

MAKE GROWTH NOT WEALTH YOUR GOAL

The youth who starts out in life with wealth as his ideal is a foredoomed failure. If you would succeed, let growth, expansion of mind and heart, and wealth of character, not money-getting, be your aim.

Be as large a man as you can make yourself. Broaden your sympathies by taking an interest in other things than those which concern your immediate business. A knowledge of the great world-movements, active sympathy with all efforts directed toward progress and the betterment of mankind, and the cultivation of the finer side of your nature—fostering the love of music, art, and literature,—will not only enlarge your vision, but will also increase a hundredfold your enjoyment of life and your value to society.

Do not allow yourself to become self-centered. Give some of your energies to securing better conditions for those less fortunately circumstanced like yourself. Interest yourself in politics. Go to the primaries. Remember that you are, first of all, a man, and then a citizen, and that making a life is man's first duty.

Keep your manhood always in view. Never do anything that will throw discredit upon it, and success will mean far more to you than mere money-getting. You will find that culture, the development of your aesthetic nature, will enrich you more than the accumulation of dollars.

If you attain to true manhood; if you have developed along the lines of your higher self; if you have kept growing through all the years, no matter whether you have accumulated wealth or not, you are successful.

If, on the other hand, you have not kept growing; if you have starved your mind in order to fatten your pocket book; if you have strangled your sympathies, your interest in the welfare of others, for the sake of increasing your business; if you have neglected your friendships, ignored the claims of those dependent upon you, or who have helped to make your business successful; or if you have been stingy, hard, and exacting, while you have been accumulating your money, you have failed, though you have made millions.

IN SPITE OF ENVIRONMENT

You may be sure that people who are always complaining of their environment,—of the conditions which surround them,—for the evident purpose of excusing their inaction, mediocre work, or failure, are not organized for success. They lack something, and that something, as a rule, is an inclination to do downright, persistent hard work. They are better at finding excuses for their failure than at anything else.

In this electrical age of sharp competition, no young man can hope to get on who does not throw his whole soul into what he is doing. Great achievement is won by doing, doing, doing, and doing over again; by repeating, repeating, repeating, and repeating over again; by finding one's bent and sticking to that line of work early and late, year in and year out, persistently, and determinedly.

There is no halfway about it. No one can succeed by taking hold of his occupation by his finger-tips. He must grasp the situation with all the vigor of his being, with all the energy he can muster, and stick and hang and dig and save: this is the cost of any worthy achievement, and there is no lower price. There are no bargains on the success-counter. There is but one price,—take it or leave it. You simply waste your time if you banter.

What a pitiable sight it is to see a strong, vigorous, well-educated young man, in this age of opportunity such as the world never saw before, sitting around wasting his precious years, throwing away golden opportunities simply because he does not happen to be placed just

where he thinks the great chances are, or does not see an opportunity which is big enough to match his ambition or his ability!

It is a cruel, wicked sight to see wealthy young men squandering the hard-earned fortunes of their fathers in vicious living, but what shall we say of a vigorous youth with giant energies, and good education, who folds his arms and refuses to seize the opportunities all about him?

Bishop Spaulding, in a recent address, said: "Success lies in never tiring of doing, in repeating, and never ceasing to repeat; in toiling, in waiting, in bearing, and in observing; in watching and experimenting, in falling back on oneself by reflection, turning the thought over and over, round and about the mind and vision, acting again and again upon it,—this is the law of growth. The secret is to do, to do now; not to look away at all.

"That is the great illusion and delusion,—that we look away to what life will be to us in ten years or in twenty years; we look to other surroundings. The surrounding is nothing, the environment is nothing; or, in other words, it is not possible to work except in the actual environment. If you do not work where you are, where will you work? If you do not work now, when will you work? There is nothing for us but here and now."

WASTE OF ENERGY

What would be thought of a miller, who, because a large amount of water was stored in his mill-pond, thought he could afford to neglect leaks in his dam? Would not the chances be that in the midst of the summer drought the water would be entirely gone and his mill forced to lie idle, impoverishing the miller and inconveniencing a whole neighborhood?

Nature has stored in every normal youth a reservoir of physical and mental energy which means much in the way of character, success, and happiness. One of the saddest sights is to see thousands of promising youths allowing their energy to be wasted through ruinous habits of idleness, dissipation, extravagance, and neglect of opportunity.

The word economy is usually applied to the saving of money, but this, perhaps, is the least important of its applications. Wasting money is of little importance when compared with wasting energy, mental and vital forces and opportunities, a waste that endangers our highest welfare. Many a man who is economical to stinginess in money matters, squanders, with fearful waste, his mental and moral energy. He who would make the most possible of his life, must early learn to stop all leaks of reserve power. Wasting opportunities, time and vital forces, constitutes the great tragedy of human life. It is the principal cause of unhappiness and failure.

Many busy people are shameful wasters of time and opportunity, simply because they do low things when higher ones are possible. They read a poor book when they might read a better one. They squander time with bad companions when good ones are possible. They waste time in half-doing things, in botching, bungling and blundering, in doing things over and over because they were not done right the first time.

These little leaks, these wastes that drain the success capital, bankrupt many American youths, yet they are singly so insignificant that the victims do not realize their evil influence. There are so many ways of wasting vitality that economy in its use is difficult.

A great waste of mental and moral vitality is indulging in demoralizing, vicious and deteriorating thoughts. Every bit of useless worry,—and all worries are useless,—every bit of anxiety, every particle of fretting and stewing, every bit of despondency, indulgence in melancholy