

PD. No 27.SD.22. Household 25.

Carter. Samuel. Head. M.M.50. Farmer. Mixed Farm.
" Ethel. Wife. F.M.40. Homemaker..

23rd April 1947.
Wednesday.

E.C.

This house is on the right hand side of the Parochial Road leading off the New Road below Teacher's Cottage to Mount Tappy. It is after you pass Vincent Bailey's cottage. There was no one there when I passed.

VISIT

ay 1947.

EC with Dale.

Mrs Carter or "Miss Ethel" was stooping over a wooden wash-bowl made out of a tree, washing clothes, her husband's. The bowl was on a trestle, waist high, under a shady tree outside the house which is a one room, grass hut, old, patched and in bad repair. The land round the house is thickly planted. There is a large flower garden in two patches, taking up a good bit of land which might grow vegetables. It is neglected and full of weeds but there are a lot of plants and it was evidently a source of pleasure and a matter of regret that she was now unable to stoop because of the pain on her head to keep it clean. Mrs Carter's pains, of which we soon heard, are the result of a mouthful of rotten teeth. She told us with pride that she used to have lovely white teeth, small and pretty. But she began to have trouble when she went to have hookworm injections. The medicine broke in her mouth and the dispenser said to her O my, now it will spoil your good teeth. And ever since then her teeth began to fall out or decay. She had had toothache now for days. She felt the pain in her head and up to her ear. The dentist would charge 12/- to take out 2 but 4/- to take out 1. (She repeated this odd fee). The dentist was in Ulster Spring. It would cost her £20 to get them all out and a set put in. O dear, she would have to make up her mind to take them out and be like an old woman.

Mr Carter was in the field. He had left early, early. It would be difficult to catch him anytime now except at midday or in the evening at 5 o'clock. He would be able to tell about the land. She thought it was about $\frac{1}{2}$ acre they had round the house which with the house they owned. Then he rented a bit from Mr Syl (Mr Brissett) in Bottom Warsop. They wanted to build a house. She had a few pieces of lumber towards it. But why would not Government do something to help them get a house? They could not even get nails to repair the toilet. Only the higher people, like how when Mr Ryland was building the Post Office, he could get them. They were not members of the Agricultural Society. Mr George Murray had told her husband that he should join it. It would help him get the nails. People like Miss Loo (the shop) have it but they wont sell. If you sell her a 10lb of dry ginger then you beg her to sell you a $\frac{1}{2}$ lb nails. Its like favour if you spend it with her. When a person died the other day they had to go all round to get the nails.

We living in the house about 20 years. But we poor. The cross didn't bear last year -- we get a little ginger and yams but the people dem t'ief out the yams -- dem t'ief out every bit of head just leave the empty hill. She did not know how many Panama trees she had. Nor how many coffee. (She did not mention the pines. She had a lot of plants and pines sell now at 9d up each) They have no Panama disease there. But the Bananas dont do well. Too thin and high. The coffee is in full bloom but for lack of p pruning last year was not bearing heavily. They would prune afte it had finished bearing in December.

Seasonal work: Planting yams. Asked what was best crop, said it was not bananas -- they got nothing out of those trees which were poor. The best thing was to raise a pig. They bought one for £2 but it got hog sick and died the following day after they bought it. You could buy young ones for 10/- but she could not bother with that -- they hung too easily (i.e. when tied out tie themselves round a tree on the edge of a slope and strangle). Unless you had children to look after them. She preferred to buy them when they were bigger so that if you have to run out to the shop they don't die so easily. Sometimes the yam and ginger don't bear.

~~Family and Married life. Married 12 years. Never had any children. Never had any and lost them. Must have been about 28 when married. "I just guess. I is ageable now." (She is about 45) according to the Census figures).~~
It was the planting season now. Up to August and even September you planted yams. But if you have no plants you close up in June. But NOW is the "hard planting season".

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She was born at Allsides, parents Joseph Smith and Miss Caroline Edwards. Her father's wife was Mrs Annie Smith from Craig. He was white. Her brother is Mr Ruddy. My father have me before he was married. "I is a bastard. Me brothers and sisters all white like you. I is the only black/dark one. Mrs Smith was whiter than Mr Ruddy -- you know woman have ~~black~~/colour than man. Me sisters hair them long and pretty -- them is all in Kingston.

After this marriage her father's wife took her in the home and brought her up. My step-mother shoulder me but bastard in a house you more work. She not tender to me. You know how it is -- if it is not your mother she rough with you. But she shoulder me. Miss "da is just like me mother-in-law -- I love her. (Miss "leighington). I am a Wesleyan. I go to choir practice at Miss Eda's. When Mr "dwards was the parson (him white, same colour as you) dere was a good choir. Mr Aiol is a good man (the new Wesleyan minister). We have all good ministers except Mr "herlocke -- him was the only one dem praying for him to leave. Dem never love him. The others all nice. But the Wesleyans change the Ministers all the time.

Mrs Carter's mother was a Wiltshire and his father Carter. Mrs Emmie Wiltshire is Sammy's sister. Both had the same mother but different father's.

It was a great grief to Mrs Carter that she had had no children. She was the eldest of her brothers and sisters and mothered them all. She had always been told because children loved her so she would never have any. She had never been with anyone before she married her husband. No ma'am we have too much dread o' we father. (Note here she was her father's illegitimate child). We wouldn't carry no bastard into we father's house. I don't know how de young people now can do it -- they will carry three or four bastards into the house. Urs would have turn us out. Yes, out.

The Village Controversy over the Line fence at the Anglican.
This controversy, revolving round the Committee of "the Anglican" (Teacher Gayle, Corporal Dwyer, the absentee parson Fr. Sanguineti) the Brissetts, and Zachariah Smith has been rocking the village for days since Zachariah Smith chopped down Mrs B's fence. Referring to Mrs "ertie Plummer, her neighbour, Mrs Carter said Miss Plummer and her brother Zaccy Smith was fighting over land. Mr Zaccy have the father in his home and when him die him leave land to share. The father died about 2 years ago, (Cousin Marsa Smith). Him lie down (i.e. was ill) good time on Mr Zaccy before him die. So him take the land. Him go to law I hear bout

it. Mrs C. then referred to the closing of the road by the fencing of the Anglican Church. It never fence before and plenty people walk that way to the spring and who have lands down there. Miss Nicey -- I forget him married name but she live Bottom side and just join the Anglican and it was such an easy walk up Now how she going to go?

Mr Carter rents some land down there from Mr Syl (Brissett) but not direct from him, from a man called Jones on Allsides (who rents it from Brissett). But it is Mr Syl's all the same. Because Mr Syl wont let your rent it in time (i.e. in time to get the plants in ?) Mr Syl is not a nice man to rent from. Him no give you fair play. Him charge £ 15/- for the half acre but you dont get a half acre. It is short. Him wont measure it out. Every man is wuarrelling about it. When you tell him to chain it out and give you he wont. A half acre is sometimes only 2 or 3 ~~xxxxxx~~ stretches I dont sell him me ginger -- I tell him I dont got none. He is too robber. People cut him on the road how dem rob him. I sell to de shop. If you carry the g inger dere sem will sell you de soap or de fish -- if dem have it you get it. But when you tek it to Mr Syl him is only fe tek out de rent.

Dandelion Plants. I hear sey the Chinaman buys these for 9d a quart. I never pick them. I dont bother with them to sell. It can mek tea. An' it good for medicine -- fe nuff sickness.

25.5.47.

Dale.

I saw Mrs. Carter in her house, on my arrival she came out and we went to the kitchen together.

While walking around the yard I saw the latrine seat uncovered, and told Mrs. Carter that she should make a cover for it, she said "It ave a cover mom but it musn' keep shut; when it shut up all the time and you open it an' sit over it right away, all the gas from the pit come up an' cause you to have pain in you' womb an' you belly bottom. But when I spy the latrine man a come a run and it up. You young ya mi chile you don' know not'in'".

Mrs. Carter is very keen on church attendance, she is a member of the Methodist choir and is the proud owner of 3 white dresses and 1 black and white, these are for Church only and the average cost per yd. is 3/6.