

### Idle Comment

By FRANK STONE

It's amusing sometime to observe people one has known for a long time, and their reactions to success.

We have in mind a person whom we have known almost a lifetime. We remember when he was struggling to get his business going, back before World War I. We have watched his progress and had a part, now and then, in aiding him.

Now, he has about reached the top. His business has flourished and expanded. He has added many to his payroll. There was always a symptom of arrogance in this fellow. He seemingly wanted to be high on a throne above his fellow man—unless he was hobnobbing with the "big boys," so to speak.

Years ago we thought that if he would come down to earth, what a fine character he would

be. He does have good traits. But the trouble is, with him, that he has so many offensive traits about him, that they offset the good ones, yet we have admired him, and gave him the benefit of the doubt of being conceited.

In recent years we have about concluded that he would never change his arrogant ways. In fact, if anything, he has gotten worse, in this vein. His success has gone to his head. Apparently he has never stopped to consider the fact that people who have been employed by him actually has made his business. He is due credit of course, for he took the chance on the business.

It was he who went into debt to get the place going. It is true he furnished the leadership, but when one stops to think, what would have had happened to his leadership, his planning, his debts, if he had not had someone to carry on the work of the place.

He has been fortunate in having a man to be the go-between. When he offended some of his customers this lowly employee—he would feel that way inwardly about this, go-between we are sure—was the one who won back the good will for the business. Maybe the fellow we are discussing never thought about it in that way, he is much above every one else—in his own view, of course.

We cannot help but compare this friend of ours with another friend. There is so much contrast. The other man had even a harder time to get his business going. When he first started out the world was apparently against him. But inside him was a character that was never daunted.

He was never to busy to stop a few minutes to talk with another. It made no difference to him if the fellow was Negro, Chinese or what, with overalls or silk hat and a Prince Albert coat. He is just a down to earth man lives by the golden rule. He would even help a fellow man when he knew it would probably mean a loss to him in a sale. While the first subject of

this article was entirely different.

The first one in this story—and this a true one—was a man of God, but his many friends state it "was only on Sunday." The second subject was a man of God SEVEN DAYS A WEEK. He has done to our own knowledge, more than the other friend has ever done, to help his fellow man. He goes to church as the other friend does. But the second subject here, is not a big man at all. He does church work, but does it quietly. The first subject likes to tell what he has done.

It happened the other day, that we saw a few facts in the affairs of these two men. The first one is well off, and conceited and arrogant. He does not have many close friends and actually people are nice to him because they do not want to be classified as "the fool that he is."

Now the second man is more than well off. He can lay down five bucks to every one of the first subject if he had too. How about his friends, you would ask? They are legion! Why if that guy was go into bankruptcy, there's no question he would be put back in business by these friends before 48 hours had passed.

What about the other subject you say? Not a dime would go to him!

We are just musing on human nature, and the things that make a man go. Honestly, we hope the first guy in this story will get down to earth before he leaves here, because if he don't he is going to head for trouble when he departs from this place of abode.

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