

Quitting Makes The Quitter.

Quitting is a most expensive weakness. For, in the preparatory time of life at least, what you are doing is not so important as what it is doing to you.

You start a task; you lay out a program of action. Your interest is high. Some important good to be gained is attracting you. The effort you make seems at first very little. Progress is easy.

Then something gradually happens to you. Effort grows more difficult. The good seems less and less valuable.

You shop around for reasons to quit. Weren't you drastic in making your plans? Didn't you take on just a little too much? Yes, of course. Then you up and quit. All you have learned in that experience is how to quit.

"Well," you say, "after a while I found out that my plan wasn't worth the effort." Quite possibly; but you were worth the effort. And that's the point. You can't afford to skill yourself in the art of quitting--because, simply, quitting makes you a quitter.

Plausible reasons for quitting are always at hand. Sometimes a fellow feels: "I should quit this that I am doing and take up that which is more important." Usually the urge is not to do something better; it is merely a temptation to quit.

Another reason for quitting comes to mind thus: "I don't see anything better to change to; but I don't see anything at all; why continue?" Were you forced to begin what you are doing? Didn't you have sound motives at the start?

Very well, what has happened? Perhaps only this: you are forcing yourself not to see so that you can merely quit. We act like that. Maybe if you can walk through this cloud you will be made. Maybe such clouds of doubt have stopped you--and will often stop you--from getting anywhere in life.

The man of character sets an object for himself and through every cloud and haze works resolutely towards his goal. He who will not give up is strong and day by day grows stronger.

Just keeping on through the most hopeless mazes may be the important act of your career. How often it is the last abject punch that turns out to be the knockout. Most failures have learned too early to quit. They are more practised in quitting than in staying. Another week, pushing on just a little longer, and they would have broken through to victory.

You must day by day refresh your courage. You must vary your stride to take yourself over the changing obstacles. You must hang on, plod on, fight on doggedly, forcing yourself this one more day, this one more hour. Quitting makes a blind alley out of any road that opens up to you.

Two weeks ago you undertook a definite program. If you were wise you decided, in the spirit of penance, to make it a little tough on yourself. Have you been a quitter? If so, admit your mistake, take up your full program again, and this time, like a man, go straight through to the end. In everything worth doing, it is always too costly to quit.

PRAYERS: (deceased) grandaunt of Ed Dahill (Wash.); Father William Sullivan; friend of Jim (Ly.) and Dave (Cav.) Bernard; father of Art Woods (Ly.). Ill, friend of Father Moore; mother of Lee Read (Ly.); grandfather of Jim Cleary (Cav.); mother of Pat Tofuri; Mr. Robt. Kiordan, Registrar; aunt of Tom Dody (Car.); James Karr's sister.