

16. Then, on the whole, are you treated as you think you should be?—Yes; but I think the staff could be more civil to us.

17. Does that apply to the Matron as well as the other members of the staff?—The Matron is civil to us. It is the staff.

18. How do they treat you?—If we tell the staff we have not done anything they punish us for impudence, when it is not meant as impudence at all.

19. How do they punish you?—Put us in the cell.

20. Without speaking to the Matron?—I do not know if they always speak to the Matron about it.

21. Are you speaking of yourself?—Yes.

22. Do you mean they took you straight from where this ruction took place?—Sometimes they take us to the Matron, but not always. Sometimes they take us straight to the cell, and lock us up.

23. And how long have they kept you there?—It all depends. Sometimes three or four hours.

24. That is your main grievance?—Yes.

25. *Mr. Russell.*] That is your only grievance?—Yes.

26. When was the last time the staff put you in the cell in that way?—Last Tuesday week. I was taken to the Matron first. It happened about 10.30.

27. What had you been doing?—I spoke to the staff a bit impudently. I was taken to the Matron for being impudent, and the Matron said if I gave any more trouble I should go to the cell. I was taken down to the laundry again, and went on with what I had been told to do, and I scorched an apron a bit and put it on the line. Miss Dean asked me where it was, and I said "On the line." She asked me what I did to it, and I said, "Scorched it," and she said, "Come up to the cell with me."

28. Were you in a temper then?—No; but I was at the time I was taken to the Matron.

29. How long were you in the cell that time?—Four hours and a half.

30. Did you spoil the apron?—No; it came all right.

31. Have you scorched any more since?—No.

32. It made you careful?—No. I had an iron that was too hot, and the apron was a bit hard to do, and it just stuck to it.

33. You get on with the Matron very well?—Yes, I like the Matron.

34. She does what she can for you?—Yes.

35. *Mr. Hunt.*] You sulk a bit?—Yes.

36. And will not speak for a long time?—Yes.

37. But you have never been punished unless you deserved it?—I was punished last Tuesday week when I did not deserve it.

38. You burnt the apron up?—No; I scorched it a bit.

39. Over the fire?—No.

40. You were not careful?—I was not careful, but it was an accident.

41. Are all the rest of the attendants kind to you?—Yes.

A— C— examined on oath.

1. *Mr. Salter.*] How old are you?—Twenty.

2. How long have you been here?—Four years in August.

3. Like the rest of the girls, you do the usual outside work?—Yes.

4. Have you been punished at all here?—Yes.

5. What for?—Impudence; that is all.

6. Have you ever been in the cell?—Yes.

7. How long have you been locked up in the cell?—Three hours and over.

8. Were you visited during that time by anybody?—Yes.

9. Have you ever had your ears boxed at all?—Yes.

10. By whom?—The Matron.

11. How long since?—I cannot say exactly. It is since two years ago.

12. Have you seen other girls receive similar punishment?—Yes.

13. Have you ever complained to any official about anything in connection with the Home?—I have to Mr. Pope.

14. Have you any particular grievance against the treatment you receive here?—No, I have not.

15. *Mr. Hunt.*] You like doing outside work at the trees and lupins?—Yes.

ADA HARRISON examined on oath.

1. *Mr. Salter.*] You are a certificated teacher?—Yes; E1.

2. How long have you been here?—Four years.

3. The position you hold on the staff is that of day-teacher?—Yes. I come next to the Matron. I have never had any other intimation from the Department.

4. Have you ever taken charge during the Matron's absence?—Yes.

5. Whilst you have been in charge, have you ever allowed the girls to be punished without reference to you?—My training as a teacher would make me think it wrong to allow any subordinate teacher to punish.

6. And you do not allow it?—No.

7. How often have you been in charge?—Twice.

8. For how long at a time?—For a month and a month and a few days.