

Chapel Talk

By Chief Supervisor H. B. Peairs

It is a great pleasure for me to be here at Chemawa once again. I do not suppose there are many present that were here when I visited the school thirteen years ago, at least not many of the students, and at that time, I was here only a few hours and saw very little of the institution.

Throughout this country there are several large Indian Training Schools which have stood for certain things, institutions which have stood out among the many institutions of similar kinds, as having accomplished certain definite things and having made for themselves a reputation, as institutions of real worth—as having character—and among these schools has been Chemawa. We speak of people having good or bad characters and so institutions have characters, and these institutions stamp their students who come and go, and I say to you that I believe that this institution has been one of those which has stamped its students, and has been known as an institution of character and an institution which is doing great good for the Indian people.

It is a great pleasure to visit you and it is a pleasure to become better acquainted with such an institution. It is my pleasure to visit a good many schools which are conducted for boys and girls. It has been my privilege to work with Indian boys and girls for a long term of years. I feel more at home with Indian boys and girls and those who work with Indian boys and girls. I feel like calling you employes and Indian boys and girls "My friends."

It was my pleasure sometime ago to

be in a large crowd of Indians who were perfect strangers to me, except perhaps a few of the Indian people who had been in the school where I was, when an Indian man about fifty years old came to me extended his hand and addressed me with "How do you do, my friend." I said, "How do you do". You can not realize how I appreciated being addressed in that way. It was a pleasure to be called a friend. I am glad to call you my friends and to assure you that I hope to be called by you your friend.

As I have been here for a day or two and have been visiting the different departments of the school, I have been impressed with the earnestness which there is around the institution, among the employes of the institution and the students. There seems to be that air of earnestness which means good work, which means that good results must be gotten. And as I go from institution to institution and study the conditions of each one, I see and realize that Indian boys and girls are becoming more and more interested in their work, as the days go by, and they are getting to the point where they feel the real necessity of getting a good education, and which of course requires much work and studying to be done. Each year adds new earnestness to the work. Although you are quite young boys and girls, young men and young women, I am glad to see that spirit, to see that you are realizing the fact that this is not simply an institution for your entertainment, and a place in which you may come and sit and have a good time. It is for that, but is for more than that, and I believe that you, as young people, are realizing today more than you ever did before your needs and the needs of

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