

## **PRACTICE STORIES**

1.

John Wilson is a draftsman in New York City who originally studied architecture at a large university (Syracuse). He failed out in his third year of the five year course. John failed due to his working extra hours to support his wife and two children not because of his ability. He has been an excellent worker, but it has not challenged him enough. He wants to design his own buildings, not carry out others' wishes.

The company he works for has such a respect for John and his ability that it agrees to help him with a loan for college tuition. John returns to Syracuse with his family and completes the remaining two years of his studies. The company is very happy to have him return and he succeeds in advancing the company's position by some excellent building designs that are original.

2.

The character on the right is completing an invention that he's been working on for a long time. The person on the left is his assistant, who is rather cynical about the whole thing. All his life the person on the right has wanted to become known as an inventor. He thinks this job of a new tool will do the trick for him. In the past he has had several failures.

The person on the left is ready to give up in despair but the person on the right still has that last spark of hope pushing him on. The invention will again be a failure, the cynic will still keep on helping the inventor, but neither will ever achieve glory or fame, yet their whole lives are spent on this task.

3.

John is criticized by his father who is the owner of the business, for not attending to business details sufficiently and for losing an important customer by his careless, indolent attitude. John feels this is just another one of his father's unreasonable attitudes and will probably blow over as in the past. The father, however, is making a last try at straightening the young man out so he will be fit to take over the business which has been in the family for generations.

4.

It seems the father is telling his son what to do and what not to do. The boy appears to be guilty of doing something undesirable and is being reprimanded in a man-to-man talk. Apparently the boy did some thing that did not comply with the desire of the father. The son feels guilty and wants forgiveness by his father. The son will be more cautious next time. Probably no further punishment will be inflicted on the boy at this time.

5.

Two craftsmen are in a workshop The one on the right seems about to engage the machine, while the one on the left is watching him. I would assume that both men have worked to arrange the piece held now by the machine so it obtains the proper results. Both men hope that the piece of work will be machined correctly. The one on the right is temporarily occupied by thoughts of correctly engaging the piece. I think it is a printing press where copy will be made.

6.

This is a boy named Mike. He is visiting a nurse. He has just looked at a display on medicine. He is dreaming of becoming a doctor. The boy comes from a good middle class family and is fairly intelligent. His family has always wanted him to be a lawyer though. His father is a lawyer. He is thinking that some day he will be a great surgeon and save many lives. He will not be a success he dreamed of—but he will be a good doctor.<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Copyright ©1967, by the Motivation Research Group. MRG is a Division of the Behavioral Science Center of Sterling Institute, Suite 3750, Prudential Tower, Boston, Massachusetts.02199. Prinfd in U.S.A. All rights reserved. These stories, or parts thereof, may not be reproduced without the written permission (which has been obtained) of MRG.