

Wednesday  
4.6.47.  
T.O. & J.O.

27/21/43

Family Record 131  
10.4.

Campbell	Mary	Head	F.W.60/	Farmer
"	Clinton	Son	M.S.22	Farm labourer
"	Basil	Son	M.S.20	
Woodfine	Velroy	G/son	M.S. 4	

Met Mr. Clinton at Griffith's ginger planting in the Cockpit valley. He headed a caravane on the way back of girls, boys and goats. He said: "they look as a regiment of general Zoukov". He told he had 5 acres farther in the Cockpit near the Ginger River and offered to call on us Saturday at 7 a.m. to take us with him to his place. We parted - he and his colleagues going towards the Baptist Church and we towards the main road.

Mr. Clinton Campbell called unexpectedly on us on the same day at 3 p.m. Invited to sit down he said something about his mother being ill and embarked upon his life story and his views on politics etc.

Family history

"My mother was a Johnson from Low River. Father died in 1928. He was from Manchester. His first wife was a Carter. One sister married Woodfine - son of old Andrew Woodfine. He was authorized. / Which means he was a village constable. / Mr. Campbell explained that he was during the war on the list to join the R.A.F. He passed the education test and health test. However "My blood was somewhat positive". And consequently he couldn't be accepted. Got injections from a doctor. He cherished the memories of his school career. "My teacher was U.A. Walters. He taught here for 27 years. I used to go to a taylor but mother couldn't afford it. I make my pants myself. If I give them to a taylor it is only to give him the benefit of money. I am intelligent. Reverend Friskine liked to talk with me, I had good arguments." "I remember once at school teacher told me to make a sentence. I wrote 'I was lated to school'. I got a flogging for it. I ~~remember~~ remember this flogging. I always say 'I was late'. I remember now. Other people don't talk properly. They buy - I bought, they say I eat, I feed, I say - I eate, I fed. I used to go to school when it was at the baptist church and one year at the new place. I left school 9 years ago."

School career.

Use of school knowledge &

politics

"I write to Mr. Bustamente the minister of railways, to Mr. Pixley of social welfare, Mr. Fox ---, for vacancy. Sometimes they reply me 'No vacancy as yet Campbell'. You have plenty intelligent people in the Labour Party. Rev. Black, Rev.... Rev... , many intelligent people. Pixley is a solicitor - has the education. He /?/ hasn't education but ~~many~~ plenty of common sense. Mr. Pixley went to the King's house and asked for protection as the governor doesn't give protection and Mr. Pixley had a little disturbance in Edwards /?/ street. Mr. Lindo - he is an intelligent man and independant. The whole portion of St. Mary belongs to the Lindos. He is a nice man, I have seen him once. West Indian Federation. I believe it will be prosperous. Mr. Bustamente is against. In the House there are illeterate men and most of the joined the Labour Party. I want good wages and this is why I like intelligent people and I like the P.A.P. "

Asked why and how he travelled in Jamaica he said: "I go to parished on excursions - only to know the Parishes. I tried to look for vacancies in Kingston, St. James, Manchester. Intelligent persons inform you about the land you travel by. Mr. Nita belongs to my constituency. He won."

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Election  
technique

Mr. Powell was for Independants, Mr. Sparks for Labour. The fight - was excellent. Once Mr. Nita lost - previously. It cost him a lot of money and he was half broke and his wife had to leave him, he couldn't support her. So he took another chance. I made a session with my tenants and told them to vote for Mr. Nita. My polling station was where Murray lives. There was another at Dwyer's place and at Dixon's, and others. All sides and New Road voted for Labour. At Corporal's /Dwyer/ and at Carters - all for P.N.P. i.e. Warsop Top & Bottom./

Influence  
of Mrs.B.

In my needs and distress I go to Mrs. Brissett. She lent me money. She stood for Independent. If she stood for Labour she would have won. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Politics.

Since he /Nita/ was elected for the house - people are against him. Mr. Nita didn't vote / didn't understand on what occasion in the House/  
We want more lands. We have plenty of springs - in other parts they need more (to be done concerning water supply) More cultivation. He /Nita/ moved a motion but we haven't seen anything. The motion doesn't take effect at all. They don't like him(Nita) Bustamente doesn't like the P.N.P. at all and they turned the plan (of Nita).

Land  
acquisition

We bought 5 acres in the pokpit at 40/- per acre. Plenty of lumber - we sell and still have the land. To get the title cost £2,11/-. Mother bought it. When I looked through the papers it was only 4 1/2 acre. I take my pen and write Mr. Commissioner of Land that my mothe paid for 5 acres and there is only 4 1/2. Lovely land. We have 1 acre in the village. 46 bread fruit.

And family  
land.

Mother has 4 acres at Low River. Her father left her 8 acres but there was some rascality. Her father's brother changed the will and she got 4 acres. It is cultivated by her brother. He pay us in crops. A truthful brother-in-law. The uncle - he robbed the land and can't sell it. It is family land.

Near the house we have pimento, bananas, bread fruit coffee, gungoo peas. We are tired of gungoo peas. I can sent you some if you like. I like to give away. I want to have money to help others.

School  
career  
again.

When I was at school Inspector came. He said 'I give them 10/-; the teacher pu 5/-'. (For an contentst examination prize.) He said: you are the three heroes of the class. (Including Campbell and two others.) He said: if 28 parrots take 28 days from here to England, how long it would take for one parrot from here to Englan? I said: the same 28 days. He asked.... (something about a Prophet and the Angel which I couldn't catch) and I said: Jeraboh.

If I had done the worst thing at school - teacher overlooked Campbell. I left school in 1938.

Whites in  
Jamaica.

Here white people are very proud - they won't say to a black man how do you do. You are sociable people.

Activities  
of the Lite-  
rary & Social  
Club.

x  
I belong to the Club. There are no newspapers or books. Plenty girls. Boys love jumping. Music is extra good. There is a musician - he is great. A saxa man. Everybody feels good. I can play a little banjo. Rumba box - with

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6 or 4 blades.

Cricket.

Migration  
to other  
parishes,

Wanderings.

Found a  
job.

I play cricket - plenty boys play cricket. My dad was an old batsman. He used to make 117. Douglas Carter is a fair batsman. In May-Pen I picket a trick and I learned him. In May-Pen I worked there at gas station. Just travelling and find it (the job). They like country boys. They don't steal. If boys (here) do it they have it in mind or need it. I travelled : to Christiana. I have a brother here. Stayed for 2 weeks, but got no job. There wasn't a job for me. I go after to Porus. No money. People say I am intelligent. My first place at the police station. I am no thief so I go to the police station. I told my name to sergeant and asked if it liable the Government to keep me for night." At the police station he was given accomodation for the night, tea in the morning and the sergeant gave him 2/- and othe policemen 1/- He then proceeded to Clarendon and applied to the Government Railways. There was no job for him but he got 1/6. " I went to Fourth Path in Clarendon and again at the police station. They let me sleep there and give me tea in the morning but no money - they were tight in their hand. At May Pen also spent night at the police station and in the morning they give me tea. I stay there. First day I find no job, Se cond day I find no job. I have no friend there. The third day break found me with 9d. My God was so good. There was a gentleman. I said "Good morning Sir, ladies and gentlemen, also". "Where are you from" . 'Trelawny' 'Which part' 'Warsop' 'I am looking for a job' 'Can you read and write?' He gave me a piece of paper and said 'Write your name for me'. I have never write my name so pleasant. He asked me: ~~How much money~~ 'How much money for 5 gallons at 2/3?' I said it is easy and mental and told him how much. He asked for recommendation paper. I told him I haven't, but I am honest. He said 'I guess you are not a rascall.' 'God forbid'. I sell for 9 months. ~~Never make a mistake.~~ ~~I got a telegram - sister sick. I has to go.~~ ~~Tears in my eyes to live my job.~~ I leave there (Warsop) September 3rd 1945, came back May 1946. I earned 35/- per week. No expenses for board and lodging. I basket was sent for me. (?) I was in close collegion with boys which have rooms. I get 1 1/2 to go to market (each Saturday). I sent to mother 15/- or £ 1 every week. And write letter. (He gave the text and the text of the answers but I haven't got them).

Mother.

Use of  
school e-  
ducation.

British  
administra  
tion.

My mother is my favourite love. She send me to school For that ~~ivxexpvckvwx~~ reason I respect her. Looking for a job they ask you 'Can you read and write'. Also in the Church. ~~arson~~ said: 'Hymn No....' A man - he opened his book like that: (Upside down) I was in sympathy with the man.

I shouldn't have been a British subjest - for ~~thatx~~ the reason - they don't want to know how you live. Don't give job - like America. The try find out how you dead. I am sorry that I am a british subject.

Business is business. Friend is not business. Function is pleasure. Business is business."

At this moment came another guest and the conversation took a more general turn. We talked about folk-songs etc. There are no ~~love-songs~~ folk love songs in Jamaica. They gave me texts of some songs / see file folkculture/.

Sid  
copy

Interview with  
Clinton Campbell.  
10. IX. 47.  
J.O.

Constitution of  
the family.

Following people constitute the ~~fx~~ household:  
Mary Campbell, ab. 47 years old. Cleveland Campbell, her  
eldest son, 27 years old. Clinton Campbell, next son, 25  
years old. Basil Campbell, the youngest son, 20 years old.  
Inel Campbell, the only daughter staying at home, invalid  
/paralysed/, 29 years old. Her two sons: ~~How~~ Hugh /11 years/  
and Delroy /9 years/ Woodfine. These two boys are sons  
of Haselton Woodfine, lawful son of Andrew Woodfine from  
his second marriage. He is now in Portland. "He went to  
Portland to work. He marry and his wife died." He does not  
come to Inel any more. "Round 7 years lived with Inel."  
He had no other children besides those who ~~xxx~~ were born  
by Inel. They parted some years ago: "they had some con-  
tention", little fighting." Haselton left his father's  
home, because ~~h~~ "he liked to exchange for the time." He  
may come back and expects to inherit from his patrimony.

Family ~~farm~~ land.

Only 25/. are left  
to be paid still  
for this land.

Family land is composed of 3 parcels of different  
size, all owned by their mother, Mary Campbell. They have  
1 acre in the village around the house; then 5 acres "in  
Crownland", on Ginger River; this parcel was bought by  
Mary Campbell from the Government in 1929. The third par-  
cel is in Low River. It was inherited by his mother out  
of the property of 56 acres, to which 7 familie had ~~xxxx~~  
claims. His mother got 8 acres from this property, though  
it is doubtful whether ~~her~~ rights she exercises full  
rights to this land. The land is ~~ix~~ is worked and utili-  
sed by some relatives of her. They pay for the use in  
of land in crops and cash. "Yam - we get from it. A don-  
key load each year. That is ~~fx~~ for house provision,  
put away from what is sent to market. They pay for ~~whix~~  
what they sell. Sometime we get 30/., sometime 40/."

Family farm.

3/4 acre is culti-  
vated in this par-  
cel.

~~Family farm~~ ~~They are farming~~ Actual farm land  
worked and cultivated by the family consists only of  
6 acres. Out of this 6 acres only ~~xxxx~~ the first par-  
cel /1 acre around the house/ is ~~under~~ wholly, or almost  
wholly under cultivation. 5 acres on Ginger River are ~~only~~  
cultivated only in part. Only about 1 and 1/2 acre is  
under cultivation. Around the house they have some cane  
/"only a few roots"/, bananas and ground-provisions.  
On Ginger River they have 3 breadfruits, and they had  
previously some coffee, but "coffee died out". They have  
also in Ginger River ab. 130 yam hills, ab. 200 cocoes and  
300 badoes. Also bananas. He Clinton planted over there  
ab. 125 roots of bananas.

The bananas on the family farm do not consist only  
125 planted by Clinton. His brother Cleveland planted  
130, and Basil 150. But he did not say whether these  
cultivations are near the house or on Ginger River.

Farming activities. How they are organised?

Work on the farm is organised in the following way. "Cleveland /the oldest brother/ is responsible for all the cultivations." But each of the brothers cultivates by himself and on his own account. Thus Clinton's cultivations consist 125 bananas recently planted and 30 yam hill; they include also a proportionate amount of cocones and badoes. Cleveland's contribution to the family farm is represented by 130 bananas, and Basil's - by 150. Clinton and Basil cultivate their ground provisions together: this item is represented by 100 yam-hills.

Each of the brothers makes his own cultivations on his own and they do not pool the revenue from the sale of their products. They cover the expences of the enterprise from their own recources. They only contribute to the household expences in crops or money. There is no fixed amount to be paid ~~for~~ by each of them ~~for~~ to buy food ~~or~~ and to cover other ~~expenses~~ running expences. They pay when they can and what they can. One day one of brothers, another day - another one.

Work on farm.

Work on farm - owing to their separate enterprises - is carried separately and they rarely unite for a common work. They are dispersed in their work not only because of this; also because they work from time to time for ~~the~~ other people. Again other people come to work on their fields in exchange for ~~the same service~~ a similar service rendered.

This can be illustrated by the following routine of work, which was kept and is expected to be held by Campbell-brothers this week.

Clinton.

- Monday - He was "carrying shingles for Stephen White." 500 shingles were brought by him. He got for this 2/. and a meal /lunch/.
- Tuesday - Ditto.
- Wednesday - Ditto.
- Thursday - He stays "home with my mother, because she is sick."
- Friday - "Low River going on to look for the families." He will visit "two of my uncles, because they are sick." He goes to help them in the field-work: "to weed yams." He wont receive any ~~money~~ money for this: "just meals over there". They always help each other: "close cooperation" between the families.
- Saturady - He will return home from Low River.

~~Clinton~~

~~Monday - He worked with Halwig White, breaking yam bank/ploughing~~

Cleveland.

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- Monday - "Worked with Thomas Barnes: Weeding ground." This was on the "day for day" basis - Thomas Barnes ~~worked previously~~ for him. Got no money for this; only had his mid-day meal on the spot.
- Tuesday - Barnes come back to work with him on his cultivations ~~on~~ at Ginger River.
- Wednesday - Worked at Ginger River on his own cultivations planted bananas.
- ~~Worked with xxx~~
- Thursday - Worked with and for Alphous Campbell weeding yam."Day for day" service.
- Friday - Worked at Ginger River - "planting bananas."
- Saturday - "Stayed at home with my mother, cooking for my mother, because she is sick."

Basil.

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- Monday - "Worked with Helwig White, breaking yam bar for him."/ploughing/. "Day for day."
- Tuesday - "Went to Ginger River, planting hananas on his own cultivation."
- Wednesday - "Went to work with Gladstone McLeish, weeding bananas. Day for day."
- Thursday - "To-day will be at Ginger River, planting bananas" on his own cultivation.
- Friday - "Will be working with Gerald White - weed cane for money:2/. and a meal."
- Saturday - Again at Ginger River. Will be "weeding grass pn yam field."

Childrens' work.

Hugh and Delroy go to the school regularly, but they ~~work~~ do also some ~~work~~ household work. They get every day at 5.30 a.m. Their first task is to bring water. "Morning - they carry water first, 6 buckets." Water spring is not far ~~from the house~~ - "a couple of chains from the house." Then they get "bread and tea in the morning." After the breakfast they go to the school. At 12.30 p.m. they get another meal: Breadfruit, cocoe, yam and bananas - all cooked - and salt fish. After the meal they go again to the school. They are back about 5 p.m., when they get another meal - "just the same" as the midday meal. then they "study their lessons at 6 p.m. and got bed at 7 p.m. Go to sleep at seven."

This is their regular routine of day. Additionally "after coming back from the school they go shopping and sometime sent up to other people." On Fridays or Saturdays they bring wood. "Wood chiefly on Saturday, sometime Friday." They do also shopping on these days.

Meals and homework.

Owing to work on other people's fields and for other people, the members of the family share only morning and evening meals, when they stay at home. They are "together at night only". Men have they midday meals at the place of their actual work or, when working on they own fields, sometimes have no midday meal at all. ~~xxxxxx~~ ~~the members of the family~~ Full course of three meals have only women staying at home: mother and sister of three brothers. Sister's children have two meals daily not at home, but at their grandfather, Andrew Woodfine. They have at home only evening meal.

Meals are cooked either by mother or sister or one of the brothers. This happens when both women are sick and cannot do the cooking. One of the brothers stays then at home and cooks the midday meal. The evening meals are ~~xxx~~ are also cooked frequently by men.

~~xxxxxx~~ This week the division of labour in the family ~~xx~~ is the following:

- Monday - "Monday evening I cooked the meal"/Clinton/ - the meal was cooked of "food", fish and flour. 1 shilling was spent which was given by Clinton
- Tuesday - "I cooked the meal - 1/. spent."
- Wednesday - ditto
- Thursday - "To-day I will cook the meal on the evening."
- Friday - !
- Saturday - ! Basil will cook the meal.
- Sunday - !

For the meals during the day sometimes 1/6, sometimes 2/. are spent. Last week money was given by Clinton. Cleveland did not give anything: "Cleveland did not have money anyway."

Plans for next week work. Day for day labour.

Plans for the next week are the following: "Next week my sister will cook the meal. Next week I will be carrying lumber for Stephen White all the week. Cleveland will be working - cultivating. Basil will be bouting cane with Gerald White - for him."

"Day for day" labour is ~~we~~ preferred than working alone on own field. "When he alone work, he dont do as much work, as if they work both of them."

Clinton's marriage. Clinton was about to marry a few years ago. It was when he expected to enter R.A.F. and passed all the ~~xxxx~~ exams for it. When his blood was found positive and ~~that~~ ~~it~~ and he was rejected from the service in R.A.F., his plans of the future career went down. He dropped his plan to marry and ~~stayxxxxsinglaxns~~ nothing changed from that time. He would marry however if he could get a job. Otherwise he would not be able to cover the expences of the marital life. He will not marry until he will be able to provide his wife with everything which she needs for her ~~xxxxxxxix~~ happiness.

¶

"I would'nt like her when I marry to go and weed grass for other people. I would like to make her happy."

"A girl expect good life. Good life seem to me: she have all that she need; have her home, have her clothing, and have her money to spend and make her happy; but not going and beg others."

Of course, people can marry even when they are poor. "If the wife is helpful in working, they can make life. She is working while man is working. She can plant cassava and yam hills and help him to weed the grass to save the expences. Out of the hundred, you will find 75% of that. Unless she is seamstress or a business woman."