

Interview with
Egbert Murray.
17.8.47.
J.O.

I met Egbert Murray cutting grass in front of his house to the right from the path leading from the main road to the Baptist Church.

His house.

The house is not his property. He rents it from Stanley Guy who again bought it a couple of years ago from Roy Milford. Egbert Murray lives in this house alone. There are no other people sharing with him the cottage. He has no family and lives here just alone.

His farm.

He pays Stanley Guy L.5 yearly. There is about 1/2 acre of land around the house with ab. ~~200~~ 150 roots of bananas, 10 pimente trees, 4 breadfruits and 2 cocconut palms.

This not all his farm. He rents besides ~~1~~ 1 acre in Allsides and owns 3,2 acre of land down the road in Durhan.

In Allsides he has on ~~1~~ 1 acre of his rent-land: 100 hills yan, ab. 200-300 roots of bananas and 6 stretches of cane. He estimates ~~that~~ on one stretch of his land ab. 50 roots of bananas are planted. He does not know how many of them are fruiting. "I didnt count fruiting".

His buy-land ~~3,2~~ 3,2 acres/ is utilised in the following way: 3 acres /about/ are under cane. He plants ab. 100 hills of yan. One stretch of land is under bananas with ab. 50 roots of bananas altogether.

From all his banana cultivations he delivers "some-time ~~20~~ 20, sometime 50 stems" to the banana station weekly

He keeps also one cow. It is ~~kept~~ kept in Allsides and fed also with Napier grass which is grown near his house in Warsop. ~~Two~~ Two ~~little~~ little pigs are kept at the house. He has no donkey and pays for the transport of banana stems from his fields to the station. ~~paid~~ paid for a bigger stem, 3d. for 7 hands and 2d. for six hands.

4d. are

History of his property. American money.

His property was acquired recently from the money he earned when he went as farm labourer in U.S. He stayed in U.S. only 6 months. Worked in factories producing ~~chicken~~ canned vegetables or toante juice and on beets and chicken farms. He worked also on beet and mint farms. He earned weekly ab. 25 dollars and even 32 when there was no rain. He was getting ab. 50c. for an hour.

When he came back in 1945 or 6, he bought 3,2 acres of land from Grandison and paid him for this land L.65. He rented the house from Stanley Guy /L.5 yearly/ and bought 1 cow for L.25. "Most money I spent on cloths" - he said. He bought cloths and suitcase for ab. 200 dollars and paid ab. 50 dollars for shoes in beets. ~~Only~~ Only "simple amount was left" after these expences were paid.

His family
history.

Only his childhood was spent in his paternal home.
My "My mother dead when I was a little child. And my father
- I just leaved them when I was in 3rd class. I was 13
years old. My father wouldnt care me, I just had to leave
him." His father was Josiah Murray.

"One of my sister take care of me - Ida Murray her ~~was~~
name." He stayed about ten years with his sister. ~~Atxxxxxx~~
He worked for his sister and ~~rix~~ raised goats for himself.
For the money he got from his goats he bought his first
piece of land. "I have some goats and I sell it and buy ~~xxx~~
some land. Only one stretch. I buy it from Jane Carter -
I pay her L.2." It was more or less 4 years after he left
the school.

His father never gave him any piece of land. ~~xxxxxxx~~
One stretch of land which he bought for his goats was ~~thex~~
~~xxx~~ was his only land-possession before he went to America.

His girl.
His Son.

He is not married so far but is "considering the ~~matte~~
matter". He has a ~~rix~~ girl "of course". His girl lives in
Allsides - she is from Ezekiel Allen's family, Allen is
her name.

They have a child - a little boy 6 years old, born
in 1941.

He is a frequent visitor at his girl's family. ~~xxxx~~
~~xxxx~~ He was there when Mis. Dale visited the place and told
me that his girl lives in the house "where you people made
your inquiries."