

## TESTIMONY OF MISS JEANNETTE PATTEN.

The witness was reminded that she had been sworn.

Representative Stephens. Where are you from?

Miss Patten. Oklahoma.

Representative Stephens. What tribe?

Miss Patten. Osage.

Representative Stephens. What do you wish to speak about?

Miss Patten. The rudeness and harshness of Miss Ridenour's manner, and the way she speaks to the girls, and the way she treats them. The majority of the girls at this school cannot go to Miss Ridenour the way they would go to their mothers, because she speaks rudely to them, she does not give them time to explain or tell their side of the story until she snaps them off, and probably gives them what they call a demerit mark for what she calls impudence.

There is a little girl here, Anna Moran, and I guess the way she combed her hair did not please Miss Ridenour. Miss Ridenour told her to change it, and she took her hair down and combed it and tied it. She went upstairs into her room and took her hair down and combed it the way she wanted it, and she came down stairs and Miss Ridenour slapped her right and left and told her she would have to do what she wanted. She rules most of the girls in that way. When she was out in Phoenix, I guess she was used to ruing the full-blooded Indians, and when she came here she did not realize that the most of the girls were not full-blooded Indians. Of course, she should not treat the full-blooded Indians any different from the others .

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Another case is Clara Irvin's case. She went to the reception, and one of her friends asked her if she would not

sleep with her, Miss Ridenour inspected during the night, and she struck Clara with a strap and woke her up. She could have wakened Clara up in a nice way instead of pounding her.

The Chairman. Was she in a different room from the one she was supposed to stay in?

Miss Lyons. She was in my room; she is my roommate, but she was in the wrong bed.

The Chairman. The regulation is that only <sup>one</sup> shall sleep in a bed?

Miss Lyons. Yes, sir.

Miss Patten. The Bebeau girls that were expelled from here last spring — Genevieve had just come in from the country. She had a sore foot. They had a circus down down, and the student body was allowed to attend the circus. It was a very windy day, and the tents were flying, and the man in charge of the circus tent told Miss Ridenour that she should not let the girls take seats until she saw everything was all right. Miss Ridenour told the girls they should not take seats, and then again she told the girls they should. Genevieve started to get a seat, and she walked up to Genevieve and shook her and got after her for trying to take the seat. And her sister walked up and said, "Miss Ridenour, Genevieve has a sore foot, and if you want to shake anybody around here I would rather you would shake me." And Miss Ridenour, in public, when the people were all around there, she threatened to break an umbrella over their heads if they did not keep quiet, and she brought them back to school and put them in the lock-up, and finally expelled them.

Representative, Stephens. Expelled them from the school entirely?



Miss Patten. Yes, sir.

Senator Lane. How long ago was this?

Miss Patten. Last spring, in the Month of May.

Representative Stephens. Were all these girls expelled?

Miss Patten. No, sir; just the last case.

Representative Stephens. What else have you?

Miss Patten. While Miss Gaither was here she had an office girl — the office girl did not always do it, but the assistant matron and the office girl and Miss Gaither used to take turns inspecting the girls' rooms during the day, and each girl that did not have her room clean used to get a demerit mark, and in that way — they would also put up a notice on a bulletin board that a certain girl's room was not clean. As it is, we never have inspections, only the Sunday inspections, and it is natural that some of the girls would fall short on keeping their rooms clean if they do not have to. As a general rule, the most of them keep their rooms clean, but there are those who do not, whereas if we had general inspections every day perhaps they would keep their quarters in better condition.

When the girls are sick she does not speak to them like she ought to. My own case — I was sick one time. I did not feel like working or going to school. I walked down to the office and told Miss Ridenour in a nice way that I was sick, and asked her if I could not be excused. She spoke up and told me in a very harsh way that she did not allow sick girls to hang around the girls' quarters, and she would send me to the hospital. I told her, "Very well." They have the idea around here that the girls play off when they get excused from work, so they sent me over to the hospital. I went over there

and they put me to bed, and they did not give me anything all day but a bowl of soup. They usually keep the girls over there all day. When I came back to quarters that evening I had to ask for medicine. They did not give me anything at all but the bowl of soup for dinner.

Representative Stephens. Were you examined by a doctor?

Miss Patten. No, sir. The next morning I was sick, and I went down to the dispensary, and I asked the doctor what the hospital was for, that I was over there all the day before. He said he did not know I was over there, and that if he had known he would certainly have done something for me. I supposed Miss Ridenour would have told him.

Representative Stephens. Have you any complaint against the doctor?

Miss Patten. No, sir; we have a very nice doctor.

Representative Stephens. These circumstances you have related, did you make them known to Mr. Friedman?

Miss Patten. No, sir. I did not think it would do any good to present such facts. It seems as though he is right in with Miss Ridenour, and it would not do any good. Take, for instance, any time the girls want to get permission to do anything. He will send them right back to Miss Ridenour, as if she was the head of the school. Take New Year's day. The girls wanted to go skating. Miss Ridenour said she had not any orders, that she would notify them when she had. She was not taking any steps towards getting orders. The girls wanted to go skating, because they had not had any privileges. The boys were enjoying the skating, while the girls stayed home. They felt that this one day would not be much of a sacrifice



for the boys. The girls came the second time to ask if they could go skating, and Miss Ridenour said she had not had any orders yet. They went to Mr. Friedman, and while they were there, the phone rang, and it was Miss Ridenour, and the girls came down and she reprimanded the girls in a very harsh manner for taking the steps they had taken, and she told the girls she had asked before when they knew very well she had just phoned over.

Representative Stephens. Do the girls generally have respect for either Mr. Friedman or Miss Ridenour?

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Miss Patten. No, sir; they do not.

Representative Stephens. For what reason?

Miss Patten. Miss Ridenour never treats the girls right. She never trusts the girls. She should take into consideration that the girls here are young ladies; they know how to conduct themselves. She can see that there are some that do not care to conduct themselves in a right way, but the majority do. She does not even trust them with the other employees here. If you ask to go to an employee's room she will ask you whom you are going to see —

Representative Stephens. Why do you distrust Mr. Friedman then?

Miss Patten. Well — nobody has any respect for him.

Representative Stephens. What is the cause of it?

Miss Patten. For instance, last spring they were having a little trouble here about cutting out the different gatherings they had, and Mr. Friedman called the girls down to the gymnasium and got them all down here, and they began to holler and hiss, and he could not get them quiet, and he lined them up in companies, and as soon as one company would stop another

would start, and he would call them down.

He got them quieted down, and he gave them a talking to, and he came out in plain words that the faculty were not their friends because they wanted to be, they were paid to be, and also on that evening he called us "savages".

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Representative Stephens. Were there any other persons present besides the girls?

Miss Patten. The student body and Miss Ridenour. When Miss Ridenour first came, the first evening she was at Carlisle she did not speak to the girls nicely at all. She came in the assembly and spoke to them in a very harsh manner. She left an impression, but, however, it was not the right kind. No girl can go to her. For my part, I think a lady who is placed over several hundred girls should be a lady of more delicate qualities. I guess she feels as long as Mr. Friedman is back of her, that she is just as good as the superintendent himself.

Representative Carter. You mean she speaks to the employees in a dictatorial kind of way, or that she does not use proper language that should pass between ladies and gentlemen?

Miss Patten. She does not speak to them as a lady should. Miss Dupuys is here, and she was present at the time Miss Ridenour spoke about Miss Canfield in a very unladylike way. Miss Canfield is an employee —

The Chairman. What do you mean by "unladylike" way?

Miss Patten. You go to her and ask her a question; you would think you were going to get your head bit off.

Representative Carter. She speaks roughly and abruptly?

Miss Patten. Yes, sir.

The Chairman. Were you on that trip?



Miss Patten. No; I was going to say that there were some girls who were present. Cecelia Matlock was one of the girls to go to the pageant.

The Chairman. Any others that you know of?

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Miss Patten. No, sir; I think that she is the only one.

#### TESTIMONY OF MISS MAY RICHARDSON.

The witness was reminded that she ~~was~~ had been sworn.

Senator Lane. Where are you from?

Miss Richardson. Minnesota.

Representative Carter. You are a Chippewa?

Miss Richardson. Yes, sir. I have the same subject as Miss Patten, about how Miss Ridenour treats the girls.

Senator Lane. Tell us what you know.

Miss Richardson. She does not seem to treat the girls right when the first come. Some new girls just arrived here some few weeks ago. I guess she thought they did know very much, and she did not make them feel at home. They had a chaperone that came with them, and she just came from town, I think, and they were going down there to meet her, and I guess she thought they were running away, and she jerked them by the arm, ~~with the boys~~, with the boys out on the campus and everything, and she slapped one of the girls.

Senator Lane. How old was the girl?

Miss Richardson. I do not know how old the girls are. They must have been 18 or 19 years old.

Senator Lane. In public was it?

Miss Richardson. Yes, sir; down on the main walk.

Senator Lane. They were just coming here?

Miss Richardson. They were here already. They had been