

Things were happening so fast that I was unable to understand them or know what to do to counteract them. First there were two attempts on our lives in 1955 and our home was broken into, then the rumor that I was to be railroaded to an insane asylum. Then the police started coming over several times a week on any flimsy excuse or no excuse at all, at least they wouldn't tell us what they wanted. Then the baby was taken and placed in a hospital and x-rayed and given drugs without our permission. And I was locked up in jail because someone claimed that I was mentally ill when I had a doctor who claimed different. Now I was ordered out of town and I was furious with my husband for taking me. If I was locked up for a mental examination then why didn't they give me one and get it over with instead of detaining me in jail. I was sure that I was being railroaded primarily to stop my political work once and for all. Now I was heading for St. Mary's Hill to be locked up when I wasn't insane. I pleaded with my husband to stop the car, when he refused I decided that I was going to go back if I had to walk. So when he stopped the car I got out and started back. I figured that he would change his mind and take me back like I requested. However it was our misfortune that someone saw him with the keys for the ignition and thought that he had a knife so they called the police. I never got the chance to talk to Judge Zievers instead I was locked up in Milwaukee County General Hospital.

I remained in Milwaukee for six days. I spent most of my time in the hallway because I am allergic to cigarette smoke. One of the Nurses there became angered and deliberately gouged me in the stomach, as hard as she could with her knee. A brutal blow if there ever was one. She became more angered when I would double up from pain, so she gouged harder next time. She did this several times. The pain was too much to bear, she then strapped me to a bench and left the room just as I passed out. When I regained consciousness I was still strapped to the bench. I sat here in this uncomfortable position for two hours. From 10 o'clock until noon. After this I suffered from dizziness for several weeks. She had intended to injure me because she made sassy remarks about how my husband was going to like this treatment.

I went back to the Milwaukee doctor who had examined me previously and I told him what had transpired. He wrote a note to Judge Zievers saying that I was mentally capable of caring for my home, and should be allowed to do so.

However the police didn't stop pestering me, they continued to come over two or three times a week on any excuse. As an example, three weeks in a row I was home doing my laundry. My husband was at work, and the oldest children were in school. The babies were sleeping. The police came up and said that there was a report of a fight, now if they wanted to be right about it after I assured them that I was alone; they should have doubted the credibility of the caller who obviously had given them a false report. Next week they came over again, and the next week by the fourth week they came out to have both my husband and I locked up this time. It's not a comfortable thought to know that someone is determined to have you locked up, if they have to break your health down to do it. This continued to such an extent that we started yelling at each other over trivials, then the police would come up on a report by the neighbors that there was a fight. The Russian M.V.D. couldn't treat a person much worse.

On November 15, 1956 I was ill again with the flu. My husband helped me with the housework then he left home leaving me alone with the children. Soon four policemen in two squads came up. I got out of bed when I heard someone at the door. They demanded that I go with them for a mental examination. I had the flu so bad that I was too sick to cope with them. I was completely stunned by this surprise raid on my home. I thought that the letter from the Milwaukee physician had been sufficient to convince them that I was sane.

I was shocked when they demanded that I go with them. I talked through the storm door which I had locked. I asked them to kindly wait until my husband got home as I had