

12/12/55

I went to Colony House at 1:30 P.M. today to take Doris Ward out on placement to her aunt's, Mrs. Porter, in Charlotte. On the last recent placements I generally found the girls' trunks on the pathway and the girl would come out the door as I arrived. This time I had to go into Colony House.

The following episodes and conversations are not in chronological order and are according to my own recollection of what occurred.

Shirley Mailhote opened the door for me and then went on with her work of cleaning the pictures along the stairway. I asked her how she was making out. She replied, "Fine, my rent is paid up to Jan. 16". She then made the comment, "well, we saved Doris from the Jews". I asked her what she meant by the remark and she replied that it seems we are placing all the Colony girls with Jews. I pointed out to Shirley that a person should not be judged by their religion but rather by their heart. Miss Dolan and Mary Sharkey had come out of the dining room by then and Miss Dolan told Shirley that I was right. She said, "I know some very good people who are Jews, they are not all Kikes". Shirley replied, "but Dodie, they are the people who are hurting you". Miss Dolan went into a discussion of the persecution she is undergoing by the Jews in Rutland and by Brandon.

I told Miss Dolan that I knew nothing of what is going on, do not want to know, that I am a social worker and am only concerned with the girls under my care. Anything else was not my business. Shirley replied, "we count you as one of them, you always come and get the girls". I pointed out that transporting the girls was one of my duties. Miss Dolan stated that I should know what happened today because "they" will do the same thing to me someday.

Miss Dolan rambled on various subjects. She told me of the evaluation she received and explained that it was signed by Francis Russell and how she refused to sign her name over "his". She stated that the men asked her personal questions about sex that she refused to answer without her doctor or a nurse being present. She asked me what I thought of the girls I took from Colony. I told her that I thought they were a nice group of youngsters and in some ways very well trained. Miss Dolan replied that I may have to repeat that statement in a court of law as she is hiring a lawyer. She went on to tell of an incident with Rev. Bowen Shattuck when he came to Colony in 1947 or 1948, in regard to a rumor that the Protestant girls were not being allowed to practice their religion. She stated that Rev. Shattuck found out the rumor was wrong and he complimented her on her religious training of the girls. She stated that Rev. Shattuck told her that he also "was kicked around at Brandon". Miss Dolan said she was going to use him as a witness along with Bishop Joyce and Father Butterfield. She told me that she has many friends in Rutland and in Brandon.

I kept trying to get out of Colony and interrupted many trends of thought by saying I had to go, but Miss Dolan insisted that I listen.

She told me how she came to Colony at the request of the Superintendent to be the social worker, after working at Brandon. When the adjoining

PEDIGREE: Coates

GENERATION:

DEFECT:

INDIVIDUAL: Forrest Coates

SOURCE OF INFORMATION: V. S. S. Records

COMMITTED: April 23, 1923

RESIDENCE: Bristol, Vt.

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: May 9, 1910; Monkton, Vt.

PARENTS:

FATHER: Will Coates, born Huntington (?). Syphilitic, alcoholic, feebleminded (?), died age 46 of Acute Sepsis.

MOTHER: Lottie May Coates, born Middlebury, Vt.

SIBLINGS: Five normal and four defective. Sister Marion lame.

BEHAVIOR BEFORE COMMITMENT: Masturbation. Lame from Friedrich's Ataxia.

PEOPLE INTERESTED: V. C. A. S. and Miss Nellie Jones, Tb. Nurse.

RELATIVES: Half-brother of Will demented; works on farm. (See Beulah's sheet for others.)

DIAGNOSIS: Forrest's case was diagnosed at the Children's Hospital Boston, Mass. where he was taken by Miss Weisbrod, State Polio Nurse as Friedrich's Ataxia. Dr. Ransom Wells, an interne, examined Forrest at V. S. S. in the summer of 1925 and gives the following reasons for diagnosing the case as Friedrich's Ataxia:

1. Gradual onset at age of 5 with progress-downward course marked.
2. One and possible two of patient's sisters similarly afflicted.
3. Spastic condition of legs but lost knee jerks and a slightly positive Babinske with preserve of sphincter control and general cutaneous and somatic sensitivity.
4. Characteristic "pescavus" contraction of feet and toes although great toes are not much dorsi-flexed.
5. Moderate degree of scoliosis although without Kyphosis.
6. The slow difficult "ataxic" speed.
7. The mystagmus demonstrable as above.  
(eyes)

MENTAL STATUS: M. A. 8-6; I. Q. 59