

23rd April 1947.  
Wednesday. a.m.  
E.C.

Case History No 53.

P.D.27.SD.22. Household 20.

|                  |           |       |              |            |             |
|------------------|-----------|-------|--------------|------------|-------------|
| Rutty. Theobald. | Head.     | M.M.  | 52.          | Farmer.    | Mixed Farm. |
| "                | Clina     | Wife. | F.M. 50.9.9. | Homemaker. |             |
| "                | Elvie     | Dau.  | F.S. 21.     | Labourer.  |             |
| "                | Viola     | "     | F.M. 19.     | None No.   |             |
| "                | Lascalles | Son.  | M.S. 18.     | Labourer.  |             |
| "                | Wilton    | Son.  | M.S. 16.     |            |             |
| "                | Selvyn    | Son.  | M.S. 13.     |            |             |
| "                | Roy       | Son.  | M.S. 11.     |            |             |
| "                | Cleveland | Son.  | M.S. 10.     |            |             |
| "                | Cecil     | Son.  | M.S. 8.      |            |             |
| "                | Franklin. | Son.  | M.S. 3.      |            |             |

Lue Chin.Liebert Grandson. (Son of Elvie by Lue Chin.)

Visited to-day and saw Mrs Rutty. With her was her neighbour Mrs Sybil Davis carrying in her arms her young baby. Mrs Rutty gave me the following information in regard to her family and household :

1. She and her husband live in the home.
2. She has had nine children :
  - i) Viola Rutty, married Clarke, aged 24. Lives in Kingston. Went up to see her in Kingston at Christmas (she has not been back home) and brought back her baby, Blossom, "for a change". Mrs Clarke has 3 children. She is married.
  - ii) Elvie Rutty. This is her eldest daughter. aged 26. She lives in the home with her. Has 3 children. All illegitimate: -
    - Lloyd Allen, "Not going " with father. Lives here.
    - Lue Chin, (lives with father who owns Chinese shop at Bottom Warsop. Mrs R. asked me whether I had seen him there -- "a little yellow boy".)
    - Enfant, 5 days old, unnamed, child of Kenneth Murray who lives about a mile down the Troyroad).Lloyd Allen and the infant stay with the mother in Mrs Rutty's home, i.e. with her parents.
  - iii) Lascalles, aged 22. Lives with parents and works with father on land.
  - iv) Wilton aged 20 who is in Christiana.
  - v) Selvyn, aged 20, lives at home & works with Father.
  - vi) Roy, aged 16, ditto ditto.
  - vii) Cleveland, aged 13, still at school.
  - viii) Cecil, aged 11, still at school.
  - ix) Franklin (nicknamed coolie man "for the way his hair stay") aged 6. Not yet at school.

Mrs Rutty described her husband as a "fair man" and said some of the children were fair and some dark.

id to droop./

Franklin's hair is soft and curly, not wooly. He has a fall which scarred the left eyebrow and causes the /  
Mrs Rutty's parents : Ezekiel Dixon. Married.

She has been married for 27/years. She was married when she was 20. (N.B. The Census figures would make her 55 now. According to this statement she is only 47 now. This looks nearer the mark.)

Kenneth Murray, the father of Elvie's last child is the brother of Mrs Davis, the neighbour who was with her in the house and had come to visit Elvie and her baby.. Elvie was in the house but I was told she "was not out yet". This refers to the custom of keeping in the house for a period after childbirth. (N.B. To be investigated).

(Theobald &amp; Clina Ratty.)

Land. They own 7 stretchs around the house. In addition Mr Ratty rents 3 pieces in different parts of Allsides. They cannot grow Bananas much now as there is Panama disease. This is worse than Leaf Spot, because you can spray the trees for Leaf spot and keep it down but when it is Panama it rots the root and you have to give up the ground and then plant something else..

Bananas. She has lives here for 27 years. Her father lived here before. He used to grow yams and canes. They had bananas but it was not then a good time for bananas. They sold for 1/6 and 1/- and you fed them to pigs. Mrs Davis here chimed in that she had heard her parents say when a six hand went for 6d. Mrs Davis' father used to sell to the Producers. She thinks it was the Producers who developed the Banana here as she remembers that after the 1932 storm it was they who lent the people money.

Panama Disease. Both ladies agreed that Cane was the best crop since Bananas. "Cane is always in rotation. We keep it for over ten years -- and longer." "Whilest they are extra cared they will come back as good."

Price of Bananas in old days. They have no mill of their own. I asked How much cane it took to make a barrel of liquor. Mrs R. and Mrs B. agreed that I must ask their husbands. "Only de men could tell you dat. We de womendon't know." They could however tell me that :

1 Barrell of liquor makes 4½ to 5 doz. tins sugar

Expenditure where sugar mill is not owned:

1/- for copper for boiling for one Barrell.

1/4½d "for the beast" per Barrell. (N.B. The "beast" is the mule which turns the mill).

9d per Barrell to the man who boils the sugar if you have to hire..

plus the cost of the tins which you have to supply.

Wet Sugar. You can only get wet sugar now if you supply your own tin for it. Since the war it is impossible to get Kerosene tins. So head sugar is made in the pans. The wet sugar is preferable -- "it sweeten a little quicker -- you have to scrape the head sugar". So if you want some you take your tin and keep a tin of wet sugar in the home for your own use..

Marketing. Head sugar is sold at 2d per tin. The man markets it himself in Balaclava, or at Santa Cruz or at Christiana.

Asked whether they ever co-operated in the marketing process, Mrs R. said It would be better but "you dont bout the same time (i.e. you are not all ready to boil your sugar at the same time) and as "you poor you have to carry it out same time."

The Ratty's house is a wooden one, two rooms and hall. Through the open door I could see the usual table in the hall with glass and china. Elvie was lying on a bed in the bedroom on the left. The curtains and windows were drawn so that I did not see her..

Our conversation took place standing in the garden outside the house.