

Call Number: 02-00-18

Rhoda Thomas Collection - Mr. and Mrs. McIntyre: School Supervisor's Meetings Drama, No Interviewer, Location Unknown

Summary created by: Jacob Metoxen

Date of creation of summary: 2/20/2013

Notes: Original on 7 inch reel. Master copy on CD.

A man does an introduction. The people are in a small village school somewhere in the Yukon. Mr. and Mrs. McIntyre are the teachers. This is their third year at the Station. They opened the school in September and it is currently November. Mr. McIntyre teaches the upper grades. Mrs. McIntyre teaches the primary. Mrs. Thomas is the education specialist and having a conference with Mrs. McIntyre. Tonight is the 2nd night of Mrs. Thomas' Visit. Tomorrow a small 180 Cessna plane will pick her up at take her to another village 300 miles away. Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. McIntyre are in the living room of the quarters. Earlier today Mrs. McIntyre and Mrs. Thomas discussed a time to meet to sum up the supervisor visit. The first voice is Mrs. Thomas, the second Mrs. McIntyre.

Mrs. Thomas says Mr. and Mrs. McIntyre have had a busy summer and show great taste. (She's reading from a script). Mrs. Thomas seems very aware of Mrs. McIntyre's excellent grooming. (They are both reading a script). The children have learned to sew buttons on their clothes.

When discussing her vegetables, Mrs. McIntyre's speech is very muddled from the audio equipment. Mrs. McIntyre is from Oklahoma and discusses an inability to grow Okra. Mrs. Thomas says that AK has a short growing season and Okra takes too long to grow here. Mrs. Thomas says all the children's desks are in order. Also, the warm relationships are very satisfactory to Mrs. Thomas. Mrs. McIntyre shows a mother's care but it also firm. (Still reading from script). Mrs. McIntyre deflects all forms of flattery and instead attributes the smooth operations to the children.

There is an unnamed pet turtle. There are several turtle books. The children love the turtle. Mrs. Thomas is unmercifully harsh on a young boy named Maxim to the surprise of Mrs. McIntyre. Maxim has long hair, is ill-kept, his nookups [shoes] were untied and ragged. Maxim was excited to show Mrs. McIntyre a book he had found but according to Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. McIntyre pushed Maxim away. (During the accusations Mrs. Thomas' voice quickly goes from delighted to ashamed). Mrs. Thomas takes credit for giving Maxim a sense of satisfaction as she gave the boy some attention.

Mrs. McIntyre (Now overemphasizing her lines), reveals Maxim as her "problem child." She says Maxim doesn't fit in. Mrs. Thomas says that she sees why Maxim would be a problem. She offers some advice to Mrs. McIntyre: "Accept each child for his own worth." [It is becoming clear that the dialogue between Mrs. Thomas and McIntyre is an attempt to educate on the ways of handling being a school teacher].

When Mrs. McIntyre was preparing supper Mrs. Thomas says she went through the student folders and was impressed with Mrs. McIntyre's lesson plans. Mrs. Thomas was impressed with the grouping of Mrs. McIntyre because the variety promotes individual differences. Mrs. McIntyre isn't bashful about her reading prowess. At 12:35 the sound became extremely muffled. At 13:00 sound kicked back in then out. The conversation takes a manic twist. It is very clear that Mrs. McIntyre is becoming emotional and fake crying. She feels unappreciated and claims it's not about the money but fake cries through two mentions of getting paid more. Even suggesting Ms. Jones financial situation. She breaks down. Mrs. Thomas is attempting to console an unstable Mrs. McIntyre when Mrs. McIntyre snaps at Mrs. Thomas, suggesting Mrs. Thomas is just talking the talk. Mrs. Thomas suggests looking at sets of teacher evaluations. As Mrs. Thomas continues her attempt to console, Mrs. McIntyre is losing all ability to control her sobbing and simply interjecting when she feels Mrs. Thomas is being unfair. Mrs. Thomas says that Mrs. McIntyre received a questionnaire and that Mrs. McIntyre even sent it back. Mrs. McIntyre thought Mrs. Thomas was simply trying to see if they needed more money and Mrs. Thomas counters with a suggestion that maybe Mrs. McIntyre's teaching hasn't quite hit the elite level of "GS 9" and therefore the idea of a raise is absurd. Mrs. Thomas tells Mrs. McIntyre there is still hope. Mrs. McIntyre says she has been holding these feelings in for a long time.

Mrs. Thomas again compliments Mrs. McIntyre's flexible teaching. Mrs. Thomas says that Mrs. McIntyre is not including the students as much in her teaching plans. At 21:10, Mrs. McIntyre becomes desperate. She runs to get examples of student work including art work that is a representation of Mrs. McIntyre's teaching abilities. Dick and Jane make a cameo. Scott Foresman is mentioned. Mrs. Thomas reads an example of children's stories that incorporate actual people they know.

Mrs. McIntyre is making up ground for her breakdown earlier by giving Mrs. Thomas coffee at 29:00. Mrs. Thomas leaves the teaching criteria and outline for Mrs. Thomas. Mrs. Thomas suggests some self-evaluation and Mrs. McIntyre agrees.