

C.D. 22. Sbd. 12. Household 65.

Sinclair	Lindon	Head	M.M.48.	St.El.	Col.	Angl.	Ill.	Farmer
,,	Edith	Wife	F.M.46.12.12.	,,	,,	,,	,,	Homemak
,,	Albert	Son	M.S.17.	,,	,,	,,	,,	None/ye
,,	Leslie	,,	M.S.15.	,,	,,	,,	W.2.	,,
,,	Violet	Dau	M.S.11.	,,	,,	,,	W.1.	,,
,,	Gladys	Dau	F.S. 9.	,,	,,	,,	W.1. W.1.	,,
,,	Neville	Son	M.S. 6.	,,	,,	,,	Ill.	,,
,,	Vivian	,,	M.S. 4.	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,
,,	Ivy	Dau	F.S. 2.	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,

Sinclair's farm in 1942.

Yours
p. 9

Land occupied for 25 years as owner. Land in 3 parcels: 1 - 3/4 - 1 and 1/2. Tomatoes chief crop. Works 52 weeks per year, 6 days per week, 10 hours per day. Out of 3,25 acres - ~~xxxxxx~~ 1 acre owned, ~~xxxxxx~~ 2,25 acres rented from James Sinclair. Rent paid in kind. 3 acres in cultivation. 0,25 a. in pasture. /Guinea grass/. Value of farm - L25. Value of buildings: L10. No mortgage. Tomatoes: 0,3 of an acre, 2000 lbs of tomatoes produced. 1 avocado pear, 1 mangoe. Congo peas: 1,25 acre, 15 bushels produced. Cassava: 1 acre, 3000 lbs harvested. Sweet potatoes: 0,25 acre, 500 lbs prod. No donkey, 2 goats, 2 swines, 2 hens, 3 rabbits. 1 catchment.

Interview with Dudley Simpson /assisted by Laban Rochester Ezra Linton and Levy Lewis. 1.2.48. J.O.

Family of 12 on 1 acre farm.

Discussing Simpson's farm, we took the subject of the minimum farmland in their area. What is the size of land and cultivations from which a family can live. ~~xxxxxx~~ Simpson's own farm is only 3 acres large but he operates 7 acre together to maintain his family. ~~xxxxxx~~ Simpson's opinion was that he could not possibly maintain his family from 3 acres of land which he owns. But people may have much less and still they can maintain their family. ~~xxxxxx~~ For instance - Edith Sinclair. She is his neighbour, living in close vicinity to his land. "They live on 1 acre of land only, but it is not 1 acre of land that they live on." ~~xxxxxx~~ And the family is pretty large - "10 people at least, more than ten, man, more than ten." How is it possible? "they work other people land - on share."

~~xxxxxx~~ Sinclairs' family as it is now.

I asked Sinclair to give me details concerning the members of this family. "You give me a big job. ~~xxxxxx~~ Twelve people, but one not living in the home. But they feeding right there now, all of them feeding ~~xxxxxx~~ in the home. 13 or 12 people, besides the mother. And get ~~xxxxxx~~ children feeding right

3 children feeding right now." /These are probably sons' or daughters' children./

Simpson started to count the members of this family. Edith Sinclair's husband, Lindon Sinclair, ~~is~~ is no more alive. He died a few years ago. The oldest son in the family is Lindon Sinclair /named after the father/ - he is approximately 25 years old. Then there is Leslie and Vincent. Vincent is 22 more or less. Neville and Vivian - the two youngest sons - go to school. The oldest daughter staying at home is Adelaide - she is between 27 and 30. She is followed by Agatha and Violet and Ida. There are still two little girls among the daughters: one is called "Mother"-she is the last child, about 8 years old, goes to school; another, two years older, ~~is~~ or more, /she is about 10 or 14 - nobody knew her exact age/ is called "Culus".

house and land.

All the family /12 people in Simpson's presentation/ live in one house. We know the house - passed along it two or three times. The house is rather shaky - only one or two walls are painted. There is a kitchen next to the house.

There is only 1 acre of land around the house. This land was bought by Lindon Sinclair, Edith's husband, from Ethel Simpson. It is not a family land. This 1 acre constitutes all their family land now and 12 people live from it.

They have however another acre, which is in their possession or at least is used by them. "Lindon Sinclair got 1 acre from his father, but not adjoining to this land." So really they have "2 acres - two separate land." This 1 acre is "down in Ribbit". "Lindon Sinclair's father /the father of the old one, who died, ~~is~~ is still living there. Mathuselah is his name. We call him Uncle Mathas." /This may be either Sinclair James, 82 years old ± Census data = household 39, or Sinclair Charles, 62 years old, household 21, or Sinclair Isaac, 76 years old, household 22./

How do they live from 1 or 2 acres?

"They cultivate both lands. And they work other people land." It is Lindon and Leslie who work outside lands. Vincent - there was a laugh at his name: "Him too lazy, him dont go far from the kitchen. Him work the homeland."

Women also contribute to the upkeep of the family. But not by working on the land. They work in the factory. "Adelaide - him work in the packing house, wrapping tomatoes. Agatha and Violet - the same."

Interview was stopped by Levy Lewis, who objected to our investigations concerning the people whose land is worked on share by Sinclair family. "What's the use of asking about it. Will you help them?" They work land given to them by people who have more land. He himself - Levy Lewis - has land which he can spare for other people and a lot of other people work his land - on share.

Inform. Dudley Simpson
13.3. 48.
J.O.

History of the family
and of their land.

Lindon Sinclair is dead. Edith Sinclair owns now the place. Originally the place on which their house is situated belonged to Ethel Simpson. The place was ~~now~~ purchased from her by Lindon Sinclair.

"Lindon Sinclair buy and acre of land from Ethel Simpson and settled down with Edith Sinclair - she was Holness. They both are from Ribbit Town."

Visit at home.
29.6.48.
T.O.

I went to all homes in this part of Shaddock Hill but was somewhat reluctant to go to Edith Sinclair. I witnessed once, passing near her house, a scene between herself and her daughter and this sample of the lady's stormy temperament made me a bit shy least I tumble on one of her bad moments. (see file 13 Fas.25).

Coming home to-night - it was almost 7 p.m. - I caught a glimpse of many people sitting under the shed against a fire on which a big pot was boiling. ~~This comely family scene looked~~ This comely family scene looked inviting and I approached greeted with many friendly "Good evening Missis" "How's the evening". In the falling dusk the place seemed swarming with people. Edith was sitting on a small wooden box and blowing into some peas she just finished shelling to remove little light particles. At her feet four little children were sitting, very close to each other and looking at the old woman. In the far end a young man was washing his feet in a big wooden bowl. Another one of about the same age came nearer to us. He had only his shorts on - no shirt. Two "school age" boys were bickering on the other side of the fire. A young woman was attending to the pot and two "big girls" were doing something which I couldn't see as they were behind the children. It struck me that although the shed didn't have walls and was rather small for all those people they kept within the place covered by the thatched roof as if they were kept by some magic boundaries. Of course it might have been only accidental.

The young woman at the pot told one of the young girls to bring a chair for the Missis. But I said I preferred to sit on a box (I always feel awkward to sit perched on a chair while everybody else sits in a different way.) "Give the box - said the old woman - the Missis is not fussy" and the girl brought a box wiping it with ~~some~~ a bundle of grass. "Everybody laughed amicably and the atmosphere became so easy and ~~natural~~ natural as if I came here for the hundredth time. ~~Edith~~ ~~introduced~~ I introduced myself to Edith Sinclair - though I knew she knew well enough who I was - we shook hands and she started to introduce to me all ~~the~~ the present." These three pickenky they are for that girl Aghata, this is Leslie and Vicent and the youngest daughter Ivy." I asked about the two smaller boys "My pickeny too and the oldest one didn't come yet." I asked about the two big girls. "They are mine too, ~~all~~ all of them - come to the pot." I offered some ciga-

rettes and everybody laughed when the girl Ida accepted and lit one. I asked Vincent why they laughed and he said she was smoking for the first time, its for the first time he was seeing her smoking. Only Edith and the young man were speaking with me directly - all the others formed a kind of chorus. When I was offering cigarettes the smallest girl who was sitting right at the grandmother's feet held out her tiny hand and kept it long looking at me with disappointment. Edith laughed "The little beggar she wants her share too." And she added, perhaps so that I would n't think it is begging: "The pickeny see everybody gets something."

Edith wanted me to meet her eldest son who didn't return yet from the field. But it was getting dark and I had a very steep and stony hill on my way. "Come to-morrow Missis and well have a good talk" invited Edith and I promised with pleasure.

Visit at home. Interv. Edith Sinclair.
30.6.48.
T.O.

I went early afternoon. The house looked empty and I was greeted by a small mongrel looking like a black piggy and barking conscientiously but without much fervour. The daughter Ida appeared and said her mother was resting. She took me to the room.

The house has only one living room. The second which used to be a kitchen is now being rebuilt to be also a living room. The kitchen will be in a separate building, the beginnings of which ~~xxxx~~ is the shed under which I saw yesterday the family.

~~Kitchen~~ The living room is a very small one. There are two narrow beds, one small table, one chair and this takes almost all the space. Between the beds three big wooden trunks were piled one on top of the other. The place was very tidy and clean and I wondered how so many people could live here, sleep and keep their belongings.

Edith wanted to get up. She was laying on the bed in her dress. I told her to rest and sat on the bed beside her. She held my hand for a while and asked whether I was comfortable and moved her legs to make more space for me. The daughter Ida sat on the other bed. Soon the young man Ricardo Simpson peeped in and seeing the company squatted in the corner near the door. After him the little boy Dan Macmorris came and sat between his legs. Two little puppies and the piggy-like dog came in and there was not a square inch of floor left.

Throught the conversation Edith called me most of the time "Missis" but she would also address me as "Me daughter" and sometimes "mother".

We started to speak about yesterday's meeting and I discovered that not all of the people I saw were actually living here. The present occupants of the house are:

Sinclair	Edith	head.	F.W.	50-60	Bibl Ch.	
"	Lindon	son	M.S.	24		cultiv.
"	Leslie	son	M.S.	20		"
"	Vincent	son	M.S.	19		"
"	Violette	dau	F.S.	18		
"	Ida	dau	F.S.	16		
"	Neville	son	M.S.	12		at school
"	Vivian	son	M.S.	9		"
"	Ivy	dau	F.S.	7		"

Hammlin /

The three grannies and their mother Aghaha who were their are resp. c.l. wife of ~~xxxxx~~ Lewis and his children. They live accross the road.

Edith's parentage. Her mother was Rosetta Sinclair and her father Dick Wellington. Edith doesn't remember her father. "Mother marry to Holness and I was ~~xxxx~~ raised in the Holness home and marry from the Holness home." (Theodore Holness). She considers the Holness home as her own "Holness he was my father." (for her half-brothers and sister see F.R. 8)

The years before marriage. "Hard times at that time. Now we grow salad and get money." She described to me vividly how at the time of her youth there wasn't much possibity to earn a shilling, even a few pennies. All the women could do was to go to the Mandeville market carrying loads on their heads. They used to buy fish in Alligator Pond or Little Pedro, fry them also make bammies. This was carried to Mandeville. They had to walk. "Start Thursday afternoon. Plenty of people in company" "Men could help themselves with a donkey" But she used to carry the load as many other girls. They would arrive at Mandeville after midnight or early in the morning and sleep in the market place. Friday was the market also Saturday morning. They would start from Mandeville Saturday morning and return to Bull Savannah Saturday night. In Mandeville they bought salt and sugar. "At that time 1½ and we sell here for 2d. or 2½d" "Make a little money." There ~~was~~ wasn't a shop in Bull-Savannah. The nearest in Ballard Valley. "If you want salt - couldn't get it here. Go to the neighbour - to borrow but the neighbour don't have it often." They used to go to the market every

other week. "We couldn't manage it every week." On the way to Mandeville they used to stop for a rest. The first stop was at Barnard (?). The first truck in Bull Savannah was owned by Windy Elliott. In that truck Edith drove for the first time to the market in Christiana. "Now we don't bother with Mandeville market any more, we grow salad and sell it here."

Edith is very pleased indeed with the present conditions, life is so much easier. The young people don't understand what hardship is.

Edith used to go to the Mandeville market when she was a young girl. "Since we breed don't go any more." The young people laughed at the word "breed" but she didn't pay attention to them.

Her children She had 5 children with her future husband before she married and went to live to his house. "The first Vincent was born here" She has 11 living children, one only died. "I have two daughters in Kingston - they are in lucky land". I asked her why she thought Kingston was luckier than Bull-Savannah. She said it was because they could make more money there. But after a while she changed her opinion. Said she sends them food often. "Have to buy every little thing." Her eldest daughter Adelaide who is 27 is in Kingston and a younger one Icilda who is 13 stays with her. Adelaide has a child with her. She works for some people. Her second daughter Agatha married (c.l.) to Hamlin Lewis. "The balance at home." I asked her whether she considers the daughters better or the sons. "The boys them work they can help. But if you are sick it's the daughter helping." And again even a married daughter will always remember the mother, come and see her and care for her. While once the boys are married "Them gone." Her three eldest sons work the land and also work with other people. The girls help in the home and work in the factory during the season. I asked who is cooking Edith said she was cooking and Violette "assist me". The boys are untidy, Edith and the girls have all ways to put things in order after them.

The two young boys Neville and Vivian go to school. But they won't learn. Edith is not satisfied with their achievements at school. "don't learn nothing just spending the time." Children are "rude" so often, Edith has to flogg them, not that it helps much.

Her grandchildren. "I have 5 grannies, three for Agatha, one in Kingston and one in Ballards Valley for Lindon. It's only 2 months old, haven't seen it yet." She loves her grannies. Every time they go or

come from school they stop at her yard. "They are here for tea, breakfast and dinner - any time." She laughed with pleasure. She planted a few canes for them to chew. At that moment she jumped from her bed and ran in to the yard. She remembered that pigs are not tied and they will damage the cane.

Her grannies with the mother and father will soon move to the new house in Leaseland below the factory. But Edith is sure they will come and see her every day. At noon they will come from school to her.

Living accomodations, and the house .

The house was built by her late husband. She moved here ~~just~~ before Vincent was born and Vincent is 19 now. But the house was built 9 years before she moved in. The young people made the addition and said the house was 28 years old. Edith had it covered with a new thatch. But it is a good stron house. During the storm "Them houses with veranda, board house all blown and this one strong." She chuckled: the fine houses people were so proud of weren't as strong as hers. I tried to find out how they all slept nine people in all in this tiny room. But it was so puzzling to me and so obvious to her, that I couldn't get a clear picture and didn't want to hurt her with too pointed questions. Edith decided to have a kitchen built outside and the next room in which the kitchen used to be to have converted into a living room. "I will have a room to myself". I asked whether she will sleep there alone? "For myself and the girls, the boys will sleep here." The new kitchen she wants it. "Big enough for all to come and sit there, the whole lot." She was very pleased with the new additions and changes in the house. She will take to her room the big trunk. "A good trunk I buy it from Joe Powell." Joe Powell brought this trunk from Cuba. Edith bought paper and papered in inside. A good strong trunk.

Her wedding. "I marry from Holness home." Mr. Roy the baker made the cake. "Mr. Roy he make the cake and the light bread and he carry the wedding." The ordinary bread Edith bought in Junction. Mr. Roy "carried" the wedding very well. There were many people and the wedding festivities lasted for two days. Edith didn't make any secret of the fact that she had 5 children before the wedding, it was quite natural for her. After the wedding she took her children and her possessions and moved to her husband's house. At that time there weren't many houses here. The nearest neighbour Dudley's father old Simpson on one side and on the other Miss Ethel Simpson. And up the hill nothing at all. "Pure woodland it was".

The duppies Speaking of these times she recalled the story of the young girl who was taken by the duppies and tied to a tree. (This was told us already by Dudley Simpson see) He told the story using many phrases just like Dudley. It must be a standard story. The corn the girl was eating was mentioned and the wisp she was tied with. The two dogs: Carlos and Cayan and even the hooked knife. Young Ricardo, - who is playing a bit the role of a young blase - said he has seen also a duppy. I asked what it looked like. But he said - with half-a wink - you can't see their head. Edith said that duppies have a head but you can't see it. nyhow according to Edith duppies belong to the old days. "Now the place thickly populated and people not so dark (more enlightened)" so the duppies don't show themselves any more. But old Simpson - Dudley's father - he could see them. He use to travel selling mangoes and was a man of the world. He knew how to deal with ~~kk~~ them.

Edith's opinion about a girl with outside children.

X
X
X
I was interested to know what is Edith's opinion on the obligations of a father to his outside children. I brought into the conversation Daisy Powell and her three children with Eli Simpson. Edith was indignant about the girl. "Him (she) leave the children and go to Mandeville and the mother-in-law (i.e. the wife of the father of the children) care for them all the time." Edith thought it was unfair to leave the children to another woman who had all the trouble with them. I tried to introduce the father. After all they were his children and he married another woman after having them. But Edith didn't see any point in it. The whole problem for her was that one woman left her children for another woman to bother about. And that wasn't fair in her opinion. He also didn't approve of Daisy going back to Mandeville. And it seemed to her rather queer that Daisy wanted to send her 11 yrs old daughter to school and have a servant to look after the baby. He should have her older daughter to look after the baby. Everything is so expensive in the town. Here Daisy pays 6/- a month for the room to Claston Holness (Daisy told me she was paying 7/-) It is much more in town. Edith didn't approve of Paisy at all.

*Land
yams*
The land. Round the home they have $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres. Of this one acre was bought from Ethel Simpson and the rest was inherited by her husband. They have also $1\frac{1}{2}$ ac. in Ribbit Town. All this is cultivated by the three boys, who also work on shares with Claston Rochester who has a lot of land in many places. The food is used by the household. They plant mostly cassava, corn and peas. Also some yams - over 50 hills. Edith doesn't know exactly how much of the other crops they plant. The eldest son Lindon would know.

They have a lot of stock: a donkey, a mother goat and two kids, 2 pigs (Edith run again to see whether they weren't up to some mischief) and a sheep. The bull is for Lindon and Vincent has 2 goats. The puppies wx were also counted as stock. They will be sold when they are bigger. (I intend to return for a detailed budget)

Religion. Edith is a fervent supporter and member of the Bible Church of God. She never heard about it in her young years. She joined it a year ago. She first met the missionary in Ribbit Town. Edith didn't quote the Bible or pursue a theological discussion as all the converts do. She is happy in her church. She likes to go there for the services. "Many people join and we build a big church."

During our conversation her daughter "gatha" came and wanted to take me to the Lewis yard? But Edith said "Missis is not going anywhere she came to stay with me for the day". But we had such a long talk it seemed I stayed there many days. Edith was also asking me about my country. She was especially interested how people manage in the cold and what the snow is like and can one drive in a buggy in the snow. I promised her to call at her any time I will be passing this way. And Edith had to get up to prepare for the dinner.

Information from Leo Johnson.
Interv. Edith Sinclair.
16.6.48.
J.O. 30.8.48.

- Sinclair Edith, 50. widow.
- ,, Lyndon, 24, son. ~~xxxxxx~~
- ,, Leslie, 20, son.
- ,, Vincent, 19, son.
- ,, Violet, dau. 18.
- ,, Ida, dau., 16.
- ,, Neville, son, 12.
- ,, Vivian, son, 9.
- ,, Ivy, dau., 7.

through the mother

nee Sinclair

Edith Sinclair: father Dick Ellington, mother Rosetta Holness. ~~xxxxxx~~ She was raised by her mother. Her half siblings: Clifford ~~xxxxxx~~, Kendal, Clement, Kennedy Holness, Amy Sinclair, Alicia Whiteby. ~~xxxxxx~~ Their father is Theodore Holness. Relations kept. Her husband /d/: Lyndon Sinclair. She had 12 children, 11 alive. Living outside the home: Adelaide Sinclair, 27, Agatha Sinclair, 26, Teilda Sinclair, 13. Lyndon has one outside child with Eunice Elliott in Ballard's alley.

House: one room. Kitchen. Furn.: 1 table, 2 chairs, 2 beds. No tank - water supplied by neighbours.
Land: 2,5 acres. 1 ac. at home, 1,5 in Ribbit. All land inherited from ~~the~~ father /late Lyndon Sinclair?/. 1 acre was bought by him from Ethel Simpson. Leslie and Lyndon work on share Claston Simpson's land. 4 acres under their cultivations.
Trees: 5 mangoes, 2 pears, 3 coconuts, bananas.
Tomatoes: 5000 . 58 yam hills. 1 acre cassava. 1,5 ac. corn. 2 ac. congo.
1 donkey, 1 sheep, 3 goats, 2 pigs: ~~xxxxxx~~ owned by Edith. Lyndon has 1 bull, Vincent 2 goats.
Violet works at factory.
Weekly expend. 16/-. L11 spent last year on clothes for adults, 25 on children. On health 15/-.
Children in school: Neville /2nd st./, Vivian - 1st, Ivy - B. Edith is illiterate. Lyndon, Leslie and Violet read only till 1st stand.
All family is Bible Church in God.