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THE VALUE IN READING

Do our Chemawa young people half appreciate the value that can be found in reading? With our very good library of 3,000 well selected volumes, all ought to be cultivating a desire for good literature. Not a few, of course, have a natural fondness for it, but a good many, no doubt, must develop the taste. The one who reads widely greatly enriches his life, for in books he gets a broader knowledge, deeper thought, and a better understanding of life in general.

If the book is a story of particular characters or a history of nations he makes acquaintance with many kinds of people, having all sorts of conditions. He finds that in their lines they must fight and overcome or lose through great hardships and difficulties. In the noble characters who win he sees models for his own life. Their thoughts and deeds help to make him better. If he reads essays or works of science he enlarges his fund of knowledge; or if it is a poem or a picturesque description he gains a little fuller appreciation of the beautiful, thereby refining his character. Indeed, whatever the nature of the literature, so it is good, his own life and the lives of those about him will be influenced more or less for the better.

When we think of the unfortunate ones who are shut in from the outside world we see readily the great advantage they might find in reading. One particular case here suggests itself: It is of a girl who had been for years unable to leave her bed on account of an injury to the spine, yet her life was rich, full and happy. In her books she had practically all she missed except the physical activity. She always referred to the characters she met in reading as "story friends." To the girl they were as real as the people of the actual world. Her brain was quick to understand, her thought clever, and her general information remarkable, all of which was largely a result of her extensive reading.

Those students who already know the pleasure and benefit to be had in reading are now laying up a big treasure for future years, while others who have not yet awakened to the great riches of the literary world are forever missing opportunities to gain in character, knowledge and happiness.

CHARACTER IS POWER

Chemawa can point with pride to quite a number of graduates, men and women, who, by persistent effort, have raised themselves above the average in their chosen work. By what means have they achieved this success? The American desires to emphasize at the outset that character is the secret of their success. And hence your leading purpose, now and always, should be to possess this more than any other power.

Many persons think that money gives success; that rich men's sons alone can tread the road called successful. If you keep your eyes open, you can see that it is not the truth; that many of the poorest boys of our country have made the best and noblest men. You may become wealthy or you may never acquire riches, but in either event, you can do more by your virtue than by your money. Your studies in school, your reading, your aim in life should all work toward this one grand object to acquire that genuine manhood containing those elements of character without which there can be no true success.

LITERARY SOCIETIES

Nonpareil

A unique program was rendered by the Nonpareil Literary Society at the last meeting, which was in the nature of a spelling contest. The members responded to roll call by naming an author and spelling the name given. Next a word building contest was held. The members were separated into two divisions, having as captains Rose O'Brien and Leona John. After ten minutes of strenuous work, the result was figured and the score showed that Miss O'Brien's division had won, to whom the first prize, a box of confectionery, was given. The individual winner was Zelina Brigham, who also received a prize. Next on the program was a spelling contest to decide who should represent the society in the coming contest. As a whole the meeting was full of spirit and enthusiasm and the members spent a profitable and enjoyable evening.

Washing windows, doors and walls in the dairy house has been the chief order of the day for the dairy force.