

P.D. 27. Household 40.

Green Sylwester	Head	M.M. 35.	Labourer	Mixed farm.
" Edith	Wife	F.M. 26. 2.	2. Homemaker	
" Clement	Son	M.S. 7.		
" Dolcie	Dau	F.S. 6.		

First Visit
13.IV.47.
T.O. + J.O.
Sunday

Green came to us when we were sitting near his house and drawing a diagram. We were later joined by George Wiltshire and Green accompanied us with some other people on our visit to the Wiltshire farm. After that I went with him to see his farm. Met his wife a young strong and clean looking pleasant person. They did not invite me to their house. He bought this land $1\frac{1}{2}$ /?/ acre. after he married. They have two children. The daughter was there, a pleasant child looking pretty in her Sunday dress.

14.4.47.
T.O.

Green was working with other men in Wiltshire's field. They were ploughing /forking/ the land to prepare it for yams. He was in ragged clothes. His relation to old Wiltshire who was supervising the work but not working himself was rather of a neighbourhood type.

20.4.47.
T.O.

Mrs. Green was at Evans' funeral. She was sitting with Mrs. Smith. Later on she and her husband stopped for a while at the revivalist gathering held in front of the Chinaman shop. The previous day/Saturday/ Mr.Green was at the cricket match. His wife was not with him.

15th May 1947.
E.C. Thursday a.m.

I visited the home which is on the Parochial Road leading to Mount Tappy on the left hand side of the road opposite Miss Marie Wiltshires. Mrs Green was in the yard: Mr Green had a basket of yam heads and was just leaving for his ground. I went with him to the field and we talked there. For most of the time he worked but occasionally stood and smoked my cigarettes. We were joined in the course of the interview by his brother-in-law (C.L.) Dan Ewers (who goes with Green's sister Cecilia Green; they have no children). Ewers and Green are friendly and work for each other (see below).

The Greens have two children Clement Green aged 10 and Dalzie Green aged 8.

Light Land.
acres & House.

Land and House: 2 acres. Bought around 12 years ago from Mr Alfred Wiltshire, father of George Wiltshire, for £6 per acre. It had a grass hut. I

Crops round House: "Little cane and few Bananas". 2 Breadfruit trees. 2 Jack fruit; 4 Mangoes; 2 Pears (not yet bearing); a young Ackee; coffee ("I couldn't tell you the amount but about 25 roots); a root chocolate (not bearing).

Livestock: A Barrow Pig bought last November for 30/-

Fowls: 2. Eggs sole. ("Has to sell eggs to buy something more")

Rent Land:

Mr Sylvester Green rents 3 pieces: one from Mr Drissett and 2 on Allsides.

(a) $\frac{3}{4}$ acre from Mr Drissett: this is on a slope just below his house. It has banana trees, coffee and breadfruit on it. He pays 20/- for the $\frac{3}{4}$ acre but the landlord reserves the right to reap the coffee, bananas and breadfruit. The bananas are wide apart and the yam hills are dug between. The soil is deep but the slope steep enough for this type of planting to cause serious erosion.

Part -- 2 stretches -- have already been cleared and the yam hills dug. Yams are planted in May (this month) will be reaped next March. The price is "not so best then" but "the poorer man cannot afford to keep his yams ~~xxx~~ for the price because he has to live. "It is the bigger man who plant nuff-nuff (i.e. more than he needs for his own use) who can afford to hold the yams until the price goes up,

Green took up his tenancy on the 1st April this year and this is the first time he has cultivated this ground.

The first thing was to "cut it down" i.e. bush it. This he did himself. ~~He then 2 stretches took 4 days to cut with help xxxxxxxx~~ The two stretches took him 4 days to cut with a machette.

The next thing is to dig the yam hills. He has about 52 hills in this ~~xxxx~~ piece. "If we get a fair day we will dig it in 3 days". "You can do more but you put it at that because your body is not able to work all the time". Dan Ewers works with him sometimes apparently. He is also helped by Arnold Green (whom I interviewed next) his brother and Wilfred Green (Marse Man).

e C.H. No

Between the yam hills he proposes to plant cassava, peas and potatoes. A little of each. You plant these three crops in June.

At this stage I watched him plant his yams. He took the heads out of the basket and laid them on the heaps -- two or three heads to each hill, according to the size. He does not buy heads -- he plants back his own. They pick out the best ones. They are put down till they shoot. Some of his had quite a long sucker on them -- two or three feet of soft green stalk.

He had brought a piece of cane with him which was lying beside where I was sitting. I asked him if he went home for his dinner (the house is a few yards away) or whether he brought something with him. He said he ate the cane in the field. "Sometimes ~~you~~" he explained simply "we can't find the lunch and the dinner so we prefer to have the dinner, at 4 o'clock. We have to plant -- we can't wait on it, so we work till our body feels light then we go in and have the dinner."

This means that he works on a little bush tea until 4 o'clock. He did not beg or complain -- it was merely part of the information he was giving me.

Rent Land on Allsides: 2 pieces : $\frac{3}{4}$; $1\frac{1}{4}$ acres.

He rented the $\frac{1}{4}$ first, then the rest. They are far apart, the two pieces. It takes no time to walk because "when you are going to the ground you go quick -- you are going to plant." It is about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from the house. (Their distances are very vague.)

acre/
The $\frac{3}{4}$ piece at Allsides has a few yams (about 10 hills) with ginger in between. It is on a steep slope. The ginger will be planted in June.

The $1\frac{1}{4}$ acre piece at Allsides: Here he has 1 acre in Yams with a few banana trees, and cane. He has been renting this piece for 20 years. The $\frac{1}{4}$ acre he has had for 12 years. It is in Banana and cane. Last year 1 acre was thrown up. To rest the land. "If God spare I will plant it two years and then rest it again." "You has to rest land." Referring to the land in front of us (which he rents from Brissett he said he hoped to rent it for two years and then he would give it up. It would need resting then and he would move somehwre else. All Allsides you could not give up the land. "So long as you dont give it up you has to paythe rent." I could not gather that he had used the and for grazing for any part of the year or done more than let it go back to bush.

The rented land was already cut (i.e. bushed) and planted. On $\frac{3}{4}$ of this land last year he grew about 75 hills of yam and a few bananas. "I couldn't estimate but it is nuff nuff (i.e. the bananas) -- only about 50 roots.

The 75 hills of yams gave me 40/-. They were yellow yams and sold at 16/- per cwt.

Explanation of our work: Mr Philip Alexander Ewers had joined us and was sitting beside us at the edge of the yam field. I told G. that I had to write down what he had told me and would he explain to Mr E. what I had told him we were trying to do. This is what he remembered of what I had told him in his own words :

"She gwine around to de men to get de understanding of how we is living and what we has in land and what we has to earn to mek a living. And how we rent de lan' and what we plant and all does tings. So someting will come out of it fe we but not at de same time. It will tek time. (E. Yes, yes, nodding his head). If people sey dem dont get nutting out it, something will work. So it is de truth you has to explain and she will write it down. Fe she has to go roun' Jamaica -- not one place she has to do -- (Again expression of approval from E.) She has to continue, When she tek up de average o' dis sidtrick. So when her time come she will go back home and mek de report."

Continuation of account of rented land at Allsides: The 40/- mek out of the 75 hills of yams did not include the amount eaten by himself and family.

Family History of Green: Green's parents came from Myersville in St Elizabeth. They came to Warsop years before he was born. They were married after they came to Warsop. Th eir names were Charles and Jane Green. Jane Green was Smith beforr her marriage. They had six sone and 3 daughters:

Arnold Green (who lives next door and whom I visited next);
Wilfred Green.

Lionel Green who died 3 years ago: It is his sons who live in the home next foor (Alvin and Zephaniah see C.H. 93).

John Green, who is at Allsides;

Cecil Green, who lives at Low River;

Cecilia Green (whom I saw in Sylvester's house when I came through it to go with him to theground) and who is living with Ewers;

Agnes Green, who lives at Troy;

Adeline Green, who died "long time ago."

There was another brother by the same Father, but a different mother -- he never knew her name. He is Ernest Lee and he lives in Manchester.

Adoption by Mr Reuben Facey: When me grow a size Mr Reuben Facey adopt me for 12 years. Him treat me good -- "buy me wearing (i.e. clothes) and sen' me to church and all dem things" "He took me when I was 16. I used to work wid him (note: not FOR him) in de fields. He died now around 10 years. He used to live at New Road."

There is a bit of land adjoining Green's which is being cultivated by Winston McLeish. There are potatoes in it which he planted in October and which he will reap in June. This land is below G's. on a very much lesser slope. I think it is also rented from B.

Green is a thin undernourished looking man with a very gentle manner, friendly self-respecting and dignified.

Tuesday
21.10.1947
T.O.

Informant: Cecilia Green.

Reuben Facey's mother and Sylvester Green's mother were ~~xxxx~~ sisters. Sylvester stayed many years with Reuben - till the death of the later. Reuben's widow Ida Facey is very friendly with Greens.

An illness.

For some months now Sylvester Green was ill. He would go about with his head tied in a handkerchief. I met him several times at Wiltshires, near his house, in his field - he always complained about his head. He went to see a doctor. /I believe a "balnyard" - he wouldn't say where the doctor lives or his name/. The doctor gave him some medicine, it was "a little better" but he still complained. During August and September he was ill all the time, though he helped once to cut cane /see Greens budget/.

To-day I went there to get some more data concerning budget. The house was full of people: The wife Edith was going to buy some mutton. The sister Cecilia was there. Mrs. Ida Facey was cooking a perridge. Mrs. Fester - the mother-in-law was running from kitchen to house doing some house-work. Two "big girls" were also about the place, and the little 2 years old girl /orphan of Lionel Green/ came here also. Two men were sitting on the road in front of the house. Sylvester Green was laying on the bed in the second room. He took very sick last week. "He throw up everything". He saw the doctor last Tuesday / Dr. Phillips at the Warsop Dispensary/. The doctor said it is ulcerated stomach and gave medicine. Mrs. Ida Facey comes here every day. On Sunday there were many people. "Strangers came to see him". informed Cecilia. The head doesn't worry him now but it went into his stomach. Mrs. Ida gives him perridge which she drains. She says that even if he throws it it is better to have something in the stomach. I did not go to the room where the sick man was. He was meaning and everybody was either in the kitchen or in the yard or in the adjoining room. I could see him through the open door. He looked very ill indeed.

22.10.47

T.O.

Additional Information: Miss Heighington.

Verbatim: "George Wiltshire had a brother that went away to Panama or Cuba. He had two children by Mrs. McNish: Totty and Neddy. He had another child by Fan Smith called Leon Wiltshire. He was very wild and contracted syphilis and he kept it to himself and wouldn't tell anybody that he had it. He was sick for 11 years and he had a very bad spell and was taken to the hospital in Ulster Spring and he died there. This Leon had a little child by Mrs. Lindo's niece. The child is crippled. It is now about 2 1/2 years old. But is not walking yet. It has to have injections. It stays with the mother who lives with Satira Lindo (the aunt) Leon had a large cultivation. He used to work and buy bananas. George Wiltshire took it all over after his death and sold portions of it, and never gave the child anything. George Wiltshire sold the cultivation - not the land - to Sylvester Green. Then he has had it for some time and he works (Green) everyday at the field. And one day he took sick, he felt his stomach hurt him. He went to the obeah man - I don't

know which one, there are lots of them. The obeah man said Leon's duppy was on him. Green paid £5. He came back not feeling any better. The obeah man said he will take off the duppy. He was getting worse and then he thought he would try the doctor.

Leon's mother was black. He went to this woman (Lindo's niece) who is vey black. So the child has fine hair but it is black. The child was born after Leon's death. George Wiltshire says it is not Leon's chil and will have nothing to do with it.

Wiltshire took the land of Leon and shared it up. He sold a portion to Syl Green and gave a portion to his son Hubert. The son planted yams. It was sometimes early this year. He went to reap the yam. And then he had a fit. They picked him up and took him home. And they went to the obeah man too. And the obeah man said that Leon's duppy was on him too. He still has the land. It is nice land and it has bananas and pimento on it. The land is just over at Wiltshire's place.

When doctor doesn't help, when people are not satisfied with the doctor the say "going seek further" which means to go to the obeah man. Some go to the obeah man first, some after they have seen the doctor. Most first. "

25.XI.1947

T.O.

Informant Mrs. Ashman.

Syl Green is no better. Mrs. A. went to see him a few days ago. ~~xxxx~~ Mrs. Thompson / a cousin of Green / told her that they spend everything on obeah man and balmyard. They paid £5 to the Obeah man. Syl drinks all sort of "bushes". The medicine bottle - Mrs. Ashman says - was there untouched. He doesnot take the medicine the doctor gives him. The doctor says Syl has to be operated.

Green sold one acre of land which he bought from Wiltshire. He did it because the Obeah man told him that "the duppy of Wiltshire is on him". It is a good land has bananas on it. Doris bought it for £ 15. She is going to build a little grass house on it. She sold her cow for £ 25. and "half of the calf". She ordered already posts. Her family will help her to build the house.