

#7, 12, 16, 34

CHEMAWA AMERICAN

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

Vol. XXXII

Wednesday, Sept. 10, 1930

No. 1

PRIDE ENOUGH TO WORK

The right brand of pride in self is a great asset for anyone who is fortunate enough to possess it. Do you, reader, believe in advancement—in progress? If so, do you wish to advance yourself, or do you imagine that the matter of progress is for somebody else—the other fellow?

If you do not wish to advance, to better yourself, it is a sure sign that you are lacking in something, and the probabilities are that it is in self-pride. You lack pride in yourself and in your achievements. A proper amount of pride in one-self is a splendid thing when it comes to what in every-day parlance we call "getting there." It holds a person up to the mark. It keeps alive the desire that nobody shall out-do you in a given thing. Yes, pride is a fine thing—a most necessary thing.

The desire to excel in a legitimate way is most commendable, but just the "desire" alone is not enough, you must set your desire to work—get it a job and keep it at work. The desire (call it pride, if you wish) should spur one on to get there—should inspire one to do his best. It should stimulate a healthy interest in the achievement, or the production, of some thing, and this in turn will make of you, or of me, or of the "other fellow," a more efficient person. As an efficient man or woman all of us are of greater value as employes or leaders in this work-a-day world of ours and can command and receive more for our endeavors. There is no gainsaying this. It is true. The right sort of pride, mixed with industry, will put all of us a step forward, and higher. Let us try!

Do any of our students fancy that anything worth while can be accomplished without thought and effort? We wonder if any are foolish enough to dream that if they continue to enroll at the school that some fine morning they will awaken and find that they are all-wise? Perish the thought! A good education is a possession beyond price. Money cannot buy an education. No-one can become an educated person without laboring to that end. And it is true that many of our most highly educated and scholarly men and women have had very little money back of them in their struggles for an education. Pride and desire are great factors in securing anything, be it an education which makes for efficiency, for letters, for art—for anything of real value which assists in making the world better and ennobling mankind.

Whether we elect to be somebody of class and consequence or a drone, lies with ourselves. Self-pride should cause us to decide rightly. Our mental attitude will betray us—it will tell what we are by impelling us toward the commission of certain deeds. So long as your mental attitude remains as it is today you will do as you do today. When your mental attitude changes your course of action will be different. When you reach the point where you take pride in both yourself and your task you will have traveled far on the road to success and all that for which success stands. On the other hand, if you lack pride in yourself and have no desire to progress it is certain that you will remain right where you are, or, if you move at all, it will be down the ladder instead of up it.

There is a drone in every hive, but, alas! they are as useless in one hive as in another. The world was never in greater need of efficient men and women than now, and it seems that henceforth this need is certain to grow rather than diminish. This assures a good future for the efficient and industrious person, but it does not augur well for drones. In fact, reading the handwriting on the wall, one sees less and less for the drone. Bees unceremoniously kill their drones and man may evolve to the point where he will do likewise. Keep your name off of the drone list.

Shame upon the man or woman, young or old, who does not wish to be efficient! Go where we will we see on every hand people who have worked for years at a given thing and yet have not learned the fundamental principles underlying the production of a certain commodity, although it was through that production that they gained their living. Let all readers ask themselves: How do I stand in efficiency? Would anybody desire my services enough to pay for them? Is my mental attitude right?

The right sort of pride is an asset. Pride to do right by one-self and others.

Last week Mr. Edward Kash Kash and Mr. Ellis Kipp paid Chemawa a visit. The former is from Lapwai, Idaho, while Mr. Kipp's home is in Kamiah, Ida. They were taken over our plant by Supt. Lipps, who is an old friend of our guests. It is always a pleasure for us to chronicle a visit made our school by our up-standing Indian friends. They are always welcome here.