

First Visit:
10th April
1947
T.O.

Edwards. Gertrude	Head.	F.S.	28.	8-6.	Homemaker
Smith Selvin.	Son.	M.S.	16.		None.
Smith. Alvan	Son.	M.S.	13.		
Smith. Kencil	Son.	M.S.	9.		
Campbell. Edell	Dau.	F.S.	5.		
Campbell. Myrah.	Dau.	F.S.	3.		

NOTE: Gertrude Edwards gave her name to me as Mrs Gertrude Smith.
The little girl Edell gave her name and that of her little
sister Myrah as Edwards.

Yesterday Obrebski met a little girl whose foot was sore. He told her to come to our place to have it looked at. She came and I dressed her toe which she said hurt her for six weeks and it all started before Christmas /?/ She said her name was Edell Edwards and she was in for B. at school. I showed her the word "BOOK" printed in big letters, but she could not spell any of them. She knew that 2+2 is four. 4+4 was 24 according to her. I told her to come the next day and she came to-day. After the "toe-performance" I accompanied her home. Her mother was digging in a crouching position in front of her house. She got up when we came. I said "how do you do Mrs. Edwards" she said her name was Mrs. Smith and she could not shake hands as they were dirty with earth. I asked about the toe of her little girl Edell. Apparently Edell slept better that night. It all started with a worm /?/ Edell got under her nail. Mrs. Gertrude Smith invited me to her house. It is small one with roof and walls thatched. The door was open - and the floor was swept clean. She took off her shoes before entering and so did I. She offered me a chair and sat herself on a low stool. Inside there was a wooden partition, behind which I could see a bed. Next to my chair there was a small table with cups and saucers on it. The walls were papered with newspapers. There was a large picture of Winston Churchill in the middle of the longer wall. Her younger daughter Myrah came. She was clad in a dark dress, torn at the bottom and her nose was not clean. Obviously the little Edell was especially dressed in her best clothes for the visit. Mrs. G. Smith had a fairly good dress and a handkerchief tied on her head. She said her sons were away. A neighbour /another Mrs. Smith but no relation to Mrs. G. Smith came/ I offered cigarettes - both women smoked. I said I want to try to smoke a pipe. Mrs. G. Smith said she did not smoke a pipe, but Mrs. Smith No. 2 said she did and warned me I might be sick the first time. Then I said I had a son and he was at school now and showed them some photos of him. They looked at them and wondered that such a small boy was already at school /?/ We talked about war - as I said I was from a country where there was a lot of fighting going on during the war. - Mrs. G. Smith said somebody read in a newspaper how badly Germans behaved towards the population of conquered countries. At the end of it she said in a tragic voice: "Mother! mother! mother!" I said I shall come the next day to dress Edell's toe. I sat on the threshold to put my shoes on which produced much appreciative giggle from both women. When I said I hoped to see them quite often as we were neighbours they giggled still more and said I was a really nice lady. They mentioned a doctor's wife and said I resembled her. I shook hands with Mrs. G. Smith and was followed by the two girls and went together with Mrs. Smith No. 2 to her house which was next but one.

5.5.47.
Monday
T.O.

Edell Edwards C.H. 18.
see also Edwards Gertrude.

Edell visits me frequently. At the beginning she used to come to have her toe dressed. I did it a few times and as it looked bad E.C. & J.O. went with her to the doctor. He removed the nail. She came to me after the operation crying. It was painful. After a week's time the toe was completely cured.

She used to come with one or two eggs which I bought from her. Once she brought a letter from her mother asking me to give some material for a dress for Edell. I said I did not have any. W

When her toe was sore she did not go to school. She said her mother did not want her to go. But she was seen all over the place, her toe did not prevent her from walking ~~xxx~~ in the village.

Lately she begun to attend school. I met her once on her way to the afternoon classes.

T.O. "What have you been doing this morning at school

E. "Read Maam"

T.O. "From a book?"

E. Yes Maam.

T.O. What book?

E. "B book".

T.O. Did you like it?

E. Yes Maam.

T.O. What was it about?

E. I don't know.

She comes often after school. I give her some ~~xxx~~ food to take home. She drew the pictures /enclosed/ Often she does not go to school. When asked why she says she does not feel well and mother does not want her to go to school. She does not look ill though.

At the end of each visit she says "Please I gone Maam" She says she does not like her brothers. They don't give her anything when she wants.

She came to-day before 7 a.m. I was ~~xxx~~ still dressing. She ~~xxx~~ reported,