

Interview with Gerald Dyer

Sunday, Gerald 26, is the son of Allan Dyer Now dead
July 4, 1948, and Lydian Dyer also dead.

Ed. F. Household: He shares a 2 roomed house he had built with his own money, with Bernet Roye, a sister's son. The premises on which he lives adjoins Annas Dyer's.

*4 acres
taken from
F.R. 132*

This interview was given on the Wintward Elliott premises which is being "overlooked" by Ezra Gordon. I had called to see Gordon, whom I found sitting on the grass under a mango tree, ~~xxx~~ eating mangoes and talking with 2 other men (not identified, save for Gerald who was one of them.)

Gerald was wearing a pair of shoes, newly laundered clothes in good condition, and a felt hat also in good condition. He was curious about what the survey is all about. He was told; he seemed satisfied.

The house and land:

His house is one of 5 built on the land of 15 1/2 acres. On his father's death in 1937, (his mother had died in 1924) the land was jointly left ~~for~~ for his children. Neither his mother or father had children had children by any other union.

Gerald began building his house in February 1946, and completed it in December 1947. Children for whom the premises are left and alive to his mother and father are:

- 1. Naomi Dyer. She is in America.
- 2. Zemina Dyer. She lives in her own house on the ~~pre~~ premises.
- 3. Dudley Dyer; he is a tailor living and operating in Kingston.
- 4. Zillahvine Dyer; She lives on the premises.
- 5. Bradley dyer; he lives on the premises.
- 6. Gerald Dyer; i.e. himself; he lives on premises.
- 7. Lucille Dyer; she lives in Kingston.

-10/6,

Taxes /for the land is paid by all the brothers in Dudley's name. (The names of father's and mother's children as given are in order of age, which however Gerald does not know.)

Re sharing the land:

"We haven't share' the land up; we only live in unity as it is." He does not think any of this land will ever be sold: -"we would buy more instead of selling any, because what we have is not enough.

Dyer

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Cultivations:

The land is cultivated by Bradley, himself and Zillahvine only. He cultivates tomatoes, cassava, congo peas, con and red peas, sweet potatoes and yams, on the same plot as does Bradley; they always work together, and share profits as well as crops from their plots.

Re Dudley

Dudley a tailor in Kingston went there many years ago. He writes home frequently, and comes down sometimes also. He writes chiefly to Zemina, and was last here in December 1946. He is a "big merchant tailor - D.B. Dyer ... has a big tailoring establishment on Laws St."

Re Lucille

Lucille now Mrs. Jones married a man named Herbert Jones in 1944. - "Sh' come to see us regularly; she was here aroun' 2 weeks ago, but since sh' marry wi never go:" He does not go only because it is expensive to go to Kingston and he has no business thate to justify ~~xxxx~~ incurring such expenses.

Re Zillahvine: Zemina.

Zillahvine shares a 2 apartment house with Zemina. This house is one of 3 left by their father. One of the other two is now "mashed down." the other, a 2 apartment is occupied by Bradley Dyer, who shares it with:

- 1. Daisy Sutherland, wife c.l.
- 2. Leonie Dyer dau. 2 1/2 years, to Bradley and Daisy.
- 3. Glenrick Dyer, son to Daisy and Bradley; 6 monyhs.

CAREER

He grew up with his father, brothers and sisters, his mother having died when he was 2. He was taken care of by his father and sisters after his mother's death.

School: He attended the Bull Savannah school from he was 7 till he was 15 and in the 5th book.

After school: Childhood ambitions

"After school a learn to cultivate for miself. Really, when a was in school, a have the mind to be a teacher, but mi father die even before even before a lef' school, an' a couldn' manage it, because a didn' have any help." He has been living by his cultivations since save when in 1945 he went to America as a farm worker.

Farm-worker in Am.

Interview with Gerald Dyer.Savings:

He stayed in America for 8 months. He saved a little money; -"work in Florida wasn't bright." He was in Florida

Investment: of savings: -"A tek it buy mi little house -some of it, because that alone couldn' buil' it."

Conjugal relations

"Mi noh have keep a girl. A did have one once an wi fell out, an' a don't feel to bother with any more now." This girl was Annie Dyer, daughter to Lela Mc Carthy and Aaron Dyer.

Cause of the break:

"Well, sh' was livin' in Kingston; wi was correspond- ing. Somebody come an' tell mi that sh' have another boy frien', an' a jus' get ignorant an' write her a discharge letter." That was " 'round 6 years ago They had used to share house before she left for Kingston.

to marry,

He is not ready, /and for that reason is not bothering about another girl friend now.

Present sex relationships

Asked if he was not now sharing sex relationship with any girl, he said: -"A dey keep mi character;" here he laughed a little and added -"when sayin' so a only jokin': a man don't have any character of that sort to loose, is only a woman;" i.e.-only a woman has character of that sort to loose.

Asked whether he has never had any sexrelations since he left off being friends with Annie, he said -"Mi knock them one one yes !-but mi dont have any special girl, friend. He gives money to the girls with whom he copulates, but the giving of money not demanded by the girls. Said he: -"not a case of compulsory, but if mi have anything mi give them."

He would not name any of the girls with whom he has been having sex relationships; he does not consider it right or decent for him to do that; -"that would be degrading our girls.

Religion: -"I have none at all."

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4.7.48.

His plans:

"Mi greatest plan now is to finish mi home. I think I will marry after that." He does not as yet know whom he will marry; he is watching and waiting. He did not say what remains on his house to be done.
