs. Violet Smith, of Winston-Salem, visited Mr. and Mrs. Ed Couch during the week-end.

Mr. Arvil Alexander took his Sunday school class of about 40 boys on a trip to the Blue Ridge mountains Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Adams and

daughter, Jessie Lee, Rev. and Mrs. I. W. Vestal and Miss Eugenia Money spent Saturday night in Burlington visiting friends and relatives.

Rev. D. W. Day preached at Roaring Gap Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Bessie Gilliam, Misses Bernice Wellborn, Marie Wellborn, Dorothy Burcham and Edwina Harris accompanied him.

The devil doesn't want just anybody.

Mattie Mae Powell

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