

# The Elevator Boy

By M. QUAD

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As the first boy in the world who ran the first elevator ever made and to make a record of holding a position for twenty-eight years without the loss of a day, I feel that I have a right to talk plainly to the boys who have just entered upon the noble work of elevating elevators.

If you have been selected to conduct a wire cage up and down, no matter whether in a skyscraper or an apartment house, the first thing to be done is to ask yourself these questions:

"Am I a modest, unassuming boy?"

"Is my position going to make me a celebrated young Jackson?"

"Will I keep my mouth shut and let others do the talking?"

"Have I the proper respect for old age?"

Having answered these questions satisfactorily to yourself, you can begin your duties. If you have any doubts of yourself take up some other profession, for you will be a failure in this. I have watched the career of scores of elevator boys and lamented the failure of a good share of them. There was Johnny Beers. He was a red-headed boy with a turned up nose and ears that started out to be palm leaf fans, but stopped halfway. His mother wanted him to be a lawyer and his father wanted him to be a doctor, but he thought that elevating an elevator was the only thing for him.

Within three months he fell in love six or seven times, and it was his proposal of matrimony to a widow forty years old that finally sent him out of the building with the agent's boot behind him.

And when Mike Salters was offered a place to conduct a gilded cage in a twelve story palace of an apartment house he came to me to get pointers. It was a grand opening. The house was occupied by aristocrats. Success would be his if he only struck the right road. I warned him of the pitfalls, and with tears in his eyes he solemnly promised to avoid them. Maybe it was his mother's fault that he failed to do so, for she was a romantic lady, and the first thing she did was to have him change his name to Claude La Salle. He was told to address every man as monsieur and every woman as madame and to lift his cap and smile a smile as he addressed them. He was told that in case he carried a lone lady up or down he should ask after her health, refer to the weather and be as entertaining as he could.

The tenants were amused for a while and then began to make complaints, and one day after he had advised a broker to quit that trade and open a sawmill somewhere he vanished from the building and never came back.

My heart aches as I think of the case of Jim Clark. He came to me as others had done, and though he had once licked me when I had a sore finger and could not use my right hand, I sat down and had a fatherly talk with him. He agreed to do as I told him, and if he had kept to his promise he might now have been the owner of the zoological gardens in the Bronx, to say nothing of being the husband of a widow worth \$10,000,000.

Jimmy restrained himself for a couple of weeks and then broke out. He felt that his passengers expected to be surprised, and he went at it to surprise them. He jounced and bounced that elevator until women screamed and men swore, and one day when he got stuck between the nineteenth and twentieth floors and every passenger was half-winded to death Jimmy held up his hands and shouted:

"All of you shut up! What's all this row about, anyhow? Let me explain to you that this cage got tired and is only resting. There is no danger whatever. It will start up again when it feels like it. I am here to save you."

When the elevator at last reached the first floor Jimmy was the first one out. He went out as if kicked from behind, and he kept on down the corridor and out of the front door and out on the sidewalk. Jimmy is now the driver of a motor truck, and though he runs over three or four people a day on the street, he has no future before him. To be a success as an elevator boy is as easy as to be a failure. One need not be slavish, but he must be modest and respectful. He may be cheerful, but not enthusiastic. He may be dignified but not surly. If a traveling drummer takes his cage for the twelfth floor and slips him on the back and calls him "old man" he may smile in reply to show that he appreciates humor, but he should not go further than that.

The car starter in a skyscraper is always a young man of great dignity when on duty. The elevator boy must respect that dignity. He is expected to divide his tips with the starter, and if caught holding out on him there is sure to be a row.

The engineer of a skyscraper expects the elevator boy to keep him in cigarettes. This sometimes comes hard upon the boy's purse, but it is only a milepost on the road to success. If the cigarettes come promptly and without a kick the boy can take his revenge in later years. He can save up his tips and salary until he can buy that skyscraper, and then he can send downstairs for that engineer and say to him:

"John, I don't need your services any longer. Get your duds together and get out of here." And the boy's revenge will be complete.

## HOW TO ADJUST YOUR NEW CARBURETOR.

OR—In adjusting a carburetor the first essential is to be able to tell the difference between a weak and a rich mixture. In either case the car will lack power and may knock, and with too rich a mixture it may also overheat.

With too much gasoline, on the other hand, the car will respond instantly to the opening of the throttle, but with not the same vim as with a perfect mixture. A great excess of fuel will produce black smoke in the exhaust.

Too frequently, when one of these symptoms is recognized or the car is operating badly for any reason at all, the conclusion is that the carburetor needs adjusting, and, instead of improving it, it is made worse. Never touch the adjustments on a carburetor until you are sure that they require it.

Faulty ignition and leaky cylinders are often mistaken for bad carburetion. Before looking at the carburetor it is only common sense to make sure that the trouble is not elsewhere; otherwise you may complicate matters by throwing the carburetor out of adjustment.

A thin mixture may be caused by air leaks in the manifold, cylinder head gaskets, valve plugs or valve guides. Any of these will produce misfiring at low speed. A leak in any part of the manifold may be determined by noting whether smoke from a cigar or cigarette will be sucked in. Other leaks may be located by feeling or listening.

The mixture will be weak if the fuel level is too low in the float chamber, and this may be due to a bent float mechanism, a stuck float, or if there is a float level adjustment there may be some difficulty with this.

If the float is made of cork the shellac may gradually dissolve and the fuel will soak into it, making it heavier and consequently raising the level. Similarly a pin hole in a metal float will allow gasoline to enter and weight it. The cork float may be repaired by drying in an oven and then shellacking it again and the metal float by enlarging the hole, draining the gasoline out and then closing it with a little solder.

## HOMEMADE MARSHMALLOWS.

How to Make These Delicious Sweetmeats in Your Kitchen.

If you wish pure, delicious marshmallows soak two tablespoons of granulated gelatin in ten tablespoons of cold water until soft. Pour ten tablespoons of boiling water over two cupsful of sugar and boil until it makes a sirup which will form a thread when dropped from a spoon. Remove the sirup from the fire and stir into it the softened gelatin. Let stand until cool, then add salt and flavoring and beat until it becomes stiff enough to hold its own shape. Pour the candy into granite pans dusted with powdered sugar and let stand in a cool place until set. Cut in cubes and roll in powdered sugar.

Chocolate marshmallows are made either by coating the plain marshmallows with melted, unsweetened chocolate or by adding melted chocolate to the marshmallow mixture before cooking. Chopped nuts or candied fruits may be stirred into the mixture after it has been removed from the fire. Instead of vanilla flavoring fruit juice may be used in place of part of the water. Marshmallows are dainty and attractive if rolled in grated coconut before being coated with sugar.

## GOING ABROAD?

How a Voyager for Foreign Parts Can Secure His Passport.

Get six photographs of yourself, three inches by three inches, on thin paper. Get your birth certificate at your city hall, if they register births.

Get some one who can personally identify you at the office of your local United States district court.

Go to the above office with the above person and fill out their forms of application for a passport and pay various fees amounting to about \$5.

Upon receipt of a letter from the state department, Washington, advising that the above application has been accepted go to their branch office, 2 Rector street, New York city (office hours week days 10 to 3, Saturdays 9:30 to 12 o'clock) and get your passport in person.

Go to the nearest office of a foreign consul and have them "vise" your passport.

Do all the above things, allowing a margin of forty-eight hours before sailing in order to provide for emergencies and errors of the government clerks.

How to Have Plenty of Hot Water Without a Fire.

It is disagreeable to keep a fire during the warm summer months merely for hot water. Have the tinner make a jacket out of galvanized iron, give it a lining of asbestos and place it around the hot water tank. The iron is of such width that two pieces will cover the entire tank and extend far enough above to hold a layer of ashen. The water will stay hot twenty-four hours.

## GET THE HORSES ASHORE.

And He Didn't Go About It in the Regular Official Way, Either.

In his younger days Sir Bryan Mahon was quite a character in the army and many are the tales that are told of his daredevil recklessness and his no less ready resourcefulness in an emergency.

Once, for instance, a lot of horses had to be unloaded at Jemalla. There were no boats and there was shortage of slings, to say nothing of grommets, breast girths and all the other queer paraphernalia that disembarking officers delight in.

But Mahon, who is, of course, a son of Erin's Isle, had seen horses disembarked on the wild Irish coast many and many a time in rough and ready fashion, and he knew what they could do when they had to. So, while the others were discussing ways and means before decks, he simply threw these horses aboard.

The animals promptly swam ashore, and while the horror-stricken disembarking officer was looking on aghast, too surprised even for words, Mahon ordered the trumpet for "stables" to be sounded, and every horse promptly lined up on the beach.—London Telegraph.

## DRILLED TO PERFECTION.

Secret of the Military Success of "The Madman of the North."

From drill man gets accustomed to doing under any circumstances what has been hammered into his brain time after time till it becomes second nature to him.

Charles XII. of Sweden, "the madman of the north," ripped most of Europe up the back again and again because his soldiers were drilled to perfection before he let them take the field at a time when there was great neglect of drill in other armies. He valued 1,000 well drilled fighters above 10,000 not so well drilled, and madman or genius, his judgment was vindicated repeatedly in terrible battles.

One night Charles XII. was surprised in Poland by an attacking army of 8,000 when his scant force of 900 was sleeping like the dead from the exhaustion of a hard march. Before his outposts and sentinels could be driven in his small band was aroused, mounted, formed in battle line—all in pitchy blackness—and swung into a fierce charge upon the enemy. By daylight the Russians and Poles who had thought to eat him up were virtually annihilated.—Westminster Gazette.

## How Clouds Are Colored.

The color of a cloud depends on the manner in which the sunlight falls upon it and the position of the observer. It will be noticed that high clouds are always white or light in color, and this is because the light by which they are seen is reflected from the under surface by the numberless drops of moisture which go to form the cloud. Heavy rain clouds, on the other hand, are found much nearer the earth, and so the light falls on them more directly from above, giving a silver lining to the cloud, though the under surface appears black, owing to the complete reflection and absorption of the light by the upper layers. Seen from above by an observer in a balloon the blackest rain clouds appear of the most dazzling brilliant white.

## Duels in Greenland.

In Greenland when one man has been insulted by another the adversaries each compose a satire in verse. This each man recites to his household until the servants and the women know it by heart. Then a place of meeting is appointed. The two men, the insulter and the insulted, the offender and the offended, stand face to face, and each recites his poem. His friends and servants form a chorus. Each man tries hard to raise the laugh against his adversary. Each man speaks in turn, whipping the enemy with epigram and quip, and after two hours of this wordy battle the meeting gives the victory to him of the two adversaries who has amused the whole assembly most.

## An Odd Team.

Over one of the trails of the Sahara desert the queerest of teams is employed in drawing a two-wheeled cart which carries light freight. The team consists of a camel and a small mule, and while the loads may be unevenly distributed between them, the mates never disagree. Each draws his portion of the load, the camel loping along with great strides, while the mule trots beside him.

## His Conundrums.

"Pop, tell me some conundrums."  
"Conundrums? Why, I don't know any conundrums, my son!"  
"Oh, yes, you do! I heard mother tell Aunt Mary the other day that you keep her guessing most of the time."—Exchange.

## Greatest Volcano Crater.

The largest volcano crater in the world is in Asosan, in southern Japan. It measures fourteen miles across one way and more than ten miles the other.

## Surest Way.

"Do you know how to open the door to a successful courtship?"  
"Easiest thing doing. Just ring the bells."—Baltimore American.

## The Old Story.

"Did Hardluck bear his misfortune like a man?"  
"Exactly like one. He blamed it all on his wife."—Judge.

It is the peculiarity of a fool to be quick in seeing the faults of others while he is blind to his own.

## HOW

To Feed the Family Well and Inexpensively

IN response to several inquiries as to the minimum cost of food for a family we publish herewith a list of articles of food sufficient for a family of five for one week, says a bulletin of the New York city department of health. It may be of interest to our readers to know that this diet supplies about 9,500 calories and 430 grams of protein per day. On the assumption that the family consists of two adults and three children this allowance is ample:

1 lb. butter	.....	10
1 lb. sugar (2 1/2 pounds)	.....	21
1 lb. rice	.....	58
1 lb. dried peas	.....	49
1 lb. beans	.....	59
1 lb. farina	.....	36
1 lb. oatmeal	.....	42
1 lb. corn meal	.....	42
1 lb. prunes	.....	12
1 lb. onions	.....	31
1 lb. potatoes	.....	22
1 head of cabbage (medium size)	.....	52
1 lb. cheese	.....	52
2 doz. eggs	.....	24
2 doz. meat daily at 25 cents	.....	24
2 loaves of bread daily at 5 cents	.....	112
2 qts. of milk daily at 7 cents	.....	58
Total	.....	521

The list of foods here shown has been tested practically for about two years. The nutritional results have been excellent, a fact which indicates better than any theoretical study would do that the diet combines all the food elements needed by the body.

If we could devise a plan for insuring such a diet or its equivalent to all the poor people in this city we would materially reduce our death rate. In many instances of malnutrition encountered at the department's clinics the fault is due to ignorance of what constitutes a proper diet. The department of health has been trying to spread such knowledge for some time. Certainly this list should prove invaluable to the housewife who is trying to provide a wholesome diet at a very limited cost.

## TIP FOR MOTORISTS.

How to Remove Greasy Dirt From Your Lily White Hands.

The owner of a car who cares for his vehicle to a large extent generally makes up his mind to having dirty hands when some periodic and greasy job falls due. There is no real need for this, as a little care beforehand will obviate the retention of the greasy dirt afterward. Before starting work on a greasy piece of machinery take cylinder oil and rub it well into the skin. After the work is done do not take the grime off by rubbing the hands on waste or a cloth. Instead put on some more cylinder oil or any light oil liberally, using it as you would soap and water. When the oil has worked under the grease and cut it loose from the skin wipe the hands thoroughly on a piece of waste. When you have wiped off the oil you will find that it has taken the grime with it, leaving the hands ready for a good wash with soap and water. If the motorist will try a tar soap for this final stage he will be surprised at the results obtained. Kerosene, gasoline or washing powders should not be used, as they harden the skin and give it a tendency to crack. When on the road the hands can be made fairly presentable by using the oil wash alone, leaving the soap and water until reaching the destination. This method of keeping the hands in shape is used by many of the mechanics in big repair shops and in motorcar factories. It is a particularly useful tip just at this time, when all the cars in America are being run out of the garages for their season's work, most of them by owners, who have no decided preference for dirty hands.

## COOK SPEAKS.

How to Cook Vegetables and Conserve Their Food Value.

It is important that vegetables should be prepared and cooked in such a way as to conserve all the available food material and their mineral salts. The portion of the vegetable next to the skin contains the greater quantity of mineral matter, protein, Carrots and vegetable oysters should be scraped. Other vegetables should be pared as thinly as possible.

When the liquid in which the vegetables are cooked is drained off it carries with it much that is valuable, says Good Health. As far as possible this should be saved and used as the foundation for soups and sauces.

Vegetables should be cooked only until tender. Many vegetables develop a strong and unpleasant flavor and are rendered less easily digested by overcooking. This is especially true of cabbage, cauliflower, etc. When overcooked they also take on a reddish hue.

Strong flavored vegetables, such as onions, cabbage and turnips, should be cooked uncovered.

## How to Pull Your Auto Out of a Hole.

If the rear wheels are stuck in the mud dig holes in front of the front wheels for them to fall into to give the initial start, and if the car does not continue then block the rear wheels instantly and repeat the operation. Place brush in front of the rear wheels and turn them as slowly as possible to keep from churning. If one rear wheel is on good road, try putting on the hand brake fairly tightly to destroy the action of the differential, or fasten the mired wheel so that it cannot turn and the other wheel will do the work and slide the mired wheel along the ground.

The instant you realize you are getting stuck in sand or mud stop right there and look over the situation instead of fighting the car and burying it deeper and deeper.

## A JOKE THAT FAILED.

Tried on "Stonewall" Jackson, It Acted the Wrong Way.

Major Thomas J. Jackson, later the famous "Stonewall" Jackson, was our instructor in mathematics and drilled the students in artillery tactics," said General Armistead, an antebellum graduate of the Virginia Military Institute. "Old Jack," as the students called him, with his worn uniform, faded cap, usually perched at a ridiculous angle upon his big head, rusty old cavalry saber and ungraceful gait, was in appearance far from our beau ideal of a soldier. Nevertheless it was possible even then to guess at the real greatness of the man.

"The guns we used in our artillery drills were pulled by hand. As the drill would proceed our instructor would likewise transform himself into the very semblance of Mers himself as, with form erect, waving sword and flashing eye, he would give the command 'Fire' in a voice that rang over the campus like the blast of a battle.

"One day in a spirit of mischief the students who were drawing the gun pretended to lose control of it as it moved rapidly down a gentle incline directly toward Major Jackson. But the commander, instead of scuttling out of the way, as the boys had gleefully anticipated, stood sternly erect and immovable right in the track of the gun.

"I tell you there was some lively hustling and just in the nick of time, too, to keep Old Jack from being run over. That was our only attempt to play a practical joke at Major Jackson's expense."—Youth's Companion.

## FAMILY DINNERS.

In England They Flourish Mainly at Weddings and Funerals.

Family dinners are rare in England. They flourish only at weddings and at funerals, especially at funerals, for mankind collected enjoys woe. But other occasions—birthdays and Christmas—are shunned. Christmas especially, in spite of Dickens and Mr. Chesterton, is not what it was, for its quondam victims, having fewer children and being less bound to their aunts' apron strings, go away to the seaside or stay at home and hide.

That is a general charge, and many modern factors, such as travel, intercourse with strangers, emigration, have shown the family that there are other places than home, until some of them have begun to think that "east or west, home's worst."

There is a frigidly among the relations in the home, a disinclination to call one's mother-in-law "mother." Indeed, relations-in-law are no longer relatives; the two families do not immediately after the wedding call one another Kitty or Tom. The acquired family is merely a subfamily, and often the grouping resembles that of the Montagues and the Capulets. If Romeo and Juliet had married, Mrs. Herbert said charmingly in "Garden Outings," "Our in-laws are our strained relations."—W. L. George in Harper's Magazine.

## How Centipedes Walk.

An eminent authority has investigated the peculiar wavy motion of centipedes and millepedes to determine the manner in which these animals manage to use their superabundant pedal extremities so gracefully and harmoniously. It has been found that the legs move in groups or waves, each wave including a definite number of legs. The number of waves included in the length of the body is constant for each species. In millepedes the waves of each side are synchronous. In centipedes they are symmetrically alternate, giving rise to beautifully accented movements. The difference may be explained by suggesting that the millepede moves like a pacing horse, the centipede like a trotter.

## Branding Criminals.

The branding of criminals was abolished in 1778. Until then this punishment was inflicted in open court, generally in the presence of the judge, the necessary implements—the iron brand, the chafing dish and the iron gripper for keeping the hand steady—being always in readiness. The usual brand was an "R" applied to the left shoulder. Child stealing, etc., however, were at one time punished by branding the offender with "R" on the shoulder (for rogue), "M" on the right hand (for manslayer) and "T" on the left hand (for thief).—Fall Mail Gazette.

## Perforated Stamps.

The man who invented perforated sheets of stamps made a big fortune out of the idea. It is said to have first occurred to a hunting man who wanted to stamp a letter, but could not lay his hand on knife or scissors. He suddenly bethought himself of his spur. Running the rowel along, he perforated the edges of the stamp, tore it off and thus started a revolution.—London Tatler.

## Transformation.

An English farmer had a number of guests to dinner and was about to help them to some rabbit when he discovered that the dish was cold. Calling the servant, he exclaimed, "Here, Mary, take this rabbit out and 'eat it and bring it back a little 'otter!'"

## C. O. D.

Tommy—Mamma had a lot of things sent home C. O. D. today. What does C. O. D. mean? Tommy's Pop—C. O. D., my son, means "Call on Dad."—Philadelphia Record.

## Another Definition.

Little Willie—Say, pa, what is a coquette? Pa—A coquette, my son, is a girl who gets more admiration than proposals.—Exchange.

## A Lugubrious Race

By ALAN HINSDALE

A hearse drove up to the dock of the channel boat at Calais, followed by a carriage, out of which stepped a man of somber countenance, dressed in funeral black. Summoning a porter, he engaged him to bring assistants, and from the hearse an oblong box was removed and carried on to the boat. During the transit one of the men carelessly let go his hold, and the box came very near falling to the ground.

"The mourner groaned. 'Do be careful,' he said. 'That box contains the remains of my dear wife. She died a few days ago in Brussels, and I am taking her body to my home in Harwich, across the channel, to give it sepulture.'

"Sorry, sir, that I lost my hold," replied the porter, evidently affected by the mourner's deep grief. "I won't do it again."

The mourner raised his handkerchief to his eyes to dry the tears that had started at the joggling of the gear remains and followed the bearers on to the boat, where he begged them to put down the box gently. They all seemed impressed by the exhibition of grief, and when the box touched the deck not a sound was to be heard. Wiping his eyes with one hand, with the other the mourner gave each one of them half a crown, and they dispersed, walking away with soft tread as if fearing to wound him by unseemly noise.

When the boat reached Harwich a customs officer came aboard. The mourner stepped up to him and, with trembling voice and difficulty in repressing his tears, said to him:

"My friend, I must ask your indulgence for one in trouble. That box contains the body of my beloved wife, who died abroad. I beg of you to see that I am spared any delay or difficulty in receiving a permit to remove it. The circumstances of my wife's death were extremely distressing. She died of a fever after a long and painful illness. Everything was done for her."

"All right, sir," replied the official. "I'll see that you're put to no trouble, sir."

He put the customs mark on the box. The mourner, stifling his tears, slipped a sovereign into his hand and, turning to some deckhands, asked them to carry the box on to the dock. As the melancholy procession was passing over the gangplank a man stood on the dock scrutinizing those who came ashore. The mourner while passing him put his handkerchief to his face and sobbed.

A hearse stood near—it had evidently been spoken for—and the box was duly committed to it. The mourner entered a carriage, and the two vehicles were driven away.

They had scarcely started when the man who had stood by the gangplank entered another carriage and told the driver to follow them. Slowly the funeral cortege passed through the town and took a road leading to a cemetery. The mourner so far forgot his grief to turn and look through the glass in the back of the carriage and saw another carriage not far behind. Presently the funeral vehicles turned out of the main road. The mourner looked again and saw that the carriage behind also turned. Lowering a window, he said quickly:

"Jim, we're gone up!"

"What makes you think so?" asked the driver.

"I saw a Scotland Yard man by the gateway watching for us. He is in that carriage back there."

"Suppose we race him?"

In another moment the melancholy trot of a funeral procession was changed to a gallop. As soon as the new gait was begun the carriage in the rear also made a change. On went the hearse; on went the carriage containing the mourner, and on went the one containing the detective. Seeing a funeral party galloping over the ground, persons along the road stopped and gaped. Then when the rear carriage passed, scattering dust and dirt, it was evident that there was a race in progress.

Presently the hearse reached a cemetery. The gate was open and the driver turned in, shouting to several persons standing about to get out of the way. The avenues of the inclosure were tortuous and well adapted to leaving a pursuer in the lurch. After making a number of turns on two wheels, the driver of the hearse stopped before a vault, the door of which stood open, the mourner's carriage came up, the two drivers withdrew the box and hurried it into the vault. There the mourner remained with it, while the two drivers drove on. The mourner listened. In a few minutes he heard a carriage go by lickety split without stopping.

"All right, monsieur," he called to the corpse of his wife. "We've won!"

"For heaven's sake, get me out of this!" said the other in a masculine voice and broken French. "This jolting has nearly killed me."

The mourner produced a screwdriver, removed the top of the box, and out stepped a man well dressed and evidently a gentleman.

"Hadn't we better dig out?" he asked. "When we've settled up."

The Frenchman, who was an abounding bank cashier, pulled out a package of bills, gave them to the man who had arranged and conducted his escape, and, passing from the vault, they departed in different directions.