

Fam. Rec. 176.

J.D. 22. Sbd. 18 Household 13 p.3.3.

Reynolds Esther head. F.s. 41 1.1. St.Eliz. Black. Ang. X. Higglar.
(fish)

*fer farm in 1942.

Under one acre.
1 goat. Value of garden crop £ 1.
1 mango = 38 doz.

Thursday April 1st.
1948

E.d.F.

Interview with Esther Reynolds

Esther is sister to Henreitta Reynolds (F.R.) She lives a one in a little thatched house -roof and walls, thatched. She was born on the land on which hse lives. This land was left by her father William Reynolds, and her mother Dorothy Reynolds for herself and their other children. Among those alive and having claim to the land are herself, her sisters Henreitta and Mrs. Marian Mollison. Mrs. Mollison lives in Shodley, Christiana. Tax

Taxes for the land used to paid by ~~xxx~~ these 3 sisters. Mrs. Mollison is not now paying anything however: that is because she is so far away; her right to sharing in the land stands, in spite of the fact she is not now paying any taxes. She does not ~~xxx~~ "bother" Mrs. Mollison for money for the ~~tax~~ taxes.

Her complaints

She complained about having no water. She was going just then to get some at the factory. The ~~x~~ factory management allows people of the district to get some water sometimes.

Her thatched house is old -is falling. She is almost liveing out of doors for that reason.

Her means of living

Do you work? -"No." How do you live? -"Plait little thatch." This plaited thatch is used to make hats. She sells it at from 4^{1d} ~~xxx~~ to 6^d per 16 yards. Sometimes when the demand for hat straw is not great, she has to sell for as little as 3^d per yard sometimes. She added -"Ah sa, wi a meet it ~~xxx~~ ~~xx~~ yearrie!" i.e. we are meeting it -are running into difficult times.

She last worked for one week and two days. (Note: she must have interpreted -Do you work? as above, for Are you working?) That was during March. Work was in the factory tomato shed at 2/- per day.

What did you do with the money earned? -"Can't tell y'u sa; mi buy bammie and sweet ~~eeeee~~ potatoes and every little thing."

Her children

She had some children but they all died when they were small. She did not say how many. She is not shring house with a male companion -is not sharing house with anybody.

Cultivations

She did not plant any tomatoes, because she had not anybody to do the planting for her. She would have got somebody to do some planting on her land on a share basis but last tomato planting season mold and grass were scarce.

She was wearing a blue shambray frock with an apron around it, when interviewed. She was barefooted; appears to be a full blooded negro.

Two young pigs ~~xxxxxxx~~ played around us. ~~like~~ They nudged with their snouts, and were inclined to bite playfully like puppies do. Esther tried to drive them away with a thick piece of card-board. They ignored the beating. She complained apologetically, that they are very tame.

Henreitta stood nearby listening to the ~~xxxx~~ conversation. Now and then she would volunteer a bit of information when Esther hesitated or seemed uncertain. Esther seemed very conscious of her seniority.

Giggers

I sat on the grass, with one hand resting ~~on~~ from the elbow to the wrist, ~~xxxxxxx~~ on the ground. A hitching on the fore arm drew my attention to what seemed the beginning of a wart growing out from the forearm. I scratched. The little protruding something came out. Hidalgo Rhoden Esther's nephew warned - "A chigger (jigger) fly." Him wi go anywhere in y'u flesh - even y'u private parts!" I hurried clear of the pig rearing area."

Information from Lillian Powell
 who visited and interv. Esther Reynolds
 on 17.6.48.
 J.O. 12.7.48.

Present household.

Esther Reynolds, single, 48.

She is sister of Henrietta Reynolds, daughter of William Reynolds /d/ and Dorothy Reynolds. /See Henrietta Reynolds record/.

House: 1 room, "poor condition", 1 kitchen. Furniture: 1 bed. No tank.

Land: lives on the family land belonging to Henrietta, Esther, and the third sister living in Christiana.

No trees, no cultivations just "a few holes of gungoo peas". 1 pig.

Weekly spendings: \$ 6/- for oil, meat, groceries. Clothes: £ 13 past year.

For her means of living: see family record.

Informant Dudley Simpson.

12.7.48.

J.O.

Dudley knows nothing about any children of Esther Reynolds. She was along with 3 men, but there were no children.

The men she was along with: first was Stanley Francis, next one Ezekiel Facey, the third one: Preston Ford.