



Smithsonian Institution

Smithsonian Institution Archives

West Indies Journal, Vol. I

Extracted on Apr-23-2024 06:55:54

The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website (transcription.si.edu), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Smithsonian Institution Archives as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Smithsonian Institution Archives website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Smithsonian Institution Archives or transcribe@si.edu

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Smithsonian Institution Archives. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

[[preprinted]] 20 [[/preprinted]]

trash which is left is burnt off, and the new cane comes up from the roots of the old. This burning and regrowth is done only two or three times as the quality of the cane diminishes about 50% after the burning. Each estate has its village and when cane field burning is taking place the whole village must turn out and help keep the fire under control. They are paid for this. The cane is cut back about 3 feet from the borders of the field, as the first precaution. Then all villagers are armed with sacks and other fire fighting apparatus, and it is their duty to put out any sparks which may fly out of bounds. The total fire fighting area is about 20 feet because there is usually a road running between ~~each~~ ^s and an irrigation ditch along each side of ~~that~~ ^{the} ~~road~~ ^{the}. The heat made by burning a cane field must be terrific - because in spite of precautions taken, many a coconut palm seems to have been scarred by flames. If one of those fires ever got out of control it could do unlimited damage to the surrounding fields.

After the burning, the field is allowed to remain as it is with a good soaking

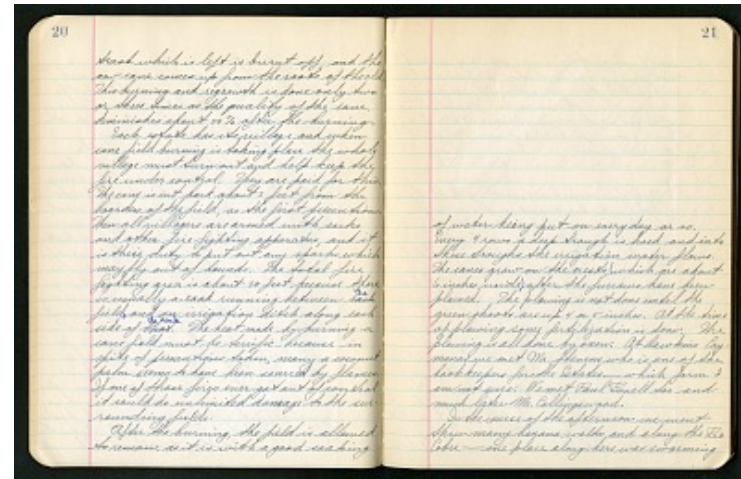
[[end page]]

[[start page]]

[[preprinted]] 21 [[/preprinted]]

[[top half of page blank]]

of water being put on every day or so. Every 4 rows a deep trough is hoed and into these troughs the irrigation water flows. The canes grow on the creeks, ⁽ ⁾ which are about 6 inches wide ⁾ after the furrows have been plowed. The plowing is not done until the green shoots are up 4 or 5 inches. At the time of plowing some fertilization is done. The plowing is all done by oxen. At Dawkins Caymanas we met Mr. Stevens who is one of the bookkeepers for the Estates - which farm I am not sure. We met Paul Bonell too and much later Mr. Collingswood. In the course of the afternoon we went thru many banana walks and along the Rio Cobre - one place along here was swarming



West Indies Journal, Vol. I
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers
Extracted Apr-23-2024 06:55:54



Smithsonian Institution

Smithsonian Institution Archives

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: www.si.edu

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)