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The Fable of the Phoney Veneer

By GEORGE ADE

ONCE there was a young man with a Air For Case. Somehow his Specialty was to Chase Money where it Ought to Stay Put. He had taken some Correspondence Schools and had the Fever now to acquire Knowledge for its own sake and Mammon enough to help him in Buying a Dress Suit.

Before he proceed to chase into the Surrounding Jungle for a Slice of Fortune, it is meet to pick up some Bits to Remember, and take the Sign off the top of the Office. It reads like this: "Do good work and a Director in Some Big Concern will bring around his Chauffeur in a Pierce-Arrow and beg you to come Home for Dinner and Meet his Daughter." Or, "Be Honest and Work Hard and the Boss will be so Pleased he will Give you a Share of Stock in the Business." Or, "Be Polite to Everybody and Some Day Someone will Invite you to Sit in Their Pew." Or, "Be Ambitious and Study Hard and Some Day Someone will Offer you a Position Where the Work Is Easy and the Pay Is Big." Or, "Be Neat and Clean and Some Day Someone will Ask you to Take Charge of Their Daughter." Or, "Be Polite to Your Mother and Some Day Someone will Want to Buy Her Some Candy." Or, "Be Careful of Your Health and Some Day Someone will Want to Know Your Doctor." Or, "Be Careful of Your Language and Some Day Someone will Want to Know Your Minister." Or, "Be Careful of Your Company and Some Day Someone will Want to Know Your Lawyer." Or, "Be Careful of Your Money and Some Day Someone will Want to Know Your Banker." Or, "Be Careful of Your Clothes and Some Day Someone will Want to Know Your Tailor." Or, "Be Careful of Your Appearance and Some Day Someone will Want to Know Your Barber." Or, "Be Careful of Your Friends and Some Day Someone will Want to Know Your Enemies." Or, "Be Careful of Your Wife and Some Day Someone will Want to Know Your Mother-in-Law." Or, "Be Careful of Your Mother-in-Law and Some Day Someone will Want to Know Your Wife