

ES3 – Edna Smith, "Working Mother"

Time-Line: Decade V, Labor History Time Line, 1942, "War Industries in Bridgeport"

Transcript: p. 18; 20

ES: I only missed three days in all those years...

Well, I had [my daughter] come home, of course I was working, but she came home from school. She went to Roosevelt School. She was little. She had a cold. So once a month I took the day off to be with her. I didn't do anything. That was her day. But when I come home from work that night she had this cold. So I said, "Mommy's not going to work tomorrow. She'll stay home and take care of you."

"Okay, Mommy." So I did. I got up. She felt pretty good. I got up and went downstairs and made her breakfast for her and everything and I got so sick. I could hardly get back upstairs.

ES: Oh, yes. I used to have a headache every Saturday night. A migraine headache. Because I had--. I'm a person, I like routine. You know, I say, "I want to do this, I want to do that." See, my husband never would. Still partying. And Saturday night was our night to go out and have a good time. Well, I had clothes to wash and a child to take care of, the house to clean and cooking and by six-thirty Saturday I was up to here and I would get this blinding, blinding headache. Trying to get everything cut and dried.