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CHEMAWA AMERICAN

OREGON
COLLECTION

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

Vol. XXX

Wednesday, Nov. 21, 1928

No. 5

A PUBLIC SCHOOL AND CHEMAWA

By CLARICE PARR, Chemawa Student

Until now all of my school years, both grade and high, were spent at Adams Public School. This school had an enrollment of about one hundred and twenty pupils. In coming to Chemawa I found a vast difference between the discipline of a public school and that of a government school.

This place is an institution, and all educational institutions must have rules for both day and night, because the pupils are under discipline from the time they enter in September until they leave in June.

In the public school our athletic activities were directed by a supervisor from Whitman College. This work was very good. Yet in a small high school like ours it did not work so well, because we did not have the requisite number of pupils to work with. Here the athletic activities are more numerous, more beneficial, and more entertaining. In a public school that part of my work seemed only to be a pastime. Here at Chemawa it is part of one's education and we get a lot out of it. That is because here we have nearly one thousand, and numbers make a great difference.

Our social activities, too, differed greatly from these at Chemawa. At our parties and dances we had the privilege of doing things as we pleased. And usually our parties never ended until eleven or twelve o'clock. At Chemawa it is different; we older pupils know it is better for us to go home earlier, get our rest, and protect our health. For what good is an education without health? We realize that our social activities should be directed by the people running the school. I think we realize that the hours given us are very reasonable, because we get the amount of sleep that we should have.

At a public school one has more privileges. Here we have rules and regulations that we are bound and ordered to obey. But could this be expected to be otherwise in a school of this kind and size? What would happen if the pupils were allowed to go where they pleased, come when they pleased, and do as they pleased? It would cause disorder in every way, and the standard of the school would go down instead of up.

I am very glad that I was a student in a public school before I came here. It gives a chance to compare the educational advantages. A public school does not

furnish a student with such excellent industrial training as Chemawa furnishes. Here there is everything that is needed to work with. If one takes advantage of all the instruction given in that line, he or she will be well equipped to go out into the world and make a good living and not be a burden on society like some of the folks Supt. Lipps described in his recent excellent talk at assembly.

Some folks think to leave home and go away to school is like going to college. It is true we have all left home to come here, but we are not in college. While here at high school we are learning that it is our duty to ourselves and to society to get all we can, for so many things are offered to us here. Students who go to college are old enough to think for themselves and know what they are there for, and besides colleges are not organizations like Indian Schools.

I think Indian parents are wise in sending their children to a government school for at least part of the time. It gives the pupils a chance to learn more intimately about the lives of each other. If one is selfish he soon learns there are others to whom he can lend a helping hand. If he knows only his home life he learns about others and can be more sympathetic, because some of us are from homes better than others. This association teaches us some things that we could never learn from books. After all, we are educated not for ourselves alone, but for others as well.

A public school does not require one to attend church. When we are at home we are apt to go when we feel like it, and possibly some of us never go. Here we are expected to go every Sunday. This is a good thing for young people, for it will teach them the habit. Even after we leave here we may not go so regularly, and neither will we forget the lessons learned on Sunday.

LIFE OF CHARLES DICKENS

Compiled by CHARLES MOTCHMAN, Chemawa Student

Charles Dickens was born at Landport, in Portsea, on the south coast of England, Feb. 7, 1812. He was the second of eight children. His early days were far from being happy, although both his parents were alive to look after him. That is exactly what neither of them did.

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