

3 MAY 8
COPY - 1956

I 20
2114

The Chemawa American

Printed at Chemawa, Oregon, and Devoted to the Interests of Indian Education

Vol. XXI

Wednesday, January 15, 1919

No. 14

INHARMONY

Quite a sermon may be delivered on the text, "In-harmony." This was proved just recently by Supt. Hall in a chapel talk. He voiced many truths and illumined them with statements and comparisons which made his talk most clear to all. Following is the address as given to faculty and students:

Out of step, or keeping step conveys a deeper meaning between the lines than might be noticed by the casual listener. We may be out of step in many ways besides the actual one of walking or marching.

Out of step! What do the words suggest? Dis-agreement, discord, inharmony; and we may find this in many ways. In music, no matter how well the performer may know his part, be he the smallest fraction of a note too fast or too slow, as compared with the other players, the whole effect is spoiled. He was out of step. When do we enjoy music? Only when all the instruments or voices are in accord, and although an ordinary listener might not detect the fault, it is there, known to most of the performers, and it grates on the trained ear of a connoisseur.

One may be out of step in his methods, for keeping up means progression. Teaching that answered very well a hundred years ago will not do in this age of advancement, and the successful instructor or leader will look for the best methods that are to be found and keep himself thoroughly posted regarding them. The Chinese farmer with his wooden plow of one thousand years ago would be sadly out of step with the modern agriculturist. Without progress there can be no competition. We must either advance or retrograde.

Employes may be out of step with their superintendent, teachers with their principal, or pupils with their teachers; and what is the result? Unpleasantness in every quarter. Schools have failed of success for no other reason than this, when a little yielding on the part of some-one would have settled the difficulty earlier. How often have we heard a teacher say, "If it were not for one, or two, or three pupils, I should have a perfect schoolroom," and yet these one, or two, or three pupils, in thoughtlessness or stubbornness, keep up the discord. They are out of step.

Let us see which is easier, to keep in step or out. It takes an effort to keep up. We must brace ourselves, and, without watching our neighbors, look to ourselves and see if we are alright. Perhaps some are out of step from physical weakness (they are unfortunate), and will have to leave the lines unless a change comes. Others have some hobby, fad, or mannerism, which they dislike to give up, and rather than do it they make those around them uncomfortable and unhappy.

It behooves us to examine ourselves and see whether we are out of step in any sense of the word and prevent, by our attitude, that omission of perfect harmony without which any society, school, class, or community cannot be a success. If we are out of step and cannot, or will not, keep up we shall sooner or later be left behind the ranks, and, sad to say, classed with the back numbers.

For the welfare and advancement of Chemawa and its students, as well as the faculty, we must keep in step, all pull together and work for one common, big cause—the education and training of students—throwing aside all personal feelings, pride or petty jealousies. Let us all get in step, and keep in step, throughout the year of 1919 and the good results will be amazing.

JOE GALE WRITES

Not long ago Supt. Hall received a letter from Joe Gale, a former Chemawa student who joined the colors immediately following our declaration of war against Germany. Joe was always full of enthusiasm for those things which seemed best. He has made good in the army, being now a first-class sergeant in the aero service. He wrote from "somewhere" in France. It was a good letter and we feel it a privilege to publish it, as follows:

This evening is not as full of life as usual and most of the men have gone to town to spend the evening, so I will try to let you know that I have come through this war in fine condition. I often think of you and of the wonderful work you did for me and are doing for others. Whenever I find myself in a difficult po-

(Continued on page 4)