

GARDNER-WEBB PILOT
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Difficulty of A Productive Hand

Why it is that we procrastinate and evade important issues until the last minute is a puzzling thing. College students, who are the hope of the nation, hamper themselves in this way more than any other group in America. Why is this? Well, it is probably the result of a number of things. He has more different things to do, which is left up to his own discretion and initiative as to when they will be done. There are divergent attractions that woo and win him from the tasks at hand. He feels incapable; he is too busy with the things close at hand which have to be done. Even when his efforts are finally launched, there is an intervention by meal time, by mail call, or even by intruding friends who want to swap a word or two.

These are all distracting reasons. But probably the greatest of all is an indecision as to what must be done. The invaluable time we waste in hesitation is astonishing.

We have a term paper, for example, assigned six weeks in advance. Instead of getting it off immediately, we stammer, we hesitate, we don't have a topic, what to do? Then we begin to procrastinate. One week grows into two; the third week goes by and the next two rush on. Still remaining is the full-size task. Five weeks have escaped the useful hand, and the last moments are fleeting as the production awaits the application of a determined hand.

The trouble here has not been the lack of ability to do the work, but a lack of decision. Moreover, it wasn't so much the lack of initiative as it was in a dominating hesitation of the mind.

Naturally, quick decisions are not to be desired; nor are they healthy, but is that not exactly what evolves in the end when we have whiled away the time trying to decide instead of applying the time to something.

The crowning achievement is never the numerical grade from the teacher, but it is the growth that takes place as a result of the work. Development is possible only through work and effort. We learn by doing, not by wondering what to do. Do something even if it's wrong. At least there will be time to observe the mistakes, or even to make a second attempt.

Frustration develops when there is hesitation and the lack of decision. Not knowing what course to take, not having a response to the difficulties can be very detrimental to self assurance and self confidence.

The first cannon in this situation is getting the personality integrated, laying firm hold to motivating purposes, and strong goals. If we know where we're going, it isn't hard to fit our activities to our purposes. The purpose itself gives necessary perogative which support the ultimate.

In this way the problem of indecision is conquered and eradicated. The individual is suddenly mature, because he is able to direct his activity, and make his own decisions. —(G.P.)

What Is Truth??

The greatest teacher of all was asked, "What is truth?" His immediate answer is not recorded, but he did say that he himself was the truth and no one learned the real truth unless that one came his way.

Men have tried for thousands of years to find the truth. Some of their attempts have been futile and others have been fruitful. The fruits of these conquests have tended to divide men instead of to unify them.

In the field of religion, different opinions are offered on various doctrines. The opinions have given fuel and fervor to the endeavors to find truth.

Religion is not the only field in which crusades for truth have been conducted. The realm of science has succeeded in finding particles of truth that religion had overlooked or had idly passed. Science has shed light on many problems of life but has not reached the solution for all of them. The veil of darkness still drapes over many areas in the scientific pattern of knowledge.

The field of education also attempts to find the truth. Education's problem is different from the religious and scientific problems. The educators must have the ability to divide the truth from error. Success is an ideal rather than an overreached accomplishment. Many gems have been uncovered but vast resources still remain untouched by the human mind.

In revealing truth, error is also revealed. Error should be discarded and truth should be stored with care. Truth shines to scatter error as light scatters darkness. Truth, light, and knowledge should not succumb to error, darkness, and ignorance.

The problems of truth are not entirely solved. Results of research have brought truth nearer than ever before. We must keep "plugging" until we have surmounted the mount of falsehood and beheld the beauty of eternal truth. — (C.W.H.)

"The Book of Life"

I suppose all of you have heard the expression "turning over a new leaf," but have you ever given it a thought? Have you ever really applied it to yourself? Perhaps some of you have said, "well, I suppose that expression means 'starting over again.'" So it does, but when and why does a person need to do this? In the "Book of Life" you write the pages one by one. The leaves of the past have been filled and turned. Some of them no doubt are covered with beautiful pictures, while others may be marred by ugly blot. Today there is before each of you an unsoiled page. Remember, one way to cover up a bad past is to build a big future over it. Through the help of God and your own determination, you can make the page that is before you contain largely what you want it to. Will it be spread with careless talk or well chosen words, selfishness or thoughtfulness for others, laziness or energy, selfishness or courtesy, lying or honesty, healthfulness or sickness, duty neglected or opportunities well used, a dwelling on the mistakes of the past or a cheerful looking to the future, and finally, neglect of God or faithful service to Him? Don't be afraid of life. Believe that life is worth living right and your believing will help create the fact. God has given you a mind and you must make your own choices, no one can make them for you. What you write on the pages in the "Book of Life" may set a good or bad example for others. Remember, yours is the page; write well upon it today. — (A.D.)

A Parting "Thanks"

The members of the Pilot staff for 51-52 wish to express to each member of the student body and faculty a very sincere thanks for the cooperation they have received this year in the production of a campus newspaper. There have been times when we felt like giving up, but encouragement and help from various students have kept us going on. We have had some very nice contributions to the paper from people who haven't received this credit this year and we wish to offer a hearty "Thank you" to them.

To the members of next year's staff, who have been elected, and who will be appointed, we want to say "more power to you!" The tasks of meeting deadlines, setting up copy, and making headlines will not always be easy, and you may have to give up some leisure time; but the satisfaction of giving a picture of daily campus life to the other students, and to many outsiders will more than repay you for your time and efforts. The campus offers a wide variety of activities to be covered. Each student cannot hope to have a direct connection with all the activities of the campus, and it is the duty of the campus paper to let all the people know just what is going on at our school.

We hope that you will not take your job too lightly, and we also hope that you will have the pleasure we have had in covering the news. If you have the cooperation and friendly help that we have had, we know that next year will be a good Pilot year.