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BE SAVING

In this day and age of the world conditions demand that a wise person look into the future with a view to saving something for the later years of life, when old age may have incapacitated him, or in case of some accident or catastrophe. On the evening of February 15th Supt. Hall in an address to the students in chapel give many excellent bits of advice, as follows:

I have observed that many of our students at Chemawa fritter away their money uselessly, carelessly and seemingly without regard to any possible opportunity they may have to secure more. The use and abuse of money is not in its winning, but in its spending. The great mass of people generally deal in small sums, both in income and outgo. The amounts that you students, as a rule, spend is not deemed of much consequence to you and I see that many of you fail to give much thought one way or the other in regard to its value. Just here lies the great fault in nearly all mankind.

The ability to accumulate money and property is closely related to the way in which the first beginnings toward saving are treated. And this is true more in the spending than in the earning. Observation has shown in numerous cases where two young people start out under practically the same conditions, having equal intelligence, earnestness, or academic or vocational training, the same kind of a job with equal pay. Twenty years later, more or less, one is found rich, the other poor.

If you examine into this state of affairs you will find that the successful one had been "thrifty," he had taken care of his earnings with patience and perseverance, first in small amounts, then in larger, and had invested it with great care; his money began earning something for him; later he found an opportunity where a modest capital meant his great start in business, and in judicious handling of his business we eventually find him a rich man.

The other fellow was careless with his money, made no savings, did not deny himself luxuries or pleasures—was a general good fellow. But there always comes a time when the truth is forced on a spendthrift that poverty hurts and wealth counts, and that the opportunity once passed seldom returns. Money comes to you students in one of two ways: It is given to you or you must earn it. If it comes as wages of honest toil it is usually appreciated for what it is worth.

While you are young money is almost wholly spent for personal needs and pleasures without much thought for the future, and the habit of reckless spending and lack of saving grows. But it is a proven fact that nine times out of ten the man who in earlier years, of small earnings and light responsibilities, has not saved from one-quarter to one-half of his wages, no matter how small they may have been, will never in later years save anything worth while, no matter how much his income. He spends as he goes.

And so, boys and girls, whether it be nickles, dimes or dollars, or thousands in your hands, and whether the same is earned, inherited or given you, character is made or marred and success shaped by the way you spend it. Strong and successful men in business—large or small—invariably have a system by which accurate records are kept, and they follow fixed permanent habits of principles essential to sound, safe business. But two rules are always followed: First, expenditure within your income by a margin to be fixed at the beginning, not at the end of the year, month by month, and adhered to. Second, twice as much money put into articles of permanent value, or things worth while, as into needless indulgences, such as candy, "eats," and other frivolities.

It is the nickles and dimes that count. If you take care of the nickles and dimes the dollars will take care of themselves. The man who sits down on the last day of the year and wonders where his money has all gone, need not be feared much in this race of life. This applies strongly to our students, many who have accumulated considerable sums during the outing season, sufficient to supply all their needs through the entire year if properly handled. Those who have the character and steady force to use this money in the right way, always make it fill all requirements throughout the year, but the one who is a good fellow, good spender, weak and so forth, is broke before Christmas, or soon after.

This condition produces discontent with life in general and such students frequently endeavor to modify it by leaving school, which is the most harmful thing they can do for their own welfare.

I want to emphasize this fact, that the habit of spending by impulse, once fixed, is seldom broken, and the man or woman who has this habit is forced at last to admit that poverty hurts, for as a rule such a one has not saved for that "rainy day" and the final outcome is much unhappiness for himself and for those who depend upon him.

I leave these thoughts with you in the hope that you may think and act on them for your own benefit as well as for those who may depend upon you later in life.