

HISTORICAL



THE MOHONK LODGE is a philanthropic institution established at Colony, Oklahoma, by Dr. and Mrs. Walter C. Roe, missionaries of The Reformed Church in America, for work among the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians. THE LODGE is, however, independent of church control, and has been built up and conducted along strictly undenominational lines, its funds from the start having been contributed by people of all classes and shades of belief.

At the Lake Mohonk Indian Conference in 1898, Mrs. Roe outlined a plan which she thought would reach the Indians socially and industrially, and immediately sufficient funds were contributed to erect a large, simple building, and equip it with sewing machines, cook stove and utensils, cot beds, etc. At the very first, many of the Indian women came for instruction in sewing, cooking, caring for the sick, and home-making, and the undertaking has proven a success from that time, and many of the Indians have received the instruction and help so much needed.

Soon, however, another need arose. The Government discontinued issuing rations, excepting to the old and those not able to work. It was soon evident that some way must be provided for earning money on which to live until crops could be made and gathered. As these Indians are among the best bead workers of the world, the plan suggested itself of stimulating this art, for ART it is. Some materials were secured and a few women set to work. A ready market was found for all articles they could