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Procrastination

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PROCRASTINATION

Probably one of the most common faults is that of "putting off" until some other day the doing of tasks that should come within the routine of the day's work.

Repeatedly we find this the basis of complaints made against attorneys. The first letter from a complainant savors of violations of the Code of Ethics, or even something involving moral turpitude; yet, when the whole matter is sifted and weighed, the majority, probably ninety-five per cent of the complaints, find their explanation in plain delay.

Even after these things come to the attention of the Internal Affairs Committee, the process is the same. Many, many times the letters of the Secretary of that Committee, yes, two, three, and even four of them in succession, remain unanswered.

As with the layman, so with the Committee, these delays arouse suspicion, frequently unfounded, but nevertheless there. Why, every lawyer knows that the Courts look with no favorable eye upon the man who fails to speak when he ought to speak.

May we not, therefore, urge upon attorneys of this State the thought that it is really worth while to cultivate the courteous habit of being prompt. It is as much the business of the Internal Affairs Committee to protect lawyers against unjustified charges as it is to assist laymen in presenting and obtaining redress for their just complaints. Neither aim can be accomplished, however, when men neglect or refuse to make reply.