

October 12, 1962 On this date Mrs. Mitchell took Robbie home for a birthday celebration, and although she was supposed to return him at the end of the week-end did not return him until the week-end of October 27 -28th.

There was no explanation for his being returned following missing two weeks of school, but it is our understanding that pressure was applied by Mrs. Mitchell's attorney to have him returned here.

November 21, 1962 On this date Mrs. Mitchell took Robbie home for a planned Thanksgiving vacation and returned him on the appropriate date.

December 22, 1962 On this date Mrs. Mitchell was here fairly early in the morning to prepare to take Robbie back with her on the 9:48 train for Christmas vacation. She was highly upset on this date and both at the Home here prior to going down to the depot, in the lobby of the depot, and while getting on the train, her actions suggested one under emotional pressure. On one occasion the worker heard her state as they were getting on the train "Don't let all those [REDACTED] people push you around, Robbie, just push ahead like they are doing."

While riding to Chicago one of our staff members, Mr. Neil Hagberg, was approached by another person on the train, who identified herself as a teacher at a school in Tiskilwa, indicating while Mrs. Mitchell had been sitting in the lobby of the depot she was telling Robbie how he should talk to persons who interfere with her plans, indicating that he should refer to them as a "son of a [REDACTED]" if they caused any trouble.

Mrs. Mitchell was to return Robbie to Princeton by Sunday, January 6th so that he could be returned to school, but she made a statement to the office worker on the phone, before leaving, that she was not going to return Robbie on any Sunday specified to her and she would return him after that sometime.

January 6, 1963 On this evening the office worker received a telegram direct from the Chicago operator with the message as follows: "Monday first day of Robbie's leave last forthcoming," signed Mrs. Mitchell.

January 18, 1963 On this date Mrs. Mitchell and Robbie were at the Children's Home by 8:00 in the morning, Mrs. Mitchell indicated that she was returning Robbie so that he could be enrolled back in school. As there are no morning trains coming into Princeton from Chicago, it is presumed that they spent the night in Princeton some place.

Mrs. Mitchell talked with the worker on this occasion and made several demands as to what the Home should do in their care of Robbie, and if we would not agree to this she would take him right back with her. These demands were this, we were to have a taxi to take Robbie to school and pick him up both at noon and in the evening. In addition she requested that he not be allowed to sit on the floor of the TV Room to play, but that he be up off of the floor at all times. He was also not

to have any wool blankets over him.

Mrs. Mitchell also asked to see a copy of the complete medical history of Robbie since he has been in our Home.

The worker indicated that it would take some time to type up this material regarding the medical record for her, and she indicated that she would be back on February 1st to pick this up.

The worker indicated to her as far as a taxi taking Robbie to school we would not comply with this order. No comment was made on the other two requests.

Mrs. Mitchell then informed the worker that she would call Robbie every evening at a specified hour to check to make sure that we had been complying with her specified requests.

January 19, 1963 Mrs. Mitchell called early this morning to indicate that she would be down later in the day to take Robbie back with her. She talked with the Assistant Administrator on this occasion and indicated that matters had changed up there in Chicago and that she would be down that evening.

It should be noted that Mrs. Mitchell has indicated to us that she is not living at any permanent address on this occasion.

Later on this same date that is 1-19-63 at about 8:15 P.M. Mrs. Mitchell arrived at the Children's Home and walked up on the floor and demanded that Robbie come with her.

Through some checking later we found out that the taxi had taken her to the depot that evening, and that she and the boy remained there most of the evening until leaving on the 5:50 A.M. This fact was further verified by talking with one of the trainmen at the Burlington Depot, Mr. Gerry Ewalt. Mr. Ewalt further indicated through his observation the behavior at the depot that she was acting in a rather abnormal fashion.

FURTHER EVALUATIONS

Over the past 3 months Mrs. Mitchell has carried on in a manner to suggest an increasing inability to control her emotions. She has used profanity both at and to our staff members on various occasions, and this has been done in the presence not only of her own son but of some of our other children. The use of the term "son of a [REDACTED]" seems to be most prominent.

She has further demonstrated indications of a type of paranoid psychosis with delusions of persecution. She often goes off in the direction of talking about "that Johnson" (Rev. Alfred J. Johnson). In pursuing this matter a bit she indicates that Rev. Johnson is able to do things to and with Robbie that none of us even know about. In attempting to talk with her about this she just indicates that you don't know that man, he can do things that nobody knows about. It should be noted that Rev. Johnson has not even seen Robbie for perhaps 2 years time, and there has been absolutely no correspondence between the 2 of them in an equally long period of time.

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When topics similar to this are pursued with Mrs. Mitchell she becomes violent in her temper, and becomes emotionally completely unable to control her inward self.

In the brief time that we were able to talk with Robbie while he was home prior to leaving for the last time, he indicated that his mother had thrown away the boots that he had on when he left because "grandmother bought them for me and mother wanted to throw them out."

When Robbie left with his mother for his birthday in October, Mrs. Mitchell refused to take the packed clothing, so that for the two weeks he was home he had little more than one change of clothing.

February 7, 1963 In the intervening weeks since Robbie has left us we have talked with Mr. Gilbert Graham, Mrs. Mitchell's Attorney as well as Robbie's grandmother, Mrs. Hazel Roberts.

There seems to be nothing that we at the Home can do at this present time relative to receiving Robbie back into our Home.

It is our feeling that Robbie must be made a ward of the court so that we can receive legal custody of him before we can honestly settle down with appropriate care for him.

by John E. Liljegren, Caseworker

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