

15.1.1948.
T.O.

Fam. Rec. 41.

Holness Clifford

Informant Mrs. Clifford Holness

Son of Holness Theodore (see fam.rec. 3). The old man "Didn't divide the land but gave each son a house site". He has around 15 acres (old Holness).

Clifford built recently - last month, a shop. It is run by his wife and his only son about 16 yrs old. The boy has a hunch a bit deforming him, quiet, serious and intelligent.

The business doesn't seem very brilliant. Young Holness said Mondays were best for business "young men come and buy going to work". Usually it is children who come to do their penny shopping. Almost all of them are some sort of cousins to the owner of the shop.

There wasn't yet a day when the turnover would be one pound - but young Holness hopes it might come.

At the back of the shop is a big thatch structure which is also recently built, it is Bible church of God. The land was given by the old Holness to build the church on.

Mrs. Holness is nee White. She is from Balaclava. Her husband went to Balaclava to see his half-sister and met Miss White, whom she married. Mrs. Holness prefers Bull Savannah to Balaclava, because "when you plant anything here it grows better".

INTERVIEW WITH CLIFFORD HOLNESS

Wednesday,
June 16, 1948.

Ed. F.

Clifford is sharing one of the 3 rooms of his father's immediate premises with:

1. Mrs. Lidell Holness, wife, about 32, and
2. Sydney Holness, 15, their son.

In an interview with Clement Holness his brother (F.R) I was told that Clifford lives in 2 rooms he has built behind the shop he owns and which is built on his father's land, but this is obviously untrue since the rooms are in the process of construction. The walling to them is nearing the point of completion, but xxx there are no doors nor is there any flooring.

Mrs. Holness cooks for herself her husband and their son. She does that in a kitchen built beside the shop. She shares some of her meals with ~~xxxxxx~~ Clifford's father and other members of the family.

Born on the home site in the parents' home, he shared house with his parents brothers and sister as named in F.R.

Family History

Mr. Theodore his father had one child by another union. This child -Marian Holness, lives in Exton. She visits her father and brothers sometimes.

His mother married twice. Her first husband's name was Powell. He died. She then married Mr. Theodore. For Powell she had:

1. Mrs. Aleta White who lives in Breeze Hole, Manchester.
2. Urcelyn-Powell Mrs. Edith Sinclair of Shaddock Hill.
3. Urcelyn Powell. She lives in Kingston.

The order of age of the above is : 1. Urcelyn, 2. Edith and 3. Aleta.

He leaves Home.

He left the parent home in 1929 to share house with his sister Aleta. He left Bull Savannah then because there "was a terrible dry weather here," then.

In Breeze Hole he cultivated yams ginger coffee cocones etc. on 2 1/2 acres around the house. He also cultivated on 2 1/2 acres of "outside land" These lands were his own. He has sold the lands. The first plot was sold in about 2 years ago, the second a year ago. He sold out because "a did a did want to gu wey." He wanted to go away because he does not live in one place for too long a time. He wanted to "come back to Bull Savannah -come back to mi old home."

Relations with father:-parents.

From Breeze Hole he used to write home to his mother "RIGHT along," i.e. -regularly. Said he -"A sen' money an' food sometime fi mi mother." Asked what he sent for his father, he said -"Well, whatever come into the home everybody noh get it !"

He used to write to his father after his mother's death. He used to send food for Mr. T. but no money, "because this place was better than where I was:" it is because this place "is better than" ~~xxx~~ -is more prosperous than where he was in Breeze Hole, that he came back.

Father's attitude to his return

"A him fi one encourage mi fi come back home." He really never stayed away from home a long time. He made about 4 visits per year. He used to have talks with his father. After his mother died Mr. T. said -"A mus' come back home because mi mother dead and him want the whole a di children to come back round him."

Mr. T. invited Clefford to come back and build a house on his land. Mr. T. said -"he had no money to help, but would do what him strength would allow," to help with such a building.

Clifford returned in June of last year to "raise up the shop," i.e. lay the foundation and uprights for the building. After that he said -"a go back a mountain (Breeze Hole) and a sen' money from there to spanish wall i' up. They finish an' close up the inside of the shop by Dec., an' I come the first day of January," -1948. He sent the monies for completing the building to his father.

His Wife

He married his wife Mrs. Lidell Holness in Breeze Hole where she was born. He did not marry a Bull Savannah girl because he felt "man must not marry woman from y'u own district."

Asked why in the presence of his wife, he said -"Them will know all about y'u from y'u little boy till y'u turn big man: them know all about y'u, when y'u marry one girl same place ina the district."

He married in 1931. His father did not come to the wedding because of the distance, besides it was a small wedding.

Wife as well as son were seen. The boy seem deformed ~~xx~~ about the back. The interview was given in the Bible Church of God. His wife followed us there, stayed throughout the interview. He is not a member of the Bible Church of God, but visits the church.