

C.D.22. Sbd. 13. Household 37.

Burke Ernest	Head	M.M.49.	St.Christpher.Black	Angl.	W.3.	Farmer
,, Maria	Wife	F.M.44.3.2.	St.El.	,,	W.2.	Homemaker
Ellington Hazel	StDau	F.S.25.3.2.	,,	,,	W.3.	Fam.help
,, Myrtle	,,	F.S.20.1.1.	,,	,,	W.3.	,,
Brooks Anette	StGrDau	F.S. 7.	,,	,,	,,	,,
Rhoden Kathleen	,,	F.S. 3.	,,	,,	,,	,,

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The family occupies two buildings in 1943: one bigger, where Burke Ernest and Maria lived, and another smaller, where the remainder of the family was accomodated.

Their farm in 1942.

Yare p. 7.

In 1942 Burke occupied his farm land as owner for 9 years. His land is in one parcel, 4 acres large. 2 labourers worked on his farm last week 1942 for wages for 2 days. He works on his farm for 40 weeks per year, 3 days per week and 8 hours per day.

2 acres are in cultivation, 1 acre in grass /0,5 in guinea grass, 0,5 other pasture grass/ Other land: 1 acre.

Chief source of income: tomatoes /tobacco and casava and roots besides/.

Value of farm L150. Value of ~~waxes~~ buildings L50. No mortgage.

1 cathment.

Cultivations: 0,1 a. cabbages - 50 heads.

Okras ~~ii~~ 4 rows 11 yards each, 40 dozens. Peppers - 12 lbs. Escallions 6 rows 11 yard each, 75 bundles. 0,25 a. tomatoes - 1008 lbs. 0,1 a. melons - 9 doz.

1 ackee - 32 heaps. 2 avocados - 8 doz. 4 coconuts - +/3 not fruiting/ - 150 doz. 8 mangoes - 800 doz. 1 naseberry - 20 doz. 1 pawpaw - 12 no. 1 cashew nut - 10 quarts.

0,2 a. corn - 2 bushels. 1 a. congo - 4 bushels. 0,1 red peas - 1 bushel.

1 a. cassava - 1000 lbs. 0,25 ~~haxe~~ a. potatoes - 560 lbs. 0,05 a. white yams - 56 lbs. 0,1 a. yellow yams - 900 lbs.

0,25 a. tobacco - 100 lbs.

Stock: 2 sheep. 3 goats. 2 swines. 6 hens - 4 doz. - 1/6d. per dozen.

~~XXXXXXXX~~, Tues.,
February, 24, 1948.
E.F.

Family Record ~~for~~ 64

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~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Interview With Myrtle Ellington

Myrtle Ellington is ~~xxxxx~~ a grand daughter ~~into~~ Henreita Brooks. Myrtle said she ~~has-a~~ was born in her Grand Ma Henreitta's house, grew up there too, but her name does not appear on the census schedule.

CAREER

School: She attended the Bull Savannah elementary school. She impressed as not wanting to talk much about school -about anything. This was possibly because she had to take dinner to somebody who works at the Ja. Veg. Factory and for whom she cooks.

(We sat in the yard. There were some children about, one of them a boy of about 8, is her son. He was leading a high saddled bicycle about the yard. Myrtle was watching his every movement, fearing perhaps that the boy would attempt to ride the bicycle. ~~xxxxxxx~~ He did not impress as being able to ride.)

After School

Myrtle began working when she was 16. She had left school then. She worked in the factory. She has never worked in tomato fields. In 1937 when she was 19, she went to do "domestic" work in Hanover, and yet she says she is now 24. She is a medium ~~xxxxxxx~~ height girl and thin; -appears to be somewhere between the age of 25-30 years.

Helping to build factory First time she worked after leaving school was when the factory was being built. She carried stones and water at 4.5 and 7.5 pence per day. She worked ~~at~~ at the factory for a "long long long time." She has no idea for what period of time that was.

she left off

As fish Vendor

After/working at the factory she used to buy fish in Alligator pond and sell it in Bull Savannah. Her sales were usually confined to Thatch Walk, sometimes extended to Over the road, but never into Top or Bottom Bull Savannah or any other area in Bull Savannah.

Her friends

Myrtle prefers male to female friends, because she finds that female friends are not usually true, the male friends on the other hand can be told anything, without there having to be a feeling of fear ~~xxxxx~~ about whether they will keep the secret.

Henreitta was not at home. He had gone out some ~~xx~~ time before to see one of her daughters Myrtle said Miss Henreitta arrived later, but could not be interviewed as she ~~xxxxxxx~~ hinted early that it being late evening she would be having to go about some business. She looked towards the kitchen as she ~~xxx~~

She complained about the times -the drought in particular. Her water tank has gone dry: she had gone to her daughter to get some water. The water was to be brought up by someone else.

She promised to give an interview/^{at some} another time. ~~The~~ girl in the yard began to beat something in a wooden mortar. This proved to be cassava flour. The girl about 18, was not born in this village nor does she live here permanently. She is from Dunder Hill -is working in the factory, and will remain in Bull Savannah for the duration of the tomato crop.

This girl said her name is Delores Nicholson. She was really named Dell but she does not like the name Bell, and so she changed it to Delores. She was neatly clad in a blue cotton frock, wore a pair of brown shoes in considerable need of cleaning. She spoke with bright easiness. While she beat the ~~xxxx~~ cassava into flour, Myrtle who had in the meantime gone into the kitchen, came out with a lunch basket and left the premises.

very/
Second Visit.

Friday, Feb. 27,
1948.

Ed.F.

Myrtle's mother is Maria Burke (Mrs.) When Myrtle was still a small girl her mother left her in the care of Miss Henreitta Brooks. In Cuba Myrtle's mother married Ernest Burke. Mrs. Burke then ~~came~~ returned to Jamaica accompanied by her husband. They built a house in Hatch Walk and lived there. Myrtle was about 7 when her mother returned. She (Myrtle) did not go to share house with her mother after her return from Cuba. To the moment of the interview she had been sharing house unbrokenly with Miss Henreitta. *Ernest is now dead.*

She meets Sydney McClearie: When Myrtle was about 16 and used to go to Alligator Pond for fish to sell, she met and became a friend ~~to~~ Sydney McClearie. The friendship grew and one day Myrtle found her self pregnant. She ~~was~~ told Sydney. He acknowledged responsibility for her condition. She does not remember any details of her first meeting with Sydney, because that took place a long time ago. Sydney ~~is~~ a fisherman.

Mother's and g.m. attitude to pregnancy: Myrtle's mother scolded and quarreled with her because she (Myrtle) became pregnant. She does not recall what Mrs. Burke used to say to her, but remembers quite definitely that Mrs. B. was ~~was~~ vexed because she was pregnant. ~~xxxxxxx~~ Miss Henreitta on the other hand did not quarrel with Myrtle although said Myrtle -"she was not please'."

Sydney's attitude

Aside from acknowledging responsibility for the pregnancy, Sydney used to send from 4/- to 7/- per week towards the baby's support. He did that for a year -took the baby Selvin Mc Clearie to his home

in Alligator Pond. Her did not give Myrtle any more money after he had taken Selvin away. Myrtle felt very lonely and unhappy without her baby; an urge to have it back assumed unbearable proportions.

One day when Sydney was not at home Myrtle ~~xxx~~ went to Alligator Pond for Selvin who was then 3. ~~xx~~ She took the child - "because mi could not give the one baby."

Myrtle has not been back to Alligator Pond since, nor has she been recieving any money form Sydney. She has never sent any messages to Sydney for money or for anything else. Selvin is going to school. He is entirely supprted by herself.

Cooking for Mr. Smith

Myrtle cooks for a Mr. Smith who is working on the roads in this area. Mr. Smith is from ~~Falmouth~~ Falmouth. He pays her 8' - per week for her cooking of breakfast and dinner. He provides everything for the meals. She be an the cooking in January, the second week in January '48.

Vincent Ellington is her chief boy friend. He lives in Thatch Walk - works on Sam Brooks' truck. When asked about her ~~xxx~~ friends Myrtle reminded ~~xxx~~ that she does not have any girl friends; ~~xxxxxxx~~ She said she had no special boy friends. Asked if her many boy friends were not jealous about one another she said they did "have to know about each other. (NOTE: I suspect she said that hoping I was interseted in becoming attached to her) Later ~~xxx~~ she admitted ~~xxx~~ Ellington is her chief boy friend

Saturday
March 6. 1948
D. B.

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Family Record 64.

Interview with Hazel Ellington.

Family History.

care
mother

Hazel shares house with her mother Maria Mclean, Charles Mclean, her stepfather, Annette and Kathleen Brooks, Hazel's two children. Hazel's mother is now 50, her stepfather is a little older than her mother. Not so much. Easton Ellington, her father, died about 12 years ago. Mother went to Cuba, that is why father did not marry her. Cant say if father liked when mother went to Cuba or not. She stayed around 8 years in Cuba and liked it very much. Come back about 15 years now. "My grandmother Hennieretta Brooks took care of myself and Myrtle Ellington my sister while mother was in Cuba. When mother came back I went home to her, but Myrtle stayed with Grandmother said she raise Myrtle so she wants to keep her. Mother said she will give her up. Myrtle has a child since she is with granny." Hazel went up to fourth standard while at school. My children's right name is Rhoden, but mother says she dont like it. So she gives them the name of Brooks, mother's maiden name.

Why you do not like the name? "Just dont know dont like it at all, I dont like it either. That's why I did not marry their father. Sometimes you make a little mistake." The children's father looks after them well, because he loves them. Kathleen the last one says she wants to go home to her father. Every day she is getting ready to go. Hazel does not want to send her. "She will be left to the world too much" she says. "Their father will spoil them, every thing they do he will satisfy as he loves them. Me no spare them with the whip at all". "Stepfather care for me and the children."

Mother was married about three years after she came back from Cuba. Stepfather comes from Clarendon. Mother met him while she was visiting her sister Birdie Christian (nee Brooks) at Mandeville. "After they were married my stepfather came to live here, because mother said she was not leaving her home to go to a strange place".

Land .

"Its about 4 acres of land we have here. Mother got it from her father Davids Brooks. Grandfather bought it but I dont know from whom neither how much he paid for it. Stepfather bought 8 acres from Louis Elliott at Ballards Valley. That's far away in the woods, dont know how much he paid for it. Dont know if they surveyed it neither."

Occupation.

"Mother, stepfather, and I cultivate. Every one does his or her own little bit. The chief things we plant are, tomatoes, cassava, potato, corn and every little thing to help. Never worry to count how many roots of tomatoes we plant. Some people do that but we never go to that trouble. Sometimes $\frac{1}{2}$ acre or $\frac{3}{4}$ acres cassava is planted. Don't take a check on the portion of potato, just weed up a little place and plant corn and potato right through it. We sell the tomato to the factory but the other things are for the home use."

"The tomatoes pay well according to how they bear. You can get money. We have a donkey, two sheep two pigs, and two goats. It's better to keep the sheep. The goats are too bad, but the little lambies are not so bad."

Housing.

The house is a fine little one. Nicely built of Spanish wall. Neatly furnished with lovely cane seat chairs, and tables. Has two rooms. "Mother built it since she came from Cuba. Cost her a lot to build. Had to buy everything, up to the thatch. Had to go by sea to get the thatch from New Road." The kitchen is a good big one with two parts. One side of the kitchen is used as a store room, and the other side to cook in. "Mother built a lovely tank since she came home from Cuba."

Living.

Hazel does a little work during the tomato season. "Its chiefly ~~task~~ work thought to wrap the tomatoes. We get $1\frac{1}{2}$ d per box to wrap them. It can pay you well if you work very hard. You should see inside the factory too. Its nice in there all kind of things are being done. The food not so bad with us, its chiefly the fish we need. Every day we have to buy. Don't know if we spend more than what we earn, never take any check on it. Have to go to work in the afternoon, but have to iron first. Life is hard you see!"

Religion.

"There are plenty church around this end. Hazel goes to the Anglican church, but "dont join", because she has the children. Better to join when she gets old. Anglican is the strongest in the district."

