

C.D. 22, Sbd, 14, Household 33.

Sinclair	Lenora	Head	F.S. 38	5.4.	St. Eliz.	Black,	Angl.	W.3.	Farmer
Miller	Hellie	Dau	F.S. 13		"	"	"	W.3.	3.E.
"	Ralph	son	M.S. 11		"	"	"	W.2.	3.E.
"	Hena	dau	F.S. 8		"	"	"	W.1.	3.E.
"	Vincent	son	M.S. 3		y	"	"		X

5

Her farm in 1942.

Under one acre.
 2 swine, 1 hen= 3 doz. eggs. Garden crop
 value £ 2. 1 avocado=20 pears. 5 mangoes=
 205 doz. 1 naseberry= 52 doz.

Interviewed Leanora Sinclair.

Present Household.

Friday.
23. 4.48.
I.D.

Leanora Sinclair		Head.
Lena	Miller	Dau.
Ralph	do	Son.
Vincent	do	Son
Doret	do	Dau.

Leanora's nick name is Edith. "My own them don' have any nick name, call them by them right name. Sometime when you go out, some of the nick name them so ugly, and them call it out."

Family History.

Mother Francella Heathe. "die 16 years now." Father Jacob Sinclair. Mother's mother Rachael Powell "did not come from yound here. Mother's father Louis Heathe. Father's mother Dorothy Sinclair, Father's father Daniel Sinclair.

Land

"Only 1/4 acre at home here." Ralph works on Dudley Senior's land on share. The crop was not very good this year. Last year was better. Leanora had a garden last year. Owing to illness she was not able to work one this year. She has a small patch of grass and she uses it to mulch her small garden. She works as a selector. Has been doing this work for 11 years. Selectors are paid 3/- a day. In Ballard's Valley they receive 3/6. The little boy have a good mind. Him will get land. Him will buy in the wood, but him will have to pay dear for it. Leanora inherited the land from her mother.

Work at selecting shed

Illness.

Her Niece Mildred Mitchell whom she reared is now living in Kingston. "Me rear her till she 18, Me teach her to sew, and put her out to sewing, and her mother pay for it. I hear she in T.B. ward now. I fret so tell I can' even sleep at night." Told her ~~that~~ Mildred may recover. "Kalma, a china fellow from round here had it and him get better. Him father die from it and him Aunt give him the father close (clothes) to wear and him catch it. The doctor take out 7 of his ribs, him walk and bend, but him is quite better That Aunt wicked to give him the clothes. Him catch the germs from it."

Leanora's first child Nellie is living in Kingston with Leanora's sister Ina Roache. Ina work with white people all the time. Mildred is teaching Nellie to sew. Miss Ruby Blight taught Mildred to knit.

Mother's death

"I had a baby 6 weeks old when me mother dead. Judge for

yourself. Oh Jesus Christ I hate to remember it, I hate to think of it, poor me. Remember, you know only we 2 in a the house. ~~I could not cook, and she cook.~~ She was havin a cold and rain was coming. She did take ~~I-could-not-cook-~~ the pot off the fire and her foot slip on the fire wall and her face went right over the pot. The steam was in her face, and she come right out in the rain!

She said the head did feel funny, but I did not take it for anything. The night I hear her blowing funny, when I look them two place swell"(she touched her glands). I use warm water, bay rum, and all that. I send Mildred to the shop and sen' her to call neighbour. ~~She never sleep at all, she was torment for the night.~~ She died the following day. ~~When she dead~~ Them hide it from me that she a dead. When I hear she dead, a drop down same place on the wet dirt. Imagine, you know, me and her 2 in the house and me lose her. Lose a mother so good. All when she dead Nellie go pull her frock telling her to come."

Is not like now, we couldn' get doctor or sen' telegram for doctor, by the time you to walk to Alligator Pond, she dead. Lord, me poor, fresh, mother, young woman, poor me."

Childhood.

Leanora went ot school in Bil Savannah. "My teacher was Teacher Harriett and Teacher Blake. Harriett is a Magistrate now at Junction After leave sbhool Mother put me to sewing with Mrs. Maria Lee, and she bought me a Jones sewing machine in 1914."

Marian Rochester has the machine now. She pays Leanora 2/6 a week for using it. "It cheap was dust and she did want it cheaper. Me say no, you must have conscience."

She used to help her mother in the home. "bake bammy and bake them tonBay. Me never keep no bad company. How she bring me up and that happen."(had a baby) I was in church, I was a member for 9 years and the fellow come in the home and give me Nellie, that was the first child and all the others."

Leanora did not go out often. "If a even go a spree sun can' down you de; else you wont get out again. All the work them little one use before me, me lost in wonder many days Me couldn' use it before my mother."

Miller - father of Leanora's children.

"Him go to America 1945 and come back same year. Me hear him live with one ol woman up at Top Hill. Him own 3 apries of his own - a man can live - and him coming ya from 1914 war. Every body cry shame at him. If me mother was alive, him would have to married though."

Is catch she catch him. I hear him get it in him drink
just sprinkle it in it. I hear is 16/- a ounce it sell

at Doctor shop. The balm woman tell me that she run him from me and the children. Is not love. Him support us so nice. Him labour hard. When you see food come home, me can offer neighbour. I tell you, him hamper me life. I fret over it till a jus' lef to dead. I go to carry him to court year before last, and it cost him over £4. When I gawn to law, him ring up lawyer tell him to throw off the case. Him send me 30/- . His side cost him £4."

up

Them fraid of the Judge ~~up~~ there. Him rough on the man them. Him say them just leafe the women astray, give them the children and then leave them to starve to death.

Gertrudy Roy - first wife of David Roy

"Miss Gertie was teaching here, but the pay was not high enough, and she leave go to Ballard's Valley school."

~~Gertrude died when her way home from school.~~ The driver of Gertrude's "buggy" was drunk. On going in her dress got between the wheels. He did not know what had happened, he drove on, and the horse got frightened "and drag her all the time." She died from a broken neck. "People say a han' set for her." Why? "The man was so wil' and as him was getting on well. She was a school misses, see her nose ya." She showed me her first finger to indicate how straight Gertrude's nose was. "and if you hear the twang (how she spoke) That day Bull Savannah dry, Every body lock up and gawn a Valley." Leanora nussed Gertrude's children when she went to work. "Miss Gertie was one nice woman. For about 3 months, Minister Gleaner her."

Jamaican products.

Leanora had some plaited staw in the kitchen. She said many useful articles could be made from it. "I have to say Jamaica girls is ingenious. Americans could not make them. If you see slippers that they make. I see some at Bay one day, I had to hold them and look on them, and say look at Jamaica girl eh, only want good price."

The same thatch (pointed to plaiting) put some people 'pon them foot. Vie Lewis, up there in 1914 war buy mule out a it. She sew the hat and sell it by the dozen. She don' do it again. Is in a her kitchen she start to sell. All a we always go and buy, buy. Last year she enlarge the shop. She only have one child." This same thatch buil' her up."

Mrs. Vie Lewis' business

Charles Lewis

"Her husband wild no deer. Him de with him own daughter in law."

The thatch in the area has been destroyed owing to tomatoe planting. Silver thatch is abundant in Leward property in Westmorland. People carry it up on truck and sell it."

Blight and the elections.

"I hear Teacher Blight going up for this side in next election. Him must get in. Mr. Sangster going up to". Him

is only the lawyer for the growers. It is true if we have any trouble, we go to him. Him better take my good advice and don' go up. He is doing his part, but Teacher Blight did more. Even the little one them can talk about Teacher Blight. Yes, Teacher Blight has done a lot for this district. Him and Major Moxy."

"Teacher Blight have a big fruitful wife. Her family did not want her to married to him." Why? "Being Teacher black Teacher is a wild man. ~~Him wild man~~ Since him leave the school him get wil'er."

Tomatoe money

"I hear Isaac Roy over ya so, draw £196. Calvin Roy make £160. Major Moxy and Teacher Blight must prosper."

Fish selling

Leanora
~~Man~~ used to sell fish. "Fish used to be 1/- a string and I couldn' carry it. Now as knowledge increase more and more, things become dearer and dearer."

Informant Leanora Sinclair

Tuesday
27. 4.48.
I.D.

Leanora and Mrs. Percival Brooks had a quarrel a few years ago with Mrs. Percival Brooks. Leanora's children and Mrs. Brooks' children had a little "fuss" Mrs. Brooks children hit Leanora's and Leanora did not say anything. Another day Leanora's children hit Mrs. Brooks' and ~~she~~ ~~raised~~ Mrs. Brooks called her children and told them to get home and that they were not to play with Leanora's.

"I said oh! is so it go, your pickney them better than mine, because you have on the ring. She start to call me all the whore. And I say to her -(a beg you pardon ma'am) Whe'e you come from, you was a whore and is you come here and teach me to whore. She get false evidence and carry me to Malvern. Well, me go, me did have 2 evidence to', me daughter Nellie and another ~~4~~ person, but that person never turn up."

"When we go to court the Judge say. "I see that all this is a cause from children foolishness, I think you ladies should just shake hands and be done away with it." She wouldn' do it because she know that she have her 2 false evidende. Anyway, me had to pay £5, and it cost her a whole heap a money."

- Eunice -

One of Mrs. Brooks' witnesses ~~was a girl~~ ~~who~~ ~~is~~ was reared by Leanora. "You know that girl suck me breast. The mother had to work and that time I had Nellie. The mother leave her with me, and I put her at my own breast and nurse her, and now the girl go tu'n false evidence 'gainst me. And you know her gramma dream her and say she shouldn' do it. She talk it tell people. She tell my daughter that. I go down 'pon me knee in prayer for her, I read psalms for her." (this was said quite emphatically) "And you know any body you do that fo' can' prosper. She have one baby the other day, it nearly kill her, and the boy don' even own it much more to look after it. Him a boy, after him noh have nothing."

Mrs. Brooks husband is a fisherman and when he is away Wilbert Roy sleeps with her. "The husband seem to get a thought of it and one night him go out and come in back. The keep man did not know him was there and him come in to sleep. Him call and the husband answer like is the wife, that time the wife couldn' talk. Then the husband open the door little. When the keep man see him, him run. Me hear the man hunt all 'bout fe him with maschette. When him ask him what him come there fo, him say him come fo' matches. So them call the woman matches. She wear the trousers, but the man a get wise now, him beat her up sometimes, me all hear him a call her matches."

"People come and shake me han', and say how me get me re-venge quick. Look how the woman get false evidence 'gains

me. I make her know say, that if is ring I want, I could get it. I couldn' be a whore, for is one man can call my name. She sick in de now, and ~~xxx~~ the keep man can' go de go look fe' her. Married now a days is not'in'.

Mr. & Mrs. Sam. Elliott

She was not able to say what caused the quarrel between Mr. & Mrs. Elliott. They are living at Ballard's Valley. Mrs. Elliott is the daughter of Aaron Rochester. "You know some man funny. Him take out all the wife slip and panty a show people how much she got." Leanora said this in a whisper. "You can imagine husband a do wife that? The wife leave and go back to her mother. Him fret till him get maaga. Him couldn' face the wixx yard (mother in law's) Him have to beg Senior go there with him. Miss Cindie never want the wife to go back to him at all. Him have to go down 'pon him knee and beg and beseech before him could get her back. Them living alright now."

Illness in Percy. Brooks family & Use of Ambulance

very close

Just as I went to Leanora's kitchen I saw herself and Benjamin Powell talking in low tones with their heads/together. Ben. left shortly after my arrival. Leanora said "We was just talking about the bus (ambulance) how it nice and pretty. Them have a child over the Brooks them to go to hospital, before them sen' for the bus and take him to Black River. Them goin to get car and go to Mandeville. Me tell them any time me sick don' spen' no whole heap a money to get can. Send for the bus and take me right to Black River to Dr. Johnson. Mus'e the little tomatoe money them get them a spen' out. Anybody can richer than Government?"

Mrs. Bereta Roy.

"She have a daughter in Kingston doing nursing, you don' know that one noh? She don' come home at all, when she get her holidays she spen it at Mandeville with her nurse frien' them. She write to the sister, but she mus' be sen' things for the mother. She don' approve of the mother life at all. All a them, all the Roy them against her. She have pickney for this little boy. The three last boy them is for John Roy - yes ma'am is fe John."

Sometime the man sweetheart cu'se her you see. Them call her all the bad fepance (silver coin worth 3d) Thelma cry and say. "Mama you bring all this on you'self." Bereta and her children stayed at Wilbert Rochester's home after they left the hospital last year. "She no even tu'n her eye de from she lef. Me no even see Willie come ya. Every one a them 'gainst her."

The same John Roy de, me always look after him. The gran mother Esther Roy, did forad, she never count bastard, and as him was a bastard, them never notice him." Esther was

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annt of Dudley Simpson. Me hear when she come ya, when she jus' married, she come with her clothes in a one pillow bag. That's all she did have. She work hard though."

"The toher day me beg John cut Vincent hair fe me. Him say him no have no time. Me say to him, John, you 'member when me use to cut them pretty corn row in you head, him laugh and say yes. Him use to have louse, plenty and me use to cut the hair for him and kill the louse. Them other one wouldn't look after him, and now me see him take the same gramma, and put her in a bowl, ~~and~~ bathe her, and put on her clothes."

Jane Brown.

Leanora asked if I knew Jane. She is a blind woman living below Hustace Senior. "She too bad that's why she blind. She have venerial, but she say is han' set (obeah) The two eye ball drop out in a her lap. Them have it in saucer a show people. Me wouldn't even look 'pon it. I hear when them drop out she say-"What a darkness! What a dark world I am in." Me believe is man had' venerial couldn't make smady eye drop out so. She have one daughter name Hilda (not sure of name) bad same like she.- have people husband."

/They used to live at Top Hill.

Hilda and Knight who works at the factory during the crop, were friends. Knight and his wife lives at Ballard's Valley. "The poor wife never see the man money. Him noh gone home till all 1:00 O'clock a night and him couldn't work so late. She always lay wait the man all in a grass p'ce, same place whe' you walk de. A de the man live with her. Afterward him rent place at Ballard's Valley and the gal use to go there. One night the wife gone in 'pon them. Them wouldn't open the door and she broke the window." Both Knight and his wife were injured. He had to pay the cost of repairing the house.

/Hilda

The friendship between Hilda and Knight broke up. "Westmorland, a shoe maker, take her/add build her up.

Thatch Walk.

"Real venerial place that. You can go there and si' down, all 'bout. You have to be careful." Leanora and the Elliotts ~~are~~ in T.W. are related. "Me noh bother with them. Whole heap a girls live same place and them breed up, breed up. This man breed me and then him lef' and breed a 'nother sister. Real bad life. Thatch Walk is the home for Venerial. It is a place by itself."

False Witness

When telling me of Mrs. Brooks' false witnesses. Leanora said. "My mother tell me that first time, any body take false evidence then swell till them bus. I tell you the only way I would make false evidence is if they goin' to hang you. That time I will give false evidence to save you life, but no other time."

Informant Leanora Sinclair.

Mrs. Levi Lewis.

"You see her de, is fish pan she start with you know. One big man from Town who come at Alligator Pond to buy fish did want to take her to Town. Him see how she pretty, ~~xxx~~ and have nice/but the two foot 'pon groun'. She wouldn' go. The man was a married man. Allthrough her poorness, she have good min'."

"The man Lewis always see her when she a sell the fish, and him ~~gaww~~ gwan talk to her, until me hear say them married, Now, see her de, me and her a family."

Dreams.

Leanora believes in dreams. She dreant sometime ago that a woman told her to buy a ticket in the sweepstake. The woman told her the number of the ticket, but she has forgotten it now. She remembered the number the following morning, but being so far from Kingston she could not get to purchase the ticket. "If I could remember the nubber now, I would buy the ticket, and I would sure to get something."

Mother's warning.

One night after her mother's death, Leanora was sitting in the bed with Nellie in her arms "trying to get her/hax sleep." Leanora was crying. "I just her a whole heap a gravel throw on the wall. A me mother throw it you know, a chastise me. From that night on a never cry again. A sit down in a the chair and a moan, but nothing like that crying again."

"A member one evening I was outside with the baby and it was getting dark. I hear a big stone drop. I jus' take up the baby and go inside. A she, you know, a she a wann me say it getting dark and a should take in the baby."

Her sister in Kingston has a place to go whene she can hear her mother's voice. "She say sometime she cry. I couldn' go to hear it for I would cry."

The children's father.

Leanora seem to worry a lot over the treatment given her by Miller - the children's father. She is always talking about him. "If it was ever Kingston woman, him come back to me long time, but is because I don' want to do it." Asked how he would come back. "Him would come back though." She would not talk any more about this.

Grains for planting.

"Can' get no grains to plant. The people them who trade a Town jus' hawk it up. When you hear of anything, you have to run or else you don' get none. When them go to Town

price list down 'pon ~~them~~, them have to sell it jus' as how them buy it ya."

Menstruation.

Leanora used to suffer from painful menstruation. "Me always in a bed for all 3 day. When you drink the strong porter, with a little nutmeg grater in it, drink it as hot as you can bear it; it give you a ease."

Birth Control.

"Some woman don' conceive so quick, because as soon as them husband done with them, them take a wash out - use the doush. "And you know, I never know that till I big and start having children."

Spacing of children.

Leanora did not wean her babies until they were nearly 2 years old. "Them say when you still nurse them, you won' conceive. Me always nurse them longbecau' me fraid. Some woman conceive when them in a room. 9 day ma'am! Some a the man them can' wait, them too terrible." After having one of her children, menstruation did not start again till the child was 2 years old. "Me a fe go a Miss Reta to fin' out what happen." Miss Reta told her what to take and menstruation started shortly after. "Some people start menstruate quick, and them conceive quick. This one over ya (Bereta Roy) when the little boy 6 months old, she get the baby (John Roy's son). Nearly every one a my pickney them 4 years older than the other."

Pregnancy.

During pregnancy she could not eat everything. "All I did want was cabbage and saltfish; and the saltfish must smell bad; and moul'y bammy. Me mother cook a whole pot a it, and when I eat, I feel Nelly come up, like she come to meet it; the way I did want it. I just have to draw me band tight and shake her down. Sometime when the baby give you mind for anything, and you don get it, is jus' like you gwin dead."

The pregnant woman is not supposed to use a scrubbing board. "It wi' squeeze the baby. Some people weed grass and go home and have the baby; poor people, who can' do better. And you would a de home say you can' bend. Them say you can' stoop, it wi' bring down the womb!"

placed

Leanora put her hand across her stomach and said, "Me feel the very hand move. One day I was doing something and him move the hand, and me hold the little hand, and him take time slip right back."

Child bearing and Churching of Women.

"Lord it terrible; anytime me take in with any one, me hollar. The hardest thing in the world, is when that head and shoulder to pass. The Prayer book say, you is on the brink of hell."

"I hear them church a woman, when her baby christen. She is

XXXX it
a married woman you know, I guess she pay 1/- for that." The woman referred to is Mrs. Mary Lee. "I see Mrs. Lee cry, you see. She had hard travelling, and some of the little gal them jus' fling thax out. Some don have hard time."

Courtship.

She met Miller while going to school. He used to call to her on the road, but she did not want to talk with him. as she was afraid of her father. "When we a come on, me de before and him de behind. Him a talk, and me a listen, but me 'fraid." Leanora was out one day, and on her return she heard a man talking with her mother in the house. "Me say, who is this strange man, when me go in, me see him (Miller) me frighten you see." Afterward me mother leave we go a kitchen, I didn' know what to do." Miller kept on visiting her at her home.

"One night me mother gone to set up and him come there. Is so you see him get hold a me." Leanora did not know she was pregnant, until she felt the child moving within her. "After me en fool, me didn', know nothing, you know. When the baby born, every body señ presents for her. All the man people them, Him was a big ol' man, and him never have no pickney yet."

Being ashamed.

Leanora was ashamed when she found out she was pregnant. "I 'member one day, I see Charlie Lewis, I go hide. Him say, Don hide me dear, that's the way of the world."

Dreams cont. from page 6

Leanora believes in dreams. If she dreams of a white person, she will be successful in whatever she intends to undertake "If the smady black no bother wid i'."

Leanora does not know Kingston. She knows, Mandeville, Black River, Malvern, and Old Harbour. Bull Savannah boys played cricket at Old Harbour and she accompanied them. "But a mus' know Kingston though. I say a going de nex' crop."

Selling.

She sells sugar head to the people around. The sugar is kept in the Kitchen. It is generally bought at Alligator Pond for 4d and ~~itxisxsatd~~ she sells it for 5d. "Me buy this right here for 4½d. so is only ½d me get. Lena couldn' get any Saturday, it was selling at Alligator Pond for 5d, and she couldn' buy it." This week's supply of sugar was bought from a boy passing through from Manchester.

Information from Leo Powell
who interv. Lenora Sinclair
19.6.48.
J.O. 20.7.48.

Present household.

- Sinclair Lenora, 49. ⁴²
- Miller Nelly, daughter, 19.
- Miller Ralph, son, 16.
- Miller Lena, daughter, 12.
- Miller Vincent, son, 7.
- Miller Dorret, daughter, 4.

Lenora Sinclair is an outside child of Jacob Sinclair and Francella Heath. She was grown up in her mother's home. She has two half brothers by the father: Cecil Sinclair in B.S. /Overroad/ and Luther Sinclair, living in Morant Bay, and two half sisters by the father: Rhodella and Edna Sinclair, both living in Kingston. She has also one half sister by the mother: Ina Roach, living in Kingston.

Her husband /c.l./. Once she was along with George Miller from Top Hill. They became friends in 1929. They never lived together in one common home. She had 6 children, out of which 5 are alive and living with her. All children are supported by the ~~father~~ father. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~

House, land, farming.

Her house is one room house with thatch roof. Furniture poor: 2 beds, 2 tables, 3 chairs, 1 kitchen. No tank.

Land: she owns only 1/2 acre of homeland. Works Dudley Senior's land. Her son /16 years old Ralph/ is doing this work and is described as cultivator. This 1/2 acre was inherited by her from her mother.

Trees: 5 robin, 3 common mangos, a few bahana and a few coffee trees, Robin mangos bring her some income: got L5 from it for the previous year.

Cultivations: 4900 tomatoes, L40. 1/4 ac. cassava, 2 sq.ch. corn, 1/2 ac. congo. Animals: 1 pig.

Occupations: Her daughter Nelly is dressmaker. She is an apprentice. Lena and Vincent are in school /4th and 1st year/.

Spending: 10/- weekly on food. L15 last year on clothing. L3 - on doctor.

Religion: Lenora S. is an anglican.