



# The Chemawa American

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

Vol. XXVII

Wednesday, February 10, 1926

No. 20

## CONCIENCE IN WORK

Not long ago we heard a man who had finished a piece of work say: "There, I am willing to stand for that piece of work; it is done as well as I can do it; done to a complete finish. I will stand for that. I am willing to be judged by it."

Our greatest desire is for the students at Chemawa to be so trained in every branch of work taught here that each of them, wherever detailed, may be enabled to put such quality into their work that any one who comes across anything they have done will see character in it, individuality in it, a trade mark of superiority in it, let it be farming, gardening, dairying, any of the mechanical trades, cleaning yards, home making, home economics, or what not.

Your reputation is at stake in everything you do, and your reputation is your capital. Not one of our students can afford to do a poor job, or let anything that is inferior go out of his hands. Every bit of your work, no matter how unimportant or trivial it may seem, should be done to a "complete finish;" you should regard every task that goes through your hands as a part of your very self; it should be the very best you can do—the best that you are able to produce.

There is nothing like accuracy, like being grounded in thoroughness, like always striving for excellence. No other characteristic makes such a strong impression as the habit of being painstaking, careful and accurate. We all know that if a young person puts conscience into his work from principle, not from the standpoint of something else, but because there is something in him which refuses to accept anything from himself but the best, that such a person is honest and made of good material.

We have known many instances where advancement hinged upon the little overplus of interest, of painstaking, honest endeavor being put forth by students—on their doing a little better than was expected of them. How many of you realize that we keep an eye on the student who has the stamp of excellence upon him, who takes pains with his work, who does it to a finish? We know that kind of a student has a future. And, sad to state, we also know of those who are not dependable, those who shirk, those who botch up their jobs.

The secret of success here at Chemawa is to do the common little things uncommonly well. It is also the secret of success anywhere. The majority of our young people do not seem to see that the steps which lead to a fine reputation, to complete success, are constructed little by little by the faithful performance of the common, humble every-day duties, the dry routine, in doing the ordinary things well. It is the young man or woman who sees on uncommon chance in a common job, an humble detail, who really grasps the opportunities hidden in these simple services.

It is doing things a little better than those about you, being a trifle neater, a little more accurate, more observant; it is ingenuity in finding new ways of doing old things; it is in being a little more polite, more obliging, more tactful, more cheerful, than those about you that attracts the attention of people. The main value of your career lies in allowing nothing to enter your life that will lower your ideals—lower your standard of quality.

Young men, young women, if there is that in your natures which demands the best and will accept nothing less; if you persist and insist on keeping up your standard in everything you do you will achieve distinction in some line. You must never be satisfied with the cheap, the botched, the slovenly. It is the constant effort to be first-class in everything you attempt that conquers.

We have been much impressed with a motto once made prominent in a large department store, it read: "Where only the best is good enough." Adopt it as your very own; hang it in your bedroom and weave it into the texture of everything you do.

## DOMESTIC SCIENCE NOTES

We have been busy this week preparing meals for basketball teams which have been playing here. The domestic science department has established a reputation for good meals, which we hope it may always keep.

Josephine Racine supplied as a practice leader one day this week for the sixth grade cooking class. Martha Orsen is leader in the sewing in Mrs. Cardy's department.

The tenth grade girls prepared the luncheon which was served at the employees' party on Monday night of last week. Every one says it was delicious, especially the cakes, which were made by Ivy Dupuis and Oxenia Hendrickson.