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AN IMPORTANT CHANGE

Oscar H. Lipps, who was recently appointed Chief Supervisor of Indian Schools, has been in the Indian Service nineteen years, served as teacher of reservation boarding schools in Utah and Minnesota, assistant superintendent of the Chilocco Indian School, superintendent of the Nez Perce reservation, Idaho, and District Supervisor of Indian Schools and Agencies for the Northwest District. He reorganized the school system in the Five Civilized Tribes, was a member of the Committee on New Course of Study for Indian Schools, and has for several years recently been superintendent of the Carlisle Indian School.

While superintendent of the Nez Perce Agency he established the first sanatorium for the treatment of tuberculosis among Indians, and the first co-operative day school for the education of whites and Indians under joint federal and state control. He is the author of "A Little History of the Navajos." His home for the past ten years has been in Idaho.

H. B. Peairs, whom Mr. Lipps succeeds, has been appointed Superintendent of Haskell Institute, at Lawrence, Kansas. Mr. Peairs was formerly superintendent of Haskell.

John Francis, Jr., now Chief of the Educational division in the Washington Office, succeeds Mr. Lipps as Superintendent of the Carlisle School.

PURPOSE

Purpose, for our Indian youth, is the generator of a useful life. The man without some sort of purpose in life is but a part of the rubbish of the world. To have a purpose does not mean to aim at the impossible; it means merely setting the mind on some object or accomplishment which is within the power of the individual to reach. It may be a profession, success in business, a trade, a good home; or it may mean just to live a good, helpful life. Whatever it may be, one requirement is positively necessary—that is constancy.

Probably every young person starts out in life with a purpose that fills his whole horizon. Time passes, difficulties arise, and soon the purpose begins to grow dim, the mind wanders from the once-absorbing object, and the effort to attain it becomes weakened. Little by little the horizon fades and life ceases to be

a joy and a privilege. Here is the point: Do not allow that first wandering of the mind, that first slackening of the effort, for it is at that break the whole is shaken. It is far easier sliding down a snow bank than climbing it. So it is with the will. Once weakened in your determination and half the victory of years will slip from you. Then, if you would finally gain your purpose and thereby give to the world a useful life, you must be patient, vigilant in will, and constant in effort.

VALUE OF GOOD THOUGHTS

Happiness is the art of keeping your mind occupied with good and pleasant thoughts; for if your mind is filled with such thoughts your bodily surroundings are of no great consequence. Whatever your circumstances in life may be, if you take a cheerful view of your prospects and surroundings you have all that tends to make happiness. The power, however, of controlling our thoughts is not so easily acquired. Like all other accomplishments, it comes only through much discipline and cultivation.

Untrained minds have a tendency to produce evil thoughts, envy, hatred, jealousy, malice, discontent, and unhappiness. But if we cultivate right thinking we can substitute pleasant and soothing thoughts for those that fret and annoy. If you believe that someone has wronged you, you are not made more happy by brooding over the circumstance. Instead, bring to your memory some scene or event that has given you pleasure or profit, or give yourself up to some bright dreams of the future, and you will notice how much happier you will be. To make this change in our thoughts is very easy, but it is a difficult matter to maintain this change, and that is where the mental struggle comes in.

Eternal vigilance is necessary in order that bright, cheerful thoughts shall have the mastery, but every time the good thought comes to displace a bad one it gains strength for the next conflict. By persistent effort in watching the coming and going of your thoughts and by displacing the unhappy thoughts with something that is agreeable you can make your mind a citadel of peace and contentment. Our great need, therefore, is to know how to change annoying thoughts for those that give pleasure.