

C.D. 22, Sbd. 14, Household 22, p. 5, 5

Brown	Jane	GHead	F.S.	50.	3.1.	St. Eliz.	Col.	Ang.	W. 2.	XHomemaker.
Rochester	Clarice	dau	F.Cl.	23.	3.3.	"	"	"	W. 2.	none
Elliott	Cecil	son/in/law	M.Cl.	27		"	black	"	X fam	lab.
"	Liod	gr. son	M.S.	7		"	colour.	"	-	no
"	Avis	gr. dau	F.S.	5		"	black	ang.	-	
"	Merva	gr. dau	F.S.	3		"	black	ang.	-	

6

Her farm in 1942.

Under one acre.

1 goat, 1 swine, 1 hen.

Garden crop value = ~~53~~ 5/-

1 avocado = 4 doz. 1 coconut = 12 nuts.

3 mangoes = 25 doz. 1 naseberry = ?

Interview with Jane Brown

Jane Brown does not know her age. She appears to be over 50. She is ~~totally blind~~ entirely blind. She is sharing house - a single room with her daughter Clarice Rochester, and Clarice's 3 children for Cecil Elliott now dead. He died 2 years ago from an inflamed appendix. He is buried on the land.

The land on which the room is built "is only a little purchase;" that is only a little more than a house-spot. It belongs to Clarice. She inherited it from her father Herbert Rochester now dead. Herbert was ~~the brother~~ to ~~Laban~~ Laban Rochester of Green Olive (F.R. 24).

Jane was born in Mt. Pelier. Her parents are dead. She came to Bull Savannah when a little girl to a father's sister - Mrs. Alice Brooks. She lived with Alice for a few years. She used to attend school then. Later she returned to Mt. Pelier from which she proceeded to Kingston where she lived for some time before returning to the country. (Jane was very vague about where she went and what she did after she left Bull Savannah when a little girl, and did not say when it was she returned here. One of her Grand children was then baking a bannock from some cassava head - course cassava flour: ~~xxxxxx~~ Jane kept her attention somewhat centered on the children's activities; she was possibly very hungry.)

She does not know what is the cause of her blindness. She helped to build the factory: she used to carry water, stones, sieve ~~xxxx~~ white lime cement and marl. She used to carry also the "stuff after them mix it up."

"Before the factory was finished they begin to get in fruit through a lady named Miss Kelly who came to juice the tomatoes. A used to do washing for Miss Kelly." The washing was only ~~xxx~~ done on Fridays and Saturdays. Sunday excluded, work on the factory was done on other days.

At about that time she used to feel a pain across her forehead. It became unbearable. One morning she was preparing to go to the hospital: many of her friends were in the yard at the time. The pain in her head increased. She procured some bay rum, wet the forehead with it.

Suddenly without any further warning she ~~fx~~ saw a gret glare and felt her eyes drop down in the sockets. She cried out in alarm: asked got to take her life rather than her sight away.

son
H Nicholas

She was rushed to the Black River Hospital in the factory van. She was not charged for this conveyance because she was an employee of the factory. She had been working for the factory for about 2 years and 10 months then.

She remained in the hospital for about 30 days. The hospital doctor -Dr. Johnson said her case was one of the ~~worst~~ worst ones he had ever seen; it was an awful case. He treated the eye. She was able to glimpse -could see the moon's glare and the sunrise after she returned home. Now she can see nothing.

Her means of living

The room she shares with her daughter and grandchildren measures 8 feet across by 10 feet long. The flooring is of concrete. The roof is thatched, while the ~~sides~~ are of spanish-walling. From the doorway I saw a wooden single bed shabbily covered; in the corner of the room opposite the door there was a small table.

Jane complained that -"a don't have a son, a mother or a daughter, so you can imagine how hard it must be for me to live. A have no clothes no anything."

She is entirely supported by Clarice who at present works in the tomato shed. She used to work as a grader for a weekly wage not named, but went over to work in the tomato shed when the work ~~xxxxxx~~ in the packing house began to slow down, and then closed down.

She "needs something" because "a have nobody to response fimi, and can't work for miself." (I have nobody to be responisble for me, and I can't work for myself.) Indigestion bothers her. The doctor says "its a bad -a galloping indigestion." She does not remember the name of the doctor who told her that. She saw him when she went ~~xxxxxx~~ "for a change in Mt. Pelier." She has ~~xxx~~ relatives there.

Clarice's 3 children played about noisily while I talked to Jane. She called to them a few time to behave themselves but they paid her scant attention. They did not do that rudely; they seemed only to be in a frolic mood. The names of these children are as appears in the census schedule; Jane was rather vague as to their ages. The boy Loid as appears in the Census schadule is really Lloyd. He has planted a small patch of tomatoes. The planting was late and so the fruit yield is comparitively small; ~~xxxxxx~~ none of it has been sold; it is being used at home.

Informants Clarice Rochester. & Elsa Lee.

Present household.

Jane Brown	Head.	Clarice does not know her age. "Me sure she noh over 50." Jane looks about 54.
Clarice Rochester	Dau.	26.
Lloyd Elliott	G.Son	12
Avis	do	G.Dau. 10.
Merva	do	do. 9.
Elsa Lee	Boarder.	18.
Rose Roy	do	3 1/2 weeks.

Cecil Elliott who figures on the Census Schedule as a member of ~~X~~ this household died 2 years ago.

Friday.
16. 7.48.
I.D.

Illness.

"Cecil, take in with pain, that time me did sick to', me couldn even help him. It never stay no time him dead. As him-use ~~g~~ to go and come here, me mother say she would give him the spot." Clarice pointed to where he was buried. Me did have high malaria fever, it did incline to turn to typhoid so Dr. say me must treat it as typhoid." After taking the medicine, she could not hear well. All the hair drop off a me head. When me get little better me have to walk with stick."

Financial difficulties.

Clarice found things very hard. Being ill, she was not able to help herself. Shortly after she was better one of her children had to be sent to the hospital. "You caan depend 'pon family now fe help you that done with. A have it hard and the all in all (Cecil) dead off."

Family connections,

(dead)

Clarice's father was Herbert Rochester, b~~r~~o~~t~~her of Laban Rochester. The father of her son Lloyd is Thomas Elliott of Ballard's Valley.

Changing households.

Elsa Lee is the daughter of Mrs. Zala Gordon. Elsa's father died in Cuba. She was born in Bull Savannah. "But little most me born 'pon boat. Me mother come like this week and me born next week."

Elsa's step father Harold Gordon does not like her. Her sister Mervis Lee is living at Zala and Harold's home. Elsa was also living there. She left and went to the home of her mother's mother Mrs. Ann Neil, in November of last year. 3 months ago she started to live at Jane Brown's home. ~~Nex~~ Elsa's Uncle, Bradley Rochester ~~g~~ who lives at his mother's home (Ann Neil) said Elsa should not stay in the home. "Miss Ann did want me to stay, but Bradley say me no to stay there."

Clarice said Ann Neil was married twice. Her first husband Rochester is dead. The house in which she lives belongs to her children. "You see, she don't have any talk there." Her second husband is living at Rowe's Corner. Ann was also living there. She got sick and she did not have anyone to look after her. "She say before she stay down there and dead, she prefer to come up where her people dem de!" When Ann was ill, Elsa had to stay at Rowe's Corner for 2 weeks. ~~Clarice~~ Clarice stated that Ann's husband, visited her, sometimes. "Him come up and sleep sometime."

Elsa is not sure whether it was her mother who asked Jane to take her in. Jane told her she could live at her house. "I believe is Mama ask her." Clarice said she felt sorry for Elsa. Seeing that she did not have any place to stop, Clarice suggested to Jane that they take her in. "She is such a nice girl and she noh quarrelsome."

Elsa intended renting a room from Miriam Rochester at Green Olive. She does not pay rent regularly at Jane's place. "Sometime a give her 2/-" Clarice and Elsa cook together. Elsa's mother and Ann Neil send food for her regularly. Her mother would like her to live at the home, but Elsa does not want to return. "Mama say she going to beg him, to make a come. I don't want to go, since a know him don't like me, I want to keep out of his way." Harold has not visited Jane's home since Elsa has been living there. "Them say him was here the Sunday, and from me come the Monday, him don't come back."

Pregnancy and childbirth.

Elsa did not have a good appetite during pregnancy. "All sometime what Miss Ann and Mama bring for me a couldn't eat it. Elsa was not told she should not eat certain things.

Cella Simpson attended Elsa. Pains started on Saturday night. The baby was born at about 7:00 p.m. Sunday. Mrs. Erseline Rochester, Mrs. Ann Neil, ~~Imy~~ Rochester and her baby, and Merville Powell were at Elsa's home on Sunday when she was in pains. They left about 2 hours before the baby came. Adelaid Simpson was sitting in bed with her when the baby was born. "Them put me fe lay down, but me couldn't lay down." Clarice was in Mandeville when Rose was born. She said if she were here she "would bear some of the pain for her." The baby's father is Douris Roy.

Mrs. Eglon Rochester had twins recently. The window was open and Elsa started to comb her hair. Clarice told her to close the window; if she did not, she would take a cold. Mothers do not take a cold easily when they are looked after by a trained Nurse. "You see the train nurse give them something to stop the cold. And still some a them take cold all the same. When you see Aunty Cella send for a Dr. you must know that the case really hard. A girl did have twin and one a them couldn't born; only the hand born. Aunty Cella work 'pon her you see till she sweat. When she see

she really couldn't do it, she send for the doctor. Him have to cut off the baby hand and then take it from the woman.

Her sister Esmine Rochester died at child's birth. A trained nurse from Junction attended her. ~~When~~The ~~the~~ nurse wanted to put Esmine in a bowl of hot water. Clarice would not allow her. "Me say not while me in here. We use enough hot water already." The same Nurse Campbell de, a don' even like see her.

Jane's blindness.

Herbert left $\frac{3}{4}$ acre of land for Jane, Clarice and Esmine. After Esmine's death, Herbert's daughter Rebecca, said she should get Esmine's $\frac{1}{2}$ portion. Rebecca and Eglon Rochester, who are Herbert's children by another woman took Jane before the court for the land. Rebecca got her share, and sold to Harold Gordon.

"When Mumaa get the land, Rebecca say to her. You bitch you get it, I going to make johncro'/pick out you eye.

Jane picked up an egg behind the house. She showed it to Tessie Senior, and he asked her ~~why~~ if she knew who placed the egg there. While they were talking about the egg it dissapeared. "It just banish (vanish) so. Not a soul know where it turn." The following day Jane eyes "scratch her. She was working in the yam garden and she brush the dirt off of her hand and scratch the eye. So the rub the eye, the more it scratch her. The eye them get red and she believe she did get a col' in it. Afterward she couldn' see at all."

Clarice was not at home when her mother became blind. She was away for 7 days. "And just that short space a time, she get blind."

Courtship and marriage.

Clarice loved Thomas Elliott. "Him never know how fe treat woman. Him give me the one pickney and me say him no fe give me no mere. Him did have another girl and she make him give her 2 pickney, Me say is me you want to do that noh. The man them don' have nothing and yet them want to keep 2 woman. Mind you know, if you give one a dress, me going to want it too. If you give one a shoes, me going to want it to, and maybe a better one. So you see it caan work. Some a the man them say them eating meat all the time so sometime them must try pork and see how it taste. Me noh know if them wrong. "

Clarice does not want to have any more children. Asked if she did not have a boy friend after Cecil died. "A the fellow Westomrland, /me a talk to now." She is quite certain that she will not have any more. "After me naa do nothing fe have them. Westmorland should a just love me so." She laughed then said. "The man them too trickify now ya. Them naa love you soso so. If you even want stick off; them naa

/(Herbert Fers)

stick off." (She is bound to have sexual relationships with him.)

Children.

"If I did know what I know now, I wouldn't have these children, and yet, sometime I say is a good thing I have them, for ~~if I did know what I know now, I wouldn't have them~~ I can go out and leave them in the yard with Muma.

It is very hard when a man give you a child and leave you. You caan do nothing for yourself till after 1 year and 6 months. After 6 months you free from cold, but that is not all. Look you have to carry that belly for 9 months. Before you have the baby you want every little thing. If you a go a hospital, you have to buy every living thing." One of Clarice's children was born in Mandeville. A trained nurse attended her.

Westmorland's Clarice wanted to go off to Junction ~~to see her mother~~ for help. ~~to see her mother~~ a parcel. She sent her shoes to Westmorland and asked him to clean them for her. About 15' after, the child returned with them well cleaned. She left for Junction at about 20 minutes after 12:00.

Beulah Gordon and and 2 other children who were not members of this household, stood at the room door while I was talking with Clarice. I told Clarice I was going to see her mother who was lying in the kitchen. Before I reached the kitchen the children went there and waited for me. I stayed there for about 10 minutes. On my return to the house there was a clean cotton, (a kind of floral material) sheet on the bed. On the other there was a white blanket with blue stripes. Before I went to the kitchen the sheets on the 2 beds were very dirty. Elsa's bed was neatly made. The baby was sleeping on it. She did not have to make hers again.

Information from Lilian Powell.
Interv. Clarice Rochester.
18.6.48.
J.O. 24.8.48.

Present household.

Rochester Clarice, 26.
Brown Jane, mother, 50.
Elliott Merva, Clarice's daughter, 9.
Elliott Avis, " " 10.
Elliott Lyde, " son 12.
Lee Elsa, friend, 18.

Brown Jane: father Salomon Brown, mother Melvina Brown, both from Montpellier. Her two brothers Clifford and Hubert live in Asia, one sister Rosetta Mac in Kingston, another, Silonia Bromfield, in Montpellier. She had 4 children, only 1 alive /Clarice Rochester/.

Clarice Rochester. Her father was Hubert Rochester. /d/
~~She has~~ Her halfsiblings through the father: Eglon Rochester /across the road/, Rebecca and Burdie Rochester - in B.B.S., Naomi Plummer, in Mandeville. Her three children are ~~by~~ two different fathers. Merva and Avis are by late Cecil Elliott /son of Alice Heath/; Lyde is by Tom Elliott from Ballard's Valley. Lyde has two half sisters both living in Ribbit ~~xxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ /through the father/. They are Pansie and Dag Elliott.

Elsa Lee. Her father is Norman Lee in St. Thomas. Her mother Zala Gordon lives in Thatch Walk, married to Harold Gordon. ~~xxxx~~ She has one full sister, Mervis Lee, living in Bull Savannah, one half brother /through the mother, Lodrick Rochester, in Thatch Walk, and half siblings through the mother, Gordons, living also in Thatch Walk.

Land, house, farming.

House: 1 room house. Kitchen. latrine. No tank.
Furniture: 3 beds, 1 table /poor/.
Land: owned by Clarice Rochester, 1/2 acre, homeland, inherited from her late father.
Trees: 4 mangoes, 1 sweet sap, 1 pomegrenade.
Cultivations: no tomatoes. 20 yam hills. Corn: "few ~~xxxx~~ holes."
Stock: 1 pig, 2 cats, 1 dog.
Spending: weekly 20/- for meat, fish, oil, kero sine, food, flour. L12 was spent on clothes last year, L4 on medical treatment for the whole household.
Occupations: Clarice and Elsa Lee described as domestics.
Children in the school: Murva 1st st., Avis 3rd, Lyde 1st. No religion.