

3.XII.1947.

Cd.22 Sbd8 hh6

Fam. Rec. 1.

2 Laban, no Judith

T.O.	Rocheater	Laban head	MM 44	St.El.	Col.	Ang.	W.3.	farmer
"	"	Judithwife	F.M.34 8	"	"	"	W.3	co-op ass.
"	✓	Bradley son	M.S.21	"	"	"	W.3	farmer
"	✓	Valrie dau	F.S.16	"	"	"	"	student
"	✓	Daphne "	F.S.13	"	"	"	W.3.	3 E.
"	✓	Dolores "	F.S.11	"	"	"	W.2.	3 E.
"	✓	Eric son	M.S. 9	"	"	"	W.2.	3 E.
"	✓	Vivian son	M.S: 7	"	"	"	W.1.	3 E.
"	✓	Pauline dau	F.S. 5	"	"	"	-	-
"	✓	Clinton son	M.S. 3	"	"	"	-	-
"	Bent	Joseph serv.	M.S.25	"	"	"	W.3.	farm lab
12	Simpson	Marion serv.	F.S.20	"	"	"	no	servant

28 acres in 3 parcels: 13, 7, 8. no farm labour employed. .
 7 acres cultivated, 12 cultivable but not cultivated. 2 pasture,
 3 woodland, 4 "other".

15 coconuts, 10 mangoes, 8 naseberries. 2 acres peas, 1
 cassava, 1/2 sweet potatoes, 1/4 yams, 1/2 coffee, 1/4 tobacco,
~~0,5 escallion~~ 0,5 escallion 0,2 cabbages, 2 tomatoes
 2 donkeys, 1 cow, 5 hens, 3 rabbits.

"Obvious"

nently.

The family.

Both Mr. & Mrs. R. are from families established
~~xxxxxxxx~~ for generations in Bull Savannah. The Roche-
 ter family: brothers, first cousins, distant cousins and
 uncles - about a few scores - ~~xxxx~~ occupy the part of
 the village called Green Olive (together with a few Powells
 and are distributed in other districts. Mr. Laban says
 his grand-father was already here, but can't trace his
 family further back. According to te acher Millard the
 first settlement was in Ballards Valley which was first
 inhabited either by Bucaneers or a crew of a sunk ship.
 Mr. Millard says that all the coloured families of Bull-
 Savannah have relatives in Ballards Valley.

Mrs. Judith maiden name is Linton. She has however
 also a brother whose name is Lewis. Her family is from
 the district of Bull Savanahh called Dunder Hill. ~~ixix~~

The household.

The eldest son - Bradley is the "outside son" of Mr.
 Laban. He got some land just behind his father's farm hi-
 gher up the hill and is "on his own." Mrs. Judith had 8
 children, seven are alive. But "my sister died adn left
 8 children, I took a little boy, so I have 8 just the same".
 Her eldest daughter Valrie married and lives in Bal lards
 Valley. "She is doing well". Her second daughter Daphne
 is in Linstead. She is learning sewing and machinnery em-
 brodery from her future sister-in-law with whom she
 stays there. "She is in good hands". She will be married
 soon. The third daughter Dolores is at home. She helps her
 mother. "She can cook as good as I can". She can type,
 has a typewriter lent her by the "company" (factory). She
 types sometimes "little cards, invitations". Vivian, Pau-
 line and Clinton go to school. Vivian is considered the
 bright boy of the family and Mrs. Judith wants to educate
 him since he shows abilities for learning. Eric finished
 school and stays at home helping with farming.

~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~

*Originals of
 Red people*

*by Laban
 adoption
 name
 girls professions
 or social status*

Other relatives.

Mr. Rochester's two sisters are in the United States. They went there for work, married and made their homes there. The daughter of one of them will come to spend Christmas with her uncle Mr. Laban. There are many presents - table covers, glass etc. - sent by these relatives. Their pictures are displayed in the best room.

Home.

Mrs. Judith says she would also have gone to the States, but her elder sister went there and died, so she did not go after this sad occurrence. Mrs. Judith does not want her children to go to live in the States. She prefers the family to live together - in the same country. "We bear each other burden".

Housing.

Homestead

Overlooking the 13 acres of land (the other two pieces are "outlands") is the main cottage consisting of 4 small rooms. It is well built with verandah, spanish wall, painted. This cottage Mrs. Judith rents out often to occasional "strangers" who visit Bull Savannah. "I had a couple honeymooning here, from Kingston." Next is a cottage, probably the older one, where the family lives. Elder children live still in a smaller cottage next to it. There is in the yard a kitchen and a big shade. A hundred yards lower on the path which Mrs. Judith built herself is a house where she has a shop. Next to the shop is a small house where also some members of the household sleep. She ~~made~~ made the path to enable the truck which carries goods to her shop to deliver them right to her shop. The shop is closed because she is opening a bigger one in the centre of the village. ~~The small shop was very busy~~ Her daughter who is in Linstead now used to help her with the small shop. There was a theft there last year. Shirts, shoes and material was stolen. She called police and a detective, had to give them a big lunch and rum but they did not find the thieves. She brought a dog from Kingston which she called "Criminal" to watch the place in future.

Enterprises & non-agricultural revenues.

Japhne

Mrs. Judith worked for 8 years in the factory "over figures". Often - during the season she worked at nights and used to come home at 5 a.m. Her husband did not like it because he thought the work is too strenuous. When the "tomatoes started" there were people from Mandeville who wanted have a shop in Bull Savannah "to take our shillings". So Mrs. Judith spoke to Major Moxsy suggesting a co-operative shop should be started by local people. He agreed and a co-operative shop was started. It exists now but "does not amount to much". "I guess people do not know how to run it." (Teacher Millard said the consumers cooperative was "forced on people" and that's the reason it does not prosper. ~~Anyways~~ Mrs. Judith used "to shop for them" in Kingston, and help with the co-operative. But she is more interested in her own enterprises.

Start of co-operative shop.
Cooperative movement beginnings

She acquired a small place on the road facing the factory. "No money could buy it (this place) but God help me". The place was 7 yards in the front and 17 1/2 in depth. Later on she got one yard more of the front giving one yard of length. (which seems a very goggl exchange: 16 sq. yards against 8 sq yars if I got right the information). In exchange Mrs. Judoth gave 2 acres of her "out land". The family with whom she made the deal is poor and needed land to cultivate and grow food the numerous members. The building for the shop is ready now. It is being painted by

Private enterprise versus Coop. Mov.
good

if

ink

Mrs. Judith's younger brother. She herself plans to go to Kingston soon to buy goods for the store. She plans also to have there "little lunches" and in a more distant future to build a house either on another place or add a storey to the shop and have there a hotel. She has a great faith for the possibilities of Bull Savannah as a tourist place (which I am afraid are not well founded).

The farm.

desk
wash

Mrs. Judith is more interested in non-agricultural activities, while her husband seems to be entirely devoted to the farm and not interfering with her enterprises. The main portion of their land - 13 acres - is round the complex of houses and has been inherited by Mr. Laban from his father. The rest - about 15 acres - is "outland" in two pieces, one below the factory, but not on the main road, and the other towards Alligator Pond. It is all "red soil" as is the whole of the district. The land round the house descends the gentle slope of the Green Olive and stretches in the little valley and ascends the next hill till a path leading to Top Bull Savannah. There are no stones or rocks there (which begin higher up behind the house) all of it looks cultivable. I do not know yet the apportioning of the land among various cultivations. The majority of it seems to be under grass, which is used for mulching. The plots of tomatoes, yams, cassava, sweet potatoes, gangoo peas are well outlined and ~~carefully~~ well kept. There are two water tanks (or more?) one behind the cottage and one in the field. Near the cottage is a little pen ~~under~~ with a tree in the middle. Here the donkey is kept during the night. They have a milch cow. Fruit trees: naseberries, coco-nuts, mangoes.

Tomatoes.

up

The main cash crop is tomatoes. Mrs. Rochester states proudly that they were one of the 14 "pioneers" of the tomato-growers. (The number of the pioneers is rather uncertain and many people seem to claim to belong to them). "The neighbours laughed over the fence". Mr. Laban does not know what is the crop of tomatoes from one acre. He says 60 lbs from one plot, but I couldn't find how much a plot is. From one plant he says there are 6 - 8 lbs of tomatoes. About 3 -4 tomatoes for 1 lb. Last year the factory paid 1 1/4 d. per pound. This year a bigger crop is expected and a higher price. This year the season will be a bit later - about February (usually January). One of the directors - Mr. Laban says - made such arrangements with the "New York market. He expects the price will be better than, as during the previous months the American market will be supplied with the Florida tomatoes (I wonder whether after this year's hurrican there will be much coming from Florida, but perhaps it did not affect tomatoes which might have been planted after the hurricane.)

& family economics.

ep.

One field or rather plot of tomatoes "belongs" to Mrs. Judith and her son. A man used to help them with planting etc. The crop will be shared in equal parts among those three. Another plot "belongs" to Mr. Laban and his outside son. It is not clear whether this son will get something in return for his work on it, or whether ~~he has been~~ it is understood that he worked on it in return for the land he got from his father. I have seen the son working on his tomatoes - these are only for himself according to Mrs. Judith. She also says she will share in her husbands field.

Tomato industry
field

individual family plots.

Mrs.

Business and family plans.

The Shop.
Private enterprise
& cooperative
movement.

Mrs. Roch. plans to open her new shop before Christmas to catch the good trade at that period. The building is finished - a solid stone structure just opposite the gate to the factory and only about 10 yards from the cooperative shop but nearer to the road. She went to-day to the director of the factory to ask for electric light extension to her shop. The factory has an electric plant and supplies current to the school on special occasions/.

1. Mrs. R. wants to have a radio installed to attract "a crowd". When her place is popular she plans to add a room
2. at the back and have a rum bar there. The licence is £16 and she thinks it will pay her well. She wants also to have
3. a sort of club there. To get a dozen "serious boys who be have". "Just sit round and discuss problems, sings, and if anybody wants to smoke, he may smoke, if he wants to eat he can eat and if he wants to drink - he may drink".
4. She also wants to give luncheons ~~expensive~~ which would be bought by the workers in the factory. She will install
5. an oven and bake there buns, cakes and patties. A spot with
6. curios would be there also for ~~tourists~~ tourists.

The launching of the enterprise would be also an opportunity to launch her daughter Daphne in married life. The girl is now in Linstead with her future in-laws learning "beautiful machine embroidery". Her fiancee is a constable in Black River. The young people wanted to settle in Kingston, but Mrs. R. gave them a different advice: she persuaded her future son in law to stay another 5 years in Black River, as Kingston is very expensive. "I let them put a few pounds into my business" and she wants Daphne to help her in the shop, in this way she will have a trustworthy and experienced helper (Daphne used to work in the smaller shop) and also Daphne will earn some money to buy the furniture etc. for her married life. Mrs. R. would not like to have Daphne in the bar. If she opens one it will be separate - an addition to the present building - and she will work there herself.

Mrs. R. does not trust anybody with the money. "I will have women to help with washing of dishes, with patties, but I don't want anybody to touch my money. The money is your blood."

Contention with the factory.

Mrs. R. is not on particularly good terms with the manager Mr. Hastings. She thinks the factory is not rewarding her as it should for "all I have done to build this place (the factory)". She often refers to an occasion when she slept on the floor on straw when there was some intensive work and a lot of people at the beginning of the venture. She also used to have a lunch place in the factory (?) and although she acknowledges it was to get "a few pennies" these pennies were nothing compared with the benefit the factory got from it. When she worked in the factory she used to have to add "big, big sheets and every inch of it was figures". She was very experienced and was much better at this than the manager Carter (who succeeded Major Moxsy). Mr. Carter was a highly educated man but very lazy. At three o'clock he would have his tea. He did not know what to do in the office. Mrs. R. used to give him to check the long lists with figures, because she thought he must feel uncomfortable not having any-

has the
factory
agreed
see foot-pages

The shops
in village life

Business &
family plans

Businessman
handling
cash.

Private enterprise
& cooperative
movement

Tomato Industry, the Prouder

Private & cooperative enterprise

thing to do. Major M. was quite different from the directors who succeeded him. "He was a socialist and they are capitalist, I am also a socialist" (Mrs. R.) He used to lend his private car to people who had to send in emergency some members of their family to hospital. He had at the factory a doctor from Mandeville every Tuesday and it did not cost anything, but now it is no more. Mrs. R. thinks that Major M. was better because he took orders from no one, he could decide himself, while the present ~~xxxx~~ managers have the board of directors, according to whom they have to act. Mrs. R. resents very much that a tomato-box ("and everybody uses them") was claimed from her husband by the factory. When she started to build her new shop, there was a telephone post ~~rig~~ right in front of the building. She went to Mr. Hastings and asked him to write a letter to the Public Service Company asking them to remove that post since he was in contact with them. Mr. H. promised to write this letter, but she went three times for it and it was not written. So she told him not to bother about this letter any more as she ~~has~~ decided to go herself to the P. Ser. Co. Mr. H. wanted to dissuade her from the whole business. He asked her why she worried about the post - it will not impede her business and finally said it will take 3 months before the company will remove the post. Mrs. Roch. went to Mandeville to the P. Ser. Co. It was on a Saturday and on Monday a man came from the Company, cut the wires and removed the post. "So I showed them I am not a fool."

The credit problem.

Businessman's attitudes

Private enterprise & cooperative industry, Tomato industry, ~~xxxx~~

Gossip

Businessman's attitudes

Mrs. R. states emphatically that she will not give any credit. She did credit some years ago to the chauffeurs of the factory and they never paid her. She wants the company to deduct from the pay-list what people owe her just as they are doing for the co-op. She is not sure whether the manager will agree to it, but as the cashier is her son-in-law, she says she will manage it anyhow. The chief carpenter is her uncle (Dalbert Elliot) and other members of the permanent staff (except the two managers) are also her relatives and cousins. So she feels she will get her way whatever the attitude of the director. When she last went to him to ask about the extension of the electric light - he told her that he heard she is cursing you. She said "A dignified lady like Mrs. Rochester will not curse. I am a christian and I was not ~~then~~ taught to curse, I have no reason to curse you. Remember that the dog which bring a bone take one. ~~if you exist on~~ Bull Savannah is a funny place. If you listened to all people say you would have to cut your throat. God gave a berry to every one. I don't want your berry, I only want to find mine. I have a clear conscience. I am old enough to take care of myself etc. etc." He says the clarks admired the way she gave her piece of mind to the director. ~~Howxxxx~~ Her uncle the carpenter also says he told the director he has to give the light to the shop as it would be selfish for the factory to have the lights and not give it to anybody else. Anyhow the question of the lights is not yet decided, But Mrs. R. thinks she will get it.

8.XII.1947.
T.O.

Business and pride.

Private enterprise
versus Cooper.
Inst. 4.

"Mrs. Jud went to see the manager to-day to ask him about lights. But he was ill. The assistant manager went to speak to him. The answer was that Miss Jud has to apply in writing, state what kind of business she wants to have there and how many bulbs she wants. Miss Jud is indignant. "They want to know what kind of business I will have there. Mr. Burke asked me the other day whether it will be a restaurant and a grocery. I told him it might be a restaurant and a grocery or nothing at all. At the cooperative shop they asked me - but I refused - I am too busy. Mr. Hastings is the president - thought between ourselves they could kick him out, as he has no shares. One shareholder - one shareholder one vote. Mr. Hastings has no votes. They are afraid I will take business from them but I don't prevent them to do business. I can do whatever I like, I am a free born British Subject and nobody can stop me. The only man who could stop me is my husband because I am an obedient housewife and I obey my husband. But I won't be obligated to any strange man. I bought three lanterns, I will stay with the men during the night and help them to hurry with the business."

husband
and wife

13.XII.To.
Emigration .

Miss Jud mentioned several times that she wouldn't like any of the family to go abroad. As reasons she gave : 1) that her elder sister went there and died and it was such a shock to her, 2) she wants the whole family live together and "try" in Jamaica and help each other etc. However this talk must have been only a "cover" to some failure which was met with this usually very successful lady. I found that her elder sister went to USA in 1920 (see Fam. Rec. 10) married there, had a daughter and died only fifteen years after i.e. in 1935. Also from the letter on p.7. it is plain that Miss Jud was trying to get her sister Violet and her daughter Delores to Canada, but did not succeed owing to the "competition" of D.P. girls from Europe. (A picture of these girls was attached to the letter.)

Joseph
Persons 2
yes. T.O

Fam. Rec. 1

~~xxxx~~
1189 Guy St.
Montreal
Canada
Oct. 13.1947

Dear Name Sake,

You must be wondering what's hapening, I should ha
have written this, but kept waiting to see what would turn
up, of course I did not want the Dr. to write to the girls &
they not knowing what its all about. Well here goes its all a
flop. You ll see a picture taken out the Daily paper here. They
are getting all the girls from Europe, the War torn areas and it
is quite definite they wont allow any Jamaican here. It is
stoped. Strange they are also taking people from other Island but
no Jamaican wanted & this I understand apply to U.S.A also, so
I am so very sorry that this matteris short lived, as I would
really have liked to help a few from BSav. I am getting along
ok. only missing my babies just as much as ever. How is the
shop and everything else, tell Vie & Del. something might some
~~xxxx~~ through later but Ill always be on the look out. So
Vick is gone eh. I haven't heard from her yet, by the way Jud,
if ever you hear of a piece of land on the main road, please let
me know, I'll be very grateful for sch information not that I
have the money now, but still keep me in mind, as I only exect to
be away for a time but to live away from my teo girls is more
than I can do, except I see my way to get them with me. My
fondest love to the home Circle. How is Valrey. You must be
getting all ready for thr tomatoes crop. Hope it will be succ-
esful. Wishing you & yours the Lords rich blessing and love to
Sister Anna. Yours ever Jud.

Emmigrator

New Forrest. Oct 14th, 1947.

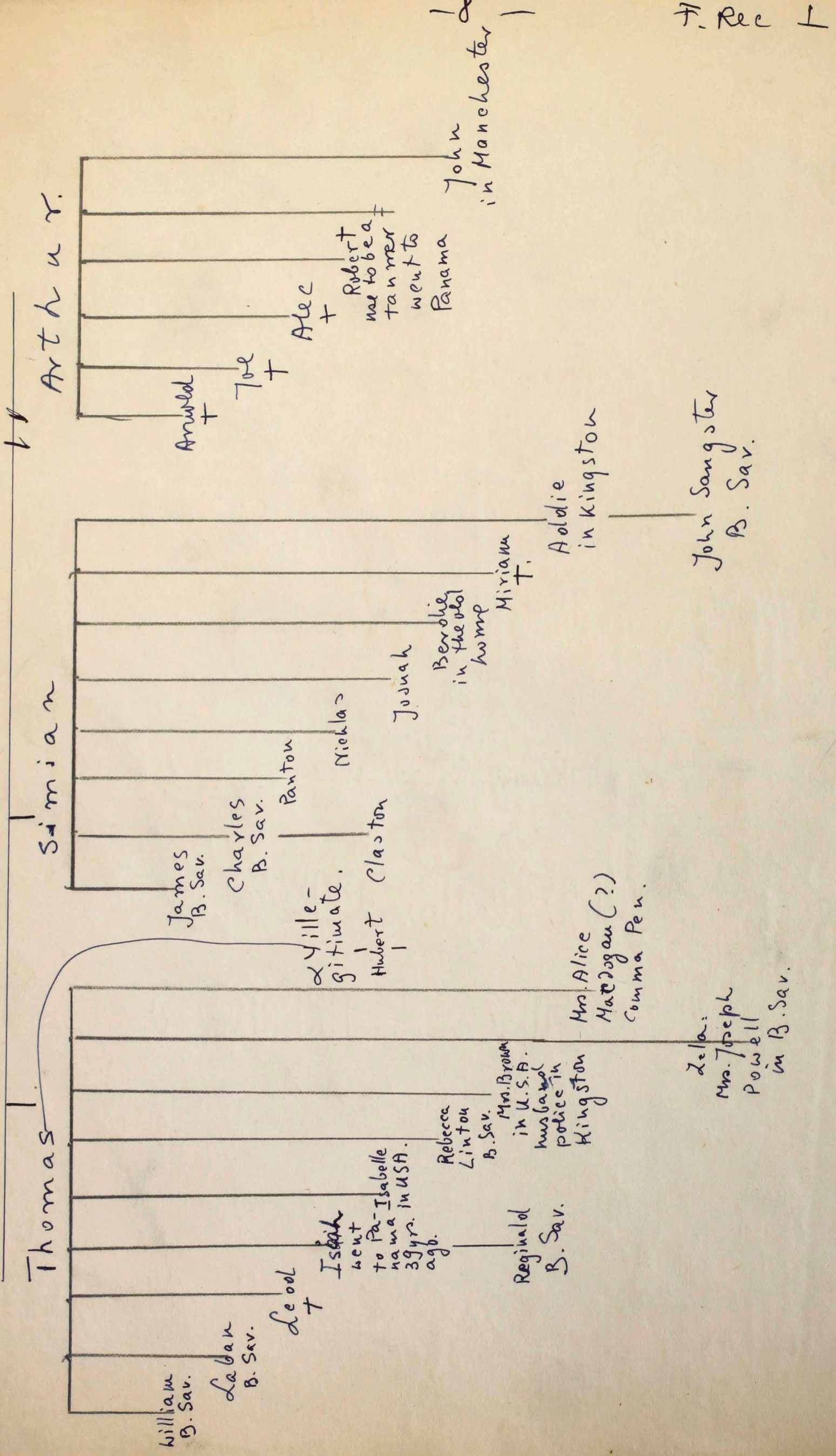
Mr. Labann Rochester

Dear Sir,

If you did not sell the (mother) cow
as yet and still wants to do so, please sent and let me know
your price. I have one too that I intend to sell but now be-
fore she calf but a man from Santa Cruz heard about her and
send to ask me to let him have the preference when I am ready, x
so I has sent to tell him about yours. So that is why I would
like to know your whereabouts, that I can send to let him know,
his bearer will be here on Sat. So you can send reply by bearer.
He is buying for the sake of the mikk as the pickup runs that
end. Please accept kindest regards for yourself and Mrs.
from yours truly Crofton Hanson.

Dear Miss Jud, Please I am asking you to send money for me as
its not mine. I wear (?) the one you take at Junction. Please
sell these Pair for me I buy them 1/4 per dozen so sell for
me. Ethlin.

Thomas Rochester



Thomas & Simian brothers. Arthur "some family".

23.X11.1947.

Inf. Laban Rochester.

Mr. Laban remembers all the members of the family (see p.7 the family tree). Looking from the hill at the Green Olive Valley he remembers what houses were there in his young days, which were built by whom and when. His fathers old home - the one he lives now while renting the new cottage to us - was called "Welcome". His uncle home was called "Sharlan" (Shareland?).

In 1919 Mr. Laban went to Cuba, he liked there and earned money. He came back in 1922 and the same year went abck to Cuba. He intended to go to the USA where some other members of his family were already. However he got a letter from his father telling him he felt sick and "him cant manage his business alone." The father thought it was hard on him that now he was old his son was not with him to help him. So Laban instead to go to the USA came back home and stayed with his father. For the Cuban money Laban built the new cottage - first the two front rooms - and later on he added the two small ones at ~~the back~~ at the back. Before Thomas Rochester died he made a will. Laban - who stayed with the father helping him and taking care of him in his old days - got 28 acres and the old home. William - who was older - got 11 acres. Daughters got 6 - 8 acres. The illegitimate children got about 2 acres each. The grand-son Reginald (son of Isiah who went to Panama and stayed there) got the land which was for his father. After Isiah went, his son Reginald was brought up in his grandfathers home and by his uncle Laban. So to the old Thomas, Reginald was both a grandson and adopted son.

12.1.48.

T.O. Informant Ernest Powell.

Powell's grandfather Joseph married a Rochester. She was a sister of Thomas Rochester senior.

How was it that one son of Thomas had such a lot of land (Thomas) and the other only very little? (Simian)

Thomas was the older one and he divided the land. Simian took what was given to him. "Simian was a noble fisherman. His treasure was at sea." Simian was content what the older brother gave him (not a fair share in Mr. Powell's opinion) because he was not a cultivator. He used to go every day fishing, he did not ~~xxxx~~ have "any use for the land". He did not think that it will come a time when the land will be precious for his children. At that time Simian used to catch plenty of fish. Often there were more in the nets he could bring in his boat. The price was not what it is now, but everything was cheap and he made good living from fishing.

Thomas was a cultivator and raised horses. He needed land for his cultivations and stock. He was always trying to accumulate land and he succeeded.

of going/
Gradation of
children and
land division.

Fishermen
Cultivators

Would come

Thank

old hunting
horse breeding.

Noble fisherman
& cultivator.

14.1.1947.

T.O.

"Uncle Fred" is the husband of one of Laban Rochester's sisters, who emigrated to America. They were married in New York 16 years ago. "Uncle Fred's" name is Mr. Andrews. He came - for the first time - to pay a visit to his wife's family. He knew the family only "by correspondence". His wife didn't accompany him.

Story of Uncle Fred.

He is about 50 yrs old, of a "dark coloured" complexion, rather stocky as compared with the svelt figures of Bull Savannah gentlemen. Baldish.

He was born in Granada. His grandparents still spoke the patois. (Granada used to belong to France). "I had many brothers of course". He spent his youth in Granada on "my father's estate" (which seems to be rather an ornamental definition of a farm.) He spoke also a little of the patois. He has many pleasant recollections of his young days in Granada. During the first world war he spent as a private in the British army 2½ years in Palestine and Egypt. "The sergeant was very cruel - he was right from here - from Jamaica. His eyes were as blue as the sea." Uncle Fred recounted how the sergeant used to punish severely the soldiers for the slightest things. "You had to be good". One soldier was - as punishment - left with his hands tied and his face smeared with jam - for the flies to torment him. "So you had to be good I tell you, you died if you weren't good and there was no appeal to anybody". After he came back from the army he emigrated to the USA where many of his family were already. It was in 1921. Since 1925 he is working in one place. "I am associated with the company which provides light and gas to New York. My business is really to read the meters".

Colour & National membership: "I was really a French boy, a British, and now an American". "New York is a fine place". "Although you may understand it may not suit me always" (reference to his colour). Mr. Andrews thinks the colour problem in America will be settled in time. Even now in New York "you can go to places (restaurants) and if you speak - behave like a gentleman - you can go there, they won't object". "In the South it is terrible - I never went there because I don't want to be killed".

Economic prospects & political views. Mr. Andrews politely says in answer to invitations that he would love to live in Bull Savannah. He praises the beauty of the place and the character and intelligence of the people. He thinks he would be happy among his wife's family and friends. "If there were more roads here and water (irrigation system) I would come to live here to-morrow". It seems however that in his heart of hearts he prefers New York. He is not afraid of his future. He is with the company for so many years and as he is certain this company will go through all the possible crises his future is secure. Even the great crisis of 1929 did not affect him. He is a Democrat. But he wouldn't vote for Truman. He thinks Wallace has big possibilities. All the coloured people will vote for him. Also Stassen is a great man. Although he is a Republican Mr. Andrews would vote for him. He is a "man." Mr. Andrews trusts him. It is beautiful in Bull Sav. The valley of Green Olive is so peaceful so beautiful especially at the sun-set, it is cold now in New York - the biggest snow for more than half a century - it must be hard to walk there in the streets. And his job calls for a lot of walking. But he loves New York. "It is a swell place."

Example of "play his up"

Receptions. The Christmas period - from Christmas eve till the New Year - is a time when visits are paid - I was told. I was present at four such receptions, in different households. The time they were held was well extended over the period mentioned above. They were held to entertain uncle Fred. ~~Myvixixxxxx~~ The picture of uncle Fred and his wife 18 inches by 24 is in all the Rochester households and in many other affiliated with this numerous family. I learned also from young men who ~~xxxxxxx~~ have been on contract to the States that the home of Uncle Fred in New York was a kind of "family club" for the Jamaican. This couple "imported to USA many young girls and boys from Bull Savannah and I understand many mothers of grown up daughters are ~~xxxx~~ trying to grasp for their children the same opportunity. For this reason and probably out of sheer hospitality uncle Fred is entertained almost daily.

The reception begins at any time between noon and the evening, as "guests are expected" but usually no definite hour is stated. In the best room a table is set with white napkin, plates are put "upside down" (which is an excellent device because flies and ants dont crawl on them, anyhow it cant be seen). Guests are only older men. They dont bring their women folk with them. On the whole it is a purely manly affair. The host receives the guests. He talks with them a while in the yard or on the veranda. In the meantime the hostess brings all the food she prepared from morning and puts it on the table. After many ~~xxx~~ polite invitations the guests sit at the table. The hostess does not sit with them. She sees that everybody got enough to eat and is continually busy between the room and the kitchen (in the other house). The menu consists invariably of: curry of chicken or other meat (often curry goat) laso curry lobster, a lot of ~~xxx~~ bean & rice, yams, sometimes of two varieties, kind of very heavy made of cornflour boiled dumplings, tomato salad. Rum is referred to as "apetizer" and served before one starts to eat. A quarter of glass of pure rum is followed by half a glass of water. For sedesrt either a cake is served or a kind of gelee with expensive canned fruits (American peaches or pears)

After the meal - generous and well cooked, the table is cleared and only rum and glasses left - to continue.

Children are ~~xxxx~~ kept out of sight and hearing. Less important - usually younger neighbours or boys of the family may join afterwards or even assist during the meal, but not sitting at the table.

Visitors are not specially dressed. They come in usual khaki pants and shirts often mended and patched - and not because they dont have a better one. The younger ones are usually dressed with more care, a ~~xxxx~~ new blue shirt seems be the fashion. It certainly is very becoming to the lighter or deeper tan of the Bull Savannians completion.

The conversation drifts gracefully just as at any other such reception at which family members and neighbours meet. From time to time one person more than others susceptible

to the effects of rum tries to monopolise the conversation to himself. Here are the topics at the reception given by Mrs. and Mr. Laban Rochester on Sunday January 11th. I asked whether it was any special occasion (there was a big reception a ~~few~~ fortnight ago for Christmas). Miss Jude said "no - it is just getting together". She wanted to entertain uncle Fred (her husbands brother n law). I had ~~some~~ suspicions that she also wanted him "to do something" for her daughter Delrose and perhaps buy some land from her father Arthur Linton, or better still built some cottages on his land. She got into her head that her fathers place would be an ideal tourist resort. She would like Andrews to invest in putting up the necessary buildings and she would run the business. "We wouldnt even charge much for the land - we would even give it for nothing - just for the place (Bull Savannah) to get the benefit." However if there is any special business to be talked over with one of the guests - his is taken "apart" in the next room or in the yard - and there they talk their special business.

On that Sunday ~~the conversation started with~~ present at the table were: Mr. Laban Rochester, Mrs Jude Rochester from time to time, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Joe Powell, Morgan myself and Obrebski. Later on came Ernest Powell and sat at the table but after ~~the~~ the meal was over. On the Verandah much later appeared Sydney Rochester and two other younger boys, who did not speak at all. At a moment Lillybel Rochester appeared in slacks with another young girl. They were promptly taken and entertained by Miss Jude in the small room.

The conversation started with Mr. Andrews telling that this morning he went to have a swimm at the sea and after he got out of the water he saw quite near a small shark. Joe Powell said that such a small shark - 3 feet - wasnt dangerous and started stories about ~~the~~ alligators. Once they were looking for crabs, and one boy trust his hand into a hole in the river. ~~He~~ There was something queer - he could feel - and pulled and it appeared that he put his hand right into an alligator's open mouth and was pulling him by his teeth. An alligator - said uncle Joe - feeds on ~~the~~ insects. It opens its mouth and keeps so without moving for hours. When flies and mosquitos sit there ~~the~~ alligator shuts suddenly his mouth - and so feeds on insects. An alligator looks as a log - dead log. Once somebody who went to hunt alligators stepped right on one. Somebody else approached quietly an alligator ~~with~~ put his gun right into the alligators open mouth and shoot. But should anybody come accross an alligator while swimming in the river - God help him. "God helps those who help themselves" said Miss Jude who just entered with ~~some~~ more beer. She loves to be sententious and usually develops the implications of such a proverb for her own praise or benefit.

But this time she was not allowed to elaborate on this subject. ~~Somebody was saying~~ She just stated how resourceful she was in helping herself and was going to show in detail how God helped her, when Mr. Morgan picked another thread: "Yes - he said - God helps those who help themselves, but who helps those who don't help themselves?" The company was not eager to discuss this intricate philosophical problem. But Mr. Morgan persisted and started to ask the same question ~~personally~~ directly each person. His nearest neighbour at the table Joe Powell declined with a joke. But Obrebski asked twice had to answer something, since Mr. Morton was leaning across the table and taking him by hand. "The devil I suppose" he said. Everybody laughed and Mr. Morton seemed to be satisfied for a while. But not for long. He had another drink and embarked about an intricate argument that God would help his chosen people, and the chosen people ~~xxxx~~ were of course white. He was politely and sweetly contradicted by Obrebski, but this only seemed to ~~be~~ inflame him. "Are you a white lady and a white gentleman yes or no?" he asked us leaning again across the table. As there seemed no time for argument or to qualify our answer we agreed meekly we were. "And what would you call me?" (He is very "fair" with blueish eyes, his long hair is frizzy and with his big nose looks a bit like carabinieri from Pinocchio) "Coloured" we said. "And this Mr. Andrews?" (Mr. Andrews is definitely much darked) "Also coloured" we said. "Nigger" shouted Mr. Morgan, he is a nigger." Mr. Andrews was a bit disgusted but kept his good humoured and distinguished air. We persisted that Mr. Andrews was coloured, though a bit darked than Mr. Morgan. The last one however would listen to our protestation but went on with his argument: "And all the same I call myself a nigger and God is white". This created a general outcry. Uncle Joe said God was only a symbol and Uncle Fred said that this was only a picture made by men. Upon which everybody got up from the table. Uncle Fred said he was not interested in the problem. Mr. Morgan buttonholed Obrebski, and said "No matter who I am the important is how I feel here" - pointing at his chest. We all agreed that was the most important thing. Miss Jude tactfully drew Mr. Morgan pursuing his complicated argument ~~xx~~ and keeping Obrebski to the small room, while the rest of the society sat on the verandah where a small table with cake and drinks was set. Mr. Ernest Powell gladly told about his many travels to Panama, Cayman Islands, six times to Cuba (see Fam. Rec. 28.) how he got along with other people in these foreign lands and Uncle Joe ~~wanted to~~ who also travelled to Cuba - would join him in the narrative. Mr. Andrews was talking - mostly with Sydney Rochester who came now - about temperature etc. in different regions of the earth, the differences in climate between New York and Bull Savannah etc. Mr. Morgan appeared again and interrupted the general conversation with a very intricate argument about how when a foreigner comes to a place. He meets somebody in the street - the first person this this foreign place and ... here he seemed to get a bit enangled and started over and over again with the dramatic moment when a foreigner gets ashore in a foreign land. The others wanted him to stop it, but as he was persistent and a bit turbulent they patiently let

him talk. Fortunately - for the conversation - Mr. Morgan lived rather far in Comma Pen and he realised he had to go home. He invited many times everybody to do him the honour and come and visit him at his home, which everybody promised. There was a party leaving with light, but Mr. Morgan did not join it as it took him about half an hour to shake hands with everybody - many times. He went alone in the dark night happy and full of high spirit.

The party which started soon after 2 p.m. finished about 10 p.m. Uncle Peany (Ernest Powell) asked whether we could come and visit him next day at his home at about 1 p.m. We said we couldn't come as early, but would come a bit later. Mr. Andrews - as usual - had a short but florid speech, thanking for the reception. "I am sure it was the most wonderful etc..." he complemented ~~xxxx~~ Miss Jude on her food and all the members of the company on their qualities and distinction. Upon which the party broke to be resumed next day at uncle Peany's.

27.1.1948.T.O.
another party.

~~XXXXXXXX~~ Yesterday Miss Jude threw another party for uncle Fred. It was the farewell party, as he has to ~~xxxx~~ leave for Kingston Thursday to take the plane to New York. This time it was an evening - after dinner party. She sent her little son Vivian to say that she is coming to us with some friends. After half an hour she came carrying a big supply of drinks (these were to supplement our stock in case we didnt have enough for the guests. i.e she was selling it to us). The guests were: Mr. Andrews, Mr. Newell and his young brother, Miss Edith Powell and a Miss Daisy Banton. Mr. Newell came together with Mr. Andrews ~~xxx~~ by plane from New York. He is from Junction, left his home 24 years ago and is on his first visit home. He came with a splendid car and drives around with Mr. Andrews. His younger brother met him for the first time. This younger brother Curtis Newell has been to America as farm labourer but was not able to visit his brother on that occasion. There are 6 brothers Newell and three elder are in America. Curtis would like to go there too to settle " Miss Banton is a young girl in spectacles and very modest.

We sat round the table and Miss Jude went to fetch glasses. The conversation dragged. Uncle Fred and myself made the best efforts to keep it alive. Mr. Newell the older was nursing with affected attention his very smart panama hat. Curtis Newell was piercing Obrebski and myself with his eyes but didnt say a word. Finally Miss Jude appeared with the glasses and drink were served. Uncle Fred and Newell the older poured a generous amount of rum and had a soft drink afterwards. Misses Powell and Banton declined strong drinks. Miss Banton didnt smoke either. After the stimulus the conversation became much livelier. Miss Jude said that Mr. Laban didnt feel well, went to bed and asked to be excused for not joining the party. Somebody hummed an air and it was suggested

that Mr. Newell should sing. Bradley's guitare was brought and Mr. Newell the older played american love songs of a sentimental type. Mr. Andrews and Curtis seconded both with beautiful voices and Miss Jude making up in determination what was lacking in melody in her song. The two other ladies smiled but did not join. After a while, when a "jazzy" tune was played Miss Jude took uncle Fred and made him dance on the veranda. She danced many dances alternatively with uncle Fred and Curtis. They danced well and with gusto. Uncle Fred suggested that a tune should be played that everybody knows so that "the folks" (i.e. we) could join in singing, but somehow no such tune was known to Mr. Newell, owing to our gross ignorance of american popular music. At a moment - as the ~~ignorance~~ company tended more and more to be separated into actors (singing and dancing) and onlookers Misses Powell and Danton and we two, I said I was very sorry my husband was no good and couldn't dance - but I added I did dance. After which uncle Fred invited me to do a walse and we performed something very elaborate with "figures" (taniec z figurami) He danced very well and I asked him whether he has ever been to a polish wedding as his way of dancing was very much like what I used to dance in my young days. He said he hasn't been to a polish wedding but "it is the way we used to dance at old home". "We danced lancier". ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ It was not certainly the way people dance in Jamaica now - as far as I could observe. After that all the ladies had their turn Drinks were not left idle. Miss Jude was the soul of the party providing humour and entrain. Mr. Newell provided sentimentality with his music and sweet sonore voice. Uncle Fred was the handy man: he danced, sang and flirted good humouredly with Miss Powell, kept up the conversation. Young Curtis drank heavily, danced from time to time and played the guitare relieving his older brother. He seemed to fight with a strong emotion, which he kept "inside". Did not speak at all but followed keenly the conversation and ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ and kept his ~~XXXXXXXX~~ eyes glued all the time to Obrebski or me. At some moment dancers and singers ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ became a little tired. We had drinks and sandwiches and uncle Fred ~~XXXX~~ told about his "hard times."

Hard times of
uncle Fred.

In 1920 he was in his home island of Granada. He wanted to go to the U.S.A. His brothers were there already. He decided to go with one of his friends. Boats going to U.S.A. called only once a month to Granada and they decided to reach another island where there was more traffic to northern America. They took a sail boat and went to a small island "governed by Grenada" from where there was a service to Barbados. They knew there was a ship to leave Barbados for U.S.A. soon. The sea was very rough and waves rooled over their small craft. They had to tie themselves to the mast. His companion was very sick and said he better dies at once. Uncle Fred told him "Dont die, I am with you and held him

Fam. Rec. 1.

with his hands clinging himself to the mast. At last they reached the small island only to learn that the next boat is leaving for Barbados only in a weeks time. They had to go back. Happily the sea calmed and the journey back wasnt so unpleasant and perilous. They managed to reach Barbados in right time and booked a passage on ~~the next boat~~ a boat going to Cuba. In Cuba they landed in Havana. An acquaintance from the ship took them to his uncle in Havana. They went to see a place to stop, but discovered that their english currency was no good there. The uncle gave them the address of a "Jamaican lady who kept a hotel in the back of her shop." She agreed to keep them till Monday (it was Saturday) till they change their money. They gave some canadian dollars as security. On Sunday she said that her brother could have some employment for them and advised to go there on Monday and postpone the changing of money till Tuesday. Uncle Fred was given a job consisting of working with a picker. He was not used to such a work. In one hour the skin of his palm became sore and "went right off". "It hurt I tell you, but I have been to the army, I couldnt cry. I only looked at my hand and said - my poor hand I am sorry for you." He had to stop for the next day. The "Jamaican lady" bathed his hand in salted water, and again "it hurt I tell you". After a few weeks he decided he did not want to stay in Cuba and wrote his brother in America he wanted to join him. His brother wrote him back to come. They booked a passage to America. There he stayed with his brother. At that time you could have a job easily. "Even if you got up at noon you could get a job." He was offered to be a "handyman" ~~the~~ He agreed though did not know what it meant. Went home to change and told his brother. The brother told him not to accept the job, as it consisted of cleaning windows and was very dangerous. So he didnt take this job. The next one offered to uncle Fred and his friend was in a glue factory. It was \$20 a week. They went there. The factory smeeled like anything in the world. His friend stayed there only for one day. Uncle Fred worked there for one week. In the underground he noticed that people changed places, not to sit near him. His people at home made jokes, that when ~~he~~ he is at the underground station which was a mile from the home they could smell him. "I could bear to be despised so". The next job he got was working the elevators in a apartment house. It was a place where rich people lived. He worked ~~on~~ alternatively on the freight elevetor and the passenger one. He liked the freight as he would get extra about \$5 a week for things he carried there. Once when he was in the passenger el. a gentleman asked about what he was doing, his prospects etc. This gentleman was from the gas and light company, and offered uncle Fred to work there. Uncle Fred told him he didnt have any experience with electricy or gas, but the other said he might learn and has good prospects there. So uncle Fred gave notice to the manager of the apartment house saying that the ~~the~~ elevators are getting on his nerves. Th manager said: "You are not telling the truth, if you want a raise in the salary - tell me and I will give you". But

Fam. Rec. 1.

uncle Fred said it was the type of work which did not suit him and left. "It was a Saturday. On Monday I was with the company and I worked there ever since." It was in 1925. Uncle Fred is pleased with his lot. He considers he has good luck. He did not disclose how much he earned now. He gets 3 weeks paid holidays every year, and can get more unpaid - as now. From next year he will get 4 weeks paid holidays. Sometimes he gets Saturday, Sunday and Monday free.

Ecology of New York.

Uncle Fred discussed for a long while the problem of restricted areas in New York. Uncle Fred was very much for the restrictions. He did not like to have in his neighbourhood - northern Harlem - people who were noisy and interfered with his rest. He thinks it is right that only people who reached a "certain standard" should be allowed to settled in some areas. There are some people who are "bad characters" When uncle Fred settled many years ago in his district it was a nice one, now there is a lot of "noisy people".

Then both Mr. Newell and uncle Fred explained the system of numbering the streets in New York - instead of giving them names, and the advantages the public derives from such a system. It makes easy to anybody to find the street he is looking for.

Some more songs followed. Also jamaican, the Linst. market, and a naughty one about a donkey, which was partly hummed to the great delight of everybody.

We all went on the verandah. Mr. Newell was playing and his brother was dancing with Miss Banton. After a while Mr. Newell sat on the balustrade next to Miss Newell. He sung a sentimental song ending with a dramatic "Do you love me?" - "I like you" said Miss Powell sweetly in a even, pleasant and amicable tone. Everybody laughed. It was near 1 a.m. and the party was dragging to an end. Mr. Newell said that Miss Banton's mother would be worried ~~if she~~ that her daughter was out so late. We wrote a "certificate" for the young person, and everybody signed enjoying the joke. Finally ~~at last~~ the time came to part. Miss Jude insisted that uncle Fred should come next day to see Laban. Uncle Fred protested that he possibly couldnt having only two days more in Bull Savannah and a lot of people to visit. They spoke about the possibility of uncle Fred coming back to B. Sav. and settle. It transpired that Miss Jude offered him a spot house on the hill where her fathers land is. What were the conditions of this "offering" wasnt clear. Uncle Fred advised Miss Jude to keep the "Early Bird" going on and assured her "Your name weighs more than you think". He invited us many times to look him up in New York when we pass there. "And you may be sure you will not regret it." He wanted to introduce to us to "our crowd" - to the Jamaicans who meet in New York. He told how Mr. Newell was one of his best friends, he gave away to him his wife. Mr. Newell was also largely responsible for his coming this year. He planned to come to Jamaica, but was not yet decided as to the date. But since Mr. Newell was coming - he joined him. They

The journey

went on a plane from New York to Miami, changed there and came to Jamaica. On the last stretch the piercing sound of the engine or was it a pressure of air made them feel very badly "I feel terrible I tell you". He never felt so bad in his life. However they booked a round trip passage on the plane (over \$200) and had to by the same route. They send their trunks by ship. Uncle Fred said that at the latest people have to give ~~their~~ the things ~~max~~ they want them to take to America by to-morrow, because he has to ship the trunks ahead.

Finally they all went down to the little road where ~~the~~ Mr. Newell's car stood. They all went except young Curtis Newell. He stayed behind. We offered him a drink. He poured himself a generous glass lifted it - and finally broke the silence he kept all the evening. He said he heard there were nice white people staying at Miss ^{Jude's} but he never thought he would spent such an evening with us. He asked about young Linton (Miss Jude's brother who lives in Junction) "I ask him are they foky?" He said no, so I said all right. He said there is here some difference in colour but he didnt mind that (i.e. the colour of others) As long as we all speak the same english language and are all the same british subjects. Here we felt we had to disappoint him and confess that we were neither british subjects nor english was our mother tongue. We made a compromise agreeing that the language really didnt matter as long as people understood each other. He reconciled to our nationality although our country wasnt a british colony. He was very eager to come back, regretted he didnt come earlier to see us. The people in the car were ~~knocking~~ tooting louder and louder. Curtis finally left us walking a bit unsteadily but all smiles and promising to come next Sunday.

8.1.48. T.O.

The mystery of Pauline.

Pauline figures in the census as daughter. All the time till a fortnight ago she was in the family mostly with the youngest girl Rachel. The two girls used to come and "put order" in our house. When school started Pauline disappeared from "around the house" and so did Vivian. One day I went to the packing house. Pauline who was a while ago in the factory yard with some other children was packing tomatoes. I went to Miss Jude shop and complimented her on her industrious child. I said "I saw your daughter wrapping at the factory" "You mean my sister?" "No, I saw also Miss Linton your sister but it was Pauline". Miss Jude laughed and said that the child should be at school but she doesnt mind if Pauline takes an opportunity to earn a penny or two. A few days later in the conversation with the two other daughters Del and Daphne I mentioned the whole story. They were astonished: Pauline is not their sister. It was a girl who just worked here. She isnt here any more.

Preparations for a wedding.

A week ago Daphne came from Linstead where she stayed with her future in laws learning sewing and embroidery. She brought with her her future sister in law - a pleasant young girl and another girl-friend. All three came to pay us a visit introduced by Dell. They sat all three in a row and the conversation seemed a bit flat. Friend No 2 never said a word, Daphne seemed crossed, put from time to time a question in a bold tone and looked for the rest of the time at the pictures of her American relatives. The only unaffected and at ease seemed Miss Wilson the future sister in law. She told about her home town Linstead, ~~chance~~ possibilities of travelling from there to Kingston and her stay in Mandeville.

Miss Jude confided that the wedding is planned for mid February. Daphne wants it to be in church - not just register. "She wants to get the blessing". Miss Jude is upset whom to invite. She knows some people will be crossed. So she will say she invites everybody in general, and "who will like it - will like - and who doesn't - let them." She expects a crowd of people to come for the wedding. It will be a lot of expense. The religious ceremony will be performed in Mandeville. People will come in cars from Kingston. Then everybody will come to Bull Savannah. She is sure we will help her - in what way she did not precise. She wants her son in law to resign from the police force. He had to sign for another 5 years, but it is easy to find an excuse. A doctor can always sign a certificate that his health is not good. ~~She wants to live in Black River~~ Her daughter doesn't want to live in Black River - as Miss Jude planned formerly. Miss Jude is reconciled to the idea that they will live in Kingston. There is a lot of malaria in Black River. She wants them to open a shop - perhaps a greengrocer store. "So we can help each other, I will look after them this end (Bull Savannah) and they will look after my business their end." "We will make it a family business".

In the meanwhile Daphne with her friends is busy sewing the trousseau.

2.II.1948. T.O.

Miss Jude active mind concentrates now on three subjects: the nearest her daughters wedding, next one the enlargement of her business and the third one, more remote a trip to U.S.A.

She came yesterday morning when we had guests: her husband and three other men, who were: her two half-brothers - Ezra Linton on father's side and Levi Lewis on mother's side and her husband's "outside brother in law" Dudley Simpson (uncle of Laban Rochesters outside son.)

complicated family
relations.

Wedding preparations
and family help.

Full of energy she assigned to each of them a task in connection with the coming wedding ceremony. "You Mr. Laban you find me a nice goat. There is no two ways about it - it has to be a big goat. And when will you be able to repair the gate?" "We will have plain rice with goat and cream potatoes. We will put one table in the room and another on the verandah - the full length of the verandah. When people come from church I think better give them dinner and afterwards we will have the wedding cake and rum punch. We will put benches under the mango tree. You Dudley - you have to work - help me with the benches and you too (Lewis)" "We will be here" (Dudley) "Tsk tsk" Teacher (her brother Arthur Linton who is a painter) promised to come next week and paint the house - make it look fresh" "Calbert (her uncle the carpenter) will give me all day Friday - he will fix the benches". "Not that I can afford it but this girl behaved nicely for 20 years - I must give her a wedding. It is the only thing to look back."

Wedding

Business plans

On another occasion she confided that she intends to add one room to her shop "early Bird". She will put an american stove on the verandah and have the whole of the present room for lunches. In the back there will be a bar. She applied for a rum licence. She wants to build another little house were a room will be for her to rest. It is too far to go home sometimes and often she stays late in her shop. She will be able to rest there and Mr. Laban when he helps her in the shop especially if there will be a bar.

Projected American
trip.

"If dear Lord help me and my little business I want to go to New York for 3 months. I would mix business with pleasure and could earn my passage easy I have a lot of people to pull strings for me. Mr. Laban is against. I have done my duty, let him feel a little (how it would be without her) Uncle Fred said I could stay 6 months."

The wife in trousers.

"Mr. Laban is more for his tomatoes, looks that there is food round the house. I am more business like. I have my plans. I make plans and he must fall in with them. If he doesnt I agree with him, but I must have my chance first. I am more ... (here she pointed to her head) Plans, business thats my line."

Another plan.

A friend in Kingston asked Miss Jude to bottle tomatoes. She could use all tomatoes rejected. To boil them down to a kind of porridge and put in bottles. "We have to get up and do something. We cant sit with hands in our laps. I am sure I will get some jars - make tomato preserves. I decide to do something. I will experiment a dozen times."

FanRec 1.

A mother's
duties,
& public opinion.

Miss Jude came and said her daughter Del had a tooth ache. Ezra Linton (her hal-brother) said:
"For that tooth I blame you too. "hen she could go to the dentist there was anybody to stay at home. "
(He was referring to Miss Jude staying all the time in her shop and neglecting home and children.) Miss Jude jumped with indignation: " You blame me? Can I make the impossible possible? I even dont remember how the day of God look like" (It was Sunday and she said she didnt have even time to go to church) "And everybody say what a mother I am. If any of my daughters gets even her finger hurt I take people's car and run to the hospital."

In this moment we saw ~~her two little sons~~ through the window her two little sons who were running with a wheel barrow, or rather it was a "wheel-ladder". It was a Sunday morning but the boys were in their everyday clothes not too clean. Miss Jude leaned from the window and shouted: "You boys get some water and wash yourselves, and get some clean clothes. They look - she said turning to us - as if their mother was dead. And she is alive, if only half alive." "The children - they will take all from you" She explained she had to go to Kingston Saturday. It was on business but also: "I have a dear friend in Kingston. She help me with wedding cake with fruit so hard to get - and we staighten little things" (connected with the trousseau)

A double wedding.

The wedding of Daphne was fixed for Sunday February 15th. But it has been postponed for another fortnight. Sunday afternoon Mrs. Jude invited me to their house were Mr. Nembhard and his friend Mr. Simpson, also Mr. Wilson - Daphne's fiancée. There I was told that Delores ~~Davidson~~ and Mr. Simpson decided to have a ~~quite~~ quiet marriage "only a licence affair" on Wednesday the 18th, a Daphne's wedding with big reception for both girls will be held on Sunday 29th. Later we all (i.e. Mr. and Mrs. Rochester the two fiancées and Mr. Nembhard) had dinner together. The young girls ~~were not there~~ Ms did not appear.

On Wednesday afternoon a taxi came and took the young people and Mrs. Jude and some relatives of the young man to Mandeville. They came back in the evening and a small reception was held in which I did not participate as I had just an attack of malaria and was understandingly excused by Mrs. Jude.

Next morning Miss Jude came when we were still in bed to tell ~~her~~ us her feelings in connection with the last day's happenings.

She said that though she knew ~~that~~ Delores will be happy and her husband is a good honest boy she wept at the ceremony. "You know - a mother always and to loose all my daughters, to be dependent on servants." And she told how she planned for Delores to go to Kingston and stay with her friends to learn something. "But she chose another line - I am not forcing anybody" We remarked that this wedding was rather sudden, as we expected Daphne to marry first. Mrs. Jude said she thought ~~that~~ Simpson wanted to marry Delores now, as he thought that after Daphne leaves there would be too much work for Delores at home. "And she (Delores) such an affectionate child." Mrs. Jude sincerely regretted the loss of her daughter. "I know she will be happy, on the way (to Mandeville) I stopped at the house (Simpson lives with Nembhard - "they are friends but live ~~like~~ as one family") they fixed a lovely room for her."

She didn't have much to say about her new son-in-law family. His parents are from the neighbourhood, but he lived with his grandmother and now lives with his friend Mr. Nembhard - they work together on the tomato field. (We met Simpson twice, he is a young, very quiet handsome and exceptionally intelligent young man. Interested in world politics, he is very well informed and always eager to learn more. He has been to U.S.A. as farm labourer.)

Miss Jude is more talkative about the family of Daphne's future husband, and himself. "He always asks me for advice." She said ~~that~~ she asked him to sell his motorcycle and he promised to do it. He intended to buy a car - Miss Jude says - and leave it here in Bull Savannah at Miss Jude's disposition. "But I told ~~her~~ him my son, I won't be dependent on you - not before you marry and are my real son. Before the cup reaches the lip it can slip." She commented "I never trust men"

to loose daughters
and be dependent
on servants

arrangements
for Daphne's
wedding.

Delores wanted a quiet wedding and as soon as possible and she got it. Daphne is in favour for a "big affair" and so is Mrs. Rochester. Mr. Laban would prefer it to be modest, but his opinion does not seem to matter much in the household. Mrs. Rochester says she has many friends in Kingston, Montego Bay, Spanish Town and this will be an opportunity of "getting together". She says that all her acquaintances in Kingston hearing of the wedding make hints to be invited. Asked whom she will invite from Bull Savannah she said she possibly can't invite "all of them". Wont ~~xxx~~ some people be offended? "I guess some will be offended - I can't help it. They have to take it as it is."

and guests
selection.

24.2.48. T.O.

three

Mrs. Rochester spent again ~~two~~ days in Kingston - from Friday night till Monday evening. She was preparing the wedding cake. "A friend from Spanish Town lent me the decorator. The cake has four layers. I left it there - to set nicely. It is all iced. My friends will bring it on Saturday night. Other people will come on ~~Saturday~~ Sunday."

New
Plans for
future.

Mrs. Rochester's previous plans as to the future of the two daughters do not materialize. Daphne does not want to stay for some months after her marriage in Bull-Savannah helping her mother with the shop. She also does not want to settle in Black River. She is decided to go after the wedding for a honeymoon and then settle in Kingston. Delrose left the home rather unexpectedly. Mrs. Rochester is having trouble in finding female help both for home and shop. She told me she asked Bradley (outside son of Mr. Rochester) to bring his girl-friend and baby even before Bradley finishes his house on his land. She offered him one of the buildings in the compound. "The girl could help with the home - it all depends what kind of person she is - with some people you can't get along." Bradley and his wife ~~xxxx~~ are not very keen on the idea.

Husband and wife
relations.

Conflict.

The main plan is however to go in some not yet defined future for a visit to U.S.A. Mrs. Rochester wants to make money out of her shop and finance this trip of hers. She says "Mr. Laban is against it. He doesn't want me to go. I was all my life a working-shop, I did my duty." Speaking of Mr. Laban she starts "between ourselves" and goes on criticising him for being slow, not concerned ~~with~~ enough with family & business enough. "All he knows is to look after his tomatoes" "My line is different - I think, I plan I work there (pointing to her forehead)" She also complained at Mr. Laban's using "my maid for his work. He should get his people (?) to help him. He is old enough to take care of himself, and if not old enough - big enough." Now that the 3 elder daughters are married she plans to leave little Pauline with friends in Kingston go herself to America "and the boys can take care of themselves, there is nothing to harm them, I worked enough all my life - a regular work-shop I am."

A guest
at the home.

Last week Mr. Johnson who used to be in charge of the powerstation in the factory left his employment. Mrs. Rochester explained that somebody told on him to the director, who dismissed Mr. Johnson, but on second thoughts asked him to stay. Mr. Johnson refused. He used to live in a room in the factory building. Now he lives at Rochester's home. I asked Mr. Rochester what are Johnson's plans and how long is he going to stay at their home. Mr. Rochester did not seem to know about it. He said "I don't know - he is not a kind of person to tell you about his plans." Mr. Johnson goes often with Mrs. Rochester to Kingston. They plan some business about which Miss Jude is still vague.

Business at the
shop.

The "Early Bird" is crowded at meals time. It also became another "rum-shop" although Miss Jude hasn't got yet the licence for selling drinks. She says she will apply for it in April. She gives lunches, at various prices. "You have to accommodate everybody: for 1/6, 1/3, sometimes a person comes with only 6 d. and you have to help them with something. There is an old woman - I give her every day a lunch, she brings me from time to time sticks, fire sticks. It is more social work I am doing there."

"social work".

12.3.48.T.O.

The grandy's
indiscretions.

Told by Mrs. Francella Simpson the local "grandy" who assisted at the birth of all Miss Jude's children:

"The first one - the first girl she (Miss Jude) had in her mother home. After she had this one she ready to marry."

Wednesday,
Feb. 25, 1948.

- 25 -

Family Record 846 1.

Ed.F.

Interview With Mavis Redwood:

She Meets Miss Jude:

Mavis came to to Bull Savannah in Januray thss year to stay with Miss Jude Rochester. Miss Jude is a friend toa woman named Mrs. Cokcing. of Kingston. Mrs. Cokking is Mavis' friend. One day Miss Jude ~~xxx~~ went to see Mrs. Cokking and asked ~~xxxx~~ her ~~←~~Mavis to go with her to the country. She agreed to.

Her Parents:

Mavis is 22, was born in Cuba, but was brought to Jamaica where she has lived since, in Spanish Town with her father Mr. Aston Redwood. Aston is a prison warder, lives at 38 Hanover St. Spanish Town, was born in Jamaica. Her mother Mrs. Norabell Austin ~~xxx~~ is in Cuba where her father married. She thinks her mother is a Cuban.

A divorce

Mrs. Austin divorced her father and married again because her father would not agree to go to her in Cuba, and she Mrs. A, on the other hand did not want to come to live in Jamaica. Mrs. A had come to Jamaica before she -Mavis was born but had not liked ~~xxx~~ Jamaica, and so had returned to Cuba. She sent to ask Mr. Aston R. to come over to live in Cuba, but Aston would not go. Her mother said -"All right then if y'u won't come I'll find another husband." She did that.

Father's regret

Her father is very sorry about that. She knows he is sorry because whenever he flogs her ~~xxxx~~ or any of his other children he usually says as he flogs "Y'u mus' behave yourself, your mother was a good woman, etc." *Last time she was flogged 10 or 11 months ago.*

She "was naughty"

Mavis has an Aunt -Mrs Malcolm, in America. Mrs. Malcolm had sent for her. She would now be in America but one day she "behaved naughty" and her ~~xxx~~ father punished her by not sending her.

The "Naughty Deed

Asked if the naughty deed was something she would not mind telling she hesitated, and then said she hit her then 10 or 12 year old brother in his stomach. He fell and cried out. Her father rushed into the house asked what had happened, was told by herself and her brother. She told that her brother had used a "naughty word" to her. This had made her vexed, and she had hit him. She would not say what the naughty word was.

She is punished

Her father flogged her "very hard." He was not ~~xx~~ not vexed because she had hit her brother but because she had used her fist, and not a strap.

She leaves her father's

She was vexed because her father had flogged her packed up her things in a suitcase, and went to tell a friend she was going to leave her father's. The friend tried to persuade her not to leave and seemed to have warned her father about her intention to ~~xxx~~

leave his house. When she was ready to leave she did not find the suitcase. She had in it some new clothes her mother aunt Mrs. Malcolm had sent from America for her.

She goes to Kingston

She went to Kingston where she stayed with a friend named Audrey Walters. Audrey lived on Orange St. She had joined the Salvation Army in Spanish Town, rejoined in Kingston. She could, but did not go to the Salvation Army Hostel for women because she feared that they would have enquired into why she had left her father's, and would have induced her to return home.

lives house with
Mrs King - Jones Tn:

She left Audrey's because Audrey's "kind of living did not suit her. Asked how - "too much people living in one room for one thing." She would not say what were the other things. From Audrey's she went to share house with a Mrs. King who lived at 22A Myers St. Jones Town. She remained at Mrs. King for 8 months, at Audrey's for 2 months.

Work in Kingston

Asked how she was supported or who supported her then she said - "I could afford to live a good life because I was not in any wants." (The implication, I thought, was that she did not have to take any money from men - set herself out to secure money from men) "because," she added, "I was not in any wants." She worked in a restaurant at the corner of Beeston and Orange St. Met Miss Judith

Opinion of Miss Jude:

Mavis thinks Miss Jude "a very nice woman," that ~~xxxxxx~~ "rarely can one find a woman like her but Madre! She can be miserable when she wants." (Madre she says is Spanish for mother). She Miss Jude nags often, and Mavis refers to be without food than/be nagged.

She has a brother who ~~xxx~~ is very fond of her. She has written to him but has no ink to address the envelope; would I address it for her?

The interview took place in my room where she had come with breakfast. She seemed to welcome the opportunity to talk. She wore a floral cotton frock mostly blue in colour. The dress had a large placket ~~xxxx~~ at the side. It was open. Her pants were obvious through the opening. It appeared to be very dirty, in contrast with her dress.

and behavior

~~xxxxxx~~ In talk she was markedly modest and restrained. In he said she was brought up in a Christian home.

27.2.48. T.O.

Mavis brought this letter to E.F. asking to address the envelope ~~to her~~ and also to copy ~~the hymn~~ from a loose leaf the hymn "Jesus will be my Guide." which she wants to insert into the letter to her brother. I offered to do the typing.

Bull Savannah
Junction P.O.
23.2.48.

Dear Winston,

how gits you on hope fine I hard that you say that my mother is askeding for me. well I am working here now so you can send and tell her I am at St. Elizabeth. let me hope you are keeping well. you and every body. Give love to mama for me tell her I saw sister Mary in Dec, I was sending soming for her bu I went where she said I was to meet her I diden see her anyway she will hear from me soon. Give love to Mrs David Davidson for me. now Chenio sliiep good till hear from you Good night.

I am

your

Same

Mavis.

JESUS WILL BE MY GUIDE.

Jesus will be my Guide, Ever at my side;
Keeping me safe from every harm, whate' er betide.
He ring me when I pray, He ring me day by day;
Teaching me how to walk with Him in love's sweet way.

Jesus will be my Friend, if I on Him depend;
Banish my cares and fears, and love me to the end.

Never will let me go, Though He must surely know,
How many times my foolish ways have grieved Him so.

Jesus will be my Light, shining through earth's dark night,
Making my life by His pure radiance glow more bright.
Chiding me when I'm wrong, Bidding my soul be strong,
Although the path be rough and steep, the way be long.

Jesus will be my Stay, while I tread life's stern way;
And when I walk death's vale with Him I shall not stray.

Leading me by His grace, Till I shall reach the place,
Where I shall evermore behold Him face to face.

27.2.48. T.O.

After I have given her the hymn and the addressed envelope Mavis explained that the hymn is for herself not for the brother. This hymn was sung to her by a friend in Kingston. Mavis didn't have time to copy it, so the friend gave her a leaf from her book asking to send it back to her, after Mavis has copied it. Mavis sung the whole hymn for my benefit.

An impromptu visit and talk at Miss Jude's yard
26.2.48. T.O.

in the role
of housewife.

Miss Jude has now two hired helpers: Mavis Redwood whom she brought from Kingston to help her in the Early Bird. At present Mavis is transferred from the shop to home duties. She sleeps at Miss Jude's home. Another woman comes daily to do the washing etc.

To-day Miss Jude stayed at home all day which happens extremely seldom. Daphne was at the Early Bird. There was nobody in the yard except the washwoman and I took this opportunity for an intimate talk. Miss Jude was under the shed doing three things at ~~the~~ time: mixing the liquid for ice cream, boiling in a tin some laundry and supervising the girl who was grating cassava. Every few minutes Miss Jude would tell the girl in a voice full of entrain to hurry up with the job.

Miss Jude took me to the kitchen to show how she cleaned it. "Everything was removed from there, the place cleanly swept, and freshly white-washed. In a corner Miss Jude found the cover of the ice bucket and was very indignant about the men, who didn't take proper care of such a precious thing. She paid £7 for the ice bucket. She complained that nobody is interested in the home and wouldn't do anything properly unless she were on the spot. The servants: "They don't even hear you. I always say there is no one more deaf than the one who won't listen." She will also dismiss Mavis, because she talk back. "When you say - clean this tray, she will find a reason to tell you why it is dirty - I can't stand it." It is a calamity to depend upon hired people, she says. "Mrs. Jude is not afraid of work, she will do any work. The servants don't like when she is at home" "I don't let them idle. The master's eye fattens the horse."

From the kitchen we passed to the buttery which is in the same building. Here also a lot of cleaning and order was introduced for the coming wedding, reception. Mr. Laban built a wall from coarse boards, behind which gungoo peas is stored. There is a big wooden trunk in which odd papers are stored. A corner is destined for odds and ends. In the small space left Miss Jude plans to put a table for gusets. I asked her whether it wouldn't be better to arrange it in the cottage we occupy, as we are leaving for the days of the ceremony. Yes of course - there will be reception. But "you can't mix everybody." Here she explained that there are two classes of guests and you have to treat them accordingly "so everybody would feel happy." The buttery was destined "for guests but not real guests - you know" And what a lot of expenditure she had in connection with this wedding. For the bed alone she paid £16. Mr. Laban asked her how much she paid and she said £6, but did not tell him she still owed £10. This bed really she bought when Daphne brought her future sister in law to stay a couple of weeks in Bull Savannah. Daphne stayed with this people in Linsted. They were very nice to her. She bought her presents: stockings, dresses "and never charged her for anything" "It is a nice family, so I didn't want her to be embarrassed when her friend came

class "prestige"
and "elaborate"
behaviour.

not as in the
old days.

It is a nice family and I don't want them to feel we are worse." "You have to keep up your prestige. Mr. Laban thinks I am too elaborate - but it is not as in the old days, you must have your ambition."

Business on
own account.

Of course all that costs a lot and Miss Jude does not care to tell about all the expenditure Mr. Laban. "Because he would worry. He is that sort of man - he doesn't owe a single penny to anybody. There isn't a single man in the whole work who could come and say: 'Mr. Laban what about this 1½ you owe me?' No, no not him. I owe money to people and people owe me money. They owe me more money than I owe to people. Only yesterday I had to send £10 to Ballards Valley, to keep them quiet for a while. I never tell Mr. Laban how much I spent on this wedding. I want everything to be up on the level." "I work, I work hard I will manage it. Every evening I stay at the shop till the last person is gone. I could come home earlier and sleep and I would lose perhaps £3. I can't sleep when there is no business."

Shopping for
wedding.

She took me to her house to show all the new acquisitions. In the first room there is the new bed. It cost £16 and with mattress and new pillows it is £26. "They (the newly wed) will have to give me back £20 - the £6 it will be my present." In the next small room there are two trunks one on top of the other. She opened the first. There are paper plates, ice-cream cups, spoons and forks. So called "sanitary". "I have a hundred of each - I don't think I will run short - some might be left over, but you shouldn't run short of anything. The paper serviettes match in design the table-cloth she bought. It was a material at 2/- a yard with strawberries and flowers. She sewed two widths to put on the long table. The cake alone - which she made last week in Kingston cost £5. Many of her friends helped her to make it. The future ~~husband's~~ son in law mother came from Linstead and stayed for the day - they went shopping together. A "half-china lady came to help with the cake - I felt honoured."

Miss Jude bought new pants for all the boys, white blouses for Eric and Vivian and a striped one for the youngest boy "He can't keep clean in white." A little cotton suit "for the little fellow" (her late sister's son, whom Miss Jude adopted. "Poor little fellow - nobody to take care of him (meaning in her own yard) He is meek like a sheep." She tried to "apologize" to me for the little fellow running in a short blouse, torn and dirty most of the time, but I assured her I thought the boy is perfectly happy (which I really think.) And here a dress for Pauline. It cost 10/6. It has a lovely embroidery on it. It was cheaper because it was a little torn in front. A white slip and white panties for Pauline to match. This is the shirt Mr. Laban will wear at the wedding. This is a present from his brother

in law from America. It is a silky checked shirt. Here ~~are~~ is a pink towel with a face-cloth to match. This will be Miss Jude's present for Daphne. The present will be displayed on our bed "all the presents - for everybody to see." ~~are~~ Here are the white shoes Miss Jude bought for Daphne. They are lovely white suede shoes, with very high heels, toeless. "I paid for them £3:1/3" "Of course Mr. Laban doesn't know the price."

Here is another towel. "This is for the old lady (meaning herself) in case of emergency. You never know I might have to go to the hospital." Miss Jude was three times in the hospital "twice for myself and once with Pauline. I stayed there for 6 weeks, (when Pauline was borne). For "herself" she went once to have her appendicitis removed and the second time for her tonsils. Dellrose went also twice to the hospital. It cost a lot. "And when my poor sister was ill, I left my home, I left my husband and stayed with her." She first took her sister to the Mandeville hospital "but when there were no results we took her to Black River. We had two private rooms, one for her and one for myself and the baby. Eric was also with me, he had a sore foot". "For the room alone you pay ~~£~~3/6 per day". She explained that you can have a private room at the hospital - so your friends can visit you any time. If you are in the wards you ~~have~~ can't receive visits only at certain times. Miss Jude worked (nursing her sister) at the hospital. Everybody was admiring how hard she worked. The matron said she wished Miss Jude were her sister. The nurses loved her and admired her. It cost a lot of money. And when Valerie was in Kingston (not ill - but for some training) it cost us £200 wear and tear for the year" (On a previous occasion she told me it didn't cost her anything, as some friends invited Valerie to stay with them.) "For the shoes alone... (what a lot of money). "We would be rich if we didn't have all these expenses for the hospital." "But I don't mind - I like to spend the money. Experience - it's what matters." "I tell you before these tomatoes came here there was nothing to do here, nothing to do. "If people stay here (in Bull Savannah) there is nothing to look forward. It is why so many girls go astray. They think it is only picking gungoo peas, making bam-mies - this is the life. They don't know anything else. They think this is the whole life. When I saw in Kingston (sometime in her youth) how other mothers were able to give their children education and all the little things. There is something in life - an aim to work for. I am not ashamed to tell you I carried baskets

Illnesses
and expenditure
on hospitals.

The life out
side the village.

Former
businesses.

on my head. I had a contract with hotels. I bought tomatoes here (this was before the introduction of export tomatoes) and sell them to the hotels in Kingston. Instant Spring hotel. ~~It~~ There is a convent now. I went to Kingston, telephoned to the hotel and bought in the market everything they needed. I made a list, went all over the market, bought £20 worth of goods. I had a special taxi, packed everything, went to the hotel, they give me my big cheque and I went to the banker. I was able to make a little money. I bought chicken here and turkeys, killed them, pluck them - send in these big card board boxes. 2/6 for a pound of chicken. I buy eggs by hundred dozens. 1/6 per dozen, I sell them 2/- I had a hundred sixpennies on a hundred dozen."

"I work hard, I have ambition. If you dont know the world, you dont know what to live for."

"I make plans. This Mr. Johnson he is a very able man, it is why I hold to him. He wanted to go to Kingston (after he has been dismissed from the factory) but I say - no. I dont charge him - I give him food I wash his clothes. He will move mountains for Miss Jude.. I want him to have a mechanic shop over there. I want to make a little enclosure near the shop - so he will have a place to work. I plan to have a little taxi - he could drive it for me. A little taxi to carry goods. Sometimes I have to pay £ 12 for truckage alone."

"My boy (Ervin) could help him. When I get the licence (for rum) I could give it to Mr. Johnson. It is not much, just a little to help him. He and Mr. Laban could look after the shop when I go for a visit to America. Mr. Laban doesnt want me to go. He is selfish that way. But I deserve a holiday - I worked all my life. Mr. Laban - he is a nice man, we never quarrel. People like him - he likes to see everybody happy. But e he wont leave the place, not him. I have ambitions - I want more experience. I am the powerhouse. It is always like that in the family - if the husband is bright - the wife is dull. If the wife is bright - the husband is on the dull side. I am like you - active - I make the plans - I am the powerhouse. My husband he is a good man - like yours. But you know....." (implying both our husbands were on the "dull side.")

"I am sure I would make a success my stay in America. Mr. Andrews he wanted us both to come. But Mr. Laban wouldnt leave the place. Miss Perkins - she is a dear friend of mine, she wants me there. She is Clarence Perkins sister. A nice person. I could do it. Pauline could stay in Kingston and Mr. Laban and Mr. Johnson would look after the shop. Perhaps Daphne will stay here. I dont know their plans yet. After the wedding they will spend two weeks with Valerie in Ballards Valley. It wont cost them anything. They should appreciate I give them an opportunity to make some money. They want to settle in Kingston. But it

Plans re Mr.
Johnson.

The husband.

dull husbands.

time - he is still at Black River - must be transferred. They will stay together for two weeks after the wedding - its plenty. My other son-in-law (Delores husband) he wants to stay in the country. I am glad to have one daughter near me. To have my children near me. In case I am ill - to have somebody to look after me, and if they are ill - I am near to take care of them. I live for my family."

3.3.48. T.O.

The wedding
cake.

Miss Jude came to ask for a box to send a piece of the wedding cake to America. The wedding took place last Sunday. The cake was enormous, and the ingredients alone cost more than £ 5. Now she is busy sending parts of the cake to friends.

I gave a cardboard box and she brought the cake with icing on it, a lot of white thin paper cut in stripes and two white ribbons.

We put the cake into the box and padded with the white paper. She insisted in putting a paper serviette "To show them we can do things here in Jamaica." On the box she asked me to write "My hands are so dirty - you do it." : "To Mr. and Mrs Andrews and family and Sarah Perkins with fondest love." "I love them - she said - even if they dont love them I love them all the same." Then the white ribbon was tied round the box. She asked me to make a rich bow. The ribbon was in two pieces: one was from the original wedding cake, the other piece from Pauline's (the little daughter) hair. "It is a shame to take the ribbon from Pauline - but it looks so aristocratic" said Miss Jude admiring the profuse bow. Everything has to be lavish about the parcel. On top of the box she asked me to write also : "From Mr. and Mrs. W. Wilson Welcome Cottage, Bull Savannah." (The pair who was wedded.) "Welcome Cottage - said Miss Jude - the girls will feel high class when they get it. Its the place they were born."

The cake will be sent by air mail. Mr. Johnson is to take it on the bicycle to Junction to find out how much it will cost. "Its a lot of money - perhaps 7 or 8 shillings. But I dont want to send it by boat - it takes a long time and the cake would be so good and nice. I want to show them we can be 100% up to the mark." She asked me also to type the address on the label. "To show Jamaica improved since they left - we can do things there."

Already a piece of the wedding cake has been sent to the in-laws in Linstead. Mr. Johnson went especially in the car borrowed for the occasion from the agricultural instructor.

Miss Jude wants to send also a piece to her brother who went a few weeks ago to America as farm labourer. "I want to send to everybody - and be done with it." "They will be sorry (speaking of relatives in America) they weren't here for the wedding." She commented upon the wedding "It cost me a lot of money - and what a work - but it will be something to remember. Three in one (meaning she married off three daughters but only one got such a wedding)." "Mr. Laban he doesn't know how much it cost." She herself doesn't know exactly how much it cost. She knows she has many debts to pay. Mr. Johnson who is now a member of the household: "He is a very helpful man - it's why I am oiling his feathers."

We weren't at the wedding as we had to give up the cottage we occupy for three days for the guests to stop there. We came back on Monday - the day after the wedding. In the afternoon Miss Jude brought some wedding cake for us to taste and some wine. She asked for "the toast". I said I ~~wish~~ wished my children had such a mother as her children have - I added it is a statement. Mr. Laban and Mr. Johnson were also present at the cake eating. Miss Jude was very proud. Some little children came to have the cake. She said "You had already yours." She said during the wedding there was a special cake (not such an elaborate one) for the children. About 60 children came from all over the place and had the cake under the ~~xxxxxx~~ palm booth.

On Tuesday arrived two our helpers Miss Dale and Miss Barrett brought by Mr. Hamilton and his friend. After supper Miss Jude produced again the cake and wine (only for the newcomers).

Also cake was given to Mr. Kirlew and Miss Harrison of the Jamaica Welfare who came with us on Monday. Everybody "of importance" had to taste the cake, but it was not given twice to the same person. It is not just a sweet a desert - it is the wedding cake - a mystic communion in the family event.

~~Tuesday-~~,
~~Feb-7-3, 1948~~
~~==Edy==E~~

Sunday,
March 29, 1948.

Ed. F.

Marriage of Daphnie Rochester

Preparations:

Preparations for the wedding had been going on steadily for many days before the ~~ceremony~~ ceremony. Two days before the final day these preparations began to be more obvious. Among the preparations mentioned were the cleaning up of the yard, burning of the rubbish swept up, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ faun colour washing (like white-washing) the buildings, and water tank. Eric the early teenage brother ~~of~~ went down the pathway breaking up and beating down with the back of a wood axe the stones that had become exposed by erosion of the soil.

each pair being/

cross/

Early on Saturday morning Clifton Johnson began ~~to~~ to work at building a booth, and dining table. He began first with the table; this consisted of 3 pairs of ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ legs/planted about 20 inches apart and joined at the top by a piece of board nailed to each ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ piece. The table measured about 18 feet long: the pairs of legs were equally spaced between the 18 feet of its length. The table top consisted of boards laid across the ~~tee~~ pieces; it was about 2 ft wide, and about 2 1/2 ft from the ground.

By the side of this table were boards laid on boxes; this formed the benches. Using a coarse scrubbing brush Miss Jude went over every inch of the surfaces of the table and bench to remove traces of the red soil and dust which had gathered on it. She dipped the brush in a bucket she carried with her. The water in the bucket was dyed with the red dirt.

Miss Jude said she had been advised against ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ building the booth, but she had thought it wise to build a booth because the verandah which was the ~~XXXX~~ only alternative to using the booth would be too small to hold the number of people she expected. She knew her decision to be wise she stressed and added that she had to have her own way anyway. Her ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ explanation about the booth was done in a manner somewhat apologetic -gave the impression she did not think building a booth quite the thing to do, but that she knew it to be a sensible and practical thing to do.

This booth was about 28 feet long by 10 feet ~~XXXX~~ wide. It was screened on the East side with coconut palms, and scantily covered over with the same. The frame-work of the booth was made up of wood and bamboo.

copy - 0.8

Mr Laban Rochester was positive that if bamboo is cut during "moonshine" periods no worms and wood eating insects will attack it but that if on the other hand it is cut in the "dark night time" worms and insects will begin to eat it almost before it touches the ground!

While the booth was being built Miss Jude aided by her mother and other relatives - sisters chiefly were busy with preparing pots and pans, ice cream buckets etc. for the next day - Sunday, the day of the ceremony.

else/
Miss Jude was going like a dynamo. She never ceased working. She was always talking too, with a cheerful assurance. She used every opportunity to prove that things had to be done the way she wanted it done. She demonstrated this fact many times by undoing something someone had done, but which did not suit her for one cause or another. She complained about the maids' inefficiency, Mavis being described as having only face value and wanting only to get into "society" instead of making an effort to do things the way they ought to be done. Mavis also tries not to behave like a maid.

These references to Mavis were not made in bitterness but in a very matter of fact way. They were not made in Mavis' presence. Mrs Emma Lynton on the other hand seem to like Mavis a great deal. Mrs Lynton is Miss Jude's mother. As Mavis passed and spoke kindly to a child Miss Emma looked tearfully towards me remarking the while - "that's why a mus' love her, she is so kind to children."

As the arrangements for the ^{wedding} proceeded Miss Emma came to sit beside me under the (booth) booth. She was wiping her eyes with the tail of her apron - was softly crying. Looking towards me with trustfulness she told me one of her daughters - the most affectionate, had died leaving eight children. That was some time ago, but the wedding preparations brought back memories of this dear girl in a flood. She could not help crying, as she remembers that were this daughter now alive, she would be there helping her sister Jude in the wedding preparations.

Miss Emma does not know what this sister, no doctor had been able to find out although the poor woman had been taken to large number of different doctors before she had died a living skeleton"

A great deal of the activity of the day was centered around the shed where Miss Jude was, as is customary, the leading figure. She was apportioning work to everybody who came by. She seemed unhappy to see anyone about, who was not doing her bidding. She was talking all the time as she worked; her talking did not seem to affect her speed or ~~efficiency~~ efficiency. She seemed to use talk to lubricate ~~the~~ the run and flow of things.

Somebody remarked on her intense activity. Miss Jude laughed and added that when she died she hoped they would not put a pocket in her shroud. Asked "why?" she laughed but would not tell. One of the women under the shed volunteered ~~the~~ the information that when a man ~~is~~ of a very active disposition dies ~~his~~ his pockets of the suit in which he is buried ~~are~~ always sewn up, so as to hinder him from coming back in ghost form ~~in~~ with his pocket full of stones to torment live people.

Saturday p.m. -night before wedding.

and/

As night fell the wedding preparation activity seemed to increase. One goat and 3 chickens were killed and cleaned up. Under the shed in the yard were Mr. Arthur Lynton Miss Jude's father, Mr. J.B. Lynton her uncle, Mr. Hubert another relative, Miss Ema Lynton Miss Jude's mother, ~~Miss~~ Mrs. Valerie Ebanks her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Ebanks mother in law to Mrs. Valerie Ebanks, Miss Clarice Elliott friend of Miss Valerie Ebanks.

The men in the above named group were sitting smoking quietly, and joining in the ~~talk~~ talk. The women were engaged in different tasks as follows: Mrs. Ebanks (mother-in-law to Valerie) was with Mrs. Emma Lynton, Miss Jude's mother, scraping cassava - a great deal of cassava. Valerie and Clarice were in the meantime helping to tidy the house. ~~tidy~~

Present also were Mr Dudley Simpson and Clifton Johnson. Dudley killed the goat while Clifton cut it up in preparation for ~~the~~ cooking.

At about Mid-night Boysie and Papa Cockings arrived with Mrs Louise Wilson ~~the~~ mother of the groom to be, and another woman, a friend of the Wilson family. They joined the group which - I was told - remained awake the night through, save for an hour's sleep or so.

Dudley Simpson, Hubert Elliott (uncle Moses) ~~came~~ came down to my room at about 11.30 p.m. They

were joined later by Mr. J.B. Lynton. Mr. Lynton generally called J.B. had been drinking. He did not refuse more drinks. As he drank he warmed up and began to talk to Dudley in loud confidence.

J.B. wanted to know at first what is my business in Bull Savannah. Dudley volunteered that I am engaged at the same business as J.O. and T.O. J.B. said he had met J.O. and T.O. for a short time but really did not know what they are about. He related a tale about some men who had started a factory for canning lobsters either before or during the early years of the war; these men it was found out during the war were not really canning any lobsters but were really engaged in some kind of work for the Germans -actually the men were Germans. They were found out and arrested.

J.O. and T.O. are said to be nice people by everybody, still he J.B. is wondering about their activity, in view of ~~what~~ what, has happened in the past; he is hoping I would not think him "funny" or unreasonably curious if he asked me to tell him what the present enquiries being carried on means.

J.B. was told but seemed not quite satisfied with the explanation, because he again asked to be excused for being curious but to be told really what the whole thing is about.

Dudley told him that the explanation I had given him -J.B. was the true one. J.B. said people are suspicious about being asked the questions they have been asked about their business, and that is why he is asking me to tell him all about the business. Uncle Moses broke in to say that he has met J.O. and T.O. and that he had found them quite nice people and therefore did not mind telling them anything.

J.B. said what he was told sounded quite nice to him but that he would really like to hear what J.O. ~~and~~ has to say. Dudley told him then that he had told J.O. all and everything of his own private business and that he would do it again because he knows there is no harm to it.

J.B. then agreed that there is really nothing to the matter perhaps but that he had not yet met J.O. for a talk and so could not really be sure. He was then invited to come in to see J.O. at the earliest opportunity. He seemed satisfied, and left the subject.

J.B. began to discuss toamtoes with Dudley while uncle Moses looked on mostly. J.B. wanted

to hear how Dudley is fearing in the present season. Dudley told him this is the best season he is having since he began planting tomatoes. J.B. seemed pleased to hear that and clapped Dudley affectionately on the shoulder, telling him meantime that he is hoping soon that they can go in for planting together again.

Talking more to Dudley than to anyone else J.B. then told of the arrangements he had made with Major Moxey over the last 2 years for the lease of a piece of his "runnet lands." Major Moxey had really got the land for the Machardo Tobacco Co., because the Co. had been sending him a cheque for £7 these last 2 years, every September.

This money is paid on a yearly lease basis but he does not believe the lease is going to be renewed because the Machardo experiment in growing Virginia tobacco on the land had not turned out as well as the company expected. He really cared little whether the lease is renewed or not, although he knows that the land must now be in better condition than when it was turned over to Major Moxey for the Co. The land will be better because the company has been manuring it heavily, but have not been using it up enough to utilize the manure in the soil. ~~xxx~~

This fact he said would make it a sensible thing for Dudley to take the land over and plant tomatoes for them both. ~~Plant~~

The talk turned to J.B. son who J.B. ridiculed for not seeming to be interested in the many acres of land J.B. says he has. This son is in another parish. J.B. proposes to go to see him and tell him something; he did not say what the something was to be, but added that the sons answer to the something he would tell him would decide whether he would consider him heir to his money and lands.

J.B. explained that he was not saying he is a great rich man but that he feels quite sure that he has more than he is likely to be able to use during the remainder of his life. He is confident that should his money ~~fail~~ run short he can sell a piece of his land. He now has land that he can get \$160 for each quarter acre. He has many many many acres of land. Dudley to whom he was speaking almost all the time kept nodding politely while uncle Moses listened quietly. J.B. was smoking a cigar.

Sunday a.m.

Activity about the yard continued apace. At about 8.20 a car driven by family friend Clifton

Note: "runnet lands" are stony hill-side wood-lands.

Newill drove in. Clifton is visiting ~~xxxx~~ his relatives in Junction after being absent in America for ~~xxxx~~ many years. He came just before Christmas last year and will remain for 6 months.

Accompanying him in the car was a woman his ~~xxxx~~ friend and also vacationing in Jamaica -St. Ann, where her relatives are, and Junction where friends are. Cliff's car was a Chrysler sedan.

The lady friend accompanying him was dressed ~~xxxx~~ a kind of coco/ tirely in/brown: -a brown dress, brown hat, brown ~~xxx~~ pair of shoes and brown fleshcoloured stockings, which blended so closely with the colour of her skin, that ~~xx~~ only the seam of the stockings gave way the fact she was wearing any. The brown hat was a fussy type with a veil, ~~which~~ she never seemed to finish adjusting it. Somebody suggested that this lady is Cliff's girl friend; somebody else said she is a married woman and has her husband in New York. The person making the suggestion said that that was no reason she cannot be Cliff's girl friend.

Miss Jude introduced Cliff with what seemed a dash of pride as -"a friend of mine who has come from New York to spend a little time in Jamaica." she said. Cliff was dressed in a blue suit well pressed and ~~xxx~~ wore a gay tie retained in position against the shirt front by a gold~~xxxxxx~~ tie clip. He was spectacled and had on black shoes carefully polished. He walked ~~xxxx~~ with care -was largely the center of much attention, but he was not showy. The lady in brown stood up quietly about, and later went to sit down on the ~~xxxxxx~~ verandah.

As it approached nine o'clock Cliff went over to Miss Jude's cottage to remind that it was supposed to be at ~~xxxx~~ half past eight that they were to leave for Mandeville. Soon after Daphnie made her appearance in the yard; she walked towards the ~~xxxx~~ kitchen said ~~xx~~ something to someone there and came back before the front of the cottage where she stood up among Mrs. Wilson, the Cockings brothers Cliff and some others. -But she tek it easy eh? i.e but she takes it easy eh? to which Daphnie replied -"Den a what a mus' do? Everybody laughed.

The wedding dress

Daphnie was wearing a white wing crepe silk ~~xx~~ dress studded in parts with silver beads. The dress was ~~simply~~ made in a simple style. She wore a hat with a veil. The veil was studded with ~~x~~ fluffy white specks.

Miss Jude came up to the group Daphnie included

"Come and have a drink before you go," she said. Daphnie replied "I want nothing at all: I only want to go!"

The party filed quietly down the hillside to the waiting cars. Into Cliffs went Daphnie the lady in brown, Mrs. Valerie Ebanks and Miss Clarace Elliott Daphnie who up to that time had been wearing a pair of black pumps, took it off, and put on a new pair of white pumps. Cliff drove his car. Into the other went the 2 Cocking brothers Boysie and Papa Cockings and Mr Arthur Lynton Miss Jude's father. At Junction the Cockings car was to pick up Arthur Lynton Jr. Miss Jude's brother. He was to be the best man at the wedding.

The cars left quietly; the arrangement was that the bridegroom Wilson should come from Linstead his home town to meet the Bull Savannah bridal party in ceremony/
Mandeville where the wedding was to be performed.

Preparations after ~~xxx~~ Daphnie's departure

As soon as the cars had left the preparations for their guests with which they would return began. Mrs Wilson mother of the the groom was in charge of the ~~lx~~ laying of the booth table which was spread with a ~~floral~~ floral cotton cloth on which were red designs of a fruit. 32 glasses each with a paper napkin were placed on the table. In the dining room of the 4 roomed cottage drinks were readied and other arrangements made for the serving of cake etc. In the kitchen the pots boiled furiously. When one thing was cooked it was taken off the fire and another put on. Mavis seemed to be the chief cook aided largely by Marion. Miss Emma and Mrs Ebanks, mother of Valerie were going between the house and the kitchen, but their attention seemed to be confined chiefly with the house. Clifton was chiefly concerned with fixing for the drinks in the dining room.

The Wedding Party Arrives.

At about 12.30 p.m. someone who had been listening keenly for the arrival of the cars announced that they were coming at last. About a minute or so after the first car appeared on the brow of the hill its horn blaring. Behind the first another made its appearance and behind that another and another till there were six cars coming down the hill each with its horn blaring. Everybody left everything he or she was doing to watch the procession. The cars came to a stop at the ~~foot~~ foot of the pathway, its occupants came out of them, and led

by the bride and bride groom came each woman escorted by a man and each couple behind the other up the pathway.

Everybody stood watching the party come up. Somebody suggested that Mrs Wilson mother of the ~~xxx~~ groom should go to meet the couple at the car, but Mrs. Wilson said "No" in a quiet resolute way.
~~xxxx~~

When the party was a few feet away from the cottage in which the reception was to be held, Mr. Laban, Daphnie's father stepped forward, shook ~~xxx~~ hands with the couple. Daphnie stopped and looking around waved smilingly to everybody. Mrs. Wilson moved away into the ~~xxxxxxx~~ cottage.

Daphnie's husband had been laughing and talking happily into her face while they came up the pathway. With Daphnie he moved on once more into the house. During the brief stop the other couples behind him had also stopped; as he moved forward ~~xxx~~ followed also.

At the entrance to the verandah Miss Jude met and kissed Daphnie affectionately, embraced the bridegroom, and then turned her attention to the ~~ladyxx~~ guests each of whom she embraced warmly, ~~kiss~~ kissing some.

That done Miss Jude vanished throughed the press into the rear room where Cliff Johnson was busy ~~preparing~~ getting tomato cocktail into glasses while the bride and groom sat side by side at one end of the reception table. Miss Jude soon had served a glass of the iccold cocktail to all the guests and everybody else who cared to have a glass.

Preparations for dinner then began. When it was through the gathering was asked to go out under the booth where Miss Jude leading, everything stood ready; Miss Jude was then being helped by Mrs. ~~Wil~~ Wilson the bridegrooms mother, Miss Vie Lynton her sister and Mavis Redwood her maid.

The bride and groom sat at the nothern end of the table; they were served first with chicken, rice and peas salad tomatoes shredded cabbage and grated carrots. the other guests were ~~seved~~ then served, some with chicken, but the majority with curried goat and rice, vegetables and salad tomatoes. Dinner through a ~~xxxxxxx~~ desert of ice cream was served first again to the bride and groom and then to the company of invited guests around the table.

Binner over the couple returned to the house. Where Jack the groom sat in the dining room talking with friends -chiefly David Archibald. Daphnie meantime went into the bedroom in which all her wedding presents were laid out on the bed. Many other women were in the room, admiring the wedding gifts. These consisted entirely of glassware.

icing sugared and baked/
4 pint sized/

Preparations for cutting and serving the cake then began. Cliffton Johnson decorated the table with white streamers while the ceiling was decorated with coloured ones. The cake a five story one was divided into three. The three upper stories stood in one piece, in the centre of the table. The other pieces which had been ~~xxxx~~over, after the cutting, were placed one each side of the three storied portion. The table was covered with a white table-cloth. There were ~~x~~decanters of wine and a number of small -tiny glasses on the table.

close/

~~Miss-Jude-served-and-passed-the~~
David Archibald the master of ceremonies then took charge. He made a long circulatory speech in which he bemoaningly told of ~~the~~ his personal attachment to the groom who had been his/friend for a long time; he regretted that someone had arrived who would now claim a greater portion of his ~~xxxxxxx~~ friend's attention, but he was resigning himself to that.

Congratulating the couple on "braving the road of marriage" he said ~~the~~ was pleased that they had got -"honourably, nobly, sincerely and I believe solemnly married." The groom his dear friend had "journd from St. Catherine to get the loveliest bride cream of St. Elizabeth (there were cries of hear hear, ~~then~~ then.)

David then apologized for the absence of other friends from the groom's home town of ~~Manxxxxxxxx~~ Linstead; from those absent friends he brought "ten thousandx" greetings."

David than called upon Miss S. Wilson the bridegrooms sister and one of the Cockings boys to cut the cake. (Note: I have never before seen a man take part in the cake cutting race) David made quit a ceremony of this; first the knives were stuck in while David went aside to site the properpositioning of them for the start. That done he told the the 2 competitors "when I say 'one' you will get into position, 'two' you will takehold of the knife handle, and 'three' you will ~~xxxx~~ cut through as fast as you can.

As far as I could see the race ended in a dead-heat, but David gave 'decision in favour of the lady.

The initial cake cutting over, Miss Jude began to pass the cake and wine, while David covered up the lapse of time with more talk - "to be married is one of the ~~most~~ highest, noblest and most fitting climax to every man and woman's life. He is not yet married; ~~xxxxxxxx~~ Jack having come forward and got married encourages him to make up his own mind: it is not impossible he might marry within a year, -before the next tomato season. Jack has chosen a nice time -the tomato season- to marry in.

Marriage seems to him "a grand thing," seems rather "like a ship sailing the the wide seas and oceans without a compass;" the occupants of the boat do not know where they will find themselves. (Here a voice cut in -"untill they find themselves in bed tonight. -Not loudly enough to be heard by everybody)

"What a man, ~~xxxx~~ him don't even wish them a baby yet," remarked Mervin Ebanks husbands to Valerie Miss Judes first daughter. Asked if he was not therefore going to do that he said that he had ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ given them all his good wishes from the time they had told him they were going to get married, and therefore did not intend to speak that day.

At Davids calling one of the Cockings men left the verandah to toast the bride. Cockings spoke timidly and did not say much. A few others spoke after him, each speaking with some show of timidity or nervousness. The senior Cockings brother was less nervous than the others, while Mr. Duzell Evans of Junction fortified by drink spoke up: ~~xxxx~~ said he "The groom is in the place of Mountbatten the husband of princess Elizabeth today." cries of "hear hear!" -Mountbatten and his princess cannot be happier.

The senior Cockings brother said he did not like the habbit ~~xx~~ people had of giving advice at weddings, particularly as many of the people who gave were hardly competent to do so. In spite of that he ~~xxx~~ had to say that a successful marriage depended largely on the readiness "to give and ~~XXXXX~~ take." He felt sure that if the couple observed ~~the~~ that necessity they would find getting along a lot easier. He is in a position to say something defia nate about that because he has been married a number of years ago; his experience ~~xxxxxx~~ in that time has made clear to him there must be the spirit of give and take in the successful marriage.

Speeches over the gathering in the dining room dispersed. Clifton Newill who had been sitting on the verandah during the speechmaking, remarked that nobody had toasted the parents of the couple. He thought that rather ~~strange~~ ~~strange~~ ~~thoughtless~~.

Jack and David his friend sat in the dining room talking long and earnestly. Replying to congratulations, Jack said he had been a bit nervous during the ceremony, but was hoping he did not show that up. Daphnie meantime was in the bedroom women relatives and friends were talking and laughing quietly among themselves; they did not seem to be paying any special attention to Daphnie. Daphnie moved about quite normally - did not seem affected by the triumph of her ~~marriage~~ marriage; seemed quite sure of herself.

To Ballards Valley

An hour or so after the speechmaking had passed word passed round quietly that the bridal party would be going through to Ballards Valley, to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mervin Ebanks. (Mervin is Daphnie's brother in law.)

In little groups of twos and threes members of the party went down the path to the cars. On reaching the cars it was found that while the function was in progress, the village boys had deflated a number of tires, turned on some of the cars' lights, and run one of the cars down a slope on which it had been parked.

One of the men made enquires about the mischief; he was told that a big boy had ~~been~~ instructed by a small boy to do it, with the understanding that he - the bigger boy, would be paid to reinflate the tires and would then share the money he got with the smaller boy.

Aided by Clifton Newill who used one of his cylinders to do the pumping the ~~XXXXXX~~ tires were quickly reinflated. For the pumping Newill aided by Clifton Johnson, removed the spark plug from the cylinder used, and attached a long piece of rubber tubing with connections made for the purpose.

The tires having been reinflated the party left for Ballards Valley, arrived there just before dark. Clifton Newill kept his car engine running and turned on the radio installed in the car. A small group stood round listening. Others swarmed into the Ebanks drawing and dining room. The house a four apartment building had 2 bed rooms. Mervin said with some show of pride that it had cost him "a pile of money" to build it. It was scrupulously clean.

In the dining room into which everybody was called drinks were served. Drink was rum and coca cola for the men, coca cola mostly for the women. The proportion of

rum to coca cola was generously heavy -quite more than enough to make an unaccustomed drinker quite drunk.

The drinking through the party began to take leave of the newly weds. There was much embracing and kissing. Jack seemed to be getting most of it from the women -relatives of Miss Jude's.

Miss Jude's sister Vie Lynton hugged and kissed Jack. Jack received the embrace quietly. She told him she hoped he would have a good ride TONIGHT." Jack did not hear quite well what was said and asked her what she had said about "a ride" She told him she would like to give him a ride!

The party returned to Bull Savannah, where the visitors took leave of Miss Jude. The Cockings brothers in the small car remained till 3.00 am the following morning, before leaving for Kingston.

The cars

from Kingston

In car owned and driven by Papa Cockings were Mrs Louise Wilson and friend and Boysie Cockings.

In car driven by Ossie Cocking, the senior Cockings brother, were his wife and children, and 2 friends .

In the car driven and owned by Mr Lewis Chin were Miss Olga Wilson his fiancée and sister to the groom, Mr. David Archibald and a friend to the Wilson family.

1 from Linstead.

In the car owned and driven by Mr. Clifton Newill were his sister Miss Ding Newill and the lady in the coco brown dress.

In 2 from Junction

In the car owned and driven By Mr. Duzell Evans was Mr. and Mrs. Mervin Ebanks and Mr. Wesley Bent a friend to Duzell and the Rochester family. There was also a child. Duzell is a friend of the Rochester family.

In one from Top Hill

In the car owned and driven by Petman Burton were Mr. and Mrs. Mervin Ebanks and Miss Clarice Elliott.

Fam. Rec. 1.

4.3.48. T.O.

2

A business letter
to Miss Jude:

EVERYBODY'S HOUSE
L.A. KAVANAGH & SONS
General Dealer
in
Haberdashery
Hardware, Provisions
Liquor, Best Prices Paid for
Coffee, Pimento, Honey, Goat Skins.

Hampton,
Malvern P.O.
Jamaica, B.W.I.

25th July 1947.

Mrs. J. Rochester

Junction P.O.

Dear Mrs. Rochester:-

Thank you for your letter received. We are very sorry to hear that you have been having such a spell of troubles and we greatly regret being unable to handle any of your sole leather at present as we are fully stocked.

Yours truly
L.A. Kavanagh & Sons
(-)
Per... E.W. Kavanagh.

A family letter
to Miss Jude.

193 $\frac{3}{4}$ Windward Road
Windward Road P.O.
Kingston
3 August 1947.

Hello Jud, Sweets,

I sincerely trust that these few lines will find you enjoying the best of health. Well you must be ~~exasiated~~ cursing me a great deal. Well my dear we have been so busy that you will readily forgive me when you hear how unsettled we have been up to the end of July.

The week, after we returned from you we were kept busy straightening up the home and ~~hustler~~ everything sort of clearing off the wedding hustle and bustle. Well the following week, that would have been the third week in July found us trying to find a new home, - my dear our former landlord began to reveal his rough and loud characteristics - not to us but his wife, this however greatly worried Phyl as she detests those

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very characteristics a great deal. We were rather fortunate however to get a lovely home at the above address, only the landlord lives there and we scarcely see him as he leaves ~~in~~ before we awake and returns at about 7.30 p.m. Thus Phyl is in charge all day along with the maid. Then about Ruby, see I sent you a telegram, well its a good thing we didn't send for her as the maid washes, cleans, and goes to the shop for Phyl, so that she only has to cook, which likes to do herself. Anyway tell Ruby we are so very sorry, but she is to grow a little bigger and we may be able to send for her when I have my own home.

The dear, I was also waiting on my wedding pictures in order to send yours. The snap we took over there didnt come out so nicely I believe the slope on which I stood affected them somehow. Anyway I am enclosing one of my wedding ones and those of the snaps which feel you will like. I am giving mother two (Grandpa and Del came out the best)

Then how is everything with you all, is Grandpa any worse, I hope not, Percy came to look for us along with Fred and Curtis at the first home. Then I heard of "anny's d ath - it must have been a ~~in~~ terrible shock for the district. So Val's Husband was in town last week, mother sent some of what he brought for us, - we were fortunate on our way over to see Val at Mandeville. By the way the pass for Phyl was left at Williams field, and her Dad came to Porus to meet us. He is now much better the doctors say he can have a fgo again - the case has been posponed until 21st of August.

Well thats about all to say just now, Velma j joins me in sending our warmest love and best wishes for y ou all especially Mass Laban and Del. So cheerio and keep your dear self as sweet as possible until I heard from you.

Your loving cousin
Jelts

P.S. I also enclose receipt from Karam's for £3 the bal. is £1-14/- I believe. The zing sheet as soap and Edible are not available just now. I am keeping in touch with a chap who will let me know when they will be.
Jelts.

letters to Delrose
Rochester:

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Black River
Nov. 25th, 1947.

My dear Del,

Your letter came safe and was very glad to hear from you especially to know you were all quite well. I have noticed what you have said concerning Miss Rochester for the job, but when I got your letter Mr. Allen had already got some one, but if in case I hear of anything I will send and let you know.

Then how are you getting on? hope fine. I am longing to see you sweet little smiles any way we hope to meet some day, when we hope to have a good time. I am always so sorry that when you folks comes around ~~we~~ ~~have~~ ~~some~~ ~~enjoyment~~, ~~any~~ ~~way~~ I am working, and cant even get time to have some enjoyment, any way we hope one day we will be able to meet and have some jolly time. Give my love to Miss Jude Miss Vie and for your dear self bans of kisses God bless and keep you

Yours ever
D. Bailey

Main Street
Linstead
18.6.47.

Dear Sis Dell,

Yes my dear am just scratching these few lines to let you know that am still thinking of you all and of good old B ll Savanna then my dear what about the shot has Mother goan to town as yet I ~~hope~~ ~~do~~ hope because the shop cant sell if nothing is not it it. Yes dear Linstead is very nice I dont feel as if I wouod ever leave Linstead and before all my people her is extra nice to me and I met quite a few friends since am here which is very nice. I met one Miss King from Malvern she nows Mama quite ~~was~~ all right she is very nice Yes my dear have you got any rain since my absence I do hhope because the place was getting very dusty listen tell Lilybell Ivy and all others Ill soon drop them a line or two tell them dont fret for me am O.K. taking it easy. Linstead is nice I would ~~to~~ have you all to know same about the tickets tell them if they need more hooks they must write and tell me then Ill send same for them this Fair will be grand acording to what I understand of same. I have to ~~have~~ ~~to~~ ~~leave~~ as I have so many lettersto write. Cherrio honey till me here from each other.

Yours
Daph.

from sister
Daphne

shot

it it

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Letter to
Delores from
sister Valerie

c/o Bromfields
Mandeville P.O.
31.10.47.

My Dear Del ,

I am very much ashamed to the (?) writing to you at this time of the year.

Any way as you know all what has happened and the many changes in life I feel though I neglected writing to you before you will forgive me for so doing. Its better later than never.

Then dear what have you been doing for yourself. Planning to get married and all the rest of it (laugh) What of Daphne, has she returned home as yet?

My dear I certainly would like to pay B/Savannah a visit, but as transportation is so difficult I cant say when I come that end. There must be alot of new changes down there since I have left in June. Then I am hearing that Christmas is just a question of days from here. Poor Val, wont be having such a grand time, even if I am not sick in body I am in mind.

Still I am expecting for the better. Just fancy on Janaray ~~20~~ 12th I am twenty years old and cant find life as I would like, all ~~that~~ what I do is just the same.

Any way God will do all things for me. Now dear send and tell me some of the strange news till I see you if there is a chance I may be at the Pond on the 20th Nov. Give my love to home folks and accept best love for se self.

Yrs ever the same
Valerie R.

..(torn) it was possible you could come
..... and start Commercial Lessons.
.... Lady I stay with teache Commercial
subjects. Val.

Fam. Rec. 1.

Cranlyn
Southfield P.O.
22.6th.47

My dear little Dell

Its a shame that its only now I can writing to you. every day I say I must write, and kept puting off. So at last I am at it. Well my dear, I think I am much better, but I am in bed most of the time if I walk to the kitchen or sit up for any time, I have to go right back to bed on account of the pain, and I cannot walk str aight so you will soon have to call me crook back. (laugh) I am glad you are feeling O.K. but you dont need the fat so you can post it down to me.

I wish I could get some of the nice fruits you are enjoying, I cannot get a thing like that. We are having no ends of breeze, the place is badly in need of some rain, and I do hope we will get some soon or I dont know what will happen to us. At last I got a good girl but I dont know for how long. I understand she dont stay one place long, but I am hoping I may be lucky and she stays with me for I cannot get along without a good girl.

Ivy went home last Wednesday.

I am longing to see you and hope to see you soon. I hope you are still playing the game from memory. Give my love to Miss Jud and tell her many thank for gering my purse done so nicely for me, but she never send to say the cost.

I think you said you have something to tell me so my mind starts to sun (?) if its about the happy day I guess the boy friend is feeling good again, you are home. give him my love and tell him I am hoping to hear the good newes soon.

Bobsy sends a bi---g love and plenty kisses for you Give my loveto Eva when you see her.

Well I think I have to stop now as I am going out to the kitchen to plan the dinner.

Be good to your dear self, the others join in sending live for you and the others

Yours as ever
Madeline.

12.3.48.
T.O.

Fam. Rec. 1.

At the shop.

This morning I went with Miss Jude to her shop. It was about 8.15 a.m. She started with a gallop which she kept steadily until we arrived at the shop.

Near her big tank was her son Vivian. He was watching a boy taking water. The tank is locked "people steal water" and water is given or sold under control. Vivian had below his knee a big sore. "hats that?" asked Miss Jude all the time galloping. The boy explained he was hit during a cricket game. Miss Jude gave him a basket she was carrying and told him to follow us. "It looks to me as ringworm" said Miss Jude and asked Vivian whether he put smething on the wound. Vivian said he put Detol and this seemed to satisfy Miss Jude. ~~axix~~

A little farther was Mr. Laban in his yam field. "Remember to come early to-day" shouted Miss Jude passing him. Th s referred to Mr. Laban coming to help her in the shop.

We run up hill panting a little. Miss Jude showed me a short cut through Windward Elliotts yard. Mr. Elliott was standing under a tree. Miss Jude started to talk to him before we reached him and without stopping. She appologized for crossing his yard.

Near the main road behind Elliotts shop many cows were tied in the field. Miss Jude avoided them from far. She said she was afraid of cows.

In front of the shop Mr. Arthur Linton - Miss Jude's father - was sitting on the bench. He came to-day to help his daughter in the shop. Miss Jude said she was sorry she didnt know he was coming She would have given him the keys and he could have opened the shop earlier.

After she opened the shop Mr. Linton started to sell and she went behind in the yard to attend to the kitchen where she cooks lunches etc. which she sells ~~xxx~~ or serves in the shop. After a while she rushed to the higglers who crowd near the facotry gate especially on Fridays (Friday is a paying day.) She talked with two of them and rushed back.

Young boys from the factory came to buy "half pack of cigarettes" (5 cigarettes) Small children came for "½d. sweets". For ½d. they get two big pink and white sweets which Miss Jude keeps in a jarx.

Old Arthur Linton was quite efficient at selling in the shop. I asked him whether it was true that he was the one who opened the first shop in Bull Savannah?

"Long, long time ago. At that time there was no shop in Bull Savannah. People went to buy in Alligator Pond, Junction, Ballards Valley. Markets - everybody go at that time to Malvern - thats was the biggest market."

Speaking of Malvern Mr. Linton embarked upon a different subject:

~~Dickson and Munro~~

"Poor people here - in St. Elizabeth. Dickson and Munro - them was vast rich people. The only way to help (was the opinion of Dockson and Munro) - by education. They bought estate for school to educate poor brown people. School for girl and boy. Hampton school. Munro. Bukra come - make it expensive. You must have plenty money to put your pickeny there."

to educate poor brown people

"It was robbed from us - the bigger fish robbed us" - interviened Miss Jude from behind the curtain.

Mr. Linton continued:

"The white man of the Island took it. Man after man run it. (the school) Harrison was one but him dead."

"Poor are out of it. Cant put pickeny there They make it too expensive."

Miss Jude come to join in the conversation:

"Thats why I am not sorry to have one of my girls to live in Kingston. Board and lodging wont be expensive" (when the younger children have to be educated.

This was another example of Miss Jude capacities to make the best of the situation. She planned previously that her newly married daughter will live first with her and help her with the shop and then in Black Rover where it is cheaper than in Kingston. But the young people made up their mind to live in Kingston. Miss Jude sees some advantage in it, though her previous plans were different.

To the front of the shop was stuck the following advertisement written in ink block letters:

Listen Friends Listen

We have planned for you the happiest time in the line of pleasure for the Easter season. A mammoth picnic at my Hall Happy Hut on Tuesday March 30th, 48. A Kingston Band will supply the music. Various other attractions. Wonders in store.

Admission: Adults 1/-
children 6d.

Clifton Myers
Promoter.

Miss Jude explained that Mr. Myers was living near Junction. She also planned a picnic combined with a shooting party, she had first however "to see about permission for the guns."

A "bucolic" entertainment.

Monday
March, 8, 1948.

Ed. F.
with
D.B. and I.D.

Miss Jude who had been in Kingston since Sunday night., had returned ~~during the day~~ at about mid-day today. J.O and T.O. were absent. Miss Jude was having supper with us.

She had had a busy time in Kingston, but in ~~xxxx~~ spite of the buss strike etc. had managed to get all her business done. This morning before the stores were even quite opened she was managing to get her requirements.

She is going to have a dance sometime in the ~~near~~ near future, to which however she is not going to invite any Bull Savannah people. She has had a dance before in which she had invited the People from this district, but few of them had come. When she met them after the dance they had excused themselves variously. She knew the excuses to be false; the real trouble -real cause they had not come was that ~~xx~~ "they feel Miss Jude is getting along too fast, but they can't stop her." At the ~~xx~~ Dance she is going to have, she will invite only ~~xxxx~~ "folks from Linstead and ~~xxxx~~ other places." -Won't that cause more enmity! "Yes, but that would not matter anything," because she had invited them to the ~~previous~~ the dance she had held and they had not come -"Miss Jude is ~~xxx~~ going too fast for them, but they can't stop her!" She said that loudly, and with a challenging flourish of her right hand.

/every

They can't stop her : her expansion is going to continue in spite of/opposition. She is going to buy a pick-up -motor vehicle- She means to do that before Clifton goes -Clifton Johnson- Clifton will teach her to drive the vehicle. ~~xx~~ When she has her own vehicle it will prevent her having to depend on anyone to do anything for her. She will then not have to suffer so much obligations from ~~xxx~~ having to get other people to do things for her.

At the dinner table also were Dudley Simpson and Mr. Laban. Clifton Johnson joined the group after dinner, ~~during~~ when the ~~xxxx~~ above and the following were said.

Clifton is a man who does not "stay one place:" she knows, and she will therefore have to move fast to get the vehicle, before he leaves Bull Savannah. He would have been already gone, but she persuaded him to stay till she can get her plans through.

At this stage Clifton made some remark about the Ja. Vegetable pick-up recently bought: general opinion upheld by himself is that Hastings ~~xx~~ -Mr. Hastings, manager of the factory - is wasting the peoples money, buying a vehicle like that.

Miss Jude then ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ made some amplification of the remarks made by Clifton, and added that Mr. and Mrs. Hastings ~~are~~ "fresh" - Mrs. Hastings in particular: she "is a babylonish woman!"

Miss Jude continuing "Hastings is no good." "he does not think he can stay here much longer than another year. -"Which other year?" someone else asked, "him cant stay ya -here- another year."

/fierce
~~xxxxxxxx~~

"Hastings must go, him can t stay ! Miss Jude then emphasized with her customary flourish of her hand: there was no bitterness in her voice just ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~/resoluteness. "Him never had any clothes when him come here but a little ole ~~xxxx~~ (old-) jacket. She (Mrs. Hastings) used to come to live with him (Mr. Hastings) in Sweetheart life, before come down and married him." That old devil woman come from the London slums!~~xx~~

Miss Jude continuing: Sometimes women come into her shop with eggs. She asks "how much a doz?" The women tell her -" a fi di Missis Ma." She ~~xxx~~ mimicked the way the women spoke using ~~xxx~~ her hands the meantime to add colour to the expressions. When the women told her the eggs were for Mrs. Hastings she demanded -"What Missis! ? I am Mrs. Rochester and she is Mrs. Hastings; whats the difference?"

She blames "the Jehovah Witness People for saying there is no ~~xxxx~~ Hell, for where could an old wretch like that go but to hell ? "

Later as she got up to get something from the dinner waggon -"Mek Mrs Hastings go wey (let Mrs. H go away) and mek her husband get to rhumba him sweetheart them. -this said in stoic humour.

Mr. Laban was almost completely solvent during the course of these talks. Dudley had chimed in to ask if it was not for the growers where would Mr. Hastings be but still ~~xxxxxx~~ buying pigs. ~~xxxx~~He has ~~xxxxxx~~ now got so big and unapproachable! He "must go!"

Met Mavis today on the brow of the hill all dressed up. She said she was going home, because Brandyey wanted to kick her last night.

Thursday
Friday
19. 3, 48.
I.D.

"Brandy have a way any time him see you eating anything, him ask you if you know how it plant. I tell him that him must not ask me that for I am working for it."

Last night they had a fuss and "Bradley said ~~not~~ offer kick to me. I tell him that if him kick me I will cut him. I did not mean to do it but I know that he is affraid of a knife, if we even playing him don't use knife. Well somebody tell Miss Jude about it and this morning she pay me and say I can go. I tell her that I will go."

"You know how Miss Jude stay, she like to shame people, but anytime she talk to me hard and make me feel bad, me talk to her hard back before people and make she feel bad. You know what, -if she bawl after you, and you take it, you and her can be the best of friends. That is why me and her will not agree, for me not taking it. Anybody me work with must not bawl after me. If she respect me, I will respect her."

Mavis said she was going home to her father. She may go to Kingston to fetch her clothes. "I could not bring all my good clothes up here. The place too red." Asked if she really inteded to go to her father. "I am really going to him, if him even beat me."

Family record 1.

Thursday
1.4.48.
I.D.

Miss Jude doesnot believe in having too many lady friends. "They are too desceptious." She has one girl friend in Kingston. "If she go down Town and see a piece of cloth and she can' t buy 2 dresses she don't buy any. Anything she buy for herself she buy for me. Sometime I go in, I just hear her say, come try on your dress."

Jude wants to see Mr. millard to make plans for a dance. She does not think she will be able to get the school room. The Members of the church committee would not aallow her to have it. "You see them make fe them money already. The committee is not even fonctionning well. I am supposed to be one. Most of them leave and join other churches, but I belive they will come back when they find out their mistake. The only thing is, that time the doors may be closed against them. Them used to have crop over dance in the store room but them would not let me have it." Why? "Is the shop me go open out there, but if you can' t beat a person you must friend them you know. Some of them a friend me now."

Jude has been in the shop business since 1928. "From me a little pivknie me a sell in a shop." Her father was in the shop busiess.

"Me a one of the pioneers of the tomatoe growing. Me shut up me shop and go out with Major Moxy. We work in the office there for nothing and when time come for us to get a decent salary, I must say them turn me out." Mbs. Johnson was also working at the office with Jude.

Co-operative store.

"A few of us get the idea for that thing same place up here, and I mention it to Major. Him say is a dam good idea you know. A few of us get together and pool the money and start the shop. I am the person who make the first purchase for that shop. They used to keep the shop right beside Mrs. J hnson, as them hear that I was going to open up on the main, them run and build the shop before the factory too. But the thing is not being run properly, is more Mrs. J hnson shop than anything else. It is not being run as how D.T.M. Girvan say it should be run. When she ready she close the shop for all 3 day - gone to K,ngston to buy goods. It suit me when it close."

"The other dayy they had a metting and elected me as a member of the managing committee. I respectfully begged to decline. Is still the people's store, you know, for pur money in it, but psho!"

Interviewed Laura Dixon.

Tuesday.
6. 4. 48.
I.D.

Laura came to my room this morning and asked me to get a job for her in Spanish Town. She would like to go to Town but has not been able to do so.

A man came around the other day and said he wanted some young girls to work in Kingston. A fellow from Ballard's Valley took the man around the district. "I hear the work is good but you have to sell rum and the man don't have no license. Him say we can't sell the rum to any and any body, only the white people them. Me would have to work from 4:00 in the day to 4:00 a morning and them find you bed, bed things and eating. The only thing we would have to find is clothes. I did not hear about the pay." She said she did not want to take the job.

"When I hear what was the content of the work me decide not to take it." What do you mean? Laura laughed and said ~~she said~~ before she replied. "You noh know them kind of place at Kingston, when you in you room the man them can come and do as them like with you- well is that kind of place. Them kind of catch man, you noh know all them way. Since me find out it was that, me would not go. If it was a man that me know me would go at the first word without even asking what it is about, but me don't know the man. I hear that is 8 girls him want and 3 gone a'ready." One of the girls is from Ballard's Valley Laura does not know her name and she does not know the other 2 girls or where they are from.

"The one gone from Valley, she is a big woman and she can go, because she is - ~~you know that she is ready~~ you noh know - she is that a'ready."

Laura used to work with her sister in Christiana and her brother in law had a shop where he used to sell rum without license. The place was raided, a little rum was found and Laura was ~~to~~ tried for it. "I was having teeth-ache and them smell me with the rum, and a little was in the bottle, so the Judge just let me off. Rum was really in the shop but it hide and them never see it. That is why me 'fraid of the rum selling.

Miss Jude's work.

Miss Jude work good but - You know she want to pay me 3/6 a week and want me to stop here. She say things slow with her, the money she getting from the people them she just have to pay it out back. I would stop here if she did not want to take anything off the money. You know is only 7/6 she is giving me and is only Sunday I don't work. She want me live in the room with the little boy them inside there look just like out here." She pointed to the yard. "You see me here today but don't look for me tomorrow, for if Miss Jude taking off 4/- off the money I would not come back here. Who me, I would not even pick up safety pin in the yard. Me prefer to lay down out in the road and make ~~xxxxxxx~~ truck run over me."

13.4.48.

T.O.

The married life of
the two newly wed
daughters.

Delores Simpson.

I visited this morning Delores Simpson who lives with her husband at Mr. Nembhard's house half-way to Junction. I asked her why she didn't come last Sunday with her husband to visit her parent's home. Was she busy? She said: "Not busy but I didn't plan to come."

In Mr. Nembhard's yard there is a structure built with sticks and covered with a roof. This was built by the Simpsons. Delores started there raising chickens. She keeps the white Leghorns. Bought some 6 weeks old from somebody from Ballards Valley. She paid 5/- each. Hatched also a dozen herself. She has about 25. ~~pixxx~~ The hens don't lay yet. She separated the cockerels. She buys the feed. "It is quite dear." But she doesn't know the price.

~~xTheix~~ There are preparations being made to build their house on Mr. Simpson's ground on the main road. It was a tomato field. It has been cleared already and the lumber is there. She plans to build near her future house another "Chicken house" and still keep the one she has already in Mr. Nembhard's yard. It is so near that she thinks it won't be too difficult to look after her hens in the two places.

Her father visited them for the first time 10 days ago and spent the day with them. She visited her parent's home only once since her wedding.

~~Herxbroxx~~ little brother Vivian visited her also once. He drove on the donkey and brought a present of fruits from her mother.

Delores is quiet and modest as she used to be at her parent's house. She looks however happier now: smiles often and is eager to talk of the new house and her hens. Her husband wasn't at home - he went to visit his "old home where his grand mother lives."

Daphne Wilson.

After a week's honeymoon spent with her husband at her elder sister's home Mrs. Ebanks in Ballards Valley Daphne came back to her parent's home. Her husband lives in Black River where he is in the police force.

Daphne spends all the day at the "Early Bird" shop. The tomato season is over and the trade is not so lively. Miss Jude stays more at home being rather busy as she has trouble - as usual - with servants.

Mr. Wilson visited his wife last Sunday. He came on his motorcycle in the morning and left at 3 a.m. next day as he has "to report on duty at 6"

He hasn't sold this motorcycle, though he promised Miss Jude to do so before he married. The date of settling together of this couple is not yet definite. He is looking for a "decent place to live" in Black River, but apparently it is not easy to find. Also he suffers from tonsillitis and plans to have an operation before he settles with his wife.

Miss Jude is eager he leaves the police. She would like her sons-in-law and some other people to collect money to buy a car which would be run from Bull Savannah to Kingston. Mr. Wilson would be the driver. But the would-be partners are not eager to put money into this business.

It is not quite definite Mr. and Mrs. Wilson will live in Black River, as "the place is not healthy with malaria fever." But "You cant jump out like that from overnment employment. You draw the salary - drought or no drought - and can find a good use for it. He will get something for the wife. He is sending papers now."

I noticed the other day that Miss Daphne has only one visible tooth - when she smiles. Apparently a new set of teeth wasn't included in the rather expensive trousseau. However "her husband insist that she get a plate so she went to the dentist last Sunday. To look presentable when she goes to live in Black River or any new place."

Miss Jude doesnt not believe in taking care and filling teeth. "I spent £5 on Val /Mrs. Ebanks/ and its just if I didnt spent a nickel." "When they are bad just pull out and be honest about it."

Other children.
Valerie Ebanks.

Valerie Ebanks came last Sunday with her little daughter to pay a visit to her parents. Mr. Newell brought them in his car. She is very different from Daphne, doesnt put "ladylike" airs as her sister whenever she comes she helps with household work, bringing trays with food, cleaning, sweeping. Miss Jude never mentioned it but as it could be seen from Valerie's letter there was some worry about her marriage. She had ~~sixxxx~~ the child before she was married and was rather unhappy about it.

Bradley

Builds rather slowly his house on the piece of land he got from his father. When the house will be finished he will bring there his - unmarried yet - wife from Junction and his baby daughter. ~~inx~~ He sleeps in a little one room house which was built near the old little shop after there was some ~~things~~ ~~things~~ ~~things~~ Bradley is taciturn like his father. ~~was the same~~ ~~things~~ he often plays his guitare. He usually plays while keeping his feet in a basin with water.

He got from his own garden of tomatoes £25 this year.

Eric.

Eric "wasnt so keen with books". He is working at the farm. He had a tomato garden this year, which was cultivated on shares: one for him, one for his mother and one "for a fellow who help with it." They got for the tomatoes £17:11:2. Out of it £4:11:6 was the cost of manure, seeds, etc., so they got net profit £3:0:1 each. "I keep the money for him - says Miss Jude - but he came to say he is begging me some for shoes." Eric had a pair of shoes but the maid Mavis /who left after a big quarrel/ was using his shoes. So Eric wanted to "desinfect them" and "threw some boiling water on them and they shrunk and are no good." For the balance of his money Miss Jude wants to buy some tools for him. He wants to learn some trade and Miss Jude wants to "put him with my brother Calbert." Calbert Elliott is a carpenter.

Eric works methodically at his field. Very often early morning about 6 o'clock a saw him in his garden. To-day he was planting cassava. Next year he will get another piece of land for tomatoes and will have still this one with the cassava.

"Eric looks after the cows and the donkey. And you don't have to tell him." He doesn't like however being asked to do some other chores and errands, he likes to keep to his land and animals.

He doesnt run about with boys of his age.

"He is quick so I don't worry him with any work." His future is "books". He makes good progress at school and Mrs. Millard - the head teachers wife - told me at one occasion Vivian is one of the best children at school. He likes to draw and to paint. I gave him a box of paints and he brings me often his pictures.

Vivian.

Vivian likes company. Last Sunday instead of going to the dentist with his elder sisters /he was crying withk tooth ache Saturday evening/ he went for the whole day" with his Seven Day friends." They are Claston Rochester's sons. As they don't play on Saturdays /the Sabbath being strictly observed in their home/ they make up for it on Sundays and Vivian joins them.

Vivian likes to run errands. He works occasionally in the field helping Eric or his father. But he does it more as amusement than work. He is the "courrier" between the "Early Bird" shop and the home. When there is a "company" in the evenings in our cottage Vivian listens from the verandah - or if I invite him he sits on the floor /refuses a chair/ and listens. He is great friends with my son Stefan to whom he writes letters. Its for the first time in my life I saw a boy of this age willingly writing letters.

To-day he had a big quarrel with his younger sister Pauline. Vivian had a fountain pen which he gave to Pauline and took his mother's. Miss Jude said her pen was a very expensive one - cost £4. She sur

pected that Vivian lost this pen and asked him to-day about it. He said: "Yes Mum" and run after Pauline who was just going to school. He apparently wanted to take back from Pauline the pen he gave her to substitute for the pen he lost. Pauline however didn't like the idea. She says he pushed her and she bit him in his breast. The bite must have been a vigorous one, as through the shirt her teeth showed on his flesh and he was bleeding. Miss Jude had to put some iodine on it. She didn't recover her fountain pen.

Pauline.

She is the only daughter left in the home. When she was 5 she had her appendix taken out. Miss Jude thinks that owing to the chloroform the child "wasnt so bright" /physically/ for some years. Its only lately she "picks up". Her qualities and future are not discussed as yet.

Clifton.

He is the youngest - and Miss Jude wishes he should be the last - child. His nickname is ~~KWUNSA~~ "Sunman". When he was a baby he liked so much being in the sun that his mother always put him in his cradle outside. So he is called Sunman. He is a very beautiful, quick and jolly. "Very smart and tricky" his mother says. Just now he was passing in a nice blue but oversiyed shirt and pants. "Where did you get them?" Asked his mother "They are not yours" Sunman smiled: "They are mine Mum" and run to his business.

Baby Lynch.

He is the youngest son of Miss Jude's sister who died 2 years ago. Mrs. Lynch had 7 boyas and one daughter at whose birth she died. The 6 older boys stay in their father's home. Mr. Lynch married ~~xxxxx~~ a second wife. The little girl was adopted by Miss Lynch /younger sister of Mrs. Lynch/ and the youngest boy by Miss Jude. The baby Lynch is called "Fellow". He goes about in a waist long blouse and without pants - as ~~xxxx~~ all little boys of his age in Bull-Savannah. He follows the other children. Good-natured, a bit slow. "His belly is all that matters to him" says Miss Jude. "Meek as a lamb". Other children tease him often. The other day he was given a sweet. I heard him crying at the tank and looked what it was about. The other boys forced him to open his mouth and took the sweet from it. Whether they returned it to him or took it away I don't know. For the wedding occasion Fellow was given apants. He wore them also on some Sunday but made such a mess of his pants that they were put aside till he becomes "more sensible".

24.6.48.

T.O.

News from U.S.A. The husband of Delores - Simpson - went a few weeks ago to America. He is working in Long Island with a farmer who "sent for him". Mr. Simpson wrote to Miss Jude saying there is a lot of rains in U.S.A. which may affect the crops. etc. She got also a letter from Mrs. Andrews, who was thanking her for entertaining her husband in Bull-Savannah and for the wedding cake Miss Jude has sent.

"She would like me to come to see what New-York is like. But Mr. Laban won't let me go. He wants me to look after him and his children. It's ~~xxx~~ very well, but it is not all. And I wouldn't go there just to sit and spend money. Even a part time job I could get. I would like to make a little money to help Vivian. To send him to a secondary school. He will stay in Bull-Savannah till he gets a good background. I plan to give him private lessons next term. Teacher Millard is very good. Vivian - he has a future if he gets a little help. It's no use pouring water on a duck's back - it will fall off, but Vivian he is really the brightest. Now the big girls are off my mind I want to help Vivian."

15.7.48.

T.O.

There are the following buildings in Mr. Laban's homestead:

1. The old house. Two rooms. At present occupied by Mr. Laban his wife Pauline and "Fellow". Thatched
2. The "boys' house". A small one-room house without windows in the yard. The boys sleep there and the servant Hazel with her baby. Thatched
3. The kitchen. A building in the yard. Two rooms: in one the kitchen, the other serves as a buttery & store room. Thatched
4. The shed. In the yard. Serves for many household activities: washing, drying tobacco. Often people sit there during the day. Thatched
5. The "Welcome Cottage". 4 rooms, two of which are very small and low. Zinc roof. Verandah. This cottage is rented now to the Survey. Usually Mr. and Mrs. Laban live here. The "Welcome Cottage" is about 30 yards from the yard.
6. The shop. One-room thatched building about 50 yards lower. This used to be the old shop Mrs. Rochester kept. Now it is rented to Misses Dale & Barrett of the Survey.
7. Bradley's house. A small thatched building next to the shop. It was built there after there was a theft for somebody to ~~fix~~ watch it. No windows. Bradley Rochester lives there alone.
8. "The Early Bird" new shop in the centre of the village
Present household:

Rochester Laban	head	50	
"	Judith wife	40	
"	Bradley son	27	+ Dolores -
"	Eric son	16	
"	Vivian son	13	
"	Pauline dau	10	
"	Clinton son	8	"Sunman"
Lynch Roye	ad. son	4	"Fellow" (Mrs Jude nephew)
July Hazel	servant	22	
Elliott Monica	(Hazel's child)	5 months.	

Children of Laban and Judith who left the home: Valerie married Ebanks in Ballards Valley. There has been recently a quarrel & I understand Valerie stays now with her maternal grandparents Emma & Arthur Linton in ~~Six~~ Dunder Hill. They have one child, a 3 yrs old daughter.

Daphne married last March Mr. Wilson a policeman in Black River. They live in Black River.

Dolores Married last march Leslie Simpson from Comma Pen. She lives on the road to Junction. Leslie went a couple of months ago to U.S.A. Dolores is expecting a child and building their house.

Outside children. Mrs. Judtih didn't have any outside children. Mrs. Laban had three: Bradley with Martha Simpson. Martha married and lives in Clarnedon. Bradley was brought up and still lives with the father. The second child is Pearlie, who married John Sangster. Pearlie's mother was Rebecca Powell daughter of George Powell. Rebecca died abroad. I heard Laban had still a third outside child, but I can't trace it. Bradley and Pearlie got from the father one acre of land each.

Hazel July is from Top Hill. It is for the third time she is working as servant in this household. For the first time ~~Miss July~~ she had to leave to have her first child. It seems she wanted "to pin" this first child on Tressilian Rochester son of William Rochester. However it was settled finally that the child's father was a Mr. Joseph Bent from Yardley Chase, who lodged at the time with the Rochesters. (Joseph Bent was working at the factory.) The elder child was taken by Joseph Bent who in turn gave it to "a woman in New Port who adopt it." The second time Hazel had to leave because she went home to have her second child. This child is for Vincent Elliott the son of Moses Elliott. Now she returned with this child and stays with it.

There is another servant in this household: Adelceita Powell. She is the daughter of Berdie Rochester (daughter of Simeon and sister of Joshua etc) and Ernest Powell (uncle Peanion). Adelceita spends the day and gets the meals in this households but sleeps with the mother. She used to work here before Christmass (I mistook her for one more daughter of Judith Rochester). During the season she worked in the factory. After the dismissal of the previous servant Eve, Adelceita took her place. However she will be dismissed (as Miss Jude told me to-day) for being rude to Pauline and for not obeying Miss Jude. Servants in this house seem to be of a peripatetic character

Fellow takes interest in the farm: one day he came to Miss Jude and said: "Big hog papa hungry." Which meant that the big hog which belongs to Mr. Laban is hungry.

Fellow and Sunman sleep in one bad with Mr. Laban. At about 11 p.m. Miss Jude dropped in - we were having company - coming from Early Bird. She said: "Mr. Laban - he is fast asleep with Sunman and Fellow tucked nicely in the bed."

The servants.

In very few households in Bull-Savannah there are servants. However Miss Jude had - more or less - always servants in her home. "ither hired or some "poor relatives" like for instance the illegitimate daughter of Mr. Laban. She is married now to John Sangster.

The neighbours - Cecil Rochester's wife, Miss Turnica Powell, Mrs. Francella Rochester - criticize Miss Jude's relationship with servants. They imply she doesnt pay them fair wages etc. ~~During the next 4 1/2 months we were very~~ Miss Jude values very low the "hired" - ~~their~~ work. ~~For her to depend on~~ hired help seems a calamity but somehow she can't do without it. Not that she is lazy - just the opposite: she is extreemly industrious and there is no work she wouldnt do - one has to acknowledge - quicker and better than any of ~~xxxx~~ her daughters or helps. She snatches the laundry from an ineffective laundress and does it herself in a nick of time, she carries things to her shop, /hurrying like a bullet up the hill, she scrubbed her kitchen in comparison which which the Augean stables were a drawing room. When my child was ill and I had to apply an enema (borrowed from Miss Jude's family trunk depths) she came to watch "the results." We had a virtual fight over the chamber full of the "results" - each claiming the right and privilege to take it out and nearly upset the thing over the child's head. Miss Jude won.

/ on her head

Luoise

During the 4 1/2 months we spent here ~~was~~ there were 4 maids following each other in quick succession. The first one was Luoise, She looked like a boy extreemly tall in girl's shabby dress. She was reffered to by Miss Jude as "this dumb girl". Although dumb means also a half wit, speech wasnt Luoise forte. During the few weeks she used to clean our cottage and bring us food she never uttered a single word. Neither when she was spoken to. "hile cleaning her favourite place was under the bed. She spent there always a lot of time performing probably some mysterious rites as the state of cleanliness of the place didn't account for the amount of time spent there. One day Luoise went to Junction to fetch her shoes from the shoemaker and never returned.

Mavis.

Mavis was brought from Kingston, where she worked in a kind of thrid rate restaurant. Her detail ed story is on the previous pages of this Fam. Rec. He wore eyeglasses which gave her a superior air. She is the one who wore Eric's shoes, which ~~skunk~~

we increase do
materially.

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to nothing when Eric tried to "sterilize" them with boiling water. Her stormy departure is already described.

Laura

Laura lives in Ballards Valley and comes only for the day. Late at night, 8, 9 and smetime 10 p.m. she walks with a hurricane lamp back to Ballards Valley. She comes back in the morning around 6 a.m. Miss Jude doesnt like the arrengement. "You never know when she is gone and what she takes with her. I have to give her every day 1/2 bottle of kerosene for the lamps and the lamp. In the morning she comes and cant start working untill she takes her tea. You never know whether she will show up next day. Doesnt want to come on Sunday. On Sunday we have to eat too. " Laura has a child. When there was an outbreak of typhoid fever in Bull-Savannah we learned with dismay that Laura's child had it just a fortnight ago (the time of incubatio n) We were reassured when we discovered that the child lives with Laura's mother or grandmother. Laura "has somebody" in Ballards Valley and thats the reason why she doesnt want to stay here for the night. Miss Jude got "fed up" with Laura and brought a few days ago a young girl from Manchester Her name is Eve. It was a Miss Jude's triumph over Laura who didnt appear on Monday knowing that there is a laundry to be done. Laura is still coming just for odd jobs. Eve is still - after 4 days - in favour.

Eve