

The Chemawa American

Published Weekly at the United States Indian Training School.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, 25 CENTS A YEAR. CLUBS OF FIVE OR OVER 20 CENTS

Entered at the Chemawa, Oregon, Postoffice as second-class mail matter.

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COMMISSIONER LEUPP'S RESIGNATION.



HON. FRANCIS E. LEUPP.

We give below the full text of Mr. Leupp's resignation, together with the reply of the President.

June 8, 1909.

MY DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

Three months ago, when at your personal request I withdrew my resignation,

I did so in good faith, believing that I should find it practicable to continue my work as Commissioner of Indian Affairs for a considerable period still. The experiment has not proved a success. I have found myself more tired than I supposed, and shall need a longer resting spell than I can afford to take with the responsibilities of office on me. I am physically as sound as ever, but for my fagged nerves. Very much to my regret, therefore, I shall have to ask you to release me from my promise, and let me carry out my original plan of resigning my commission so that I can spend the whole coming season in the mountain country unweighted with the anxieties which heretofore proved fatal to my every attempt at a real vacation.

As the Indian Office is now in fine working order, and its machinery in the hands of a competent corps of men, all identified with the progressive policies we have been pursuing, I feel that there could be no more opportune time than the present for my retirement, and shall ask to be relieved at the close of business on June 15, or as soon thereafter as suits your convenience. I have communicated my purpose to nobody outside of my own family except yourself, Secretary Ballinger and Assistant Commissioner Valentine. In maintaining this secrecy I have had in view not only my obligation to you, but the desire to avoid the pain of taking formal leave of the members of my official staff, whose loyalty has won for them a very warm place in my heart.

The sympathetic approval you have given to the work done by the Indian Service during the last four and one-half years, leads me to hope that my successor may be one who will carry it forward along the same constructive