

Randolph, James
Mattie

566
52

JIM & MATTIE RANDOLPH

NR 566

COPY TO	DATE
Mrs. Barber	2/4/36

DATE OF VISIT
1/18/36
Wilson

Before narrating the events that took place today, one should refer to the memorandum written by Mr. E. M. Kennedy, Jr., to Marshall Wilson on January 8, in which Mr. Kennedy tells of his conversation with Mrs. Randolph in which he explained to her the eviction process and left her with the definite understanding that since she did not choose to accept assistance offered in effecting her removal that inevitably the United States Marshal would have to dispossess her. Also Mr. Kennedy mentions the fact that Mr. Randolph had previously told him that the family "would have been better off if eviction had already occurred, and that he believed eviction should occur".

This morning the United States Marshal, Petree and Mr. Kyle Moore, reporter and photographer for the Knoxville Journal, came to this office about 9:00 o'clock. Arrangements were made by telephone with the Reservoir Clearance office at Coal Creek to have two men accompany us to the Randolph home to complete clearing the property after the family had removed, and arrangements were made with the Norris police to accompany us to the Randolph home. At about 10:30 the group, consisting of the following left for the Randolph home. Mr. Kenneth Rouse and a Mr. Tilson went by motor boat up the Powell River. Those going by car were Mr. Petree, D. R. Mulligan, Asst. Chief of Norris Police, A. B. Fulkerson, Norris Police, Wallace Fately and Kyle Taylor, Reservoir Clearance Division, and Marshall Wilson, Chief Case Worker of the Reservoir Family Removal Section.

On arriving at the end of the road near the Cedar Creek Bridge, about two miles from the Randolph home, we were met by Mr. Ford with a team of mules and wagon, and by Mr. R. L. Miller, a truck operator, who had been previously employed to haul the personal property to its new location. The group walked overland up the river to the Randolph home. The Tennessee Valley Authority motor boat was lying in the Powell River just opposite the house. The group walked in a body up to the Randolph porch and our approach was watched by Mrs. Randolph, her children, and a neighbor, Daniel Matilby. Mr. Mulligan went around to the rear of the house and into the back door. At the same time Mr. Petree removed the chicken wire across the front porch and walked to within two or three feet of Mattie Randolph as she stood holding her baby in her arms. Mr. Petree thereupon read to her the order of the Federal Court authorizing him to deliver this property free of all encumbrances to the Tennessee Valley Authority. As Mr. Petree finished reading the article the only sign of emotion shown by Mrs. Randolph was tears rolling down her cheeks. The children did not seem to be frightened at all and neither did the neighbor. The Chief Case Worker of Norris then explained to Mrs. Randolph that the legal requirements in this procedure only went so far as to require that she be set off of Government property, but that as she had been previously told, we were interested in her welfare and that we were present in order to make the removal as orderly and with as little inconvenience to her as possible, and that we were interested in making her comfortable. She was asked if she had any choice of a place to which we could take her, but she replied she did not have. She was asked if she would go to her mother's home, but she replied that there was

not enough room for the family that is already there. We did not at this time tell Mrs. Randolph where we would take her, hoping that eventually she would suggest some place.

Mr. Jim Randolph was not at home, and we were told that he had gone to look for a farm with someone, and Mrs. Randolph thought the person with whom he went was from Mr. Pat Kerr's office. Since we did not wish to take the family and its property away without the knowledge of Mr. Randolph, the Chief Case Worker went by motor boat to the Cedar Creek Bridge, borrowed a light truck from workers who were taking the bridge out, drove to LaFollette and inquired concerning Mr. Randolph. The office of the Relocation Service (Mr. Pat Kerr) agreed to make a search to locate Mr. Randolph, notifying him of what was taking place. Thereupon the Case Worker returned to the home.

Two trips were made by the wagon hauling household equipment, a large hog, crate of chickens, and the tent which had previously been erected for the family's safety in event of high water. This was hauled two and a half miles overland through fields and woods to the highway, where it was loaded on trucks. All the remaining property and the family were transferred by boat, making three trips. During the three to four hours required for packing the household equipment and catching the livestock, Mrs. Randolph was occupied almost entirely with her baby. She answered all questions in monosyllables, and volunteered no information whatever. However, she did not threaten or complain. The children and the neighbor, Mr. Matilby, assisted somewhat in packing and in gathering potatoes from the storage cellar a hundred yards above the house on the hillside.

As Mrs. Randolph left the house by boat, she did not look back and she was not crying, as might be expected. On reaching the Cedar Creek Bridge, those on the boat returned to the house and set fire to it to complete the reservoir clearance in that vicinity, and to prevent anyone's moving into the house. The family and Mr. Petree entered the car of the Chief Case Worker and were driven to the Campbell County Poor Farm. The tent which had been previously erected for demonstration purposes, had fallen down, but was re-erected and braces added by the Case Worker and Mr. Petree. Some assistance was also offered by the Superintendent of the Poor Farm.

The first truck load of furniture was long delayed, since all the furniture had not been loaded, and it was a haul of about seventy-five miles, to be made over very bad roads. In the first load there was no stove or bedding, and since it was rather cold, the family remained in the Tennessee Valley Authority car awaiting the second load of furniture. However, this was still longer delayed, due to mechanical trouble with the truck. The battery on the second truck was dead, and the driver had to go to LaFollette and get a new battery before he could begin his trip. It was nearly midnight when the truck bearing bedding and stove arrived, and the family moved from the automobile to the tent.

Mr. Jim Randolph was located and met the second truck at the Cedar Creek Bridge. He remained with the truck while the driver went to LaFollette and came to the Campbell County Farm with the last load. Mr. Randolph

* TVA Police

on his arrival immediately set about to fix beds and build a fire for the family, whereupon the Marshal and the Chief Case Worker and others who were helping left them.

Mr. Pat Kerr reports that when he informed Mr. Randolph that his family was being dispossessed and taken to the Campbell County Poor Farm, that he was not greatly disturbed, and made the statement that this procedure should have been undertaken long ago.

The day following the removal, which was Saturday, it was raining. Mr. E. M. Kennedy, Jr., Case Worker, and the Chief Case Worker, went to the Campbell County Farm and erected an additional tent for the Randolph family, and transferred to it some of the furniture and other equipment that was not in immediate use. The family pig had been put in a pen furnished by the Superintendent of the Farm. The cows were grazing near the tent. The chickens remained in their coop, but the following day were turned loose under the tent floor with strips around the foundations to keep them in. The family reported that they were as comfortable as could be expected, and guessed they would be all right.

Since the Randolph family was moved to the Poor Farm, the University of Tennessee Extension Service has continued their efforts to find a farm suitable to the family that might be purchased with the money they can receive for their former land. Several tracts which seemed to the Extension Service as quite favorable, have been offered, but Mrs. Randolph reports that she is not satisfied with any of them. Mr. Randolph is well pleased with one tract in Morgan County, and indicated that he would purchase it if he could persuade Mrs. Randolph to agree.

The Randolphs have enough canned food and chickens, two cows now giving milk, and one hog, which will furnish food for a few more months, but they will need to relocate and prepare for another crop very soon if they are to supply their own food necessities.

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. Alvin Zeigler, Legal Division, Tennessee Valley Authority, Knoxville
From: Greta Biddle, Family Removal Section, Norris
Date: January 9, 1936
Subject: TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY CONTACTS WITH MATTIE AND JIM RANDOLPH
TRACT NO. 566

- (1) Attitude antagonistic from beginning.
- (2) Tennessee Valley Authority offered to buy fourteen acres for \$530. *July 1934*
- (3) Randolphs refused to sell or consider selling.
- (4) Condemnation suit *filed 1/9/35*
- (5) Order of Possession granted Tennessee Valley Authority *1/11/35 or 8/10/35*
- (6) Refuse to allow Reservoir Clearance men to come on property.
- (7) Threatened man with shot guns.
- (8) University Relocation Division offered service in selecting new location. Randolphs refused to go look at another place or consider buying.
- (9) Family Removal Section of Tennessee Valley Authority offered to help in many ways. Randolphs flatly refused any assistance or to take seriously the threatening menace and danger of rapidly rising water.
- (10) Reluctantly submitted to the erection of a tent in case of flood but would not accept responsibility for it. *Nov. 20th 1935*
- (11) The Legal Section of Tennessee Valley Authority prepared papers for Mrs. Randolph. One document was the Randolph answer prepared for her in the condemnation suit against Tennessee Valley Authority leaving a blank for her claim and a place for her witnesses. She refused to accept it. They also offered her an order to approve the withdrawal of \$475.00 leaving the rest in bank, allowing her freedom to come into court and to show the added value of her land. This was refused, answering to the effect "they had beaten her out and they might as well take it all." *Dec. 12 1935*
- (12) Unreasonable attitude demonstrated by Mrs. Randolph's proposal to remain permanently in home even after covered with water.

S.B.

RANDOLPH, MATTIE & JIM

1- 4-36
(Biddle)
REASON FOR VISIT

Due to illness, worker was unable to return before this date. Visit was entirely necessary at this time, since the water of the Powell River was rapidly rising due to the melting of the snow and the still falling rain. Engineers had estimated that the water would reach 890' by Sunday night, January 5 and thus cover the Randolph spring and greatly endanger the house.

FLOODED ROADS

The rising water had inundated the road leading to the Randolph's. Consequently, worker had to reach the home by taking road up to the top of the hill that rises behind the Randolph's -- leave car and walk down about a mile or so through the woods and over a cliff.

SPRING NOT COVERED

On reaching home, it was discovered that the water had risen possibly ten feet above normal level but still lacked perhaps eight feet of covering the spring.

FAMILY PLANS

Family was not expecting worker; consequently, Mrs. Randolph and children were quite dirty and partly dressed (Mrs. Randolph had on a pair of breeches that were too tight to button). After worker was seated around the fire trying to dry out, Mrs. Randolph started calling the children to the bed in the back corner of the room and, one by one, washed, rather ran a wet rag over, their face and hands, and put clean clothes on each.

DISCUSSION OF RIVER
RISING

During this ceremony, worker discussed the rising of the river, mostly with Mr. Randolph. He seemed quite unperturbed, but showed visitor that he was keeping tab on just how high it was, since he pointed out a group of willows that had been covered by the high waters before, but were still showing above the present level. Worker impressed upon family the fact that the water could, and possibly would, rise very rapidly -- that snows and a flood in Virginia would soon affect this section of the Powell and that the spring would, no doubt, be covered by the next evening. Mr. Randolph paid close attention to these statements, but Mrs. Randolph showed little concern or interest.

QUEER VISITOR

A queer old man, possibly 70 years of age, was at the Randolph home during this visit. The physical appearance of the man was most unusual. He had a long dark beard, very dark complexion -- might be either part Indian or negro, or might have failed to wash many times for a year or so. On his fingers were many rings. His voice was high pitched; he walked quite daintily, and stated, "I only do ladies' work, washing, ironing, and things like that." He, evidently, is an invert, having the physical appearance of a man, but personal characteristics of a woman. His name was difficult to catch. However, worker ascertained that he lived up over the hill in a small house -- alone. He told visitor that he never stayed at anyone's home except Mrs. Randolph and her mother, Nan

Jim Mallaby

RANDOLPH, MATTIE & JIM - Jan. 4 visit cont'd.

Wallace. It seemed that on Friday he had come over to see the Randolphs and the rain had caught him. The bad weather had compelled him to spend the night -- three adults and six children in three beds, in one room. Worker has feeling that, perhaps, this man may be in some way related to Mrs. Randolph.

DISCUSSION OF LOOK-
ING FOR A PLACE

Worker asked if Mrs. Randolph had been to see a place since visitor's last trip. Mrs. Randolph said no, that she had about decided to just stay there and let them do what they wanted to with her. She said she could not get out without taking her nursing baby and the weather was too bad; that since the water had flooded the roads, it was too much trouble to get out.

PATH LEAST RESIST-
ANCE

It was evident that Mrs. Randolph was resolved to follow the path of least resistance - that it was too much trouble to get out herself; that she wasn't going to worry, but just let the TVA worry about her.

MRS. RANDOLPH SUG-
GESTED MR. RANDOLPH
LOOK FOR A PLACE

When worker sensed this attitude, she started to leave, intimating that she had offered to help in any way possible; that if Mr. & Mrs. Randolph didn't really want assistance, the worker wouldn't return. Mrs. Randolph then said, "Well, I wouldn't be interested in going looking for a place, but maybe Jim might want'a go." Worker then suggested that Mr. Kennedy, Case Worker who accompanied visitor on trip, meet Mr. Randolph on Monday, January 6, at 10:00 at the bridge, and that they could go to look at some farms. Mr. Randolph assented to the idea.

FUTURE PLANS

Worker feels that this trip with Mr. Randolph may be of no value, since he has very little to say about the decisions of the family. It seems now, that there is a great possibility that Mrs. Randolph will have to be evicted. The bad weather and high waters have made it so that she won't even consider going to look for a place. She is also quite illogical in some of her arguments and was more rabid during worker's last visit than at any other time. In case of eviction, worker feels that Mrs. Randolph's mother, Nan Wallace, should be contacted, since it is possible that the Randolph family would go there. Mrs. Wallace's home is only about a mile away.

RANDOLPH, MATTIE & JIM -- TRACT #NR 566

REASON FOR VISIT
(Biddle)

On December 10 Mr. Ziegler of the Legal Division stated that he had been requested to resort to legal methods, eviction, if necessary, in order to get "Mattie Randolph out." Mrs. Barber and Mr. Wilson requested that I go to see Mrs. Randolph before legal action was taken.

12/11/35
HOME

This family live in a two-room shack, one room serving as a living and bedroom, et al, which is of logs. A lean-to kitchen put together with planks has evidently been added on. The house is located in a narrow ravine, or hollow, on a steep bank of the Powell River. There are no windows in the dwelling, but a plank placed over a large space between the logs serves the purpose. A stove and three double beds, about four chairs, and a small table are in the one room; a stove and two tables in the kitchen. The house is in very bad condition, cold air coming through large cracks in the walls and holes in the floors. There are many spaces in the roof where the sky can be seen. The cowshed is under the house. There are no toilet facilities, and during the worker's visit, Wanda, the four-year-old, proceeded to use the front porch for this purpose.

FAMILY

Mattie, Jim, and six of their seven children live in this two-room house. Mrs. Randolph, a rather small, stocky, fiery, brown-eyed woman, is very evidently the dominating member of the family. Jim, her husband, is a quiet, easy-going fellow, having little to say on any family problem, even when asked "What do you think?" by his wife. The six children seemed happy, but why or how is the question. They were dirty, needed more warm clothes, they had no play things at all. Wanda, the four-year-old, was quite excited when the worker showed her that chips of kindling could be used for blocks and houses and bridges can be built with them.

This family was accepted on relief April, 1934 and received aid until Mr. Randolph was transferred to ~~the~~ ^{WORK RELIEF CENTER} September, 1934. At this time he presented a doctor's certificate showing he had diabetes and heart trouble, so Mrs. Randolph, though pregnant, started working October, 1934, and did sewing on a sewing project through April, 1935. Her baby was born in June, 1935. TERA records give this family a bad recommendation for cooperation, industry, or resourcefulness. They state Mrs. Randolph has always been a bad housekeeper. However, the case worker, in her most recent entry, said that the Randolph home was the cleanest on her last visit that she had ever seen it. It would seem to the worker that Mrs. Randolph has really been "cleaning up" for her visits from the TVA officials and has been enjoying somewhat the notoriety she has gained and the trouble she has caused. Mrs. Randolph has rheumatism and is really not strong, owing to the birth of

FAMILY
(Continued)

seven children during the past fifteen years. The girl seven is crosseyed and has a skin trouble over her body. The children have gone to school very little and the family belongs to no church. The mother uses snuff or tobacco, as does the thirteen-year-old daughter. The latter is an expert spitter. It is evident that this family has a very low standard of living.

HISTORY

This family, or rather "Mattie, herself", has been called the A-1 bluffer and problem case for the TVA. The family's attitude has, from the beginning of TVA, been one of antagonism. They have never shown any willingness to cooperate with any person connected with TVA. Mrs. Randolph told worker on first visit, "I'll stay here until the water comes up and float down with it when it does." The crux of the problem is the fact that Mattie, who really owns the land, feels the TVA should pay her more than \$530 for her fourteen acres of land. She also felt the appraisers "had taken advantage of her and jim." According to the story she told, the other people around her had bought off the appraisers, but she and Jim didn't say a word to them when they came by their place. The visitor then said, "Well, you really don't feel you were so underpaid for your own land, but that you didn't get what you thought you should in comparison with what other folks got." She answered, "That's it."

RELATIVES

Mrs. Randolph's mother, Nan Wallace, her stepbrother, Clarence Wallace, and her own fifteen-year-old boy, live about two miles from the Randolph home, address Route 3, LaFollette. Another brother, Roscoe, lives in Indiana. Her father, _____ Heatherly, is a former reservoir family and moved to Blount County. It is doubtful if any help could be given by these relatives, but they should be contacted. Mr. Randolph has no kinfolk that could aid.

EMPLOYMENT

This family formerly lived at Westbourne and Caryville, both coal mining camps. Mr. Randolph worked at the coal companies in both places. In 1926 they worked on the farm of H. C. Irwin. Here they sharecropped, and according to Mrs. Randolph, she was able to buy "25 to 30 acres" from Mr. Irwin. (Mrs. Randolph still claims Mr. Irwin gave her this amount and that the TVA is paying for only 14 acres). The Randolphs moved to their river front shack in 1930, and evidently from 1930 to 1933 they got along quite well, cultivating about three acres in corn, beans, and potatoes, putting out a few fruit trees, building a fence or two. In 1933 or 1934 Mr. Randolph evidently lost all spirit to work, the domination in his home becoming irritating. He then asked for relief and family has gotten bi-monthly grocery orders until last summer, when unemployables were cut off (Mrs. Randolph having a new-born babe, Mr. Randolph claiming he was too sick to work).

PROBLEM

The big problem in this family is a psychological one. Mrs. Randolph, as said before, is a very domineering, tyrannous, blustering soul. She has been accused of threatening several TVA men with a shotgun. Her stubborn, obstinate manner has possibly put up a strong wall to any possible successful contacts. Another problem is the fact that neither she nor any of her family have any idea as to the meaning of the TVA, why it came in and broke up her community, why they moved her neighbors away, why they closed the gates of the "darn dam" and backed up the water over her garden just at the time she wanted to pick her beans, but they didn't fool her, as she said with her hands on her hips, for she just took her shoes off, waded down in the water, and picked the beans anyway. In her mind, the TVA had ruined a good farming country, coming in there and upsetting everything. She furthermore stated that the water wouldn't be up for two or three years and she saw no reason for moving now. These facts and beliefs have, to some extent, been mishandled by some folk, for when a positive creature goes in and tells Mrs. Randolph, "You bluffed everybody in the TVA, but you're not going to bluff me," this only increases the antagonism and belligerent attitude. She furthermore claims to have been told that "she was going to be kicked off over two years ago" and then she retorts, with chin in air, "I'm still here." Mrs. Randolph has been "egged on" by some neighbors and others to believe she can get more money from the TVA and she is doing her darndest to get more, but no one has explained to her that she is going about it in the wrong way.

RESOURCES

This family could draw out \$530 from the bank for their land, but Mrs. Randolph says "If they want to beat me out of it, they might as well take it all. I ain't going to take a cent of it." They have about 25 chickens, two pigs, two cows, one bull, and one calf. Other than material resources, there is a real lack of family capabilities to achieve any progress. They have had very limited experiences, do not want a better place to live, or electric lights, or a bath room, or any other high-falutin thing. Their real needs are great, but their desires have been thwarted.

PLANS FOR MOVING

This family absolutely refuses to even talk of moving. However, the worker made a friendly, informal contact on first visit and asked Mrs. Randolph to be thinking of any way visitor could be of help in working out her problems, which visitor believed Mrs. Randolph felt keenly. Worker left family, promising to return the next week and help them in any way they might suggest.

TVA 972
Tennessee Valley Authority

County _____
Civil District _____
Road _____

SUMMARY SCHEDULE
DEPENDENT FLOWAGE FAMILIES

Date 7/18-35
TVA Schedule No. 139
TERA Case No. 1323

- Name Wattie Randolph
- P.O. address after relocation _____ Date moved _____
- P.O. address before relocation La Follette # 3 County Campbell
- Years lived at old residence 4 In old community 11
- Information concerning houses lived in before and after relocation:

Period Occupied	No. of Rooms	Age of House	Condition of Repair	Lighting Facilities	Fuel Used	Bath Facilities	Water Supply	Toilet Facilities
Before	<u>2</u>	<u>4 yrs</u>	<u>bad</u>	<u>lamp</u>	<u>wood</u>	<u>wash tub</u>	<u>spring</u>	<u>outside</u>
After								

6. Marital status: M S D Sep W

7. Information concerning husband and wife:

	Age Now	Date of Marriage	No. Times Married	Birthplace		Highest School Grade Completed	Condition of Health or Physical Defects
				County	State		
<u>James Husband</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>1920</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Tenn</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>Diabetes</u> <u>endo. conditio.</u>
<u>Wife</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>1920</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Campbell</u>	<u>Tenn</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Pregnant</u>

8. Denomination preference: Husband Baptist Wife Baptist

9. School attended at new location _____ How far distant _____

10. No. of household in relief group: Adults 3 Children 6 Total 9

11. Information concerning members of household:

Name	Relationship	Age	Highest School Grade Completed	Grade Enrolled 1934-35	Condition of Health or Physical Defects	Dependency
<u>Children</u>						
<u>Edgar</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>fair</u>	<u>yes</u>
<u>Edith</u>	<u>d</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>undernourished</u>	<u>yes</u>
<u>Charley</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>undernourished</u>	<u>yes</u>
<u>Pearl</u>	<u>d</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>undernourished</u>	<u>yes</u>
<u>Roscoe</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>undernourished</u>	<u>yes</u>
<u>Juanita</u>	<u>d</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>undernourished</u>	<u>yes</u>
<u>Others</u>						
<u>None</u>						

12. Employment record of family during past 10 years:

Name	Employer	Address	Dates	Type of work	Monthly Wage
Mr. R	Westbourne Coal	Westbourne, T.	25-26		\$65
Mr. R	Careyville Coal	Careyville	26-27		\$50
Farming since			1927		

13. Other possible occupations for family:

Forestry _____ Quilting *Mrs. R*
 Woodworking _____ Rug weaving _____
 Basketmaking _____ Hooking rugs _____
 Chair caning _____ Candle-wick bedspreads _____
 Broom-making _____ Knitting *Mrs. R*
 Other _____

14. Tenure before relocation: Owner Renter _____ Sharecropper _____
 Hired labor _____ Squatter _____

15. Tenure after relocation: Owner _____ Renter _____ Sharecropper _____
 Hired labor _____ Squatter _____

16. If tenant, name of landlord _____
 If related, give relationship _____ Is he on relief? _____

17. If landlord, name of tenant *None*
 If related, give relationship _____ Is he on relief? _____

18. Acres before relocation: Crops *5* Pasture *None* Other *9* Total *14*

19. Acres after relocation: Crops _____ Pasture _____ Other _____ Total _____

20. Assets:

Livestock (no.): Mules *None* Horses *None* Hogs *2* Cows *3* Poultry *40*

Feed (quantity): Wheat *None* Corn *None* Oats *None* Forage *None*

Seed (itemize): *None*

Total value of livestock \$ *90.00* Total value of machinery \$ *3.00*

Approximate value of furniture \$ *25.00* Cash on hand \$ *None*

If owner, amount received from TVA \$ *530.00* Date closed *not closed*

21. Liabilities:

Mortgages on real estate \$ *None* Other mortgages \$ *None* Taxes \$ *None*

Other debts \$ *None* Total liabilities \$ *None*

22. Income (for 12 months preceding June 1, 1935):

Farm receipts \$ *00* Wages \$ *00* Relief \$ *217.56* Other sources \$ *00* Total *217.56*

23. Total annual budget (for 12 months preceding June 1, 1935)

24. Current monthly budget \$30.50 Resources \$ 1.90 Budgetary deficiency \$28.10

25. Amount of relief for current month: Work relief \$None Direct relief \$ 21.00

Total \$ 21.00

26. Name of agency extending relief TERA

27. Date of first relief application April 1934

28. Date of last relief application continuous

29. Reasons for dependency Mr. R. claims unemployment.

It is to be reexamined by doctor.

30. Plans for relocation Mrs. R. refuses to move because

she is not satisfied with appraisal value of land. No plans.

31. Possibility of self-support This is a difficult family -

Mrs. R. is very dominant but is not a good manager. Mr. R. although a young man is not according to doctor able to work. Mrs. R. unable to work because of several small stitches.

32. If case is closed for relief, give date of closing

Reason:

33. Visitor's remarks Mrs. R. is not a good house-keeper,

furnishings of home very inadequate.

DUPLICATE

TVA 970B
Tennessee Valley Authority

FAMILY CASE RECORD
Summary Sheet

940

R

(OWNER)

Date Aug. 30, 1934
County Campbell

Schedule of Research Section
Social & Economic Division

Map 05-84-00-36-19
Tract No. 566
Schedule No. 139

- Name Randolph First Name Mrs Mattie
- P.O. address La Fayette No. in family 8 Others none Total 8
- Marital status: M S D Sep. W Birthplace: father date 1878
mother date 1903 Years lived in community on this farm
Ages of children at home: Boys 13 8 3 Girls 10 6 1 1/2
- Grades in school of Boys 2 1 0 Girls 1 1 0
Grades in school completed by father mother 2 Newspapers or magazines read none
- Illness or physical defect of any member of the family Small boy has Crooked leg. Girl has one eye out.
- Home: No. rooms 2 fuel used wood water supply spring
bath facilities wash tub toilet facilities outside
- Farm: Owned 13 rented 0 total acreage 13 in crops 3
appraisal value 530.00 date closed
- If tenant, name and address of last three landlords:

- Chief trade center La Fayette Frequency of trips weekly
- Livestock: horses mules cattle 3 hogs 1 chickens 25 bees other Value \$ 60.00
- List machinery none Value \$
- Furniture, value \$ 17.00 Other personal property, value \$ Total value \$ 78.00
- Total farm expenditures-1933 \$ 7.65 Farm cash receipts-1933 \$ 3.00
Value farm products used by family \$ 148.75 Wages \$
Federal or state relief \$ 25.00 Other sources \$ 2.00 Total cash income \$ 27.00

14. Employment of children and others in household away from farm: Steady or part-time

Name	Age	Type of work	Where	Annual income	Steady or part-time
		<u>none</u>			

15. Employment of children not living at home: Steady or part-time

Name	Age	Type of work	Where	Annual income	Steady or part-time
		<u>none</u>			

- Location desired:
New location selected: Co. Community Assisted by a real estate agency? By some other organization Do you wish to own or rent own Approximate amount you will invest \$ 500.00 Size of house desired 3 or 4 rooms
Acres wanted: Crop land 25 Pasture Woodland Want electricity 120
Type of employment desired: Farm Industry Farm and industry Other
List knowledge of special trades: none
Do you expect to sell your: Household goods move Farm equipment Livestock move
- Interview response: Antag. Suspicious Indiff. Interested Gladly coop.
Attitude toward TVA: Antagonistic Critical Neutral Interested Ac. Booster

(over)

TY 978

A-2

Tennessee Valley Authority

FAMILY CASE RECORD
FACE SHEET

Map 84° 0' 15" - 36° 19' 15"
Tract No. 566
Schedule No. Buttram

Date 10-2-35
County Campbell

DUPLICATE

Last Name RANDOLPH No. in Household 8 Adults 2 Children 6

Present Address	Rooms	Tenure	Name and Address of Last Landlord
La Follette, Rte. 2	2	Owner	H. C. Irwin

Marital Status: M X S D Sep W Date of Marriage 1920 Place La Follette
School Church None Military Service Union

Information concerning Family: Race White

First Name	Relation	Date of Birth	Highest School Grade Completed	Number Times Married	Condition of Health or Physical Defects
Father & Mother					
James		1896	?		Hear trouble and possible diabetes
Mattie		1901	3		Fair
Children					
				Grade 34-35	
Edgar		1920	(lives with his grandmother Wallace)		
Edith		1922	2	didn't attend	Good
Charlie		1924	primer	"	"
Pearl		1928	-	-	Poor - undernourished-cross eyed
Roscoe		1930	-	-	fair
Wanda		1931	-	-	"
Elbert		1935	-	-	"

Others in Household	Occupation	Dependency

Relatives--Including Children away from Home:

Name	Address	Relationship to	No. of Dependents	Employment
Edgar (given above)	% Mrs. Nan Wallace	Son		helps with crops
Mrs. Nan Wallace	Walnut Grove, Loyston -2	Moth to W	2	Home
Suttles Randolph	Coke Oven Hill, LaFollete	Fath. to M	3	None
Clarence & Roscoe Wallace	Loyston, Route #2	Half brother to W		
Mattie Randolph	Coke Oven Hill, LaFollette	Moth to M.		Home

Employment Record of Family: (Exclude Farming)

Name	Employer	Address	Dates	Type of Work	Monthly Wage
James Randolph	Westbourne Coal Co.	Westbourne	12-30-25		
"	Careyville "	Careyville, T.	1-30-26	Coal mining	forgotten
"	"	"	Jan. '26	" "	"
"	"	"	March '26	" "	"

MATTIE AND JIM RANDOLPH

LATER

Between October and December Mr. Buttram reported that he made from ten to twelve visits to the Randolph home, endeavoring to make a friendly relationship and contact which might lead to cooperation from the family and eventual successful removal and relocation. However, there was no change in family's attitude or willingness to cooperate.

RANDORPH, JAMES & MATTIE

NR 366

DATE OF VISIT LaFollette, R 2.

10/2/35

Buttram *lines*

HOME

This is a small two room log building. It sits up above the river some 25 feet, and is anything but desirable. While no doubt the wife does the best she can, still she has seven children, the oldest being fifteen and on down to six months. Their home is situated in such a place that nothing under several thousand dollars could make it a home.

SUMMARY

They are both very unreasonable and bitter against the TVA, and refuse to sell or move.

They no doubt need help, and ^{we are} (the writer is giving this case special attention, (and will complete a new report on them.)

LATER

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940

James Randolph + *Mattie* (7)

Owner

Lafollette, Route 2

84°0'15" 36°19'15"

Tract No. 336

(On relief) Yes

Normal directions for reaching house:

Cross Powell river from Cedar Creek road at Erwin bridge,
follow road a few hundred yards and walk over the hill
towards Powell river.

Directions for reaching house in emergency:

Come in over the same road towards the same bridge from the
direction of Loyston. When near the bridge park and walk
over the hill towards Powell river.

Plans for moving:

No plans.

Buttram

Delivered letter to Mr + Mrs. Randolph 140 PM - Oct. 11 35

LEGAL ASSISTANCE
12/12/35

On December 12 Mr. Ziegler, of the Legal Division, and Mr. Foley, of the Land Acquisition, went to see the Randolphs. They had drawn up two documents, hoping to be able to get Mrs. Randolph to sign one of them. The first was an answer prepared for her in her condemnation suit against TVA, leaving the amount blank for her claim and a place for her witnesses. She refused to sign this pointblank, saying she didn't want to sign anything and wouldn't hire a lawyer-- that they had already beaten her and that in court they would be bound to beat her because they would buy off the court and her lawyers too if she hired one. They also had an order for her to approve withdrawing around \$475, leaving the rest in the bank, allowing her freedom to come into court and show additional value of her land. Her answer here was to the effect that they had beaten her out and she wasn't going to take any money. Besides, she had a logical point, that if she got out herself now, she wouldn't be any better off than if they put her out.

12/17/35

Riddle

Returned to see the Randolphs as worker promised on December 11. Boat which visitor had used to cross river on previous visit had been inundated by recent rains and a snow, so worker left car at bridge and walked up to the home, a mile or a little more. The family was expecting visitor, as a contact had been made by calling from the opposite bank of river asking if they had another boat. At this time it looked as though Mr. Randolph and the eleven-year-old boy were cutting on one of the trees the reservoir clearance men had chained down.

On reaching the home after the walk, the family were all washed, clean dresses on the children, and all gathered around the stove in happy fashion, awaiting the arrival of the visitor. The fact that the river had come up some was discussed, also the fact that the spring would be soon covered and the problem of drinking water then. Worker stated she wouldn't enjoy drinking that river water, even if it was boiled fifteen minutes. Mrs. Randolph looked slightly worried and said she didn't believe she would either and talked at length on all the debris and dead things that floated down the river. A two-hour visit ensued, during which visitor nursed the baby for a time, played with Wanda, the four-year-old, talked with Mrs. Randolph about her inadequate lean-to kitchen, and all the time took advantage of every opportunity to throw in suggestions on the Randolph problems. The discussion finally led into the question as to just what was the federal court (the body which now decides whether she gets more money.). It was explained that neither she nor the TVA had anything to do about it now. This seemed as a new thought to Mrs. Randolph. She began to question worker and wanted to know just how this court did act and what it would do. This gave visitor an entry for real progress, in that Mrs. Randolph herself had asked the favor and information, so worker left, with Mrs. Randolph's request that she return two days later. Mrs. Randolph said she would meet worker on that day about two hours after sun up (they had no clock). In the meantime visitor was to find out as much about Mrs. Randolph's case in court as possible. As a last minute thought, visitor asked if it might be all right to be on the look out for a place or suitable farm for the Randolph family. Mrs. Randolph said "Well, I don't guess it would hurt anything."

12/19/35
WAITING FOR MRS.
RANDOLPH

Probably three or four hours after sun up, worker arrived at the bridge, but Mrs. Randolph was nowhere to be seen. Worker wondered if in the interim she had not decided that to condescend to walk over a mile to meet a "TVA person" and perhaps to go look for a farm in a TVA car was too much and an evidence that she was weakening. After waiting probably fifteen minutes, worker decided to get out and start walking up to the Randolph home. Not more than 1/4 of a mile Mrs. Randolph was spotted, almost in a running walk, with her seven-year-old daughter tagging behind. As soon as she saw the visitor, she called in friendly voice, apologizing for being late, explaining she had to nurse the baby and do other things before getting off.

DISCUSSION OF MRS.
RANDOLPH'S CASE IN
FEDERAL COURT

On arriving at the car, Mrs. Randolph's first statement was, "Well, what did you find out". Hereupon started an hour's friendly discussion and conversation with Mrs. Randolph on (1) the federal court, what it was, how a jury of view was appointed, what they did, how they reappraised her land, and (2) the TVA, just what the dam was for, why they should come in and break up her community and move her neighbors away, flood their good farm land. Two pamphlets were taken along and pictures of Wilson and Norris Dams, as well as pictures of a Norris home were shown to Mrs. Randolph. In an elemental way the program of the TVA was explained to her and how she and her family would eventually profit by the whole thing. Mrs. Randolph marveled at the pictures. It was evident she had never even imagined what the dam looked like or its size. When told it would be 253 feet high and 1800 feet long, and that the lake would have a shore line of more than 800 miles, she couldn't believe it. Worker then asked if she would like to see the dam. "Yes" was the immediate answer.

TRIP TO DAM

On the way over to the dam Mrs. Randolph opened up her heart and soul and told many things which had bearing on her present characteristics and life. She stated that her father and mother weren't married. That she had wanted to take her father's name but had had to take her mother's. Furthermore, she had never had friends, she had been snubbed by other children. She had had to practically fight her way through life. She had to leave school before the third grade. All this can be attributed as causal factors in Mrs. Randolph's present domineering, overbearing personality. Whereas in the past she had been kicked around as others saw fit, now she had her own little king and kingdom, over which she ruled as queen and master. They had few neighbors to fuss or bother about her children. They really enjoyed their isolation. Another interpretation of these facts on the present situation arose in the worker's mind. Whereas none of the men had seemingly been able to make any real progress or gain

TRIP TO DAM
(Continued)

cooperation from Mrs. Randolph, this might go back to the fact that a man had originally been the cause of her trouble. She had wanted her father's name but had had to take her mother's. Psychologically, this would mean that a woman could work better with her than a man.

STOPPED TO SEE
FARM

An informal discussion of what kind of a farm she wanted to move to subsequently led to talking of two close farms that she had been interested in. On stopping at these places, it was found that both had been sold. Worker discussed the fact that the longer she waited, the more farms would be sold and it would be more difficult to get what she wanted.

VISIT AT DAM

On approaching the west abutment of the dam, Mrs. Randolph and her daughter were almost speechless. They said little at first, but finally spoke in words which showed they didn't imagine what the dam was like nor how large it was. They spoke of the workers on the dam as looking like little dogs that crawled around. Mrs. Randolph then made a pertinent remark. After looking down on the swirl of water at the back of the dam and the debris backed up against it, she said "Say, I would hate to be down there, wouldn't you?" At least an hour was spent here and every remark of Mrs. Randolph was evidence of the revelation going on within her. On driving down in front of the dam and seeing the water pour out of the spillways and the beautiful spray emerging, Mrs. Randolph asked where it was coming from. Worker then explained that all gates were open, that the TVA was letting all the water through that they possibly could, that they hadn't closed any gates to back up water over her beans, but instead were giving her and others as long as possible to move out so as to cause as little trouble as possible.

VISIT TO NORRIS

The next stop was Norris. The model house was visited. Electric heat and light were explained. A tile bathroom inspected. Previously Mrs. Randolph had said she didn't want to have electric lights or any other modern conveniences.

SUMMARIZING MRS.
RANDOLPH'S POSSI-
BILITIES

On the return trip to the Randolph home, worker endeavored to state in simple words Mrs. Randolph's possible ways of action. Three were outlined and their advantages and disadvantages discussed. (1) She could stay in her home, fold her hands, let the water come up, cover the spring, endanger the lives of her children--yet she had practically nothing to gain and much to lose; and (2) She could move out, taking part of her money, leaving the rest in the bank and try and get more money for her farm if she really felt she deserved it. (3) She could take all the money and move to a little farm, get settled permanently where her husband could plant a spring crop and relieve all the confusion and worry. On leaving

SUMMARIZING MRS.
RANDOLPH'S POSSI-
BILITIES

Mrs. Randolph, worker asked, "Should I be looking for you a place?" Immediately "Yes" came back. Worker furthermore asked if she might talk to some friends and ask them to be on the look out for her a place, and she answered, "I guess so."

RANDOLPH, JIM AND MATTIE

December 10, 1935

Because of the danger of high water, this date the following company left Norris Dam, by boat, at 10:30 AM, to determine the need for emergency removal because of floods:

Mr. Tilson, operator of the motor boat
D. R. Mulligan, Assistant Chief, Norris Police
M. A. Wilson, Chief Social Case Worker, Reservoir
Family Removal Section
W. G. Carnahan, Chief, Reservoir Family Removal
Section.

This party passed Mattie Randolph's home and proceeded up the river after waving to the family which was concentrated on the front porch. Upon returning from an inspection of the Francis Dunn property, located about two miles up the Powell River from the Randolph home, Mr. Tilson maneuvered the motor boat toward the Randolph house and finally anchored to the Randolph's front porch, the water being within ten feet of the house. At this time, Jim Randolph stated that the family had made no plans for removal and were waiting to see what TVA was going to do.

RANDOLPH, JAMES AND MATTIE

January 7, 1936
(Biddle)

RANDOLPH RELATIONS

On this date, worker consulted with Miss Lois Torrey of the Campbell County Relief Office concerning Mr. Randolph's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Suttles Randolph, living on Coke Oven Hill. The following directions to the home were given: Follow the Jellico Pike out of LaFollette approximately one mile. The fourth house on left, up on the hill, is the Suttles Randolph home. Family was not at home on worker's visit.

On returning to the relief office, Miss Torrey stated that this family could be of no assistance in solving the present problems of the James Randolph family. She said Mr. and Mrs. Suttles Randolph were quite old, that they had with them a daughter, Mary Angel, and her feeble minded child. The latter is supposedly six or seven years old but cannot talk and has difficulty in walking, supposedly caused from rickets. None of this family work and rely solely on relief for sustenance. The section in which they live is called the "Red Light" District and the morals of the whole community are extremely low.

Randolph, James
Mattie

566
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