

*371.975

8516

v.22

OREGON STATE LIBRARY

MAR 13 1920

OREGON
COLLECTION

The Chemawa American

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

Vol. XXII

Wednesday, March 3, 1920

No. 21

ANOTHER MILE-STONE PASSED

The Fortieth Anniversary of the Birthday of Chemawa—the Great School.

HON. HENRY C. SICADE MADE STRONG ADDRESS

Superintendent Hall Made Honorary Member of Tribes of Pacific Coast Indians.

On the evening of February 25, 1920, there assembled in the auditorium at Chemawa a large concourse of people, old and young, to show honor to the school in the exercises that commemorated the fortieth anniversary of our beloved institution. Supt. Hall presided, and the speaker of the evening and members of our alumni association were seated on the platform with him. An orchestral number started the program and there were numbers by the Girls' Octet, the Girls' Mandolin and Guitar Club, a vocal solo by Charles Williams, and a 'cello solo by George Barrett. All of the numbers were well rendered and well received. The general verdict was that the Octet Girls had never before sang so well as on this occasion.

Mr. Reginald Downie, an alumni member and an employe, was called on for a few remarks and responded in a manner both able and entertaining. He reminded all of the great expenditure of funds in the creation and maintenance of an institution such as Chemawa and that the payment for the same should come in the way of perfected man- and womanhood, through the paths of education and industrial effort. It was a good talk.

At the proper moment Supt. Hall made some very appropriate remarks and voiced his pleasure in introducing the speaker of the evening, Hon. Henry C. Sicade of Tacoma, Wash., who at once arose to address the vast assemblage. The address was in many ways remarkable. He held the closest attention of all and there were interspersed throughout his discourse bits of humor and the most serious statements of facts. It was splendid; we enjoyed it all and are delighted to publish it, as follows:

SUPERINTENDENT, STUDENTS OF CHEMAWA, AND FRIENDS:

Forty years ago today I came to Oregon. All big things as a rule have small beginnings. I was one of the first 18 students who formed or started what is now the Chemawa school. What I always recall most distinctly was my first "bawling out" at Forest Grove. I brought up at the rear of the crowd and the old Captain "bawled" me out because I was rubbering around

and had strayed from the fold.

I have always looked forward to coming here to visit your school and this is my first opportunity in forty years. I wanted to come, but somehow things always prevented me. I hope I may be alive when you have your fiftieth anniversary so that I may again be with you. I think I will be alive then—will try anyway.

I believe I am addressing real 100-percent Americans—I am proud to be with you. During the war a great many of our boys enlisted and "went over." I had the honor to be the registrar down in my section. I was too old to go, I had too big a family, and the government did not want to support them, but I registered hundreds of men for war service and when I made my report to the draft board they asked me: "How many Indian boys did you register?" I walked away from the clerk and said, "Very few." He asked, "What is the matter?" I answered, "Mr. Hubbard, they are already gone." Some had gone to the navy, some to the army, and some to British Columbia to join the British forces. I said to him, "They do not have to register." Down there Cushman has a little service flag—I was just admiring the bunch of stars on your flag. That school is composed mostly of small boys and girls, and that school—I am proud to say, my school—sent 76 to the war and of that number only six were drafted and two of these entered the service before they were called. Now, that is our record. I don't know what your record is but I notice that here on the platform there are ex-soldiers and it makes me proud.

Now, boys and girls, when you go back to your people do not be ashamed to be an Indian. I have known people that have Indian blood who feigned other nationalities. Don't do this, because we are 100-percent Americans.

Your Superintendent has asked me to speak of the early days. A great many things have happened in forty years and I have forgotten much. However, I want to tell you this: We came to Forest Grove with a purpose—to better ourselves, to get an education, and we had high ideals set for us. Why, our people at home expected us to return from school as ship owners, mill owners, etc., and one old chief whispered to me, "Don't you come back unless you wear the Governor's hat." I think we disappointed them. We did not jar the world when we got back, but we have been plugging right along. We have had to work.

I want to relate an incident: When we arrived at

(Continued on page 4)