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CHOOSE

Though the years with their tears may mar us,
As we follow life's troubled road,
And the brambles of worry may scar us,
And gloom have its sure abode:
There is much that is bright and sunny
If we look for it 'long the way;
And there's much that is quaint and funny,
In the darkest, most hum-drum day.
And it's yours for the taking, mostly—
The rose or the thorn, as you will;
The shadows of doubt, oh, so ghostly,
Or the hope-light, a-top of the hill!

—Grace E. Hall.

HARD STRUGGLES

In a recent chapel talk Supt. Hall emphasized and illustrated the necessity and importance of effort, which after all, is a synonym of struggle. He seemed in the main to be addressing the students, but his utterances were "truisms" which commend themselves to people of mature experience. His talk was made in earnestness of purpose and was received by all in the spirit in which it was delivered. He said:

For people in general the hard thing is the one most dreaded and the one to be put off for future treatment; yet there are a few who actually enjoy the difficult undertaking and place it first of all their duties and obligations. Those few are fortunate. They are the ones who will come out in the end with the strongest, truest characters. It is easy to see that the man who swings the hammer all day has a better developed muscle than the one who must spend his time in an office. So will he who struggles with hard problems and conditions become stronger in character than the man who has his way made easy. It is indeed true that the "perfect type comes from continuous struggles."

Yes, we are inclined to want the easy thing. We seek the easy place, but most of us must pay dearly for it at some time, since we cannot depend upon the continuation of favorable conditions. Therefore, if our strength and courage are developed to a point of self-confidence the hard experiences will be more easily met. School life is full of little circumstances that will bring this sort of development if the student will

only face them with determination to win. One may evade the enemy once, twice, or three times, but he must have the encounter sooner or later, and that against increased forces.

Surely our students can see the application of this to their own lives while in school. They surely know, too, that though they have trying experiences now they shall have far harder ones when the time comes to take part in the work of the unfeeling, resistless, world. "Get into the thing; grapple with it." Remember that no one can make headway by merely resolving and then side-stepping at the difficult point. Therefore, Chemawa students, do not shrink from the hard things, do not put them off, and do not give up with the first attempt at conquest, but seize them, "go into them" at once, and stick with such a masterful hand that opposing forces shall see no chance of thwarting you.

There is a tendency among people to shirk their literary training. Occasionally in our schools a request is made by a pupil to be allowed to work in some industrial pursuit all day and cut out their academic training. Such a course in a general way would be a serious mistake. In this age of enlightenment, a trained hand without a trained mind back of it is of little value. No matter what occupation you take up you will find competition great, and the boy or girl with brains is the one who will "get there."

This fact is so well known that we need not cite any proofs to verify it. But if that were not so, there is another reason why you should seek to gain all the school can give you, and that is for the pleasure and happiness it would be to you. An educated person has countless pleasures which an uneducated person does not have; and, furthermore, the academic course at Chemawa does not carry you farther than you ought to go. In fact, every bit of the outlined course of study is necessary for transacting the very ordinary duties of life.

Baseball masks, balls, bats and mits are beginning already to appear on the athletic field. At this time our prospects for a good team are rather flattering.