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The Chemawa American

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

Vol. XXI

Wednesday, February 12, 1919

No. 18

BE KIND

The chapel address of Supt. Hall on Sunday evening, February 2, was full of sound advise relative to little courtesies and kindnesses which we all owe to one-another. Kindness makes us all feel better, be we the author or recipient of it. This was all ably set forth on this occasion, as follows:

The little kindnesses that you show each other from day to day are perhaps more far-reaching in their effect than the greater things which you see others do. Kindness to each other is the thing most needed in the world and without it life in a school like ours would be unendurable. By this I mean the little deeds of thoughtfulness, little services of interest, obligingness, small courtesies, and sympathy.

The large boy who was going the way of a smaller one towards the laundry the other day and politely carried the little fellow's big bundle of clothes must have felt better himself after the act, and his attention to the smaller boy will always be remembered by the little fellow. The girl who not long ago took her seat by the side of a new-comer who appeared lonely and homesick and chatted cheerfully for awhile manifested a sympathy, and indeed a service, far greater than some of the more conspicuous acts which the public applauds.

These little kindnesses, as a rule, spring spontaneously from the heart and are often done unconsciously, and they are more beautiful on that account. Perhaps if the most commonplace person living the most commonplace life could see the far-reaching influence and importance of the little acts of kindness he has done he would be amazed. Here in school, where life is free from conventionality, you can mingle together closely and familiarly, and your mutual kindnesses will do much to lessen hardships and to give zest and happiness to your lives.

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 such bitter feeling and heartache.

This spirit of "backbiting" is not widely prevalent among 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 apparently 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 good use of his opportunities; more than likely he has always tried to tear down rather than to build up, 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 thereby both will be helped.

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

Nick Hatch is now attending Lincoln High School in Portland, being a senior.

Henry Darnell has received his discharge from the army and at present has employment in one of the Portland shipyards.

John Beyers is convalescing in a hospital in France, according to the latest reports to reach us. It is expected that ere long he will be sent home.