

Second Mystery Farm Identified As Residence Of Fred Rowley At Kokomo

By B. B. BRADLEY

The trees around the house in Mystery Farm No. 2 add much to the charm of this location. The two lawn chairs at the right edge of the picture are under the tree that was used as a background for four pretty girls recently. You see this picture in the Sunday Mirror and The Columbian Progress, illustrating the story on the 4-H Club visitors from Minnesota. The comfortable screened porch and the shady lawn add much to the pattern of living of this family.

Fred Rowley owns this farm of 1144 acres, having acquired it from several different owners to give him the land he needs for his farming operations. Of the 475 acres in cultivation, 107 are in cotton, 100 in pasture, 200 in corn and the other acres are in small plantings of various crops.

The pastures are mostly of White Dutch, Crimson Clover, Bahia Grass, and Dallas Grass. For the past fifteen years Mr. Rowley has had a program for improving his pastures. At this time he is grazing some 150 grade Hereford cattle. He uses registered Hereford sires in his livestock program. He started learning how to grow cattle when he was a little boy on his father's farm. Learning the business and liking it, he became a farmer in his own right about thirty years ago.

Hogs come in for their part of the program on the Rowley farm. There are 125 head of hogs looking forward to getting their heads into Mr. Rowley's corn. He says he is afraid the drought has cut his corn production about fifty per cent from his fifty bushel average per acre last year. Cotton production averages a bale an acre.

There are six ponds on this farm, and all of them are stocked with fish. Soil conservation is an important factor in the methods used to keep production on this farm at its peak. Terraces help to hold his soil where it should be.

Wildlife is not neglected on this farm. It is protected and helped to make a good living in more than one way. Bi-color leopards and blue birds have been established to help provide feed for the birds.

A large part of the acreage of the Rowley farm is in timber. Timber is selectively cut when harvested. There has not been a fire in fifteen years to burn across any of this land, showing that this land

owner has no use for forest fires.

Mr. Rowley married Miss Eima Thornhill in 1932. They have two daughters, Mickey Ruth and Kay Frances. Kay married Irvon Givens. Mr. Rowley had his granddaughter, Dawn Rowley Givens, with him when he stopped by The Columbian-Progress office last Saturday morning.

Mickey Ruth is quite active in 4-H Club work in Marion county. She helped to entertain the girls from Minnesota when they were visiting in the county recently. Mickey is one of the leading girls in club work in the county. She has been a member of the Marion-Walthall chapter for five years.

Mrs. Rowley is a member of the Good Neighbor Home Demonstration at Knox. Mr. Rowley belongs to the Marion County Farm Bureau. The family belongs to the Kokomo Methodist Church, and

all of them are active in civic affairs in their community.

This family reads the county paper and listens to the radio. Mr. Rowley says Mickey keeps the radio turned on most of the time and enjoys the WCJU programs.

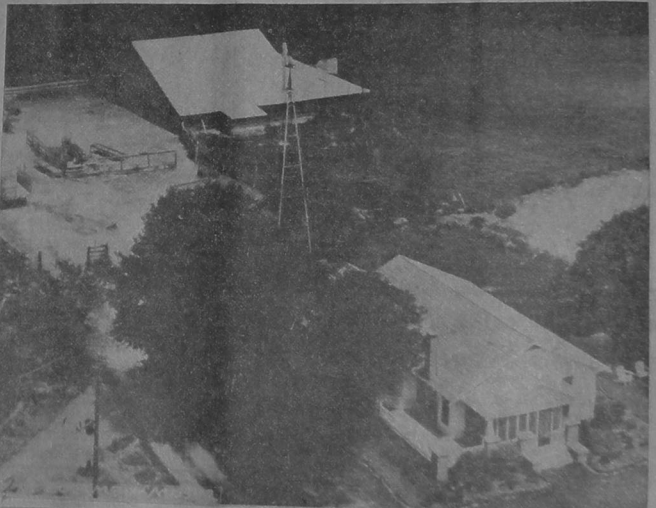
The Rowley home is very attractively finished and furnished. The fireplace at one end of the living room adds much to its attractiveness. With Mrs. Rowley and the girls having been as active in 4-H Club and Home Demonstration Club projects as they have been, it is easy to see that they have made excellent usage of what they learned. Mr. Rowley's hard work and good management have provided the means of their being able to accomplish their pet projects around the house.

Farming is a big business. It can be a profitable business. Or, it can be a very unprofitable ven-

ture. Farm homes like this mystery farm that will be run in this series will prove that Marion county has some of the best farms and best farm homes in the state.

Farms don't just produce a bale of cotton per acre by themselves. Hogs may break in and tear down the corn without any help from the farmer, but in that case the corn won't be in the crib when it is needed. It takes a good farmer to keep everything running smoothly on a farm of this size. Keeping everything on its side of the fence can be a hectic problem, too. Mr. Rowley is just such a farm-owner manager.

The Columbian-Progress is anxious to bring you more stories on the outstanding farmers of the county. Your identifying these mystery pictures will help me know where to go to get the stories.



MR. FARMER