Special Senate Committee

Mr. S. Do the teachers think highly of him?

Answer: Oh yes.

Mr. S. Does he think well of the teachers?

Answer: Yes, he likes most of them.

Mr. S. Do you have any trouble at all with him in school?

Answer: Couple of fights going to school. He jigged once this year, and I found out about it, and I really reprimanded him about that and it hasn't happened again. I don't think it will.

Mr. S. If you have any problems, do you have any difficulty in getting to the teacher and talking to her?

Answer: No.

Miss Gale: Are most of the children in school from this area?

Answer: Quite a few of them, but up here at St. Francis, they all come in from Loch Lomond.

Miss Gale: Do the children have any trouble with the other children who know their family is on welfare? Is there a stigma attached to this? Do you think they make it hard for them?

Answer: Well I really haven't run across any specific problem.

Mr. S. Do the kids ever say anything about this? What do the children discuss with you about their school life?

Answer: As soon as they walk in the door, I'll ask them, "What did you do to-day, did you do good?" They'll show me, and just tell me if they did well or not.

Mr. S. They're proud of what they're done in school?

Answer: Yes.

Mr. S. And they feel that they'd like to get ahead. Can you sense this with the children?

Answer: Yes, with the boy it's harder to get across, but the two girls do very well.

Mr. S. What about group activity such as Scouts and so on?

Answer: No, my children just don't go out. I'm a bit like that myself, so I suppose I can't blame them.

Mr. S. Do you have a husband in your family?

Answer: No, I'm separated.

Mr. S. Do the children feel this?

Answer: Well, they did. I've been separated now six and one-half years; and the first couple of years I found it worse than it is now. I've sat down and explained things to them.

Mr. S. They understand the situation? They listen to you and you have no trouble with them in any way?

Answer: Oh yes.

Mr. S. What about some of the others... your kids, Dot.

Dot: I have one girl with a 'chip on her shoulder.' She always looks as though everyone is bothering her. Everything's a both. She doesn't want to go through school.

Mr. S. She becomes withdrawn? Does she stay away from things?

Answer: No. She likes to dance and she likes to go. She doesn't like school, and she wants to quit.

Mr. S. How old is she?

Answer: She'll be fifteen in March.

Mr. S. Has she made good grades up to this point?

Answer: No.

Mr. S. She flunked a couple of years?

Answer: One.

Mr. S. What grade is she in now.

Answer: Eight.

Mr. S. What are you doing to keep her in school?

Answer: Right now I'm keeping her there until she's sixteen, and hoping for the best then.

Mr. S. Did you ever think of having someone sit down with her, talking to her?

Answer: No, she's not that type.

Mr. S. Do you think she might be induced through some counsellor? She'd react badly, would she?

Answer: Yes.

Mr. S. What do you think is ahead for her?

Answer: I can't say.

Mr. S. What would you like to see?

Answer: I'd like to see her make something of herself.

60:90