

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

here about a day or two.

Senator Lane. Is she a heavy, muscular woman?

Miss Richardson. Miss Ridenour? Yes, sir; she is. Whenever they would see this chaperone they would go to meet her. They were crying all the time, and instead of trying to make them at home or getting the girls together like Miss Gaither would — when new girls came she would tell the girls to go in and entertain them, and she has never done that with any new girls. She starts to scold them right away the first day they get here. That does not make them feel very good. She could have talked to them in a different way than that.

Of course, Miss Patten has told you about her slapping those girls in bed.

None of us girls ever feel like going to Miss Ridenour with any of our troubles —

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The Chairman. That complaint seems to be quite general among you, and it does seem that Miss Ridenour must be tactless, to say the least, in not having the confidence of some of the young ladies. Did you ever try to win her confidence and affection? What has been the attitude of the young ladies in the school in that regard? Did it ever occur to you that she might have a pretty hard road herself?

Miss Lyons. When Miss Ridenour first came she did not speak to us girls as if was glad to come here or anything, but she snapped right at us, and of course that gave us the impression that she was <sup>not</sup> the kind of woman to rule over girls. We know that Miss Ridenour has a record of good discipline, but she did not exercise her discipline in the right way when she first came. From that time she has just nagged at the

girls.

The Chairman. You say that when new pupils come here she does not make an effort to make them comfortable?

Miss Richardson. Not that I know of.

The Chairman. But censures them, and does not treat them kindly?

Miss Richardson. Yes, sir. I know most of the girls g feel that way toward her. When they get into trouble at all they fear her. They would not tell her like they would in former years, like they did with Miss Gaither. She would take us to her room and explain right and wrong, but we do not feel that way about Miss Ridenour.

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I know there was a time when we went to get that permission to go skating. I was the one that went and asked. It seemed that the boys had the privilege to go down and skate for a whole week, and the girls had not had permission, and I thought the boys ought to sacrifice one day for the girls, as the girls had been kept in the house so much. So I went down and asked her, and she snapped me off, saying, "I have not had any orders for you to go skating." Of course, when we want anything like that we might as well stay out of the office all together.

The Chairman. How about the feeling toward Mr. Friedman? Could you go to him with your troubles?

Miss Richardson. I have not thought much about it. He would send me back to Miss Ridenour; I think so.

The Chairman. What is the feeling generally among the young ladies toward Mr. Friedman?

Miss Richardson. Well, I guess —

The Chairman. Do they like him?

896 Miss Richardson. I do not think any of them that I have heard. Nearly every girl I know seems to dislike him. They do not seem to show any respect toward him.

Something about music: Some of the girls came here — I know I came here with the impression we could take music — piano lessons or something. I was anxious to take lessons, and I went to Mr. Stauffer. The first year I came I went to him and asked him if I could take music lessons, and he said he would take my name. He took my name, and he never let me in. So then I let it go, and my mother kept writing to me telling me I ought to take music lessons. I asked him again this year to take my name, and he said he would take it, and he did. I have known a lots of girls, and he has taken other girls in — new girls — and he has left me out. This is my third year here, and he has never given me a chance.

Senator Lane. Why?

Miss Richardson. I don't know why?

Representative Carter? Does he have the naming of the music pupils?

Miss Richardson. Why, I don't know. I have heard it said that he does not want to take anybody in unless they are advanced in music.

Representative Carter. Who selects the pupils that take music?

897 Miss Richardson. Nobody that I know of.

The Chairman. Are they permitted to take it when they want to?

Miss Richardson. I know the catalogues say we can take music if we come here.

Senator Lane. You appeal to him because he is the music teacher?

Miss Richardson. Yes, sir.

The Chairman. Did you ever bring the matter to the attention of the superintendent?

Miss Richardson. No, sir; I have not.

The Chairman. Why don't you do that?

Miss Richardson. I just neglected. He has sent girls to Mr. Stauffer. I have known girls that went to him and he said, "See Mr. Stauffer."

The Chairman. What interest does he take in the school — Mr. Friedman? What does he do about you?

Miss Richardson. I do not know. I could not answer that, I guess.

The Chairman. What class <sup>are</sup> you in?

Miss Richardson. I am taking business.

The Chairman. Are you a graduate of the school?

Miss Richardson. No, I am not. I finished at home in the eighth grade.

The Chairman. How often do you see him about your class rooms?

Miss Richardson. Sometimes once in three months he comes he comes around. He comes into the rooms.

The Chairman. What does he do when he comes to the rooms? I mean to the study rooms. What does he do when he comes there?

Miss Richardson. He comes in there and asks how you are getting along and how long you have been there.

The Chairman. How many girls are there in the business department?

Miss Richardson. There must be eight or nine.

The Chairman. Who is at the head?

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Miss Richardson. Miss Moore. She stays down town.

The Chairman. You think he comes around about once in three months and asks how you are getting on?

Miss Richardson. I could not say it is once in three months, but he has not been in there very often.

The Chairman. How long have you been in there?

Miss Richardson. Three years now.

The Chairman. How long does he ~~not~~ stay when he comes around as a rule?

Miss Richardson. About five minutes, as a rule. He comes in and takes off his hat, and Miss Moore shows him papers, and he walks off.

Representative Carter. What are you taking? Stenography?

Miss Richardson. Yes, sir.

Representative Carter. How long have you been taking it?

Miss Richardson. Three years. Miss Moore was just a student herself. She started in there, and she had a large class, and she had to teach each one individually. It was kind of discouraging at first. Of course, I have been in the hospital quite a while since I came, and I went home last year before commencement, and I missed about three months.

Representative Carter. You have been in the hospital? Your health is bad?

Miss Richardson. It has been. I caught cold, and I was over there three weeks at a time.

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The Chairman. I believe we have one more witness yet.

TESTIMONY OF MISS ELLA FOX.

The witness was reminded that she had been sworn.

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