

Chemawa American

A tri-weekly paper devoted to Indian education. Published and printed on every third Friday during the school year by the students of the Chemawa Vocational School, Chemawa, Oregon

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—EDITORIAL—

Fifty-eight years ago the sun shone on the first buildings of Chemawa, the plain board structures that were the school's first buildings in Forest Grove. Through years of proper management, this was the "acorn" from which grew the mighty oak of today, the Chemawa of 1938. Though much labor, careful planning, and patience, the school had a start to bring success and benefits to the Indian children of many generations.

Before this, year after year, the offspring of the Indian race grew up and learned to hunt, fish and to combat the obstacles of nature, but it was impossible to go beyond that, and they were ignorant of the many interesting and helpful things that the "whites" practiced. To them it was far beyond their reach to acquire this so called "education."

Then, in 1880, the message came to them that far away across the hills, plains, valleys, and rivers was a "Happy Home," a place where Indians could learn and after years of training could go out and find their rightful place in the world or return to their reservations and better their living conditions.

Like the oak, Chemawa also grew with the passing years. Its enrollment grew from the original 18 to 1100 students at one time. Its buildings and vocational and academic facilities under went a great transformation into the modern Chemawa of today.

Incidentally the word Chemawa means "happy home." It has been just that to many young people who have spent happy years upon its premises. Every student leaves Chemawa with a regret, a regret that like everything else, days in Chemawa also have to come to an end.

—MARJORY WYNNE

On February 25, 1938, Chemawa celebrates her fifty-eighth anniversary. Memories of former birthdays, may be recalled by the many graduates and students who have attended this great institution in years.

Down through the years, from February 25, 1880, up to the present time, Chemawa has progressed forward. By keeping step each year to the ever changing conditions, many improvements have been made. The dormitories which were at first rude dwellings have been replaced by modern brick buildings. Both vocational and academic courses are available here. Hundreds of Indian boys and girls from many different states have attended Chemawa. They have found that she is all that her name implies, a "Happy Home."

Let us put forth our best efforts to raise the standards of the old Alma Mater still higher. By doing this we will show our appreciativeness to our school for the opportunities received.

—VERNA RIGGS

Chemawa has been visited by four presidents of the United States. By President Garfield in 1880; by President Harrison in 1891; by President Roosevelt in 1904; and by President Taft in 1909.

DANCE ORCHESTRA FAVORS SCHOOL WITH COMPLETE CHAPEL PROGRAM

In the auditorium on Sunday evening, February 6th, the Rhythm Chiefs displayed some heretofor hidden talent by furnishing the entire program. They started the evening off by presenting a short skit, the object of which was advertising for musicians and having their auditions before they were hired. A number of shabbily clothed individuals, supposedly musicians answered the advertisements. After arguing among themselves as to who should play which instrument they finally reached an agreement. They became a success as an orchestra after many months of practice.

While the stage was being cleared for the next presentation statistics of the campus were given by Joe Shippentower.

Following the skit, the orchestra played a number of various selections. During the brief intervals, a tap dance was presented by William Saluskin and a song, "Once In Awhile," by Clifford Day. The orchestra also gave an imitation of Cab Calloways orchestra. Then to the delight of the students, Henry Arnoux presented his "special" dance.

The Rhythm Chiefs are to be complimented for their fine performance.

PROTESTANT GROUP PRESENTS CHURCH PROGRAM IN OREGON CITY

Mrs. Kitzmiller and a few of her Protestant choir members presented a very interesting program at the First Methodist Church in Oregon City, Sunday night, Feb. 6.

The topic presented was "Christian Adventures." Rosemary Young, the Chairman, led the program with an Indian song sung in her Indian tongue. She also sang "In the Garden." Dorothy Southern sang "Jesus calls us."

The girls quintet which is originally part of the regular Sextet, presented two songs, "Wium" and "Hear Thy Lover's Cry." Five topics were spoken on by five of the students on Christian Adventures. The students were Lovey Jackson, Zena Hogsed, Wilson Spencer, Dorothy Jones and Florence Booth. The program was concluded by the benediction.