

## FINE WRITE-UP.

In the Oregon Journal of last Sunday there appeared a splendid illustrated article relative to Chemawa. This was pleasing to those who were in any way identified with the school, either as employes or pupils. Following is an excerpt of the article:

Chemawa, the second oldest non-reservation Indian training school in the United States, and the only non-reservational school in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, and Alaska, is giving her Indian young men and women an industrial, vocational education; she is inspiring them with a fine loyalty to the American flag, and she is teaching them the arts of modern home building. The school is a great institution located five miles north of Salem. Up to this time 423 students have enrolled this year.

Word has just been received from Washington that the appropriation has been increased from \$111,200 to \$117,200, the additional \$6000 to be used for better facilities in the mechanical department. Another event of importance has just transpired at Chemawa, the visit of General R. H. Pratt and his daughter, Mrs. Guy Stevick. General Pratt, an old time friend of Superintendent Chalcraft, is the founder of the Carlisle Indian School in Pennsylvania, the oldest non-reservation school in the United States. Six months after he had founded Carlisle General Pratt suggested to the president that a similar school be established on the Pacific coast.

So Chemawa was started by Major Wilkinson, February 25, 1880. The school opened at Forest Grove with 25 pupils, and with a few small buildings on one block of land. It was necessary to secure a farm for agricultural train-

ing. Salem offered 177 acres and the school was moved to its present location in 1885. At one time the Indian pupils earned enough money for a voluntary gift of 85 acres to Chemawa.

Some say that "Chemawa" meant "lowland" in the Indian dialect—the lowland where the kouse and the kamas grew, from which the hard-working squaw made the bread for her hungry papposes and her indolent husband. Others say that the word meant "happy home". Either meaning is appropriate for the Oregon Indian school, as it is a happy home for the dusky children of a savage race, and it is the place where the fundamental roots of knowledge are found.

Roses and fir trees are the distinctive decorative growth of the extensive grounds, great beds of choice roses mingling their fragrance with the sweetness of the majestic Oregon firs, the one bespeaking high civilization, the other standing as a monument of nature's uncultivated beauty. Indian boys and girls, attired in modern, becoming styles, laugh and talk with each other in refined English as they stroll about the avenues of the well-kept grounds. The Indian dialects are dropped entirely when the young people come here along with braided hair, bright blankets and beaded moccasins. One of the two blue roses in Oregon is cultivated in Chemawa.

While the course of book study at Chemawa is essentially the same as the first nine grades of the state public schools, the education obtained here is much broader than the public school education, for it includes the mastery of some industrial line with which the boys or the girls may be able to earn a living after leaving the school. The reservation schools teach the children to approximately the sixth grade, Chemawa thus giving three additional years of work in the school room to Indian children coming from the reservation.