

The CHEMAWA AMERICAN

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NO DIPHTHERIA IN OREGON BY 1930

The Oregon State Board of Health at its annual meeting in Salem, Tuesday, January 11th, adopted this slogan and placed itself on record favoring an intensive campaign for the eradication of diphtheria. The highest authorities on public health administration are agreed that diphtheria can be practically made to disappear by a simple and harmless procedure. Science has developed an agent which will protect susceptible persons, especially the young, against diphtheria.

Diphtheria is an important cause of death in the State of Oregon, especially in its attack on children. In 1926 there were 931 cases with 60 deaths from diphtheria, while in 1925 there were 1370 cases and 101 deaths.

In the effort to eradicate diphtheria by the end of 1930 it will be necessary to immunize, or protect, every susceptible child in the state.

Diphtheria is a scourge which has a most insidious onset and one of the most fatal in consequence.

Among the leading causes for the prevalence of diphtheria in this state are the following:

1. The presence in the state of a large number of susceptible individuals, especially young children.
2. The presence in schools of "carriers" of the diphtheria germ.
3. Neglect by parents or guardians to obtain expert attention for children in the early stage of this disease.
4. Failure to report some cases of diphtheria with a resultant disregard of proper quarantine regulations.
5. Failure to diagnose and to treat the disease with sufficient doses of the specific remedy.

The old way was to wait until the child had diphtheria and then make a desperate effort to save its life. Diphtheria antitoxin as a curative measure has reduced the number of deaths from this disease about one-half. Diphtheria antitoxin was used and still is used to cure this disease. But we also have at our command a substance called toxin-antitoxin which will protect susceptible children against diphtheria. The newer way is to prevent diphtheria by immuniz-

ing the children against the disease while they are well, thereby saving untold suffering.

LOCAL

Miss Skipton is off duty on sick leave.

Charley Morgan returned from Spokane on Saturday evening.

Indian children to the number of 37,730 are now attending district and public schools.

Misses Eakin and Judd were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Downie at The Club last Sunday.

Mr. Fisher has disposed of his five-passenger Essex car and is now driving a coupe of the same make.

In spite of the snow and cold of the past week every department of our school functioned normally. Not so bad, eh?

The students of the school will regret to learn of the death of Wallace Hatch on Jan. 18. Wallace was a member of the Sophomore Class.

Last week on Wednesday evening, we had the first snow of the winter, and it was pretty cold, too, for this part of the world. However, our young people reveled in it.

Kind thoughts attend the student details of gardeners and farmers for volunteering to haul wood to the power house during the recent cold snap with its attendant fuel oil shortage. We can almost say "bless the boys."

Ice skates were at a premium during a part of last week. Some of our students who owned ice skates had waited here for two years for sufficient ice to skate. It seems really true that "everything comes to him who waits"—if he waits long enough.

The girls' details changed on Monday. This is always a time of anxiety for all. The instructors in the various departments speak well of their last details and are hopeful that the new details will do as well as their predecessors in the departments in which they are now placed.

The senior boys had last Sunday evening's chapel exercises in charge and Jack Abraham acted as chairman on this occasion. The boys had secured as speaker of the evening Mr. Ronald Glover, a prominent attorney of Salem. It has seldom been our pleasure to listen to a talk of greater interest or of better advice. The topic for discussion was "Things We Know That Are Unseen," and was most ably handled. In addition to the address of Mr. Glover the orchestra played "Devotion" by Mackie-Beyer, Raymond Haldane sang "By the Side of the Road" by Weeks, Clifford McLeod gave a recitation and a septet of boys sang "Spanish Moon" by Johnson.