

Parent Evaluates Chemawa

By MRS. BELLA DEMIT
Tetlin, Alaska

Left Fairbanks April 29, Alaska Daylight Time—11:59 p.m. Arrived in Seattle, April 30, 5:30 p.m., and arrived in Portland, 9:02 a.m.—came on Chemawa campus 11:30 a.m. and met daughter, Arlene Demit, and went back to Salem and checked into Marion Hotel.

After that I came back on the Chemawa Campus and met Mr. O'Brien, Acting Superintendent; Mr. Fredericksen, Head Guidance, and Mr. Tucker, Principal.

I toured around Chemawa and went in few classes and they had a big banquet for us that night. We had steak and the dining hall is very pretty and clean.

The next day on May 1st—we toured around campus and saw various things. We had meeting with some of the Senior students and we talked and told them how we felt about Chemawa.

We exchanged ideas about what needed to be improved. All the parents only had good things to say about the staff, Students and the Academic works. The Students and staff are very polite and kind. They showed their hospitality toward the parents.

One thing I noticed was the boys don't have long hair and are very well groomed and the girls don't have short, short skirts and dresses and dressed neat. The young men and ladies are all very well groomed.

On the 2nd of May, we were invited to McNary Hall by Mrs. Page, a mother matron there. Mrs. Page explained to the mothers and fathers how the first arrived students are treated, and how they work with various students individually if a boy or girl have or need personal help.

They work with students very closely and the students are taught to be neat and clean.

I was invited to a Modern Problems Class by Mrs. Grope, a teacher, and I talked for a while and I was answering questions which the students asked. I was invited to go to a movie that night and they have a big auditorium.

Saturday, on May 3rd, we stayed in town and went shopping. We went to various shopping areas and I was surprised to see how low in price everything was.

We could buy lots of things. It totaled up to very few and the stores we went to in downtown area was Anita's Clothing Store, Grants, Woolworth's, Newberrys, Kays, Penneys and Payless. The boys shopping days are Saturday and the girls are Sundays and Monday nights.

Oh, I forgot! On May 1st, they had their Spring Annual Concert. They had a band playing. It was called the A & B band. And they had the mixed chorus, The Happy Valley Singers and a

Chorus sing. I was impressed to hear how beautiful they could sing. They sang very neat.

Also, on 2nd of May after visiting over at McNary Hall till 3:30, we went to a boys track meet which started at 3:45. It was very interesting and that was my first time seeing how both boys and girls participated in this kind of event.

As I was there, boys from John F. Kennedy High School competed with the Chemawa boys. It lasted till 5:30 p.m., and the score was 63-35, Chemawa won.

Also, Saturday night I was invited to their dance which is only for Juniors and Seniors. The reason its like this is because the Gym couldn't hold 850 students and each weekend, Freshmen and Sophomores go to dance on Friday or either Saturday. It depends on their month schedule of what comes up.

Also, while I was at Chemawa, I noticed the recreation activity. They have lots of sports going on and on Monday and Tuesday, the boys have their gym night. Wednesday, girls have their gym night on Thursday night both girls and boys have gym night.

It seems to me that there are lots of things going on and I've noticed how students do their homework before the weekend comes up.

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May 4

Today I was checked out of the Marion Hotel and came back to campus at 11:30 a.m. I had dinner and supper there and Arlene and Quona Northway went to Portland Airport with me, also Robert Demit.

Its really nice to see all the children I know and I meet some children, too. I really like Chemawa. I used to miss home after one night, but this time I didn't miss home until Sunday morning.

While I was there I got to meet Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Matt who were teachers in Tetlin, 1946, and 47, and sure hope to see them again.

I got in Portland Airport 6:30 p.m. and left 7:45 p.m. and got to Seattle about 8:30 p.m., and we were supposed to leave 9:30, but our flight light went out so we left 11:30 p.m. to Fairbanks.

We came in May 5 at 1:00 a.m. Alaska Daylight Time. and today I leave for Cathedral Bluffs Lodge 11:00 a.m. and I stay over night there and May 6, 8:00 a.m. I came back home here to Tetlin and I really glad to be home again.

I really enjoyed my trip and also Chemawa. I don't care what they said for Chemawa, Oregon, but I'm telling you, I am all for Chemawa Indian School, Chemawa, Oregon. There's nothing we should change there.

Children learn lots there, not only reading and writing and spelling, but outdoor jobs and workshops. The boys and girls do lots, too. So our children are learning everything.