

State of Pennsylvania)
County of Cumberland) ss.

Mr. M. I. Zeigler, being first duly sworn by E. B. Linnen, Chief Inspector, on oath deposes and says:

Q. Please state your name, age, residence, and occupation.

A. My name is^{as} above stated, age, 51, residence, Carlisle, Pa., and occupation, harnessmaker, by profession.

Q. Were you formerly an employee of the Government?

A. Yes sir.

Q. And of the Carlisle Indian School?

A. Yes sir.

Q. In what capacity?

A. I was instructor in harnessmaking.

Q. For what period?

A. From the ninth of August, 1900, until the last day of August, 1910.

Q. Was the harness shop and that portion of the institution at the Carlisle Indian School then abolished?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Upon whose recommendation was it abolished?

A. It was recommended to the Department by the Superintendent, and I received the communication from them that he had recommended that it be abolished and they approved it.

Q. What Superintendent?

A. Moses Friedman.

Q. And the shop was abolished then in 1910?

A. Yes sir.

Q. During the period that you were so employed as instructor in harnessmaking at the Carlisle School, what else did you do?

A. I filled the position of Inspector of supplies in Class 11 for the Indian Department from about May, 1905, and my last experience was in August, 1909. I inspected those supplies that were furnished from the letting and the purchasing during Mr. Valentine's first experience. That was in May and the goods came in about the ninth of August, when I returned, but in the meantime I had been doing some other work. He had me go out occasionally and look up runaways and bring them back.

Q. Then as a matter of fact, you made inspections for the Government and Indian Bureau of the harness purchased for the Department under the instructions from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs at Washington?

A. Yes sir. I got the appointment through Hitchcock, when he was Secretary of the Interior.

Q. Did you ever learn in any manner or from any person or source that your inspection of harness for the Government was not satisfactory?

A. No sir, I never did.

Q. Was there never any complaint made against your work?

A. No sir.

Q. And there was never any complaint made against your work at the shop?

A. No sir. When I was at the Indian Office I saw among others Mr. Dortch, and he told me that my work was perfectly satisfactory, and it was considered good work that I was rendering. When complaints would come in they would send the communications up to me and ask me to reply. I had a desk in my shop here at the school, and one of the meanest things was that Mr. Friedman had it taken out and said I had no business with a desk in there. But I had to have some place and time to answer communications and get things in shape.

Q. When did Mr. Friedman first commence finding fault with you, and state the reason that you believe for such action on his part?

A. He came into the shop some time in June or the latter part of May, 1909, and asked me why I did not give that contract to Perkins-Campbell Company, of Cincinnati, Ohio. This contract was for a lot of harness that was purchased in Chicago by the Government.

Q. How many sets of harness?

A. I am not positive, but I feel sure there were 800 double sets. I told Mr. Friedman that I would be betraying my trust if I had, and that they did not rank closer than third or fourth. He then told me that Mr. Campbell told him that Ortmeier & Sons, of Chicago, who I believe were the parties that received said contract, that they never would furnish the goods up to that sample, that they could not at the price.

Q. What did you say to him then?

A. I told him that I expected to inspect those goods when they came in, because I had been appointed for that purpose, and if they did not come up to the sample which the Government required, that I would reject the goods that would be one thing sure.

Q. Did he then seem to feel angered or vexed at you because these Cincinnati people did not get this contract?

A. I saw he was displeased, and about the second time he came into the shop after that visit he said to me, "Do you know Zeigler if I would recommend for this shop to be abolished, that the Department would do it." I said, "I have no doubt but what they would Mr. Friedman" and said no more to him.

Q. You believed then that Mr. Friedman was angered and displeased, because these Cincinnati people were likely friends of his and did not receive favorable consideration in their bids for those 800 sets of harness?

A. Yes sir. I felt that that was the forerunner.

Q. And did you notice shortly thereafter that Superintendent Friedman commenced doing things that would injure you and your shop?

A. Yes sir, I did.

Q. Do you believe that thereafter he commenced a systematic effort of trying to injure you, and in order to do that, having no charges that he could prefer against you personally, he recommended the abolishment of the shop, and do you believe he did it for that purpose?

A. Yes I really believe that.

Q. Did Superintendent Friedman give you a proper detail of boys to work in the shop?

A. No sir, he did not.

Q. How many would he generally give you?

A. About the highest I ever had under him was sixteen, and it would get down, for if they needed any boys anywhere else, he would always drain the harness shop, and told the disciplinarian to take all the boys he needed out of the harness shop, that it would not amount to anything anyhow. Sometimes he would have as low as one or two boys in the shop.

Q. Were these boys detailed to your shop long enough for them to learn the harnessmaking trade?

A. No indeed, and some of them I had not long enough to learn to make a waxed end.

Q. Who did Superintendent Friedman permit to make these details? Did he do it himself?

A. He directed the disciplinarian to do it.

Q. On various occasions you found fault with the fact that you did not have enough boys to do the work or learn the trade, did you not, and complain to Superintendent Friedman?

A. Yes sir.

Q. What would he say then?

A. He would say to me to do the best I could, that they must have the boys, but they did not need to put them in the paint shop or the carpenter shop. He was always catering to the painter and the carpenter.

Q. When you found fault with the disciplinarian for transferring the boys that were detailed to you from your shop, what would the disciplinarian say?

A. The disciplinarian told me that if was Mr. Friedman's orders, and, of course, that was the end of the string.

Q. Do you know of any fault ever having been found with the class of harness or work that you turned out here at the school?

A. No sir, never.

Q. Was that class of work and harness in demand?

A. Very much so, and they used to inquire for it, and I cannot cite the dates, but when Mr. Leupp was Commissioner the word would

write

~~come~~ here if they could not get sets, as others had gained satisfaction and they wanted more of the hand-made harness.

Q. What was the Government in the habit of paying for harness of a like character to that which you were turning out here?

A. They paid along about \$27 or \$28, without the collars, and that was machine-made harness. And that was partly his argument that the harness trade was going down because they were making it by machine.

Q. Do you know of any instance where Indian boys came to this school instructed by their parents to learn the harnessmaker trade? Have you heard of such cases?

A. Yes sir, I have. I had a case of that kind in my shop, and I had cases where they detailed the boys to other shops and they asked me to see if they could not be put back in my shop to learn their chosen trade. What made me feel more conclusively that he was trying to bring this thing to a close was when I brought that letter up here. I got the letter out and I threw it down to him and told him I had received from the lower office an order asking me to report to the Chicago Warehouse, and asked him to look over it. He never looked up, but said, "I know nothing about it, I don't want to know anything about it and I care less." Well, I said, "You are my superior officer, and I came up here for some advice." He gave me a short answer and said he did not care a thing about it, so I turned around and went out and went down to see Mr. Kensler. I told him about Mr. Friedman's short answers, and asked him what I should do. Mr. Kensler said he was a fool and said that I would have to go or I would have no job at either end. So I went. It also made me think that he did not care for the harness shop when he would detail me out to fetch in runaways, and to the farm, and let the harness shop idle and shut it up.

Q. Is there anything else, Mr. Zeigler, in connection with this matter that you would like to state?

A. I cannot think of anything more than to state that I have never been able to find out why he abolished that shop.

M. J. Zeigler

Subscribed and sworn before me at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, this Twenty-seventh day of March, A. D., 1914.

E. J. Linnen
~~*M. J. Zeigler*~~

Chief Inspector.