

Teacher Denies Violence

Accounts of violence, torn clothes and a weeping teacher figured prominently when Clifford Brock, counsel for the East Kildonan school board, continued, Friday night, his cross-examination of Miss Ida M. Cook before the board of reference at the juvenile court building.

"Was it suggested that Miss Cook was violent and tore her coat?" asked C. K. Guild, chairman of the board of reference. "Yes it has been suggested," replied Mr. Brock.

The chairman's query arose while counsel for the school board was closely questioning the former principal of Polson school over an interview she had with Miss D. Ross, a teacher, in June, 1936.

Miss Cook claimed that following her request, at an interview with Miss Ross to give the pupils some tests suggested by the inspector, the latter had walked out of the school. When she returned later the same day, she came back "if anything in a worse temper than usual." The teacher explained she had been to see the secretary of the school board, who had told her to return, and warned her she should never have left. But, according to the witness, she had repeated she would not do the tests, and would work with her only until June.

Attitude Questioned

Miss Cook emphasized she had not been domineering in her attitude at this meeting, rather she had been conciliatory. "Did you put your hands on Miss Ross during the second interview?" asked Mr. Brock. "I did not." "Did you on any occasion touch or tear her clothing?" "I did not. I was as dignified as a principal could be."

Teacher by teacher, Mr. Brock cross-examined the witness. Of Miss M. Anderson, Miss Cook said she was the "best teacher in the school." She had no criticism whatsoever about her. Turning next to Miss M. Dyma, the principal retold the incident of the music examination, when a question previously wrong had been mysteriously changed after she had sent it back. After further interrogation, Miss Cook said she had never accused the teacher of altering the paper, and had no proof she had done so.

Exchange Teacher

Third on the list was a Miss Spiers, an exchange teacher from Scotland. This teacher, according to evidence, apparently had difficulty with the Canadian method of

teaching grammar. Miss Cook asserted she had resented being told her method was wrong, and had unnecessarily prolonged the conversation in the teachers' room when she had broached the subject.

"After this meeting, did one of the teachers leave the room crying?" asked counsel. "Nobody was crying." "I am suggesting that after that unfortunate scene, a teacher left the room crying," he repeated. Further questions as to Miss Cook's attitude on this occasion followed. "I behaved myself like a lady and a principal of a school," she told the board. "Your conduct at that meeting was your interpretation of a lady and your interpretation of a principal," repeated Mr. Brock.

Lack of Punctuality

Last on the list was Miss Mary Leus, whose chief fault, according to Miss Cook, was her lack of punctuality. At Polson school, teachers were required to sign a time sheet on arrival in the morning and, since January, also in the afternoon, it was learned.

When filed, the book contained no time sheets previous to March, 1937. Miss Cook had no knowledge of where the others were. Then later she stated that when the book was full, she was accustomed to remove the sheets, and on occasions had torn them up.

Thieves Take Cars From Parking Places

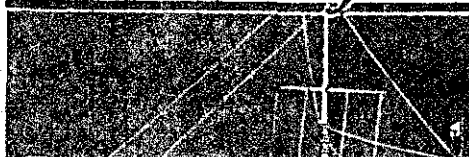
Car thieves were active again in Winnipeg, late Friday night and early Saturday morning, snatching four autos from their parking places in the north end of the city.

Burglars smashing into the rear door of a store at 816 Selkirk avenue, owned by Jean Ospapowich, looted the cash register of \$31. Several other minor burglaries, in which the thugs secured little loot, were reported.

Charlottetown (CP)—H. T. Holman, of the Summerside Board of Trade, suggested canning lobsters



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