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THE CARLISLE INDIAN SCHOOL.

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JOINT COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Carlisle, Pennsylvania,

*Friday*, February 6, 1914.

The Joint Commission met in the Y. M. C. A. Hall at the Carlisle Indian School, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, at 4:30 o'clock p. m.

Present: Senators Robinson (Chairman), and Lane; Representatives Stephens and Carter.

The Chairman: The Joint Commission of Congress to Investigate Indian Affairs visits the Carlisle Institute for the purpose of inspecting the same and making an investigation of the conditions prevailing at the Institute.

TESTIMONY OF Mrs. ROSA B. La FLESCHÉ.

The Witness was duly sworn by the Chairman.

The Chairman: What is your name?

Mrs. La Flesche: Rosa B. La Flesche.

The Chairman: Are you employed in the Carlisle Institute?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, sir.

The Chairman: In what capacity are you employed?

Mrs. La Flesche: My title is Manager of the Outing Department.

The Chairman: How long have you been connected with the Institute?

Mrs. La Flesche: This time I have been here nearly two years.

The Chairman: Were you formerly employed here?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes.



The Chairman: How long ago and for what length of time?

Mrs. La Flesche: Why, I came<sup>e</sup> here in 1889, and was a student for one year. I then graduated and then took a position and was here twelve years.

The Chairman: Where was your home before you entered the Carlisle Institute?

Mrs. La Flesche: Michigan.

The Chairman: What is the general character of the duties you perform, Mrs. La Flesche?

Mrs. La Flesche: Why, principally clerical work and directing the outing -- pupils going out and coming and looking after them while they are out.

The Chairman: Do you live here at the Institute?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, sir.

The Chairman: How long have you lived here?

Mrs. La Flesche: Nearly two years.

The Chairman: Are you familiar with the conditions in the school?

Mrs. La Flesche: Why, so far as my department is concerned.

The Chairman: Have you observed the progress and conditions that obtain the school generally?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, sir.

The Chairman: The state of discipline among the pupils?

Mrs. La Flesche: It is better now than when I first came here, although it is lax yet.

The Chairman: How long is it since it began to improve?

Mrs. La Flesche: Well, this fall.

The Chairman: What do you mean by "lax"? Describe it.



Mrs. La Flesche: Well, the pupils seem to have no regard for the orders that are issued, and, of course that seems to be the cause for much of the trouble.

The Chairman: You know Superintendent Friedman, of course?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, sir.

The Chairman: In what estimation is he held by the pupils?

Mrs. La Flesche: I think that is where the trouble is; they do not regard him highly. They have no respect for him.

The Chairman: What evidence do you see of the fact that he is not highly esteemed by the pupils? What circumstances lead you to that conclusion?

Mr. La Flesche: Why, there has been times when he has asked them to do things that they positively refused.

The Chairman: Tell us something about those things.

Mrs. La Flesche: At one time last summer there was a party of girls, two or three, I think, being sent home. They were sent from the office building. The carriages were at the office, and a group of girl friends followed them up to the office and were sitting out on the campus, and they wanted to say goodby to their friends, and Mr. Friedman, of course, did not want them to speak to the girls that were being expelled. At first he sent Miss Ridenour out to tell them to go back to quarters, and the girls would not go. There must have been about eight or ten girls there. So she went into the office and told him, and he came out on the porch and asked them to go to the quarters, and they defied him, and just stayed right there.

The Chairman: That is one incident. Do you know of other instances <sup>when</sup> the pupils have openly shown a contempt of



his authority?

Mrs. La Flesche: No, I don't know of any -- that is, I don't know of my own observation, but I have heard of other cases.

The Chairman: Here about the premises?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, sir.

The Chairman: From whom did you hear it?

Mrs. La Flesche: From Mr. Denny, the Assistant Disciplinarian, and Mr. McKean.

The Chairman: Who is the Disciplinarian here?

Mrs. La Flesche: Mr. McKean.

The Chairman: How long has he been here?

Mrs. La Flesche: I think he came last June, May or June; some time last summer.

The Chairman: Do you know anything about the number of female pupils who have been sent home during the last school year?

Mrs. La Flesche: I know there has been several, but I do not know the exact number.

The Chairman: Do you know the causes for which they were expelled?

Mrs. La Flesche: Not fully; they did not come under my department.

The Chairman: That did not come under your jurisdiction?

Mrs. La Flesche: Of course, I heard of those things, but I do not know definitely about them.

The Chairman: How is the culinary department, the feeding department, of the school run? Under whose authority is that?

Mrs. La Flesche: I really do not know. I think, perhaps,



Mr. Kensler has charge of that department.

The Charmain: Do you know anything about what kind and quality of food is served the pupils?

Mrs. La Flesche: I do not. I know the pupils are not satisfied.

The Chairman: Is the complaint general?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes.

The Chairman: What is the general nature of the complaint?

Mrs. La Flesche: They do not get enough to eat.

The Chairman: Is there any complaint as to the quality?

Mrs. La Flesche: I do not know about that.

The Chairman: I asked you a while ago if you knew of any other instances where the authority of the Superintendent had been held in open contempt by the pupils. Do you know anything about their calling him opprobrious names or jeering at him?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, I do. I know that he passed by the boys' quarters one evening, and the boys were supposed to be in bed and all quiet, and all of a sudden there was quite a racket, noise and hollering, and I heard that they threw old shoes at him -- sticks and things they could get hold of.

The Chairman: Do you know if they called him any names?

Mrs. La Flesche: No.

The Chairman: Did he know it?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, he knew it.

The Chairman: What was done about it?

Mrs. La Flesche: I do not know. Mr. McKean and Mr. Dickey were in their cottage. They lived in that small cottage. The lights were out and boys supposed to be asleep, and they heard this racket, and they jumped up and went out and met Mr. Friedman, and he told them they had better look after



their boys. I do not know what was done in regard to that.

The Chairman: Do you know whether Domestic science is taught in the school, or anything pertaining to housekeeping?

Mrs. La Flesche: Not that I know of, no.

The Chairman: Do you know what effort is made to instruct the male pupils in farming or dairying or kindred occupations.

Mrs. La Flesche: The Outing Department is supposed to give the boys experience on the farm and the girls experience in housework.

The Chairman: That is, instead of giving the instruction in housekeeping to the girls and in agriculture to the boys here in the school, they are sent out to receive that instruction?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, sir.

The Chairman: Do you know whether that is in fact given them, and how many of them receive that kind of instruction?

Mrs. La Flesche: Why, I know they go out and work on the farm and work in the homes and in some cases the idea for which the Outing Department was started is carried out. Again there are other cases where they get the boys and girls—that is, the farmers and people get the boys and girls for the work they can get out of them.

The Chairman: They hire out boys and girls both to farmers?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, sir; the boys to farmers, and there are only a few farm homes for the girls.

The Chairman: Are they supposed to receive salaries pay for their work?

Mrs. La Flesche: They do.



The Chairman: What is done with the income from that source?

Mrs. La Flesche: We have certain rules that govern that, and half of their wages are to come here to the bank and to be saved for them until their period of enrollment expires, and then the other half they are allowed to spend.

The Chairman: Do you know how many boys were hired out to the farmers last year, during the last school year?

Mrs. La Flesche: I cannot give you the exact number.

The Chairman: Do you know approximately?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes; we <sup>have</sup> ~~are~~ something over five hundred boys and girls together.

The Chairman: How long are they permitted or required to remain out on the farm?

Mrs. La Flesche: We have an outing party in April, and those boys and girls usually stay out until the last of August. Then they come in and begin school the 1st of September, except those boys and girls wishing to remain out and attend school in the country.

The Chairman: Do they attend the public schools?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, sir.

The Chairman: What is the average wage that the boys receive?

Mrs. La Flesche: The boys get from \$12 to \$15 average, and the girls about \$8.

The Chairman: You mean, a month?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, sir. That includes board and washing.

The Chairman: Do they get any salary when they attend the public schools?



Mrs. La Flesche: No, sir.

The Chairman: How are they clothed? Are they clothed by this Institution?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes; they just work for their board when they are out in the winter time.

The Chairman: Do you know of many pupils in this school who have been taken from places where they have had advantages of homes before they came to this school?

Mrs. La Flesche: Do I know ---

The Chairman: Do you know how many pupils were in the public schools where they had the advantages of homes before they came here?

Mrs. La Flesche: I should think about half to three-fourths of the pupils who are here have the advantage of public schools. Of course, I may be wrong about that, but a great many of them have.

The Chairman: That is your estimate?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes.

The Chairman: When they go on the outing what arrangement is made about the pupils' railroad fare?

Mrs. La Flesche: The patrons pay their fare out to their country home, and then the pupils pay their way back. The fare seldom goes over four dollars. We have several homes where it takes \$4.23 for railroad fare.

The Chairman: Now, Mrs. La Flesche, I would like for you to make a general statement as to your observation of the conditions here, and set forth any facts that you think ought to be called to the attention of this Commission, please, without restraint.

Mrs. La Flesche: One thing especially that I have felt



was deplorable in my department was this fact that Mr. Friedman has always pressed me -- and, I think, Mrs. Denny, when she had charge of the Outing Department -- to put a great many pupils out. That seems to be his special desire, to make the number large regardless of the kind of homes or the quality of students we send out. The idea of the outing, as originated by General Pratt, was to teach the Indian boy and girl how to live and come in contact with white people in their own homes, how to learn the economical ways of house-keeping, farming, etc. That was the idea, to place them not as servants but sort of helpers, getting wages for what they did, and to receive help by the patrons by their association. That was the original idea of the outing.

That has been lost, it seems to me. When I was here as a student I went out. I was out two different summers, and at both times I was in good homes, and I gathered a great deal; I gained a great deal from my experience. I find that in many cases -- of course, the boys do not talk to me as much as the girls, but the girls will tell me about their outing homes and they tell me where they have been benefitted and others tell me where they have not been. My idea of the outing would be this, to place the pupils in well selected homes and make the quality of the pupils -- make it a privilege to go out, rather than send any boy or girl in order to swell the numbers.

The Chairman: The object of the outing is, of course, as you have said, or should be, to give the pupils the advantage of training in good homes?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes.

The Chairman: And you think that that class of work



can only reach the highest degree of success by carefully selecting the homes to which the pupils are sent, and then also carefully selecting the pupils, in order that the advantages may properly be availed of?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes. I know there were times last summer when Mr. Friedman said, "Put them out; put them out." He kept on pushing me to put them out. And there were cases where pupils that I would not have in my own house that we had to send out in order to make the numbers what he wanted.

The Chairman: If I understand you correctly the only idea that seems to prevail among the present management is to put out as many students as possible in order that the income from that source may be increased, largely losing sight of the benefits to the pupils, which was the original purpose of the outing work?

Mr. La Flesche: Yes.

The Chairman: Do you know whether there is much drinking among the pupils?

Mrs. La Flesche: Very.

The Chairman: What observation have you made of that?

Mrs. La Flesche: We had a great deal of trouble out in the country. Of course, the lax ~~of~~ discipline here, I feel, is the cause of much of our trouble in the country. Mr. Dickey is the outing agent. He visits the homes of the boys and he spent most of his time -- instead of encouraging them to work, etc., he spent most of his time after runaways and taking care of the drunks, and there was a great deal of drinking here last winter, more than there has been this winter.

The Chairman: Is liquor sold in this town legally?



Mrs. La Flesche: I suppose so.

The Chairman: Is it, Mr. Rupley?

Congressman Rupley: Yes; under a high license law. It is sold simply in hotels.

The Chairman: Have you any information as to how this liquor is procured by the Indian pupils?

Mrs. La Flesche: No, I do not know. I have heard they can get it any time they want it.

The Chairman: Have you seen the Indians drunk about the school grounds?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes.

The Chairman: To what extent?

Mrs. La Flesche: I happened to be passing -- I heard them yelling around, and then I was passing out the gate one evening and I met a couple of the boys drunk. And last winter down on the skating pond, and several times when they had their receptions here in the gymnasium, I smelled liquor on some of the boys.

Senator Lane: Do any of the girls drink?

Mrs. La Flesche: Not that I know of.

The Chairman: What is the state of discipline among the girls, Mrs. La Flesche; the general state of it?

Mrs. La Flesche: Why, from all I can gather, they are very hard to control. Last year there was very lax discipline, but this year they seem to have a better hold of it than they had last year.

The Chairman: What is the state of feeling of the young lady pupils and the girls in the school toward the Superintendent?

Mrs. La Flesche: They have no respect for him.



The Chairman: What evidence have you of that fact?

Mrs. La Flesche: Just their general attitude.

The Chairman: They hold him in contempt?

Senator Lane: Why?

Mrs. La Flesche: I don't know why. I don't know really -- I do not talk to the children about those things.

Senator Lane: From your observation, why?

Mrs. La Flesche: It seems as though he is not fatherly. He does not seem to care anything for the children. That seems to be the general feeling.

Representative Stephens: You say there is better discipline now than last ~~winter~~ fall?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, sir.

Representative Stephens: What do you attribute that to?

Mrs. La Flesche: Well, last year when I first came here there was -- the discipline man and matron at that time were not in harmony with the Superintendent, and, of course, they were pulling and hauling both ways.

The Chairman: Do they complain of instances of injustice upon the part of the Superintendent?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes.

The Chairman: Can you state some of the instances?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes; there are individual cases where he seems to have been unjust. I do not know as a whole that I could state anything, but there are individual cases where he has not dealt fairly with them, and of course that has spread around among the pupils. They all feel it.

The Chairman: They take that view of it, do they, that he has been unjust?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, I think perhaps you could <sup>get a</sup> better



ideas of this by speaking to the children about that. They know more about it.

The Chairman: How about the employes? Have there been complaints about justice to them on the part of the Superintendent -- that is, against the Superintendent?

Mrs. La Flesche: Why -- of course, he has his favorites. I do not know whether they complain about any unjust treatment or not. I know they do not cooperate with him; that is, a great many of them do not, and they have no respect for him. There are a certain few that do.

The Chairman: Do you know of any instances where pupils of this school have been confined in the county jail recently?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, sir.

The Chairman: How many?

Mrs. La Flesche: There were one or two girls, I think, and several boys.

The Chairman: Do you know upon whose complaint they were confined?

Mrs. La Flesche: I do not.

The Chairman: Who are they?

Mrs. La Flesche: One girl by the name of Williams; I do not remember her first name.

The Chairman: What was the charge against her?

Mrs. La Flesche: Immorality, I think.

Senator Lane: How old a girl is she?

Mrs. La Flesche: I would say about seventeen years old.

The Chairman: Do you know how long she was confined in jail?

Mrs. La Flesche: No, I do not. I think there was another one. She is a younger girl, and was sent to -- not



Glen Mills, but some place up there.

The Chairman: What is the condition in the school with reference to morality among the pupils, Mrs. La Flesche?

Mrs. La Flesche: So far as I know now, it is better than last year.

The Chairman: What was it last year? Good or bad?

Mrs. La Flesche: Pretty bad, I think.

The Chairman: Was there general complaint here about the condition in that particular?

Mrs. La Flesche: No ---

The Chairman: General discussion?

Mrs. La Flesche: Well, I did not hear very much about that.

The Chairman: When did the improvement in the morals begin? When did you first observe it?

Mrs. La Flesche: Last fall, when they had their change of disciplinarians and matrons. I think then Mr. Friedman began to co-operate with his disciplinarians and matron. Before that there was no co-operation at all. There was open warfare---

Senator Lane: Who was the matron formerly?

Mrs. La Flesche: Miss Jennie Gaither; it is now Miss Ridenour.

Senator Lane: Where is she now?

Mrs. La Flesche: Down at Phoenix, Arizona.

The Chairman: Who was Disciplinarian last year?

Mrs. La Flesche: Mr. Henderson and Mr. Rudy. Mr. Rudy lives in town, and Mr. Henderson lives at Cherokee, North Carolina.

Senator Lane: Now, these girls that are in jail. How



do they come to be sent to jail? Is that by request of the Superintendent here, or complaint from the outside?

Mrs. La Flesche: I don't know just how. It must have come from here, because there was no complaint from outside.

Senator Lane: In cases of immorality among girls, can you not take care of them here instead of sending them to jail?

Mrs. La Flesche: Why, I should think so. That does not come under my department.

Senator Lane: Or the Institution -- in a general way, you would know, wouldn't you?

Mrs. La Flesche: I have heard something about it but I do not know definitely about those things. Those meetings and those doings were done by Miss Ridenour, and Mr. Friedman, and Mr. Stauffer, and Mr. Denny, and Mr. McKean, and Mr. Kensler. Those are the faculty, and they had meetings there quite often in Mr. Friedman's office, and they would conduct the affairs.

Senator Lane: Are these what they call incorrigible girls, hard to manage, head strong, willful children?

Mrs. La Flesche: Why, I do not know.

Senator Lane: Do you know them at all personally?

Mrs. La Flesche: I just know of them. I do not know them personally.

Senator Lane: How many girls are there here?

Mrs. La Flesche: There must be something like 265 or 270. I deal principally with those that are going out in the country and coming back.

Senator Lane: Those girls that you handle outside, how do you find those? Are they good girls?



Mrs. La Flesche: Yes.

Senator Lane: Are they amenable to advice and kind treatment?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, sir; I think so; the majority of them are. There are girls -- there were a number perhaps that were placed out that should not have gone, because they were not good girls; they were incorrigible, and they should have been kept there.

Senator Lane: Sending them out that way, an incorrigible girl is liable to get into trouble, is she?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes.

Senator Lane: That is what they say?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, sir; and that is what I protested against, but it did not make any difference. The result of that was we had eight or ten cases of runaways, girls running away from their good homes, and they were that class of girls. Our better girls do not do anything like that.

Senator Lane: What became of them afterwards?

Mrs. La Flesche: They returned, most of them, and were brought back here to the school.

Senator Lane: And they are back in here now?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes.

Senator Lane: Do they behave themselves now since they came back?

Mrs. La Flesche: So far as I know.

The Chairman: Mrs. La Flesche, is there a state among the pupils here bordering on insurrection?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, sir.

The Chairman: In your opinion, do you think it is liable to become flagrant?



Mrs. La Flesche: I certainly do.

The Chairman: What do you think is the remedy for it, if you have one?

Mrs. La Flesche: The only remedy now is to remove the Superintendent. It has gone too far.

The Chairman: You think it is beyond his power to restore discipline?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes; he never in the wide world could get their confidence.

The Chairman: He is lacking then in the confidence and respect of ~~from~~ the pupils generally?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, sir.

Senator Lane: What do you mean by "insurrection", Senator? Defying authority?

The Chairman: Yes, open rebellion.

Representative Stephens: Those girls you spoke of as being sent home at the time this came under your personal observation, did they defy him at that time, <sup>and</sup> if so, what did he do when they defied him?

Mrs. La Flesche: I really do not know the real cause for sending them home.

Representative Stephens: You do not know the cause?

Mrs. La Flesche: No, I do not know. I do not wish to state that, because I might not get it straight.

Representative Stephens: What did he request them to do <sup>at</sup> that they refused to do?

Mrs. La Flesche: I do not know.

Senator Lane: Mrs. La Flesche said that these were girls that were going to see these other girls off, and he ordered them to quarters and they refused to go.



Representative Stephens: What did he do to those girls then?

Mrs. La Flesche: I do not know what he did. They just stayed there on the campus. I do not know whether they were disciplined after that or not.

Senator Lane: He has the power and authority to see that they do go to quarters?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, sir.

Senator Lane: Is he just good natured, careless, or -- in that case how was it?

Mrs. La Flesche: He seems to ~~lack~~ -- he lacks something; I don't know what it is.

Senator Lane: Backbone?

Mrs. La Flesche: He lacks the power to control. He just does not have it.

Representative Carter: Executive ability; is that it?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes; he does not have it. When I was a student here we would no more think of defying General Pratt -- when General Pratt would tell us to do something we would go and do it in a hurry. But with Mr. Friedman, not any of them seem to care anything about him. They just seem to laugh in his face and walk on.

The Chairman: They ridicule him?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes.

The Chairman: Do you know of their getting up a petition and sending it to Congressman Rupley?

Mrs. La Flesche: I know -- that is, I heard of it.

The Chairman: That is one evidence of insubordination and dissatisfaction that you regard as general throughout the school?



Mrs. La Flesche: Yes.

The Chairman: I think that is all.

Representative Carter: I want to ask a few questions.

Representative Stephens: I want to ask a question or two. Have any of them complained that they did not get their money when they came in?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes.

Representative Stephens: How many?

Mrs. La Flesche: I do not know, but they find many complaints.

Representative Stephens: You have no authority to investigate or say anything about it, but you know they have made those complaints?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes. The money comes in from the country, and I turn it over to Mr. Miller, and further than that I have not any control over it.

Representative Stephens: Have you ever traced up any of those individual cases where the money coming in from the country and through you was turned in here, to know whether the student did get any of it or not?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, I looked up one case -- John Jackson, or Jacob Jackson. He is a boy that lived in my home in Michigan. He wrote to me asking about his money, so I went to Mr. Miller and asked why John could not get his money. He said it was on account of some ruling of the Indian Department in regard to individual Indian moneys, that only a certain amount could be allowed during the year.

Representative Stephens: How much was due him, if you know?

Mrs. La Flesche: I do not remember just exactly, but



the figures can be obtained ---

Representative Stephens: They keep books, do they?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes.

Representative Stephens: Do you keep any check on your work to know how much is turned over to them?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes.

Representative Stephens: Can you look that up?

Mrs. La Flesche: yes.

Representative Stephens: When was that?

Mrs. La Flesche: When did the boy write?

Representative Stephens: Yes -- that boy turned in the money to you and failed to get it.

Mrs. La Flesche: The boy went home last August or September. He spent the summer out in the country, and each month the man he was working for sent me his wages, and it was turned in to the bank, -- Mr. Miller. Then after that he went to his home and about a month ago he wrote me asking for the money, and I went to Mr. Miller to find out, and that was what I got.

The Chairman: Were any of the children disciplined for making complaints against the management here?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes, sir.

The Chairman: How many, and what was done with them?

Mrs. La Flesche: Why, one girl was sent home.

The Chairman: Who was she?

Mrs. La Flesche: Sylvia Moon.

The Chairman: Do you know where she is from?

Mrs. La Flesche: She is from Wisconsin, I think. And I heard that Gus Welch was considered a leader among the boys. I do not know that he was sent home, but he went home anyway.



Representative Carter: Gus is not here now?

Mrs. La Flesche: No; I think you can get him, Mr. Carter.

Representative Carter: Mrs. La Flesche, you stated that  
the railroad fare for the outing students was paid by the  
people who took them into their homes, and the students paid  
their own fare when they returned?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes.

Representative Carter: Is that always true?

Mrs. La Flesche: Yes.

Representative Carter: Is it not a fact that funds are  
sometimes used from the appropriation for the school for that  
purpose?

Mrs. La Flesche. Not that I know of.

Representative Carter. No, we make an appropriation  
every year by Congress for that purpose.

Mrs. La Flesche. For the outing?

Representative Carter. Taking children to and from the  
outing — to and from homes on the outing system.

Mrs. La Flesche. I do not know anything about it.

Representative Carter. I wanted to ask you how many  
girls you said were here?

Mrs. La Flesche. I think about 265 or 270.

Representative Carter. How many boys?

Mrs. La Flesche. I do not know, —

Representative Carter. Do you know what the enrollment  
was?

Mrs. La Flesche. (Continuing) I think, between 700 and  
800.

Representative Carter. What was the enrollment last year?



Do you know?

Mrs. La Flesche. I do not know.

Representative Carter. But you know the average, don't you?

Mrs. La Flesche. No.

Representative Carter. Or the per capita cost?

Mrs. La Flesche. No; I do not know those things. Mr. Meyer would be able to tell you that.

Representative Carter. Now, Mrs. La Flesche I think you can give us a little clearer statement as to the ~~next~~ cause of this bad discipline here if you would refresh your memory. There must be some direct cause for it outside of the fact that he has not executive ability.

Mrs. La Flesche. The children do not like him.

Representative Carter. They do not respect him?

Mrs. La Flesche. No; they do not like him, they do not respect him.

Representative Carter. Do you know why they do not respect him?

Mrs. La Flesche. I think one of the things is that he misrepresents things —

Representative Carter. Those are the things we want to know.

Mrs. La Flesche. ~~He~~ misrepresents things.

Representative Stephens. What do you mean by that, that he misrepresents things?

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Mrs. La Flesche. For instance, we received a boy from the West, James Holy Eagle, or Holy Elk. He is a young man about seventeen or eighteen years old and a good musician. He came here last fall and entered the band and orchestra. He is



one of the leaders now. Well, in the papers frequently you read where James Holy Eagle, a pure blood Indian, <sup>just arrived</sup> from the West, was placed in the band and was an expert musician, or something like that, and the inference is that he received that during his short stay here. That is the idea — to give out a good sounding article.

Senator Lane. Boosting the school?

Mrs. La Flesche. Yes, and it is that way in everything.

Representative Carter. Well, Mrs. La Flesche, are there any reasons why they should not respect Mr. or Mrs. Friedman? We want you to be perfectly plain with us.

Mrs. La Flesche. I do not think — he is not a fatherly, you know. They go to him, for instance — there is a time when a child feels that they like to have a talk with a ~~fat~~ mother or father, and perhaps a boy will go to him and ask him something, and he will say, "Go to Mrs. La Flesche", or "Go to Mr. Meyer". They will come to us, and of course we cannot decide. There are certain things that are not in our power to decide, and they feel hurt because he does not come closer to them.

Representative Carter. Is his conduct bad in any way before them?

Mrs. La Flesche. I do not think —

Representative Carter. Has he any bad habits?

Mrs. La Flesche. I do not think that he has a good influence, but not any that I know of. I could not say that he was bad.

Representative Carter. He has not any bad habits?

Mrs. La Flesche. Not that I know of.



Representative Carter. Have you ever had any difference with Mr. Friedman?

Mrs. La Flesche. No, I have never had.

Representative Carter. There is no animosity?

Mrs. La Flesche. Nothing at all. So far as I am concerned he is friendly with me. I have nothing against him.

Representative Carter. Is he addicted to the use of whiskey?

Mrs. La Flesche. I do not know that.

Representative Carter. You do not know whether he has any habits of that character at all?

Mrs. La Flesche. I do not know anything about it.

Senator Lane. What you mean is that he is not responsive to children?

Mrs. La Flesche. Yes; he just turns them over to somebody else.

Representative Carter. Do you consider anybody else responsible for the bad discipline here except Mr. Friedman?

Mrs. La Flesche. No, I do not.

Representative Carter. There are no other influences in the school?

Mrs. La Flesche. I do not know of any, Mr. Carter.

Representative Carter. Indian children, as a rule, are not very difficult to control, are they?

Mrs. La Flesche. No.

Representative Carter. Haven't you always found them much more easy to control than white children?

Mrs. La Flesche. Yes. I feel certain that if we had a head here that would take an interest in the pupils that they could care and and respect, I think there would be no trouble.



Representative Carter. Who can tell us about the girls?

Mrs. La Flesche. I should think, Miss Ridenour.

Representative Carter. I mean the girls you spoke of as having been sent home for some cause.

Mrs. La Flesche. Miss Ridenour ought to be the one to tell. She knows those.

The Chairman. We thank you very much, Mrs. La Flesche.

Thereupon, at 5:30 o'clock P.M., a recess was taken until 6:15 o'clock P.M.

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select members of their student body who would be representatives of them to appear before me or before your Commission to state their grievances. I gave them permission to appoint such a committee, and the boys are now here present, with one exception. They have stated that the matters which they desire to complain of are, first, laxity of discipline; second, unjust expulsion of students without reason and the withholding, some that should be expelled; third, misrepresentation of the school to the public and to the authorities in Washington; fourth, unsanitary conditions in the school; fifth, insufficient quantity and quality of food; and, sixth, unjust punishment.

All the witnesses present were thereupon duly sworn by the Chairman.

#### TESTIMONY OF MIRIAM CHASE.

Mr. Chase. May I have asked?

The Chairman. You may proceed and make your statement.

Mr. Chase. Mr. Frisvold has expelled many students.

The Chairman. One moment. A number of young gentlemen are present here with you, and I desire to know whether you purpose to represent the student body in the Committee?