

The Manager's Lament

**A manager has practically nothing to do;
except:**

**plan what is to be done;
tell somebody to do it;
listen to reasons why it should not be done;
why it should be done by someone else;
and why it should be done in a different way.**

**to follow up to see if the thing has been done;
discover that it has not;
to enquire why;
and listen to excuses from the person who should have done it.**

**to follow up again to see if the thing has been done;
discover that it has been done incorrectly;
point out how it should have been done;
conclude that as long as it has been done it may as well be left
where it is.**

**to wonder if it is time to get rid of a person who can not do a
thing right;
reflect that they probably have a partner and large family;
and that any successor would probably be just as bad;
or maybe worse.**

**to consider how much simpler and better the thing would have
been done
if one had done it oneself in the first place.**

**to reflect sadly that one could have done it in 20 minutes;
rather than to spend two days finding out
why it has taken 3 weeks for somebody else to do it wrong.**