

Carter	Josiah	Head	M.M.	60	Retired /now dead/
"	Wilhelmina	W.	F.M.	60	Retired 9.9.
"	Roslin	Dau.	F.S.	22	
"	Theophilus	S.	M.S.	16	/now head of family/
"	Joseta	G/D	F.S.	4	

Friday
25.4.47.

T.O.

Carter

Theophilus Carter greeted me on the road and we walked together. He would like a job. Can't go to the U.S. as only "better men" get the "ticket". His father is dead. He works on his farm but can't make living out of it. He does not envisage permanent emigration, supposes one has to live in the country he is born. He would like to go for work to Cuba, but the ticket is very expensive, it costs \$ 8. by air. He does not know whether it is possible to go there by boat and how much it costs and how to get there. Lives on the way to Campbell Berris. Invited me to come.

families.

A few hours later another Carter greeted me on the road and walked with me. He also wants a job. He is the shoemaker and lives in Bottom Warsop on the main road next to the chinese shop. He is about 23. He has been to the U.S.A. He is making a bit of shoe repair but it does not bring enough to live. He also is a musician and has a guitare. He bought it in the USA and learned to play it there. He says there are dances in Warsop in the school and sometimes in private houses. Every participant of such a private dance has to contribute about 1 dollar. The music is paid, sometimes it comes from Kingston /?/ Invited me to come and see him in his home.

He says there are 3 or 4 Carter families in Warsop, which are quite different. I asked him how he knows it when he meets a Carter. "We ask questions" / concerning the ancestry. His grandfather was Steward Carter, who was the father of Mathilda Green. Mathilda Green is his aunt.

He did not know that his grand-father / father f was Jarimiah Carter / which I learned from Mrs. Mathilda Green / He has never heard about it.

Monday
14.7.47.
T.O.

Visited Mr. Theophilus Carter's farm-to day and took him for a longer talk a bit farther down, as his mother was too much inclined to draw immediate benefit from my visit.

Family history. His father Josiah died about 3 years ago. He had a stroke. Young Theophilus lives with his mother Wilhelmina and a niece - his sister's Gertrude child. The family land consists of 3 acres all in one piece round the house. On this land his sister Gertrude built a grass house and lives there with her other two children. She gets all the products from the farm. She doesn't get money, to have cash for her expenditure she washes "Takes in washing". This Gertrude Carter is known in the village as a bad character (this I know not from her brother but other people). She had 4 children all by different fathers. Her son Hubert Ken was for the chinaman, who died. She didn't care for this last "husband". When she spoke at the last parents-teachers meeting at school concerning clothes for children, and told her children are destitute, everybody laughed. It seems one if her children is adopted or cared for by corp. Dwyer who sent it to his family. Miss Eda said Gertrude proposed her to take a child but "I wouldn't, not from Gertrude" meaning it wouldn't be a nice character coming from this home. His eldest brother was Joel Murray. He died 3 years ago. He had a bit of land near Mount Happy which he bought. After his death his brother Gerald Bent sold the land "Bent sold the land and took funeral expenses and gave the rest (of money) to his children. This Joel Murray lived alone but had two children living with their mothers: one in All Sides and one in Manchester. Now the eldest brother is Gerald Bent "hog and goat butcher. He has more than 2 acres of land. He bought it" Murray and Bent are really his half-brothers. His mother had them before she married Josiah Carter. His mother is also a Carter, she is the sister of Mathilda Green and William Carter who used to be a butcher. Another sister Cinderella married Mr. Blake and lives nearby. Sister Roslyn married Mr. Cyril Robinson. Vera Carter lives in Kingston. Brother Samuel Carter owns $\frac{1}{2}$ acre of land in Warsop, he bought it. Lucius Carter lives in a house on the road, but has his meals with the mother. He rents this house from George Murray for 5/- a month. He is a shoemaker. He has been to the USA and when he came back he settled in his separate house. He helps Theophilus with the cultivation. "When I plant ginger he help me." His shoemaking business is not a good one. He used to do shoemaking before he went to the USA. Gerald Bent and Samuel Carter don't get products from the farm.

Thus the family consists of:

Wilhelmina Carter } These three live in the same house

Theophilus Carter } son

Jocelyn Carter } gr/daughter

Lucius Carter } Lives in a separate house but has his meals with the above and helps with farm

Gertrude Carter } Lives in a separate house but on the farm
and her 2 } land, cooks separately, gets products from
children } the farm but no money.

~~Gerald Bent~~

Gerald Bent - owns more than 2 acres, doesn't get anything from farm, is a butcher.

Samuel Carter owns $\frac{1}{2}$ acre - doesn't get anything from farm

Roslyn Robinson married to Robinson - lives with husband

Cinderella married to Blake

Vera Carter works and lives in Kingston

Monday
14.7.47.
T.O.

-3-

Fam. Rec. 70

Land di-
vision.

All these children will have a portion of the 3 acres of the farm land. Mrs. Wilhelm didn't yet make her will. Theophilus thinks that being the youngest (or perhaps the one who stays with the mother) - he will get a bigger share than the other. His mother showed him a ready what will be his share. It is about 5 squares. "those who married will get a simple portion" says Theophilus. Gerald Bent in spite that he has his own land and profession he will get also something. All the sisters will get something, the married ones perhaps less than the other. Theophilus knows he won't be able to live from this $\frac{1}{2}$ acre. "If situation is better I will try to buy on the road. The back land is cheaper - about 50/- but is only good if you are raising goat." He would like to be able to go for work to USA. But it is difficult to get a ticket. "Sometimes 40 are on the list, and only 4 or 5 tickets."

Farming.

Theophilus farms the family land. The house was built by father but "it needs badly repair." Out of 3 acres $\frac{1}{2}$ acre is resting this year. He has about 100 roots of bananas. He planted them after his father's death. The ones which father used to plant "died out of Panama disease." His bananas look healthy, are planted in regular distances. He manures them with mango leaves and grass. He doesn't plough it in but puts round the trees "to keep soil cool." He has now 29 hands, 48 hands and 37s. He sells his bananas. There are ~~about~~ 40 bread fruit trees. He planted 2, the rest were planted by his father. He estimates that each tree gives about 100 breadfruits a year. He doesn't sell them. They are used for "family and feed the hog. 6 breadfruit we boil for one meal for the hog." He has some coffee trees. They were still planted by his father. "Coffee die out. Trees them get old." The picking time for coffee is in August. He gets about 50 lbs. Sells about half of it for $4\frac{1}{2}$ d in Octob. The rest he keeps for house use. He has 5 chocolate trees. One tree gives about 2 quarts. It sells for 9d a quart of dry beans. He keeps a part for own use, and sells a portion to the chinaman. He has 1 square under corn. It gives "when good" about 32 quarts. This he keeps for own use exclusively. He planted 60 hills of yams of all kinds: yellow, white and negro. The yellow yams give the biggest crop - about 50 lbs from one hill. The white - about 30 lbs and the negro also about 30 lbs. Theophilus doesn't sell yams. He keeps it for own use. He has 1 square of cocoa. This is both for own use and he sells it to "speculators". Mrs. Bee Brooks and Mrs. Lynch are the speculators to whom he sells. Cocoa sell for 6/- or 7/- hundredweight. He has about 1 square of badoo, this is also partly for sale. He gets from speculators 8/- per hundredweight. $\frac{1}{4}$ square of ginger is planted in his farm. He keeps some "to make tea, very healthy". Cane he planted 3 years ago. The one planted by his father "died out". He has only 1 square of cane and does buying only once a year. "Last buying in June, I sold a little - one barrel for 2 shillings. Got 4 barrels, it makes 4 tins 5 dozens each." He sells also his cane "by the square" It means that the ripe cane ~~is cut~~ only is cut by the purchaser. He sells 8/- for the square (of ripe cane only) It is difficult to estimate how much he keeps sugar and how much he sells. Anyhow sugar is bought in the shop as well. There are 6 pimento trees. One tree bears about 12 lbs which is sold for $4\frac{1}{2}$ d a lb. 2 mango trees for own use only. Some ackee trees for own use. He plants gango peas and red round peas - the last is a quick growing variety. Cabbage "Cabbage don't come very bright", but tomatoes are a success. "Tomatoe bear nice, sometimes 12 big from one plant. I sell it to the post office and people here buy it."

14.7.47.
T.O.

Tomatoes he plants from seeds and when it is about half-machette high he transplants them. Seeds used to be in the shop, not now. He has also a plant - leaves - "wild ginger or tenbrik" Its root is used for curry. The root is yellowish it has to be dried. The shop buy it for 1d a pound. But since 2 years they don't buy it any more, anyhow it is not worth while the work. It is called wild ginger, but it doesn't grow wild, it is on the farm land. Theophilus hasn't got any coconut palms. He estimates that a palm gives about 50 nuts a year, and it bears all the year round. People grate it and boil the oil, but it doesn't keep long.

He has a bull, He bought it in January for £5. "It was a small calf, but now I would refuse £11. for it". It looks a big animal, and well cared for. "I have a sow, put it out. It will have pigs in February, 7,8,9, pigs." The pigs he sells when they are about 6 weeks old. "short pig (female?) for 12/- and borrow (boar?) for 15/-". The price is not according to the weight, but the "short pig fetches a lower price, I couldn't understand why. He keeps two pigs for own use. The sow is fed with cooked bread fruit, cane. 6 boiled bread fruit go for one meal for the sow. He doesn't keep goats, as they destroy the plantations, no fowls "because of the mangoes" and no rabbits. I asked him where he learned about farming "I watched from I was small."

Shopping. There are many food items which have to be bought. His mother cooks for 4 persons: herself, two adult sons and one small girl - her granddaughter. "For shop alone we spent 6/- a week." They buy flour "when yam finish", oil, sugar, meat, salt, soap, salt-fish, bread "Prefer yams and bread fruit" milk condensed and cow milk. For clothes, he buy material at Miss Fan. For pants he needs 2½ yards. It is khaki at 6/- per yard. Mr. White the tailor charges 6/- for "common pants". He This includes his work and buttons, pockets etc. So 1 pair of "common pants" costs 21/-. Theophilus walks barefooted in clean but not too new clothes. I met him several times. His brother Lucius is always very elegantly dressed, walks on the main road with his guitar, spends a lot of time in the china shop and is known in the village as a Don Juan. He has children with many girls - one of the the servant at teacher's. Theophilus promised to visit me on Wednesday. He gave me some information on sawyers - see non agricultural occupations.

Thursday 17.7.47.T.O.

Theophilus Carter came - as promised - Wednesday afternoon. Gave many interesting details of the "Pondpasture Cricket Club" of which he is a member. (see Village Institutions, cricket club) He is very proud of his cricket achievements.

Occupations of the family members: "Joset go to shop, she bring water. I go to wood, look after the ground. ~~My ground~~ Mother cooks, does the washing.

Utilization of land.

"My ground is to me alone. The portion I cultivate is round 5 square with banana and cane. Lucius (brother) cultivate 3 square. My sister - she can't work. (Gertrude). What belongs to me belongs to my mother, and what belongs to my mother belongs to me just the same.". Together with his brother they cultivate 8 squares out of 3 acres of farm land. About 2 acres are left uncultivated to raise animals. "Every year I work at different place. Wouldn't get such a good crop without this. The soil is not rich enough to work every year." The only manure applied is mango leaves which he brings to his banana plantation and lets them rot there.

Asked about the cultivation he repeated the same as 2 days ago: plants: banana, badoo, cooe, ginger - $\frac{1}{4}$ square, yam - 60 hills - 1 square of land, peas, cassava. Badoo is not cultivated with yams, it is on a separate plot (1 square) together with corn.

Rotation.

"Banana will remain the same place. I get a bigger portion next year for banana: wher yams previouslz - wher ginger. Badoo and corn - I will put that in cane. Next year I work a different portion to plant yams, cassava, peas and cooes. Ginger - another spot too. Banana pay - they pay more than cane"

Neighbours:

On the main road near the Weight's shop: "Harold Doyle house, he is living there, Enid Plummer, the lady that was teaching. Doyle has two boys, they live there too. Last year since he came from America he bought the house from the Buil. Soc. he repaired it. He bought the house with land - 4 squares of land. It was Miss Pong's property. A gentleman was living there - Colley, the owner of the shop. Nobody was living after - the house was broken down."

"Headman Lynch - they call him. He is from Lynch Town. Fred Lynch's brother."

In the "bachelors house" on the hill behind the road island live three men: Andrew Napier, Beckwill Lynch and Paper Dixon - son of Daddy Dixon. They ~~xxx~~ are all cultivators, except Lynch who "split shingle and cultivate". "Then work at a place at Sibity - Bottom Warsop at Mr. Robinson's premises."

Interview with
Theophilus Carter.
1.8.47.
J.O.

Yam cultivations.
Planting.

Carter planted this year 60 yam hills. Planting was done in February and March. ~~He~~ Out of the total number of 60 yam hills, 7 were Negro yams and the remainder Yellow yams. Yellow yams were of 3 varieties: Whitefee; Renta and St. Vincent. He dug only 3 St. Vincent yam hills. The remainder was Whitefee and Rental. Negro yams were all planted in February, all Yellow yams in March.

Ways of aquisition.

"I never buy the yellow yams. My father dead and leave yellow yams for me." "I bought only the Rental." "Negro ~~yam~~ yams - my brother give me a few hills."

Harvesting.

"First crop Negro yams. They will be reaped in September. St. Vincent - also September. They are quick yams. Whitefee we will crop in December. Rental - in February."

Why he did not plant Negro yams in March and April April to have crops in October and November? "Negro yams - you cant buy a head in April or March. Some have them now and these can be planted."

Consumption.

With this method of planting yams they secured feed for the family chiefly for September and at best for the part of October. No yams will be harvested in October and November. But these months their bananas will be reaped. "We expect bananas, we cut it. We sell bananas and buy feed in the shop." What feed? Bread, ~~fix~~ flour, fish.

They plant yams only for the home use. "I never sell it - it is for my own home use."

Catch-crops.

Besides yams he planted also a number of catch-crops through yams. "I plant them very wide" and so the number of catch-crops planted through ~~bananas~~ yams is considerable.

He planted some ~~cecees~~ in March and April. "Never check it. It is around 100 ~~cecee~~ bits. You can get them December, January."

In May he planted some gungoo peas "in between". He put "4 grains in the hole" and made altogether 300 holes. They were planted not so much in May, as "around April". He ~~xxxxxxx~~ gets the first dry gungoo peas in July.

Now, in July, he started to plant cassava - ~~Karan~~ "around 150 sticks". It will be reaped only next year.

He made also some 300 holes of badee. This was planted together with corn. Badee was planted "April to May - I planted the fingers." Corn was planted in May /150 reets of yellow corn/. It is cropped now, in July: "breaking corn now".

Badees will be reaped next March. "It has to burn down before they are dug. Around March. You can keep it around 4 months" if the reets are exposed to the sun day after day, kept in the dry place during the night. When thoroughly dried, badees "can be stored" ~~xxxxxxx~~ for 4 months even.

Inf. Wilhelmina and Theophilus Carter.

After the death of Josiah Carter Wilhelmina Carter lives with her son Theophilus and her grand-daughter Joseta. Her son Lucius lives separately but comes for meals. The daughter Gertrude built on the family land a grass hut where she lives with ~~two~~ of her children. She has ~~three~~ four children each with a different father. One daughter is with corporal Dwyer. Gertrude cooks for herself. She takes in washing and is helped by the man with whom she lives now.

Informant Miss Eda:

(Verbatim) "Gertrude Carter is a rotter. She used to live with a chinaman who had a shop. She had a child for the old Rutty. When he came from America his wife was sick. He employed Gertrude to care for the wife, and she (Gertrude) had a child for him. This child is with corporal Dwyer. The chinaman had a bad stomach. The doctor told him to operate but he wouldn't and he died. After his death his brother took everything. Gertrude ill-treated the chinaman (with whom she lived). The brother gave Gertrude a few pounds. She had some valuables. A tilly lamp. £4 or 5 for a tilly lamp. She sold it and other things and put up a little house. She runs all over the place. "