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# CLASS CUT-UPS

## Former Principal, Telling Of Battles With Boys, Says Teachers Lacked Severity

General capabilities of four more teachers at Polson school came under fire before the board of reference considering the East Kildonan school strike, when Miss Ida M. Cook continued testimony, Monday, under cross-examination by C. Brock, counsel for the local school board. Only one of the five teachers dealt with was claimed by Miss Cook to be perfectly satisfactory.

Dealing first with Miss Mary Leus, Miss Cook re-told the episode when a boy from the latter's class had attacked her in the school office after trying to barge her against the staircase wall. She had held him against the wall until he gave in and then talked to him. After that conversation there had been no more trouble from him, she claimed.

"Would you say Miss Leus was responsible," asked Mr. Brock. "Yes, I would," replied Miss Cook. She contended the boy needed proper control.

### Says Boy Subnormal

Turning next to Anne Kamrath, grade three teacher, the former principal described another battle with one of the pupils. One day, she asserted, an excited child had arrived from Miss Kamrath calling on her to deal with a 14-year-old boy, who had refused to receive the strap. He had defied Miss Kamrath in front of the whole class and when she got him outside had sworn at her, "terribly." The boy had forced Miss Cook against the radiator, punched and kicked her, but finally she made him take the strapping.

"Did you know that boy was a mental case?" interjected counsel. "I do not know yet," Miss Cook said. "I would not take it upon myself to say whether a boy was normal or not." Question as to whether she blamed the teacher, witness re-

plied she thought the boy could have been better handled but attached more fault to the general environment at Polson.

"Would you strap a mental case?" Mr. Brock asked a few moments later.

"It depends on what he did." "If a boy did not know right from wrong?"

### Defiant Pupil

"I was sure he knew what he was doing." The boy was subnormal, not mental, claimed the witness.

Miss Cook told the board she had no objection to teachers discussing changes with her but expected them to accept them without question. Instructions for the schools outlined the position of a principal as supreme "in supervision, discipline and management," she contended.

Of Miss Jessie Leus, Miss Cook asserted she had repeatedly countermanded her instructions with regard to monitors being in the classrooms too early or too late. She said she had spoken many times to the teacher but getting no satisfaction had become tired of telling her and dropped the matter.

The witness praised the grade two teacher, Miss D. Bailey. She had, Miss Cook said, a nice class, nice discipline and put on her tests well.

Miss M. Reynolds was the last teacher discussed in evidence Monday night. Six children in her class should have been out of grade one much sooner, according to Miss Cook, some having been there three school years. One of these pupils lacked number sense but had a competent grasp of letters and another suffered from exceedingly bad eyesight. She had moved the former up a grade and obtained glasses for the latter. Miss Reynolds also had allowed several monitors to romp unchecked during time between classes on one occasion, she said.