

Thoroughness

MEN attain success by means of various capabilities and aptitudes, but there is one trait which is never lacking in the truly successful—**thoroughness**.

It is well for us to remember this simple truth as a sort of New Year's reminder. Many of us have need to check ourselves up, again and again, with the query: "Are we thorough in the things we do?"

The world is full of people who never think their own thoughts to conclusion; who never do anything quite as well as they are really able to do it. Their information is faulty, their reasoning and planning are slipshod and their work always shows marks of more or less carelessness and incompleteness.

They "get by," many of them, but they never **move forward** as they might. And they miss the satisfaction and pleasure which should constitute one of the most gratifying rewards to anyone engaged in serious occupation. There is a premium in the business world on the man who does things well—with completeness and finality. He is the man who can be trusted with more and more responsibility, up to the limit of his native capacity.

The Armour Organization is a wonderful field in which to practice with advantage, the trait of thoroughness. It is an organization that is large and diversified and it depends much on each individual's initiative. There are many places where waste, loss or error may creep in. They must be detected by someone's watchfulness and care. There are possibilities of overlooking fertile fields for betterment or larger trade. Somebody's wholehearted alertness must be the means of discovering these fields and of cultivating them.

What, then, must, of necessity, be the human characteristic that is at premium in an organization like our own? Nothing other than the good old-fashioned virtue of doing things thoroughly, and not leaving them partly undone.

The man who informs himself adequately about his House, its methods and policies, its products; who keeps his mind keyed to the opportunities which lie within his own province; and who does his work so well that it needs no correcting or supplementing by someone else—such a man is on the surest, safest and shortest highway to success that has ever been discovered by anyone.

—J. OGDEN ARMOUR.

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