

27. What about your own clothes?—I have my own clothes.
28. Do you get plenty of time for play and recreation?—Yes.
29. Does the wood-chopping prevent you from learning your lessons, or does it make you so tired that you cannot do your school-work?—No.
30. If you were leaving here, how would you regard this place?—As a home.
31. You would come back here if you could?—Yes.
32. And supposing you had any troubles, to whom would you take them?—To the Matron.
33. You like Matron?—Yes.
34. *Mr. Salter.*] You had a chat about all these matters last night with Mr. Russell and the Matron?—Yes.
35. You had a good chat about it?—Yes.
36. You knew exactly what you were going to say when you came here to-day?—I knew what I came here for.
37. You knew you would be asked the same questions as Mr. Russell had asked you in Mrs. Branting's presence?—I did not know it.
38. But you knew you were coming before Mr. Bishop?—Yes.
39. Do you find the wood-cutting fairly hard?—It is all right for me.
40. Why did you say you did not find it very hard?—It is just the same as it always is.
41. And you would rather do that work than inside work?—I would.
42. You said just now you had seen the Matron strike some girls on the back. Are you quite sure you have not seen any girls struck on the ears?—I have not.
43. Do the girls talk about the bread and jam and bread and dripping, and call it bread and scrape?—Some of them, but not all.
44. How long have you been in the cell at a time?—About four hours.
45. Were you by yourself the whole of that time?—No; the staff came to see me.
46. Have you been in the cell more than once?—Twice.
47. Do you get hot or cold water to scrub with?—There is hot water in the winter, if you want it. There is a hot-water tap to draw it from.
48. And if a girl said the attendant stood by to see you did not get it, would that girl be making a mistake?—Yes.
49. Do you remember the time when there was bad fish on the table?—Yes.
50. Did you eat the fish?—Yes.
51. *The Commissioner.*] Were you made to eat it?—No; they did not know it was bad.

C—S— examined on oath.

1. *Mr. Russell.*] What is your age?—I will be nineteen next month.
2. You have been two years in the Home in May?—Yes.
3. Do you chop wood?—Yes.
4. Do you find it very hard work?—No.
5. When the staff are with you, do they give you a rest when you want it?—I have had it.
6. And they do not in any way try to work you too hard?—No.
7. Do you find the staff treat the other girls and yourself the same?—Yes.
8. All here are treated in exactly the same way?—Yes.
9. And if the girls do well, do the staff treat them well?—Yes.
10. Is the food good here?—Yes.
11. And your bed-clothing?—Yes.
12. Have you any complaints of any kind?—No.
13. Would you sooner be here or in service?—I would sooner be here.
14. Generally, you are happy here?—Yes.
15. Do you consider the Home is doing you good and making you a good woman?—Yes.
16. If you left here, would you regard this place as a home or not?—I would regard it as a home.
17. And if you were in any trouble, to whom would you go?—To Matron.
18. *Mr. Salter.*] You had a chat with Mr. Russell and Mrs. Branting about the inquiry to-day?—Yes.
19. Did they tell you what to say?—No.
20. Did they tell you you were coming here to-day to give evidence?—No, I knew it.
21. Who told you?—One of the girls.
22. When did you know?—Last night.
23. Did you girls go in together to Mrs. Branting's room?—No, one at a time.
24. And you were asked all these questions there?—Yes.
25. And gave your answers?—Yes.
26. So even if you had been unhappy here you would not like to say so before Mrs. Branting?—I would.
27. Mr. Pope was there too?—Yes.
28. Have you been punished here?—Once I was put to bed.
29. Do the girls talk about the bread and jam and bread and dripping as bread and scrape?—Yes.
30. Is it bread and scrape?—Sometimes.
31. You do not get enough dripping or enough jam?—Sometimes.
32. Have you seen jam and sugar, and so forth, kept in bedroom chambers?—Yes.
33. Do you scrub upstairs in winter-time in your bare feet?—Yes.
34. And with cold water?—No, hot water.
35. Always with hot water?—Yes.