

Those named were: Arthur Ritchie, Guy Nichols, Newton Tarble, Grover Welsh, Herbert Milholland, Oliver Hostetler, and Tony Ivy. They were released on bonds of \$300 each, with George H. Jeffries and J. A. Parker as sureties. On March 13 these young men were bound over to the April term of the Circuit Court, and their bonds were increased to \$500 each. Jeffries and Parker again furnished bond.⁴⁸

In the meantime, on March 10 a series of resolutions drawn up by a group of students was adopted unanimously by the student body. The resolutions expressed confidence in the school's administration, deplored the false reports which had appeared if the motive behind them was good, and pronounced the gravest censure upon them if the motive was ill.⁴⁹

The "Gus Marsh" ducking case went before the grand jury. Sixteen students and four teachers, including Mr. Lord, testified. Mr. Lord recalled later that he told the grand jury: ". . . that it was very interesting to notice that some of them thought of [Gus Marsh] as a fine type of Christian manhood, and I thought of him as a sneak and a liar." The charge before the grand jury was dismissed, but a few months later the family of "Gus" succeeded in having the boys fined in the police magistrate's court for disorder. There was some demand that Mr. Lord suspend or dismiss the boys involved in the case, but this he refused to do, and suspended "Gus" instead.⁵⁰ When "Gus" sought readmission the following September, Mr. Lord refused to accept him, telling him that "the pupils and teachers of this school can have a better year without you."⁵¹

Mr. Lord's correspondence on the dancing controversy included some letters of criticism, but more of sympathy and support. A Decatur correspondent regretted the position he had taken, and reminded Mr. Lord that he had upon his shoulders "much of the responsibility for the souls of the young people" in his care. The writer hoped that Mr. Lord might yet modify his views.⁵² A Chicago physician also criticized Mr. Lord for encouraging dancing, which the writer held was injurious to health as well as being an improper form of recreation. Mr. Lord replied that he had heard "very reputable physicians" make statements directly contrary to that view. "When doctors disagree, who shall decide?"⁵³

The Trustees were somewhat disturbed by the uproar and gave instructions that dancing at the Hall was to be discontinued until a committee of the Board could inquire into the situation. On May 12, 1909, Board member B. H. Pinnell of Kansas wrote to Mr. Lord that he did not believe "we are carrying out the instructions of the Board. . . . I thought that was to be done, but mixed crowds (I mean boys and girls) dance every Saturday night until ten. I am getting letters

⁴⁸*Charleston Daily Courier*, March 9, 13, 1909.

⁴⁹*Charleston Daily Courier*, March 10, 1909.

⁵⁰McKinney: *Mr. Lord*, p. 239.

⁵¹Quoted in *Shelbyville Daily Union* for September 29, 1909, which carried a front page article criticizing Mr. Lord for this decision. Clipping in Lord Letterbooks, No. 37.

⁵²Letter, G. A. Randolph to L. C. Lord, March 2, 1909. Lord Letterbooks, No. 34.

⁵³Letter L. C. Lord to Dr. D. C. Coleman, Chicago, March 10, 1909. Lord Letterbooks, No. 17.