

## WHEN THEY WERE YOUNG

TEODORO R. YANGCO

By Alvaro L. Martinez

**D**ON TEODORO R. YANGCO, millionaire and philanthropist, sat reclining in his roomy armchair. His venerable aged head was comfortably resting against the back of the seat when he told me this little incident in his boyhood life. As I looked at him I could not but feel the greatness of his heart which has made him the greatest of philanthropists in the Philippines. His face showed a kind smile which made one feel at home with him.

"I was a rich man's son," he began, "but I was brought up as a poor man's child."

A look of pleasant recollection beamed in his eyes.

"I was educated in London," he went on. "When the time for my return to the Philippines came, the employees of my father hired an orchestra to meet me at the boat. They wanted to give me a royal welcome for I was a rich man's son. This was done without the knowledge of my father."

Again there was the smile of recollection on his face. He seemed happy as he thought of his boyhood. I kept silent and allowed him to continue talking.

"When my father found out about the orchestra, he became angry and drove the men away, saying, 'Do you want to spoil my son?'"

"You see, he did not believe in noisy welcomes. He believed in simplicity. He took me home and we had our meals together."

"That night, being very tired from the voyage, I slept very soundly. The next morning I was awakened by my father. He shook me out of my bed, saying, 'Teodoro, Teodoro, wake up—it's already six o'clock. Is this what you learned in London—to sleep until six o'clock in the morning? Dress up and sweep the floor and dust the tables in the office.'"



"I said to myself—'Is this what you sent me to London for, to become a janitor in your office?' Of course I did not say this out loud."

"Do you mean to tell me, Mr. Yangco," I asked, "that you were the one who was made to clean the offices of your father?"

"Yes," he answered proudly. "This was my work for sometime. My father believed that if we must order men to work and do things for us, we must be able to do them ourselves."

There was a brief pause during which I merely gazed at him, admiring the gentle personality that was expressed on his face.

"I had very little time to study. I used to read my lessons on my way to school and at night before going to bed. My father, however, never allowed me to study late because he said it was bad for my eyes. I did not enjoy the games and the pleasures that you are enjoying now."

"But I am not sorry for that," he went on, "because if my father had not trained me like that, perhaps I would not be what I am now. You see, now that I am old, I do not need to work if I do not want to. I only go to my office once in a while because I have my manager to take care of everything."

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# ETHIOPIA

## A COUNTRY THAT MAY LOSE HER INDEPENDENCE

**I**N the eastern part of Africa lies Ethiopia. It used to be known to most people by the name of Abyssinia. Ethiopia is the only independent state in Africa. It is located almost entirely on a high plateau.

The countries around Ethiopia are all colonial possessions of European states. There is Anglo-Egyptian Sudan on the west; Italian Somaliland on the south-east; British and French Somaliland on the east; and Eritrea, also Italian, on the north.

Unfortunately, Ethiopia has no sea-coast and, therefore, no sea-port. The things she buys from other countries are first shipped to Djibuti. Djibuti is a French port in French Somaliland on the Red Sea. From this port all cargo for Ethiopia is sent by the only train that runs to Addis Adaba, the capital city. This railroad is run by the French.

Ethiopia's former Emperor, whose name was Menelik, allowed France to build this railroad. To help France in building it, Ethiopia contributed some money and furnished workmen. Menelik also

promised that France would always have the right to run trains into Ethiopia.

Now Italy wants to build a railroad through Ethiopia in order to connect her two colonies, Eritrea on the north and Italian Somaliland on the south. But the present Emperor of Ethiopia, Haile Selassie, does not want Italy to build a railroad in his country. In spite of this, Mussolini, the Italian Dictator, is determined to get into Ethiopia. In fact, during the last five years a part of Ethiopia, about 6 miles long, has been occupied by Italians. Mussolini is sending thousands of Italian soldiers to fight their way into that country. Many of them have already landed in Africa. But they have been unable to start fighting. The heavy African rains falling day and night are very harmful to the health of the Italians. This month of September, when the rainy season will be over, the war might start.

Emperor Haile Selassie is a very educated man. He always keeps himself well informed about the many important things that happen throughout the world. He does not

want his country to lose her independence. If Italy does manage to keep her soldiers into Ethiopia, she might make the Ethiopian people her subjects.

The emperor is very fond of his people. He has allowed them to keep their old customs and traditions. He did not want to force them into the many modern ways of living. "Not so quickly," he said, "my people will understand the new ways better if they get used to them slowly."

Ethiopia was one of the first of Christian countries. When St. Mark fled from Egypt, he went to Ethiopia. That happened thirty years after the death of Jesus Christ. At that time the Ethiopians accepted Christianity.

The Emperor of the Ethiopians claims to be a direct descendant of the great wise King Solomon and the beautiful Queen Sheba of whom stories are told in the Bible. This means that the people belong to a very old race. The Ethiopian emperor is also known among his people as the King of Kings and the Conquering Lion of Juda.

the place by inserting a pencil or a ruler, or by turning down a corner of the leaf. No matter how wet or dirty his hands were, he would not wipe or clean them before handling me. He drew figures on some of my pages and spilled ink on two or three other pages. What a relief it was, when he handed me back to the librarian.

Dear Children:

I understand that soon I shall be turned to ashes. I have no regrets, knowing I have served you well. I have only one request to make of you before I take my final leave. I wish you would treat the coming generations of books more considerately than you have ever treated us before. I need not tell you how to handle us, because your teachers have repeatedly told you how to

DON TEODORO R. YANGCO

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Before I went to see Don Teodoro Yangco to talk about his boyhood days, I was wishing I had had a boyhood like his. I thought that he, being the son of Don Luis, the millionaire, had a wonderfully pleasant life, a life without work, a boyhood with all the desires beating in a boy's heart, fulfilled. However, I now realize that after all, the hardships during our boyhood are what make us great men when as we grow older. Don Teodoro R. Yangco taught me a lesson.

care for books. But if I must say a parting word, I wish you would carry this with you: Treat books as you treat your best friends.

THE CARE OF THE TEETH

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appear among the permanent teeth are the first (6-year) molars. Their appearance takes place at the age of six years located just behind the two temporary molars on both sides of the mouth. They are four—two upper and two lower. In most cases these teeth are neglected because they are taken for temporary molars. They are extremely important in the mouth as they are the most useful ones in chewing and serve as guide in the growth and position of the rest. Teeth need exercise as muscles do. Food which requires much chewing help make the teeth strong and healthy. People who feed exclusively on soft diet generally have the poorest teeth.

"A man is known by the teeth he keeps."