

CHEMAWA AMERICAN

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THE TAIL OF A DOG

Let all give serious consideration to the tale of a dog's tail about to be related, for attached to this tale (tail) is a moral second to none. It has often been stated, and with truth, forsooth, that habits are hard to break, be they good or bad. It is said that one can learn new maxims far more readily than he can break an established habit. And we believe this, as is proved by the "tail of the dog."

For many years the school has been the home of a dog known to all as "Bobbie," who has been a real pal for the students. Who does not love a dog? We all recall the statement in one of George Elliot's books: "If you want a friend buy a dog." There is a world of truth in this statement, for many dogs are almost human; so near it, in fact, that they form habits that are hard to break.

With the passing of the years "Bobbie" developed the habit of chasing Southern Pacific trains off of the school campus as they undertook to rumble by on a schedule fast or slow. Scoldings did no good—"Bobbie" continued his chasing and eventually the habit had a firm hold on him. He became more and more determined to show the trains a "thing or two" and waxed both careless and overbold. In one of his bold sorties he engaged his enemy at close quarters and the train cut his tail off fairly high up. "Bobbie" was a sick dog for a time and we thought he had "lost the habit." But with the healing of his tail the habit returned, and the chase was on again. In time our pal bumped into the train as it whizzed past and lost an eye. Did this cure his bad habit? No. Minus one eye and nearly all the tail he ever owned "Bobbie" is still chasing S. P. trains.

So much for the "tail of a dog." Well, we fancy some of our readers will say, "What of it?" Just this: Our little story should prove the force of habit. A bad habit has as great a hold on one as a good one and habits are hard to break. It would seem that the experiences of "Bobbie" would have cured him, but they didn't. And yet after all, sad to relate, we have known people who succeeded in breaking bad habits no better than did our dog. Does it not seem that a human being should do better than a dog? It will prove a matter worthy of experimentation.

CHRISTMAS TUBERCULOSIS SEALS

The Salem Indian School entered into the Christmas spirit by buying and selling \$80.00 worth of Tuberculosis seals. Some of us bought only a nickel's worth and some as much as a dollar's worth. All of us were eager to put in our nickels and dimes to help fight Tuberculosis.

This is the first time that Chemawa has ever undertaken to sell these seals. Other years are coming in which we hope the present record will be often surpassed.—ROBERT PERKINS, Student.

Miss Mary Fake, Marion County Christmas Seal sales chairman, writing from Salem to Principal Mote regarding Chemawa's commendable activity says:

I am sorry I was not at home to thank you personally for your very fine returns for your Christmas seal sale at the school. We are very grateful to you and all of the students for the fine interest and unselfish giving toward this very worth while work.

I am enclosing the bond which you asked for. And I am also sending in a separate package a book for your library. I am sure that all who read the life of Dr. Trudeau will find it very inspirational and our Seal Sale Committee presents the book to the students with many thanks for their part in the 1929 Seal Sale.

With very best wishes to all, and will look forward to next year in relying upon the school as our District, with 10 seals per capita sold. Yours is the best report sent in so far.

After seventeen years of faithful service as a Catholic priest at Chemawa Father Gall was retired and took his departure for Mount Angel last Saturday. Knowing him intimately during all of these years we can sense his feeling on parting with Chemawa, his flock, and his friends, all dear to his heart. In every way he fulfilled his mission here with the greatest devotion—a friend to all. We shall miss him, but we shall ever wish him all the peace possible for body and soul, both here and hereafter.

A week ago a heavy fall of snow covered the Willamette Valley to a depth of nearly a foot. The snow storm has not been confined to the valley, or the state, or the Pacific coast, but appears to be nation-wide. It has been quite cold here, that is, for the valley, and there has been sufficient ice for skating. There are folks in large numbers at Chemawa who revelled in the conditions prevailing here during the past week or two, but they are composed almost entirely of our "younger set," not of plumbers, or engineers, nor is "ye scribe" on the list. It is hard on our woodpile and our oil tank and we are hopeful that the cold weather cannot last much longer. As it is, we fear that much damage will be done our fruit trees and that the price of beef will raise.