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# The Chemawa American

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### TAKE CRITICISM

It has been said that we are living in an age of criticism. No one who has been allied with any kind of work, and especially school work, can doubt the truth of the statement. But we are able to distinguish two kinds of criticism: First, that which is necessary to our improvement and prompted by love for the one criticized. This is the kind given you by your teachers at Chemawa and is one of the things you come to school to get. The second kind is that which comes from a class which cannot better be described than by one vulgar word "soreheads." All of us should have dignity enough not to let this kind worry us.

### SAY THE HELPFUL THING

When there is so much need in the life of every student to cultivate a bigger, kindlier, nobler nature, surely none can waste one moment of time on the petty occupation of backbiting. In no way can such an indulgence be helpful. To the one who says the mean things of a fellow student, it is a sure destroyer of the good material he has placed in the foundation of his character. To the one who is censured it is usually a check in his development and a cause for much bitter feeling and heartache.

This spirit of backbiting is not widely prevalent among the Chemawa students, but it is an enemy that must be curbed in the very beginning. Unfortunately it is often used upon those boys and girls who are capable and try to give their best whenever they are called upon. While they are trying to build for themselves and their school, others are trying to pull down.

Do those destroyers appreciate the fact that they are doing a three-fold injury? They hinder a fellow-student, they keep back the good results that might be gained for the school, and worst of all, they poison their own hearts and minds. If they could but see how little, how babyish it is and how it reveals the coarser, common element of their nature, certainly none would resort to such meanness. The desire to say cutting things of another who excels is aroused by one's own inability to do. Whose fault is it that he is not able? In most cases the responsibility falls upon the individual himself; he has failed to make use of his opportunities; more than likely he has always

tried to tear down rather than to build and he has always aimed at the good things. Therefore, let him not injure the one who has done what he himself has failed to do, but compete with him, strive to surpass him, and both will thereby be helped.

Remember this, young men and young women, boys and girls of this school, in every case the one who backbites, says mean, cutting things about his associates, is indeed listed among the failures of the world. He cannot grow into strong, useful maturity, nor can he be of any satisfaction to himself or those about him.

### LITERARY SOCIETIES

#### Reliance

The Reliance Literary Society met as usual Wednesday last. While the program was not carried out in detail as originally planned the numbers were well rendered and pleasing. Our guest, Mrs. Storm, favored us with a few encouraging remarks. The most pleasing feature of the evening was the renewed interest and loyalty which seemed to permeate the whole organization, several offering volunteer services.

#### Excelsior Program

Opening Address	- - - -	Fred Jackson
Biography of George Washington	-	Gus. Gartiez
Current Events	- - - -	Ernest Greer
Indian Legend	- - - -	Earl Nuckolls
Closing Remarks	- - - -	Advisor

#### Winona Program

Opening Address	- - - -	President
Song	- -	Marina Nelson, Elizabeth Rainville, Rose Simmons
Reading	- - - -	Julia Gromoff
Recitation	- - - -	Veltha Frazier

#### Nonpareil Program

Roll Call	-	Each girl answered with a quotation
Opening Address	- - - -	Mae Adams
History of Earliest Indians	-	Catherine Wilder
Indians	- - - -	Effie Davis
Recitation	- - - -	Felecia Hosler
Indian Song	-	Elsie Spokane, Emma Jones, Sallie Barnhart, Harriett Sutton
My Tribe	- - - -	- - - -
	-	Harriett Verney, Edna Salstrom, Aurilla Selsic, Marcella Silvers, Rosa O'Brien, Ruth McNickle
Indian Story	- - - -	Sadie Knowles
Song	- -	Mae Adams, Sarah Peratrovich, Margaret Harney, Lyda Bauer
Indian Art	- - - -	Myra Ranzi