



Mary Jane Taylor - continued.

of the younzer children goes to school sometimes, but none of them don't go regular. The school house is a right smart piece off, and my daddy says the children don't learn much but <sup>a</sup> mennis, and he don't encourage them much to go, so they don't bother unless they happens to just want to go. Most of us older ones can read print and write a little, but that is about all we can manage. We lives in a tolerable big frame house without no paint on it. It belongs to my father's brother that lives near by. My father dōde most of the building and his brother just lets him live there and make what he can on the place. He done quit raising tobacco a long time ago. Now he just raises wheat and corn and hay and things we can eat.

Aunt Barbara, that is my daddy's oldest sister, is mighty nigh eighty years old, but she is powerful peart, and can set around better'n some twist as young. She always comes around and tells him what to do, advising him like bout how to manage and raise the children. She's the one that told him to let me come up here and live with Miss Mary. Her cook had done got sick and she needed somebody bad to help her. Aunt Barbara had done been knowin<sup>g</sup> her folks a long time, and she lowed they was the right sort, and would be good to me, and he had plenty of children at home and I could be spared. I am right glad I come. I like to stay here. I can go to the pictures and sometimes I go to a dance, too. My folks aint never thought it was no harm to dance like some does. I takes the children to the movies on Saturdays when they has the Wild West shows, and sometimes we stays to see the pictures through twist. I couldn't go much before I come to town, on account of

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it bein' so far off. I don't go to church much. I has to get dinner on Sundays. and our folks never was much hands to go to preaching nohow. Aunt Barbara thinks we are going straight to the bad place on account of not goin'. She goes all the time, and is a powerful hand to shout.

When I first come to town I used to go right smart to a dance place on the end of town. but one night they had a cutting scrape out there, and the gentleman I works for told me I better not go no more as I might get mixed up in some of them scrapes. He is a fine lawyer, and I lowed I better take his word for it, and I aint been no more. I stays here in their house at night. I got a nice room and a place I can have company if I wants to. They got conveniences here, too. I done learned to cook on a lectric stove, and wash clothes with a lectic<sup>h</sup> washer, and iron with a lectric iron. It is handier than heating big heavy irons on the fire place like Aunt Barbara has to do. but with all that I aint never got clothes to look white and smooth like hers when she gets 'em ready to take home

Aunt Barbara, she is allers talking about her white folks. Seems like her pa was what she calls a body servant to his ole master, and went with him to the war, and brought him back home after he was killed, and they allers thought a lot of him and all his chillun. My pa was the youngest. The land his brother has was give to his pa by will of the fambly. Most of them folks has moved away and lives way out west somewhere, but they comes here sometimes in great big automobiles, and when they does they just is loads Aunt Barbara down with all kinds of things, and gives her money, too. She is sure proud when she hears they is coming.

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I gives my daddy most all I makes on account of not needing much here. I gets most of my clothes give to me, and I has all the good things I wants to eat, so there aint much left to spend for, and the money helps at home, caase there aint much cash laying around on a farm, no matter how much other things you got there.

I aint never had no occasion to read none 'till I come here, and now I has to read to the children most every day. They has lots of nice books, and I likes to sit down and read them what is in them, and look at the pictures , too.

I aint never thought about what I would like to do if I could do what I wanted to. If I could make clothes look like them Aunt Barbara washes, and could cook like that special cook we had when we had the house party here. an' fix things up pretty like she did may be I would be satisfied. Or even if I could manage like my ma . She is busy all the time, and yet she never looks like she was doing nothing, and work just naturally slips out from under her hands.

We aint never had no sickness to amount to nothing in our fambly. Course we had whooping cough and measles and things like that, but none of them awful diseases that you have to go to hospitals for. There aint never nothing exciting happened to none of us, and we are thankful, caase awful things can happen to folks, and has happened to plenty of them that we knows about, and some that we do not. "

SURVEY OF URBAN NEGRO YOUTH -- out of school -- 16-24 years of age  
made by the Virginia Writers' Project

Enumerator Essie W. Smith Schedule Number \_\_\_\_\_

Date Feb. 20, 1940 City Rocky Mt. Neighborhood \_\_\_\_\_

1. IDENTIFICATION:

a. Name Mary Jane Taylor b. Sex Female  
c. Address Taylor's Store, Va. d. Born: (1) Mo. Feb (2) Year 1918  
e. Place born: (1) County Franklin (2) State Virginia f. (1) Single   
(2) Mar. \_\_\_\_\_ (3) Sep. \_\_\_\_\_ (4) Div. \_\_\_\_\_ g. Age at marriage \_\_\_\_\_ h. No. of children \_\_\_\_\_  
i. Living with (1) Own family  (2) Parental family \_\_\_\_\_ (3) Other \_\_\_\_\_  
j. Size of household 13 k. Home: (1) Owned \_\_\_\_\_ (2) Rented   
l. No. years in present community 21 m. Name of place last lived in \_\_\_\_\_  
n. (1) Name of informant, if youth not interviewed \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) Address \_\_\_\_\_ (3) Relation to youth \_\_\_\_\_

2. PARENTAL FAMILY:

a. Father: a. Name James Taylor b. Living   
c. Present home address Taylor's Store, Va. d. Age 60  
e. Birthplace Franklin Co. Va. f. Education None  
g. Occupation Farmer h. If farmer, is he tenant or owner Tenant  
i. What are his interests: (1) Home \_\_\_\_\_ (2) Church \_\_\_\_\_ (3) Community \_\_\_\_\_  
b. Mother: a. Birthplace Franklin Co. b. Living  c. Age 49  
d. Living with husband  e. Remarried \_\_\_\_\_ f. Education None  
g. Occupation before marriage None  
h. Occupation since marriage, if any outside home housewife  
i. What are her interests: (1) Home \_\_\_\_\_ (2) Church \_\_\_\_\_ (3) Community \_\_\_\_\_  
C. Family: a. No. years in present community 40 b. No. moves in last five years 0  
c. No. children living, including self: (1) Male 6 (2) Female 5  
d. No. children (1) at home 7 (2) Under 16 5 e. Cash income group about \$500.00

3. EDUCATION:

a. Age (1) Started school 7 (2) Left school 10 b. Last grade completed 3d  
c. Grades (1) Repeated \_\_\_\_\_ (2) Skipped \_\_\_\_\_  
d. Reasons for leaving school:  
\_\_\_\_ graduated  Needed at home \_\_\_\_\_ Parental attitude \_\_\_\_\_ Got job \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Disliked teacher \_\_\_\_\_ Poor health \_\_\_\_\_ Disliked subject \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Failure in school \_\_\_\_\_ Got married \_\_\_\_\_ Lack of money \_\_\_\_\_  
e. Vocational training: Yrs. taken : Desired f. (1) Are you satisfied with your education no (2) Why or why not \_\_\_\_\_  
(1) Home economics \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) Commercial \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
(3) Agricultural \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
(4) Other \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
g. Subjects studied most \_\_\_\_\_  
h. Subjects liked most \_\_\_\_\_  
i. Activities or studies you would like to see developed in local school \_\_\_\_\_  
j. Plans for future (1) Educational None  
(2) Vocational \_\_\_\_\_

4. EMPLOYMENT:

a. Employed: (1) None \_\_\_\_\_ (2) Partly \_\_\_\_\_ (3) Fully   
b. No. weeks worked during past year (1) at home \_\_\_\_\_ (2) Away 1-2  
c. How did you get your present (or last) job Told by Aunt

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d. Cash income during past year:  
 Youth: Family  
 None \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$1-49 \_\_\_\_\_  
 50-99 \_\_\_\_\_  
 100-249 \_\_\_\_\_  
 250-499 \_\_\_\_\_  
 500-749 \_\_\_\_\_  
 750-999 \_\_\_\_\_  
 1000-1499 \_\_\_\_\_  
 1500-2499 \_\_\_\_\_  
 2500-over \_\_\_\_\_

e. How much did you save during last year:  
 (1)Cash \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (2)Property \$ \_\_\_\_\_

f. (1)If at home, are you needed there \_\_\_\_\_  
 (2)Why \_\_\_\_\_  
 (3)What arrangements for pay or spending money:  
 (a)None \_\_\_\_\_ (b)wages \_\_\_\_\_ (c)Partnership \_\_\_\_\_  
 (d)allowance \_\_\_\_\_ (e)Other \_\_\_\_\_

g. To what extent are you self-supporting:  
 (1)Completely \_\_\_\_\_ (2)Partially \_\_\_\_\_ (3)Not at all \_\_\_\_\_

h. (1)Are you satisfied with present situation \_\_\_\_\_  
 (2)Why or why not \_\_\_\_\_

i. Contribution to parental family \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (1)Hours of work \_\_\_\_\_ (2)To whom responsible \_\_\_\_\_

j. Occupational description: (3)Holidays \_\_\_\_\_ k. Have you any voice in arrangement of your work \_\_\_\_\_

l. How much training necessary for present job \_\_\_\_\_

m. (1)Did your school work prepare you for present job in any way \_\_\_\_\_  
 (2)How \_\_\_\_\_

n. What other previous experiences helped prepare you \_\_\_\_\_

o. Record:

Occupation	Weekly wages	Date begun	Date ended	Duration
1) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
4) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
6) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

p. Responsible for: Full : Part  
 Preparing meals \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Care of children \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Care of house \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Laundry \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_

q. Aid received by youth from: Now : Past  
 Home econ. teacher \_\_\_\_\_ N.Y.A. \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Public health dept. \_\_\_\_\_ C.C.C. \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Employment service \_\_\_\_\_ W.P.A. \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home agent \_\_\_\_\_ Relief \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Free hospital clinic \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_

5. DATA FROM MIGRANT YOUTH:

a. Reasons that influenced your coming to city: (1)Family living here \_\_\_\_\_  
 (2)Friends living here \_\_\_\_\_ (3)Letter from employer \_\_\_\_\_ (4)Advertisements \_\_\_\_\_  
 (5)Other reasons \_\_\_\_\_

b. Did you grow up in (1)City \_\_\_\_\_ (2)Town \_\_\_\_\_ (3)Village \_\_\_\_\_ (5)Size \_\_\_\_\_ pop.  
 (6)Name \_\_\_\_\_ (7)State \_\_\_\_\_ c. Did you grow up on (1)farm \_\_\_\_\_  
 (2)Open country non-farm \_\_\_\_\_ (3)Where \_\_\_\_\_

d. Length of time in city before getting first job \_\_\_\_\_

e. How often do you return home \_\_\_\_\_ f. Do you plan ever to go for good \_\_\_\_\_

g. (1)Do you ever send money home \_\_\_\_\_ (2)How often \_\_\_\_\_ (3)How much \_\_\_\_\_  
 h. Would you advise a friend to come to the city \_\_\_\_\_ i. Why \_\_\_\_\_

6. LIVING CONDITIONS:

a. Conveniences and facilities where youth lives:  
 Electric lights \_\_\_\_\_ Refrigerator \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ auto \_\_\_\_\_ Elec. cleaner \_\_\_\_\_  
 Electric iron \_\_\_\_\_ Running water \_\_\_\_\_ Screens \_\_\_\_\_ Radio \_\_\_\_\_ Elec. stove \_\_\_\_\_  
 Washing machine \_\_\_\_\_ House painted \_\_\_\_\_ Furnace \_\_\_\_\_ Bath \_\_\_\_\_ Gas stove \_\_\_\_\_  
 b. No. rooms in home \_\_\_\_\_ c. Socio-economic group \_\_\_\_\_ d. Family score \_\_\_\_\_  
 e. Weekly use of wages: (1)Room \_\_\_\_\_ (2)Food \_\_\_\_\_ (3)Clothes \_\_\_\_\_  
 (4)Savings \_\_\_\_\_ (5)Helping members of your family \_\_\_\_\_ (6)Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 f. When you are sick, what do you do \_\_\_\_\_

7 LEISURE TIME ACTIVITIES:

- a. Three or more activities, besides work, at which you spent most time during last year: (1) visiting (2) movies (3) dancing (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (6) \_\_\_\_\_
- b. How many times have you gone to the movies in last month 2 (2) Last year 12
- c. Do parents object to visits of friends of (1) Same sex no (2) Other sex no
- d. Do you have satisfactory place to (1) Entertain company in your home yes (2) Study \_\_\_\_\_
- e. How often do you have friends in home to visit quite often
- f. What do you do usually in the evening sit around
- g. How often do you go to (1) Parties \_\_\_\_\_ (2) Dances 1 a month
- h. (1) Do you enjoy managing other people \_\_\_\_\_ (2) How \_\_\_\_\_
- i. If 21 years of age or over, are you qualified to vote (1) Poll tax paid no (2) Registered \_\_\_\_\_
- j. Have you ever voted \_\_\_\_\_
- k. List of magazines and papers in home \_\_\_\_\_
- l. Number of books read during past year \_\_\_\_\_
- m. Names of a few a few children's books read to the children of the family -

8. ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Organization (name)	Member:	Times attended last year	Holds office (specify)	Held office (specify)
a. Church	:	:	:	:
b. Sunday School	:	:	:	:
c. Young Peoples Christian Society	:	:	:	:
d. Athletic club	:	:	:	:
e. Any Dem. group	:	:	:	:
f. Any Repub. group	:	:	:	:
g. Others	:	:	:	:
h.	:	:	:	:
i.	:	:	:	:

9. PLANS FOR FUTURE:

None

10. COMMENTS:

There are many large families like this in the surrounding county. But this family is above the average in morals and manners. They earn a fair living, have a decent home, and are raising a family of nice, industrious children, although not much attention is being given to their education.