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THANKSGIVING AT CHEMAWA

Thanksgiving at the Chemawa Indian school was a day of real rejoicing and inward satisfaction. In the morning brief but appropriate exercises were held in the spacious auditorium and they were attended by the entire student body and many faculty members. Supt. Hall was in charge of the exercises, and he opened them with a short talk in which he cited our many reasons for thankfulness, drawing special attention to a comparison of this year with last year when the influenza was ravaging the land and taking loved ones in every walk of life. The program was a good one in every way.

At noon nearly every faculty member, following a custom of many years' standing at Chemawa, assembled at the large students' dining room and assisted in carving and serving the special dinner to the students. There were 105 tables set with six places at a table and each place with a printed menu—a menu fit for any occasion, or any place, or anybody. This afforded table accommodation for 630 students, but in addition to this number there were certain students whose duties forbade them dining with the main body, and the football team and a number of its followers were away—in Oregon City for a game. The room was beautifully decorated and the dinner superbly cooked and all went as “merry as a marriage bell.” The dinner was in itself cause for thanksgiving, but additional pleasure was provided in music by the Girls' Mandolin and Guitar Club under the direction of Mr. Loos.

The football team played in Oregon City against the American Legion team of that town and reports say it was an unusually fine exhibition of football that was given those on the side-lines. It must have been a matter of fight all right for the final score was 7 to 0 with Chemawa the victor. Supt. Hall received news of the victory before the team arrived home and informed the students, who staged a reception for the team when they alighted from the train that was far from a tame affair. It was a home-coming in which enthusiasm and thanksgiving seemed mixed up at about a proportion of 50-50.

In the evening there was a social in the large gymnasium which was attended by nearly all students, and faculty members, too. All in all, from early morn until late at eve, Thanksgiving Day at Chemawa was one the observance of which was in accordance

with the best traditions that follow the observance of a day that dawned with the advent of the Pilgrim Fathers on the barren coast of New England. “To be truly thankful a person must be happy” seemed to be the thought uppermost in the mind of Supt. Hall, for he worked on that plan—and all were happy.

EGYPTIAN EMBALMING

Recently we noticed in an exchange where the question had been asked as to the means employed by the ancient Egyptians in preparing the dead for burial. No doubt many of our subscribers will be pleased to read an account of the processes of embalming bodies of the dead as practiced by the people of by-gone ages, hence we submit the following:

Bodies of poorer classes were simply dried in sand or washed in myrrh and then salted for a period of 70 days. Those of wealthier classes whose relatives were able to pay large sums for embalmer's services were subjected to elaborate, complicated operations and were then carefully wrapped in expensive cloth and adorned with various ornaments. Usually the brain and viscera were removed and the body was immersed in solution of natron (sodium carbonate) for a time. It was then steeped in balsam. Various antiseptic and preservative substances were introduced into it and also applied to cloth bandages in which it was wrapped. Among substances found within and about Egyptian mummies are asphaltum, sulphate of soda, saltpeter, salt, soda, oil of cedar, turpentine, myrrh and cinnamon.

OUR POSSESSIONS

It is well for all of us to stop and take stock of ourselves and our nation as well sometimes, lest in our negligence or forgetfulness we overlook or underestimate some stock of vital importance and material value. The “outlying” possessions of the United States constitute territories or districts concerning which the general public is poorly informed.

Alaska, Hawaii, the Philippines and Porto Rico have governors appointed by the president. Alaska is an unorganized territory or district, without any legislative body, being governed by laws passed by the federal congress. Hawaii is an organized territory, having its own legislature. The Philippines and Porto Rico have provisional governments established by the federal congress. The governments of Guam, the isthmian Canal Zone and Tutuila are administered by governors appointed by the president. In addition to these the U. S. possesses Wake island and a number of scattered small islands in the Pacific, all of them small and some hardly more than rocks or coral reefs.