

CHEMAWA AMERICAN

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

Vol. XXIX

Wednesday, May 16, 1928

No. 32

HOW MAN CAME TO FIND THE GREAT SPIRIT

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In the olden time, when woods covered all the earth except the desert and river bottoms, and men lived on fruits and berries, or the wild animals which they could snare; when they dressed in skins and lived in caves; there was little time for thought. To keep life in the body meant work and "foxy" thinking.

As men grew stronger and more cunning, learned how to live together for the better welfare of all, they had more time to think. By learning from each other they gained new thoughts and things to think about.

The old, old Indian had learned many things. He had learned that cold weather followed hot; that spring, the growing grass season, followed winter, the cold snowy season. They saw the sun get up every morning and go to bed before dark. They knew the great water was kind when the sun shone, but when he hid his face and the wind blew upon the water that it grew black and angry and upset their canoes. They found that by knocking flints together, or rubbing dry sticks together, that fire could be made and that flames would bring back summer in the middle of winter, and day in the middle of night. They learned that the fire must be fed to live and that when it escaped it devoured the woods and only water could stop it.

These things and many others the Indians learned, but no one knew the how or why of it all. The Indians began to wonder and try to figure out why many things were, as they existed. That "wondering up the path of knowledge" which was an unseen line connecting all men's thinking ability led them to the Great Spirit.

At this time when the Indians' minds began to wonder there was born a boy whose name was "Wo," which meant "Whence." As he lay in his mother's arms she loved him and wondered about his body, "a part of her body, but from whence comes the life—the spirit which is like mine, but yet not like it?"

The father seeing the wonder in the mother's eyes said, "Where did he come from?" There was no one to answer and so they called him "Wo" to remind them that they knew not from whence he came.

As the years went by he grew to be strong, hand-

some and wise, and at once became the leader of his tribe. He began to wonder from whence came the wondrous things of nature and its doings? He could not solve the wonders that had been mysteries to his people. He pondered over these mysteries and decided to go to the land of the setting sun and find the great mysteries that baffled them. He at once started on this journey.

He traveled day and night without stopping to rest except when tired almost to exhaustion. When he rested his body his mind wondered on, and on, and on, collecting the mental power of all men. He suffered great hardships and many dangers, but still he kept going ahead. He came to the top of the Great Mountain that he thought was the home of the sun but found that the sun's home lay beyond a vast stretch of water. He was weak and tired. He fell on his back and called through his parched lips, but no answer came to his questions. Later he fell into a deep sleep.

As he slept a great dream came upon him and a voice said: "Wo, I am He whom thou seekest, I am the Great Spirit. I am the Father of all. Ever since I made man of dirt and water I have called you the children of the earth and brothers to all living creatures. I gave you life, I gave you of my breath and of my blood. You are my child. All of your tribe are my children. I have waited for many winters for a seeker who would find me."

Wo said, "My body is of earth and will go back to earth; my spirit is mine, for you gave it to my body, and I make it better or worse as I wish to do."

The Great Spirit told Wo that he had found him because his heart was pure and his search tireless. He said, "Go back to your tribe and be the voice of the Great Spirit. From now on I will speak to you and your seekers that come after you in a thousand voices and appear in a thousand shapes. I will speak in the voices of the woods and streams of those you love. I will appear to you in the sun by day and the stars by night. My forests shall be your forests."

Wo awakened. The sun was rising. Its warm rays filled his soul with gladness. He journeyed back to his people with a light heart and a happy spirit.

When he arrived at home his people greeted him

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