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NEATNESS INDICATES CHARACTER

We consider that for timeliness and demand the following talk given by Supt. Hall in chapel on Sunday evening, March 23, was not only very fine in content, but so true as to merit especial study and consideration on the part of our boys, and we believe, furthermore, that many of our girls would benefit themselves by taking heed of what the speaker said:

Has it ever occurred to our Indian students that when you entrust an important commission to an individual whom you see is neat in appearance and takes care of his clothes as well as his tools and other belongings, you are pretty sure that such commission or work will be properly executed and that the directions given will be carried out? It almost invariably follows that the student who takes proper care of his person and carefully looks after his clothes is more dependable than the careless, slovenly and untidy person. We may occasionally like a boy or girl who is of untidy appearance, although it is very rarely that such may be the case in the true sense, but to get a job done right or an important errand or commission properly carried out, you do not feel like trusting such an one.

Neatness alone will not win respect or confidence altogether, but it goes a long ways toward it. It pays, boys, to be neat and clean. If you are careless with your clothes you are generally the same way in regard to your duties. We occasionally see property destroyed, which appeared to have been done in a ruthless manner.

The students responsible for such destruction and waste are also the ones who are slovenly in habits and dress and generally unclean, and I may say, are the ones who receive the most demerit marks for breaking the rules of the school. I may further say that the neat, clean boy, the one who looks after his clothes and room, or his part of the dormitory right, is not the one who destroys property, nor is he the one who throws ink on his classmates in school and thereby damages clothing. His appreciation of the need of neatness as well as his self-respect prevents him from such pernicious practices.

Who will hire a young man or boy for responsible work who presents a slovenly and unclean appearance? Such an appearance indicates an unclean character.

The outside appearance is a reflection of the inside. Every boy here whom you notice is looking after his appearance by being clean and neat, wearing a white collar at the proper time, shoes polished, and holding himself up as a gentleman and not as a rowdy, or, as the boys term it here, a roughneck, has gone far toward solving the question of success, for success will not be achieved without the confidence of your fellow man. I have heard since my childhood days that the neat, well groomed man has ninety-nine chances for success against the slovenly man's one chance.

The army and navy system of making each man responsible from a money standpoint for all clothing, as all discharged soldiers and sailors will tell you, is a splendid system for the character of the man, even if it works a hardship occasionally. The complaint that they are lost or stolen is not accepted, but the man must pay for them just the same. And I am sorry to say we have boys here who need the application of some such system whereby their slovenly and careless habits in the care of their clothing will be rectified, and that they learn to manifest a personal pride in their appearance not only for their welfare at school but for their future.

All the interest and the joy we have is really on the side that is right and if our students will establish the habit right here at school of right living and right effort, from that time on life becomes joyful with hope for true success.

THOUGHT GEMS

It is not work that kills men, it is worry.—Beecher.

To do right for the sake of right is the true precept.—Greeley.

What a sublime doctrine it is that goodness, cherished now, is eternal life already entered upon.—Channing.

Every soul is a piece of eternity and the few years it is bound to the earthly body do not make it old.—Goethe.

I look upon the simple and childish virtues of veracity and honesty as the root of all that is sublime in character.—Emerson.