

P.D. 22. Sb.5. Household 25.

Lawrence	Harold H.	Head M.M.	45.	Carpenter	Odd jobs
"	Thomasine	Wife.F.M.	34.	Home maker	
"	Linford	Son M.S.	5.		
"	Budley	Son M.S.	4.		

First visit
30.IV.47.
J.O. + T.O.

~~xxxxxx~~ Mr. Lawrence volunteered to help us in our work and invited us to come to his place: he will show us around to see how other people live in this village. He was less willing to start our survey from his farm, but agreed to show it and to explain its intricacies.

~~Family Property~~

Mr Lawrence, vice-president of J.A.S. in the district.

Mr. Lawrence is an important person in the district. He is vice-president of the local branch of J.A.S. Is judged as "very clever man, though ~~he~~ he is not an educated man." His public speeches cause a great deal of laugh at the meetings of the Society, since ~~xxxxxx~~ they ~~diverge~~ ~~from~~ ~~the~~ ~~ordinary~~ ~~pattern~~ ~~of~~ ~~speech~~ ~~speeches~~ ~~of~~ ~~educated~~ ~~leaders~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~branch~~. But ~~he~~ people like him and probably respect. He was unanimously reelected as vice-president at the last ~~at~~ meeting /29.IV.47/.

Arrival into district.

Mr. Lawrence was not born in Warsop. He came from St. Ann in 1925. He was a carpenter by profession and came to Warsop ~~as~~ in this capacity. It was at the time when "public services were coming in Jamaica." There was a sanitary campaign of the Parochial Board, ~~introducing~~ ~~xxxx~~ People were ~~ta~~ taught and instructed to build pit-latrines in their homes. Mr. Lawrence took an active part in the campaign. He was employed by the Parochial Board as the carpenter and built pit-latrines for people in the district.

"I came here to work for Parochial Board. I belonged to sanitary department. I worked for the people building their latrines for a very cheap price - 25/ for latrine. Once in each year I got a little work from the government to build latrine for indigent." "I was a carpenter by profession."

History of his property.

Mr. Lawrence ~~did~~ had no land previously and ~~he~~ got nothing from his father. "Never get an inch. I came from And I never got any sqaech from my father. I did everything ~~xxxx~~ by myself. To be candid I never was schooled by my father. I did my schooling by myself."

He started his career of the farmer in 1931. He rented half an acre of land ~~for~~ from Mr. James Lindo. He cultivated this land and planted on it plenty of fruit-trees: mango trees, ackees, apple-trees, oranges. He planted trees on his rented land not only because he planned and expected to buy this land in future, but also because "just felt" that he should do it if even the land would pass to somebody else.

This 1/2 and acre passed into his hands in 1940 when he bought the land he rented for £.7.10. The price he paid did not correspond to the real value of the land. Mr. James Lindo ~~would~~ would sell it for a higher price to a stranger. "It was a favour to me - because I was a long-time tenant."

Lawrence

In 1943 Mr. ~~Sawmster~~ made another deal in land. He ~~had~~ bought "on the hired purchase" 15 and 1/2 acres of land on Thomas Cocksburn land settlement. It was Gnt land-settlement, for which the ground has been purchased by the Gnt from the previous owner of the land, Thomas Cocksburn. He pays £.1.14.7 yearly and in 10 years time /from 1943/ the land will become his own property.

In 1946 Mr. ~~Sax~~ Lawrence added to his possessions another piece of land. He bought 1/4 of an acre of land "on the road". This piece of land is separated from ~~his~~ the land he bought from Mr. Lindo by the ~~valley~~ small valley, ~~and~~ ~~in~~ in which his farm lies. It is near-by. He paid for this place £.6.10. The price he paid is ~~in~~ no relation to the real value of the land. "on the road". The real value is at least £.100. And for this price would be sold to any stranger. He got this land for 25% of its value owing to the personal bonds of friendship with owner. the "This land is sold to me by favour. By somebody who favour me, who like me than anybody else." "Somebody has a special feeling for me and a special affection for me to get it." "Somebody" is Miss. Jane Jones /Jean Genas?/. She owns 13 and 1/4 acre of ~~land~~ land, which she "got from her late husband." Miss Jones /Genas?/ is "a whole-time pal, a whole-time lady pal of mine." She wants Mr. Lawrence to be her neighbour, to live near-by. This is the reason of the special price. "The price on the road is £.100 and this price would be asked from a stranger."

Two weeks ago, in 1947, he made his last purchase of land. He bought another 1/2 /half/ ~~and~~ acre of land from Mr. James Lindo and added to his former property in this place. He paid for it the same price as in 1940 - £.7.10. Again for the same reason as previously the price was made especially low to him. Though in general it was ~~higher~~ than it used to be before the war. In 1935 for instance ~~the~~ price for ~~this~~ this land would be only £.10 - against £.25 which he paid for it. in 1940 and 1947.

This 1/4 acre, which he bought in 1947, was rented by him previously and was a part of his farm. He bought it without surveying the land and ~~does~~ not know the exact size of the last purchase. They agreed to treat it as 1/4 acre, for which he paid the price. If it will be more or less - it will be his gain or loss. He will know the exact size of his 1 acre farm as soon as it will be surveyed by him and the diagram drawn by the land-surveyor. This refers also to the first 1/4 acre which he bought in 1940.

The farm.

Lawrence's farm is composed now ~~from~~ of 3 separate holdings. One is the 15 and 1/2 acre in ~~Thomas~~ "Thomas Cockburn" land settlement. This holding plays a minor part in the household economy. It is still "in woods". Its distance from the place where Mr. Lawrence lives, is 1 and 1/2 miles. There are no roads leading to this holding - only paths. He cultivates there some yam and keeps his goats in the bush. His goat-herd consist of 3 goats and 2 kids. They are left in the bush ~~xxx~~ and only visited each morning. The goats are not milked. They are kept on rope - to prevent them from destroying the cultivations - own and those of the neighbours. Nobody is afraid of the goats being stolen - the inaccessibility of the place guards the beasts from thieves.

Another part of Mr. Lawrence's farm is 1/4 acre of land "on the road". This land is not cultivated. It is reserved as the house-site, on which Mr. Lawrence will build his future home.

The ~~main~~ essential part of Mr. Lawrence's property is his 1 acre of land, on which he has his home to-day. Only this part of his farm-land is under steady ~~and almost~~ cultivation. ~~xxxxxxx~~ At present the land in this place is utilised in the following way: 1 and 1/4 of a stretch is under negro yam; corn, crob-eye peas and cassava is planted here ~~xxxxxxx~~ together with yam; There 115 yam hills on this spot. 1/4 a stretch, attached to the former plot, is under cassava and sweet potatoes. Two separate plots, each of the size of about 1/4 of a stretch, ~~ix~~ are under sugar cane. There is a a plot of the size of 1/2 a stretch on which yellow yam was planted in June; there are 97 yam-hills on this plot. Another 1/2 a stretch was planted with yellow yam in September. His yam cultivations extend also over another field of 1 and 1/2 a stretch, on which 165 yam-hills were made in...../?. There is also a field of corn and a field of gungoo-peas and sweet potatoes. There is also a number of fruit-trees around the house. /See the Diagram./

The line of Mr. Lawrence's farm was not drawn still and he recognises his land by trees, which mark his land-boundaries. Some of this trees are on his land, others on the land of his neighbours. Three corners of his land-~~xxxx~~ are marked by a figue, a mango and a tambourine. One side is recognised by the bush and the ~~stone~~ stony top of the hill, ~~xxxxxxx~~ /see the diagram/. One of the sides has no definite boundary marks. But this is adjacent to the land of the "lady-pal", with ~~whom~~ boundary conflicts are little expected. The boundaries dividing his property from the land of his neighbours, are left uncultivated: "to separate my land from the land of my neighbours."

There is a water-spring on the property, of which Mr. Lawrence is very proud and which is probably the best water spring in the district. A great deal of work was ~~xxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ invested to build proper surrounding for the spring and to keep zhe place clean and the water clear. A wall stone was built at the front-side of the spring to prevent ~~xxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ the ground to be washed down by the stream or damaged by the visitors. A board, of burn-eye was put across the water-hole ~~xxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ to facilitate to take water ~~xxxx~~ from the spring in the rainy season without polluting it. ~~xxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ The

board only cost 2 shilling him. And there are further expenses: he must hire from time to time people to clean the water whole and to remove all the mud.

People around are admitted to the source and may make full use of it. But they are not allowed to pollute the water. ~~Water may not be used~~ Nobody is allowed to use dirty receptacles to take water with them. Clean pots must be used for this purpose. Nobody is allowed also to take water in night. When he hears somebody coming to the water spring in the night-time, he flings stones at him and drives him away. A neighbour of him came once with a dirty pan to take water with it. He was almost beaten and his pan thrown away. Mr. Clarence simply refused ~~to admit~~ his man future admission to the spring. A neighbour who lives higher up utilises the same water ~~spring~~ stream for his spring. He keeps it dirty and polluted and this ~~water~~ affects water which comes to Mr. Lawrence's spring. Mr. Lawrence asked the sanitary inspector to have a look into the matter.

Lawrence

Future of Mr. Lawrence's property.

Mr. Lawrence's ~~future~~ plans for future is, first of all, to build his residence "on the road". He collected already all the material he needs for this purpose. The shortage of nails keeps him from doing it at once. His future home will be a wooden house, with shingle roof and with verandahs. He lives now in grass-house, but his future home will be a fine one. /See T.O.'s interview/.

He plans also to buy more land. His present cultivated land is ~~at~~ separated from his future home by land, which is owned by his "lady-pal". He intends to buy this "balance" in future. "If I can only earn the money I buy the land. The same person I got my land have the balance and will be willing to sell me if I can finance." to future

He does not intend to move his house or to built his residence "in the bush" - on the ~~land~~ 15 and 1/2 acre of his property in Cockburn settlement. He will stay here. He will try to enlarge his property by purchasing the adjoining land. He does not, however, exclude the possibility of selling his farm. "The price will rise on the road. I will sell it if I have another spot to secure." He is inclined also to sell his farm on this spot, if only another spot of an equivalent value to him can be secured on another place. What he value the most on his land is the water spring. He will not sell his land ~~to~~ to exchange it for ~~an~~ land of inferior value: ~~there~~ there must be on this land-to-be-bought a water spring at least of the same quality as his present one.

Utilisation of his 15 acres in the bush seem to play little role in his farming plans.

Land speculation, land prices and land fertility.

Mr. Lawrence admitted that there is some speculation on land prices in his plans and in the general practice here. The prices of land are constantly rising. But the price of land depends more upon the position of the farm with ref. to the road, as upon its fertility. He explained to us the mechanism of the rising land prices in the following way. The price of the land rises with the new settlers. When the new settlers come and buy the land, it enhances the value of the land. That is why the land is sold for a higher price. If somebody has 100 acres and sells ~~it~~

50 acres to another settler who comes to live on this place this rises the value of the land by 100%. The land is sold ~~for the~~ accordingly for the price twice as big as the price paid by the first settler and is taxed in proportion to its new value. Which means that ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ the land tax is twice as big. Each of the settlers pays the same sum ~~which~~ ~~previously~~ ~~was~~ ~~paid~~ ~~only~~ ~~by~~ ~~the~~ ~~original~~ ~~owner~~ ~~for~~ ~~100~~ ~~acres~~. He quoted as an example of this the case of the Chinese shop "on the road" ~~just~~ just opposite to his farm. The China-man bought this land in 1935 or so paying £.14 for one stretch of the land, which corresponded to £.140 for an acre /including probably buildings/. Now he sold "half sorch" of this land to a new settler and the price paid for this plot was also 14 pounds: which is £.280 for an acre. The price of land was, as he thought ~~was~~ ~~admitted~~ ~~to~~ ~~rise~~ ~~that~~, rising proportionately to the congestion of people on the road. He admitted however that there are other reasons for the rising prices. "Every man who buys one acre yesterday and sells it want to get one pound or two for his money. ~~He~~

Fertility of land and soil erosion.

~~Mr. Lawrence is very satisfied with his farm land. It is very very fertile.~~ Mr. Lawrence is very satisfied with his farm land. "It is very very fertile." He cultivates it for years without giving any rest to the land and the land always yields crops. The fertility of the land is not affected by the soil erosion. On the contrary, it is soil erosion, adequately handled, which makes for its fertility. Soil erosion is a universal phenomenon in this district. Even on a very mild slope the water washes the ground and rolls the soil down when the rain comes. To prevent washing of the soil ~~the~~ the ditches running across the ~~fields~~ the fields are dug and constantly renewed. The soil washed by the water is stopped in these ditches, it fills them and is then taken out and scattered over the field. In this way the soil erosion helps "to manure" the fields and keep them constantly fertile. Mr. Lawrence showed me with proud composition of soil on his corn-field: ~~see~~ "see the soil? all this is soil erosion." Water running down the hill brings soil to his fields situated below. The most fertile place ~~in~~ near-by is the bottom of the valley, where ~~the~~ ~~farm-land~~ ~~is~~ ~~lies~~. The bottom is filled with the soil eroded from the the whole circle of the valley slopes. Mr. Lawrence wants to buy in future this land. It will form "the balance" form his present farm-land to his future ~~residence~~ residence. The places situated higher up on the valley are also very fertile. They were resting for many years and Mr. Lawrence expects good return from their cultivation.

The fertility of the ground in the district is to a great extent dependent on the soil erosion. According to Mr. Lawrence, and his opinion was supported by Mr. Thompson, the sanitary inspector, the roads running from Top Warsop to Troy, ~~corresponds~~ corresponds to the division of the land into two zones: the one over the road, on the hills, which is less fertile; and the other, below the road, down Wislon Valley and towards the Hector River, which is far more fertile. The fertility of the lower part is caused by soil erosion: the land down the valley is enriched ~~and~~

in its composition and quality by the soil washed out from the hill-side and deposited in the valley. "The right hand from Troy to Warsop, from Warsop right down, better than left hand."

Land fertility and land prices.

Mr. Lawrence admitted that the price of the land is not caused much by its fertility. "Further from the road the less price for the land. Land on the road ~~is~~ cost more - it is the house site and business part."

Houses on the road and off the road.

We asked why ~~there~~ better houses are built chiefly on the road. "People are not progressive here. Will not build. Some will be willing but cant." He himself stays in the grass-house, because he sacrifices his present conditions of life to his future plans. "If I had a fair chance only, if only I can do well. But I have no capital. I have to lead a mean life to myself for ~~my future~~ the future betterment."

Land speculation and land returns.

Mr. Lawrence admitted that in fact one can do very good business on buying and selling the land. The rise of the land prices can bring a good profit. The prices of land are much bigger to-day, inspite that the ~~land brings much less profit~~ cultivation of the land brings much less profit income than previously. "What land brings to-day is less than it brought 15 years ago. And the price of land and ~~the tax is~~ the tax is much higher." Previously he planted bananas on his land. He had ~~one~~ huge bunches with 14 fingers. "Black spot and P.D. kill it out."

The only solution.

The only solution is in new methods of farming, which would bring ~~higher~~ higher returns. The land must be "built up by manuring." The washing of the soil stopped by grass-strips. The animal manure secured for fertilising the ~~the~~ ground. Now the manure is wasted. It is not collected and prepared for manuring. Not only cow-manure. ~~the~~ "Donkey makes splendid manure - 1300 lb yearly." ~~With this~~ This amount of manure will do for at least 1/2 acre, sometimes even for 1 acre. But the donkey "must be closely fed." The same with the pigs. To secure manure animals must be kept in enclosures and manure kept in compost-pits. All this is only to be done. Nobody applies these methods so far.

Mrs. Thomasine Lawrence is from Fouanville. They don't have children of their own and so adopted two boys. Both boys were at school.

On the land they have on Crown's Land /Thomas Cockburn/ 15½ acres, they plant some yam and keep goats. 3 big goats and 2 kids. The goats are tied as not to go to neighbours fields. They stay there without anybody looking at them. Every morning Mrs. Lawrence goes there. She does not milk the goats. According to her it is not worth while to keep goats. She bought a kid 6 months old and paid for it 10/ she kept it for 6 month and got 12/. The rope which she had to buy to tie the kid/ cost 2 sh.

Buildings
of the
household.

The house is a grass one which thatched roof. From one side it is supported by poles propped against it since the last hurricane in 1939.

Inside it is divided into two compartments: a living room, and bedroom. The living room has two doors and no windows, the bed room has two windows with shutters.

I have been only into the living room. The floor is beautiful and polished. On one table there is the usual display of china. On another table with two congnations there are books. There are some religious but also some amount of books with novels, verse, school textbooks. A parcel of letters is bound with a string.

The kitchen is of wattle and divided into two parts. One is used as a shed for the lumber Mr. Lawrence is amassing to build this new house on the road. The kitchen is orderly, on a table are tin tumblers &. Lots of boards are under his house.

Between the house and the kitchen there is a big table - rack on which were some wet clothes.

¢-¢-¢-¢-¢-¢-¢-¢

Mr. Lawrence was very proud of the timber he amassed to build his new house. The house is to stand on the main road on ¼ of an acre he bought in 1946. He paid for it \$6,10/ - This price was "by favour" it was from a "deal" - "old time

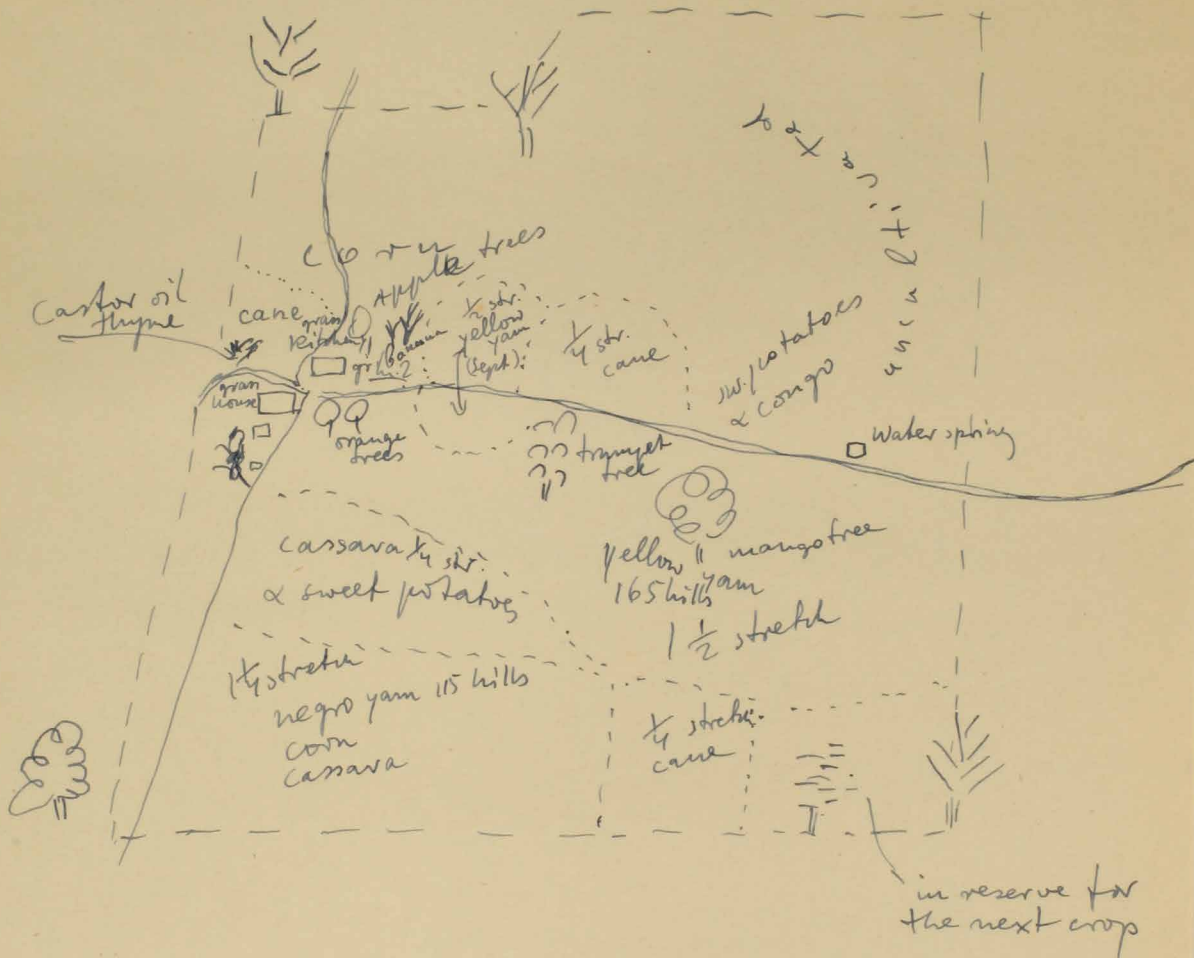
Market

prices
"by favour".

hill. She has 13½ acres left her by her husband who died. If a stranger wanted to buy it he would have to pay \$25, i.e. \$100 per acre. He has 2000 shingles, Burneye timber for floors. This wood never rots "it is like concrete". He has bullit tree for posts. There are different kinds of bullit tree /

~~xxxxxxvnxvxx~~ He has his land in three pieces: 1 acre when his house stands now, ¼ acre on the road and 15½ in Crown land about 1½ mile from his house. He does not want to build on these 15½ acres. "It is in the bush"/Mrs.L./ when he has money he would like to buy land between his farm and the piece he got on the road. This belongs to his lady friend, and she is ready to sell it to him, because she wishes himx well.

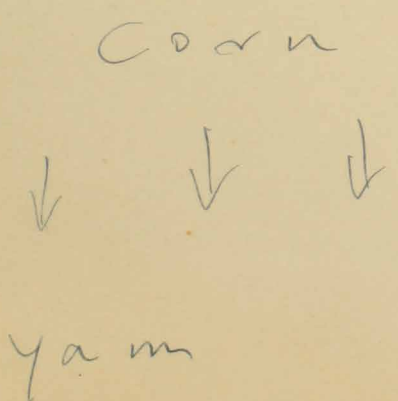
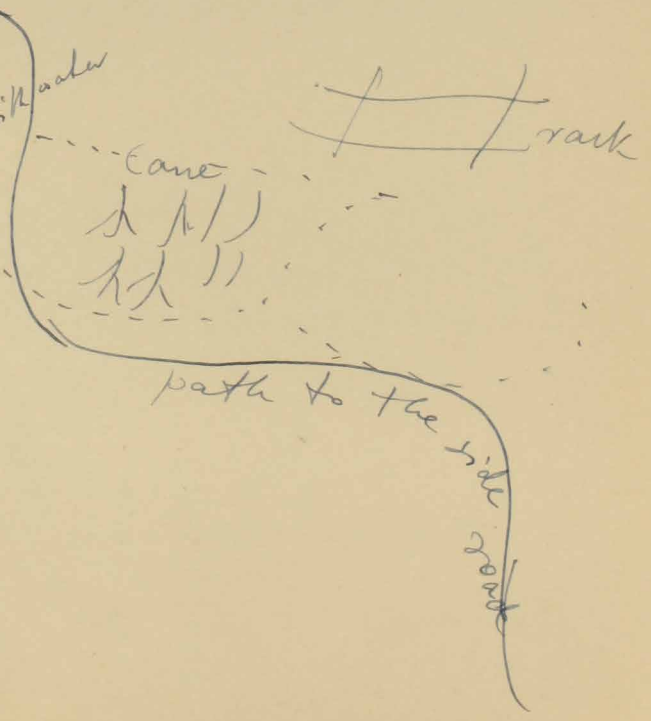
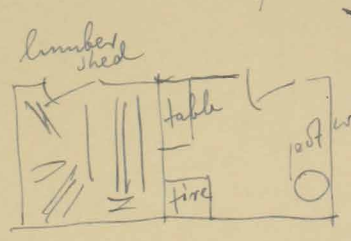
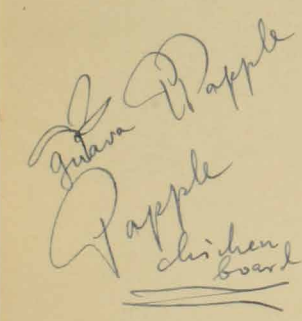
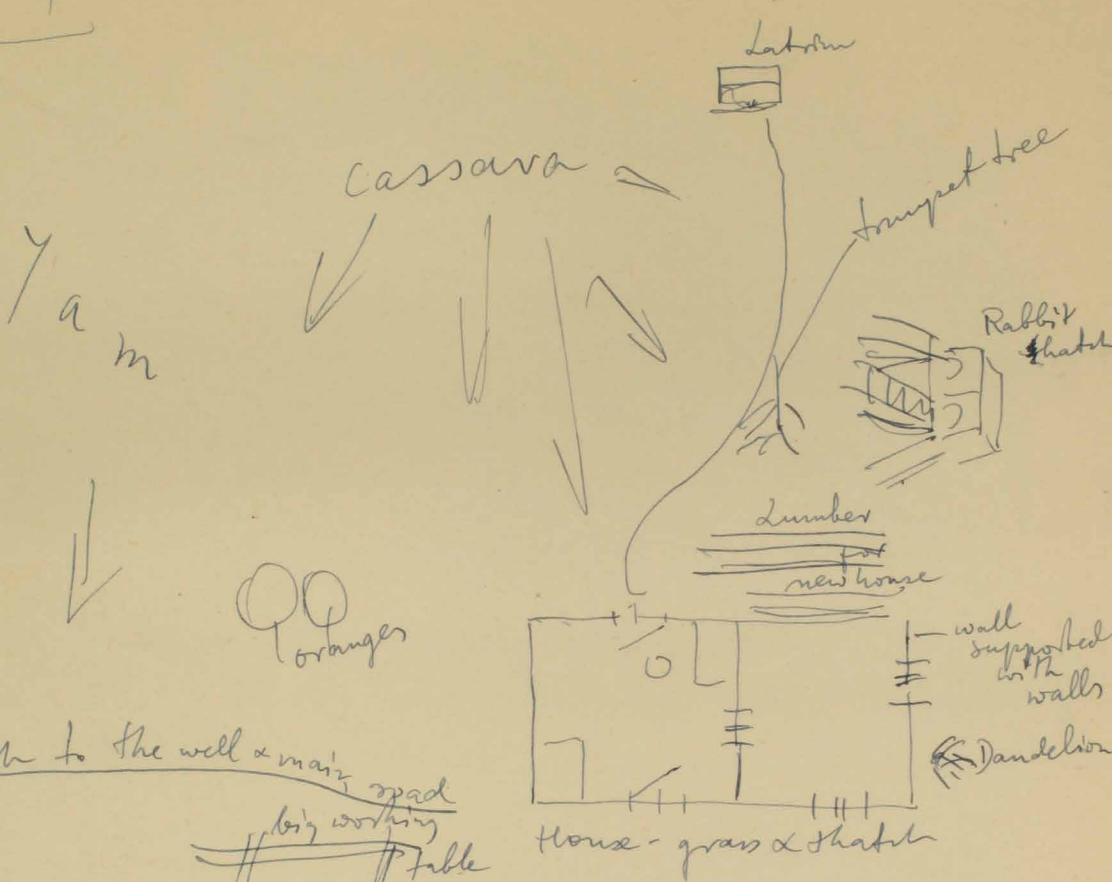
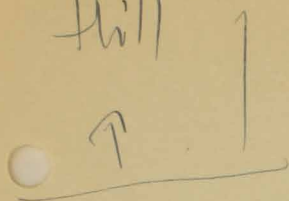
The fruit trees he planted when he still rented the land. He has profit from them now. The first bit of land he bought in 1940 - it was the one he rented from 1931/ The last bit a few weeks ago. In 1931x 7 years he bought almost 17 acres.



Hill

30.7.47

T.O.



30.4.47. T. O.
Inf. Mr. & Mrs. Lawson

Trumpet tree - barked & used for making
ropes - leaves for manure.

cactus - put on swollen places of the
dandelion - seeds parried body
& used as a drink. Similar to
coffee. Drink with milk.

To make a mule or donkey go: cui! or go'zi'
" " " " " " stop: parr.

The hen is called: Miss Campbell after
the person from whom it is.
the rooster: Mr Dan.

1 donkey produces 1300 lbs manure in one year
enough for $\frac{1}{2}$ acre.

1 pig - the same amount,

Met Mr. Lawrence a few days ago near Mount Happy at old Faster's house. Mr. Lawrence gave me many data about lumhermen etc. He is a "headman" for the Crown Land and works under the forester Richie from Troy. / see: non-agricultural occupations: connected with administration of big properties/

Mr. Lawrence ~~w~~ came out just a few days ago from the hospital where he had an appendicitis operation. He first went to the doctor and then went to Kingston to be x-rayed. It cost him 3 pounds 16 shillings and the fare to Kingston. Then he went to the hospital in Ulster Spring. The operation cost three guineas and he stayed at the hospital 16 days paying 2/6 per day. He was very pleased with the nurses "I know them all - they wanted me to stay longer". "hile he was in hospital some people came to his land to work for him - for nothing. He was very proud of it. However it seems that this was a kind of return for the "amabilities" he is able to do to the people in his position of forester. He allows them to collect wood on Crown-land.

Mr. Lawrence made a propoganda for "Labour" at th time of elections in Warsop. He told all the people conne cted with Crown Land - and consequently dependent upon him- that if in his district Labout doesn't win he will know they didn't vote as he told ~~hi~~ them. "ound New Road Labour had a overwhelming majority. Teacher /who is from tye opposite political party/ said Lawrence is an arrivist.

Lawrence told me that he intends to built his new house on the road, but as his illness cost him he will have to postpone it still longer. It was a banana day and he went to the bana station to collect rents, as it is easier to get people there and to get money from them. "I don't like to press them". Mr. Lawrence all the way from Mount Happy to the Main Road greated people and stopped for short talks asking a few questions. He evidently tries to make himself popular. To old Faster he spoke however - when we were about to leave after a long talk - in rather harsh voice. It was about some business and Mr. Lawrence said he couldn't wait any more and expecte ~~xxx~~ it to be settled the next day.

Mr. Lawrence gave detailed data about the wages etc. of the lumbermen but they don't fir exactly in the general picture of the lumbermen earnings. There must be something he is not too keen in explaining.

He volunteered to take us one day to the Cockpit. Said he wouldn't like us to go with somebody else as there are dangerous parts. When he feels better after the operation he will take us.