

Mystery Farm Home Number 32 Is Identified North-East Of Columbia

Mystery Farm Home Number 32 was built two years ago. It belongs to Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Alexander and Ray Riley. This farm of 100 acres is located ten miles northeast of Columbia.

Mr. Alexander says he married Mrs. William "Boll Weevil" Riley five years ago this coming Christmas Eve.

Living with Mr. and Mrs. Alexander are Ray and Arthur Riley. Ray and Arthur have not made a trip to the altar, so far. The other two sons and daughter of Mrs. Alexander are married.

Obbie and Lee married sisters. Obbie married Miss Aubrey Hudson. Their daughter, June, is in Saratoga, Tenn. Mr. Alexander says she is doing very well. Annie Mae and Jeannette are in the seventh grade at Bunker Hill. "Cookie", 4, and Willie Ray 2, are not old enough to go to school.

Lee married Miss Velma Hudson. They have two children living with them. The others are married. Donnie Ray is in the ninth grade and Charles is in the fifth. Robert is working in Natchez. Louis married John Henry Bullock and is living in Florida. Marjorie married Percy Middleton and is living in Bogalusa.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander belong to the Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church, along with some of the other members of the family. Mrs. Alexander is a member of the Order of the Easter Star. Ray, Arthur, Obbie and Lee are all Masons, Mr. Alexander told us.

On Mr. Alexander's side of the house are four children. Leon Alexander married Myrtle Boyd. They live at Port Sulphur, La. Their children are named Claudine, Dale, Wilburn, Lee Edward, Linda and Milton.

Bonnie married the late Homer King. She lives in Pike county and has children in Florida and California.

Lucile married the late Martin King, a first cousin of Homer King. She and her children live in Pike county.

Charlie Alexander married Vera McElroy and lives at East Columbia. He has worked the past two years at Reliance. Their children are named Charles, who is in the ninth grade, Fay in the seventh, Linda in the fifth and Elvin, a baby of two

years.

Plowing is done on Mystery Farm Number 32 with a tractor and one mule. The mule is used mostly for working the garden and for "patching around".

Ray and Arthur Riley do most of the farming on the thirty acres that are in cultivation and rent additional land. Cotton and corn are the two main crops. Hay is a necessity on this farm because of the cattle on it.

About 150 acres of the place are in pastures and woods. Forty acres are in improved pastures. Plans are to improve more pasture as it is needed.

Hay is being cut at this time for use this winter. There are six acres of alfalfa clover to be baled.

There are 25 white-faced cattle

on this farm. Two weeks ago a Registered Hereford bull was purchased to keep improving the cattle on the farm.

There are three cows that are milked for home use. Mr. Alexander says they try to live at home as much as possible.

Two hogs are in a pen, being fattened for home use. It will soon be time to start grinding sausage and smoking hot lard. Then comes the cracklin' bread.

There is a good fish pond on this place that also serves as a place for the cattle to drink.

Food grown on the farm and in the garden is canned for future use. A garden can have something in it that is good to eat just about all the time, according to Mr. Alexander.

Cooking is done with a gas stove at this house, but electricity comes in for much of the water-works-all to make life worth living. It pumps the water, and Mr. Alexander says the pump could run a week without pumping out the well.

Electricity also takes care of the ironing and the washing machine and keeps the refrigerator cold.

The Columbia-Progress comes regularly to the mailbox at Mystery Farm Number 32. Mr. Alexander recognized his house and came to the newspaper office and was given his aerial photograph that was taken for this series of Mystery Farm Homes by the aerial photographs who really got a good bird's eye view of the pretty farming area around Columbia, including this Mystery Farm.



MR. FARMER

DEAN GRINE