

Owner Of Mystery Farm Number 81 Spent 26 Years Smoothing The Way For Travellers In Marion County

For about 26 years the owner of Mystery Farm Home Number 81, C. C. Fortenberry, smoothed the way for others to travel.

Mr. Fortenberry says he began operating a small road grader between the Louisiana line and Ball's mill, now Harry Rankin's camp. This machine was pulled by mules.

Later on, Mr. Fortenberry said, the mules were replaced with a tractor and he was given a larger machine and more territory. He had the state roads from Columbia to the Lamar county line below Pine Burr and from Columbia to Bunker Hill.

Now, Mr. Fortenberry has about thirty head of Black Angus cattle that keep him occupied, and he has retired from hard work. These cattle have eighty acres of pasture over which to roam. Much of this pasture is in native grass but there are between twenty and twenty-five acres in White Dutch clover. There is also Dalliss grass in the pastures.

A tractor is used for cultivating and it is used for mowing the pastures during the weed season.

The ninety acres in cultivation are in corn, hay and gardens. As much as possible, what is used on the 220 acre farm is grown at home.

Mr. Fortenberry and Mrs. Fortenberry, the former Mrs. Bertie Cook Tolar, were married about six years ago.

Mr. Fortenberry's children are Mrs. Homer Jordan, Columbia, and Jack Fortenberry, Sandy Hook.

Mrs. Fortenberry's daughter, Mary Eleanor Tolar, is a sophomore at Columbia High School. She is in the Treblettes ensemble.

likes to read listen to the radio.

Mrs. Fortenberry has taught at the Sandy Hook school for four years. She is a member of the Willing Workers Home Demonstration

Club. The Fortenberrys are members of the Sandy Hook Baptist church.

Water for the house is furnished by a windmill most of the time, but during the summer when the wind

forgets to blow, the stand-by electric motor is turned on to take the place of the wind.

A creek and a stock pond that has been stocked with fish provide drinking water for the livestock.

