

# Starting Married Life With One Dime 'Doc' Mondy Now Owns Farm, Tools

The owners of Mystery Farm Home Number 50 began married life with one dime "left after getting married" but now they own 120 acres of land and are two of the most respected Negroes in Marion county.

Doc Mondy and his wife, the former Ada Pearson, live two miles west of Globe Academy at Hub. However, should you inquire for directions to their house you had best ask for "Doc" Mondy, because that he is way he is most widely known to his many white and colored friends.

Doc and Ada Mae were married on December 26, 1931, beginning married life with a dime and a few personal possessions but with a determination to work hard, be honest, and have something in the end.

Living on rented land or as sharecroppers for the first years of their life and saving what they could, this couple pulled together. By 1944 they had accumulated enough to buy a little plot of land and in 1945 they built a house.

The years in between had seen good and bad crop seasons come and go, but the Mondy's kept their sights on their goal.

Doc was a careful driver and hauled cotton to the gin at Lampton several years with a truck belonging to John Tullos, who was manager of the gin. Then, about 1940, Doc bought his first pick-up truck.

Farming in crop seasons, hauling cotton and whatever else he could haul for his neighbors in his little truck and having a tung nut crew kept Doc busy.

Up until about four years ago when he bought some more land, giving him a total of 120 acres in his place, Doc hauled workers to Pearl River County to pick up tung nuts.

In addition to hauling the crew, Doc was overseer and time keeper. After he got his 120 acres he had been working toward for so long, he dropped the tung nut deal.

"Can't successfully do too many things at one time," he says. Now there are twenty head of cattle on the Mondy farm to be looked after. Two of these are milk cows.

Doc was interviewed in the Press car of the newspaper. He crawled



through the fence to get to the car parked in the road at the end of the corn rows he was planting with his tractor.

"This is my fourth crop with the tractor," he stated, though the tractor looked as though it might be on the second crop. But, that is to be expected because Doc always has taken good care of his trucks, so why wouldn't he take care of the tractor?

Doc says he bought the tractor because he "couldn't do much by myself without a tractor." It is used for planting, cultivating and just about anything that needs to be done on the farm. He says he finds it very convenient to hitch his trailer behind it and haul wood. This saves the pick-up from having to go to the woods.

There are some sixty acres in cultivation on the farm. Corn, cotton, hay, peas, watermelons, sweet potatoes and small plantings of other crops make up the variety of crops grown.

The one mule on the place is used for some of the garden work and for very short rows in some corners of the fields.

The forty acres of timber are protected from fire and what trees that have been sold were selectively cut.

The 20 acres of improved pasture are growing crimson clover and oats at present. Cattle have access to the wooded area, too. A nice stock pond has been built to provide water.

Soil tests were run about a year ago. Doc says these are very bene-

ficial to him and he will have more tests made this year. He practices soil conservation and believes it is easier to keep a field in good shape than it is to try to rebuild one.

Doc and Ada Mae belong to the Sweet Valley Baptist Church. He says they go to Sunday School every Sunday morning after hearing Lucile Cyrus' program over Station WCJU. They also are especially fond of the Joy Hour and news programs, but keep tuned in a big part of the time.

Although the Mondy's don't have any children, they belong to the PTA because, as Doc has said so many times, "you've got to be a good citizen to live in a good community."