

School, Industrial Work And Dairy Keep The Porter Broom Family Busy

Mystery Farm Home Number 55 is owned by Porter Broom, Route 2, Box 68, Columbia, and is located between the East Columbia Baptist Church and U. S. Highway 98, un-til recently Mississippi Highway 24.

The picture of this mystery farm shows that someone is interested in the way the grounds look. Land-til the growing flowers are scaping and growing flowers are scaping of the many activities that fill two of the many activities that fill the day for Mrs. Broom, who was Miss Tressie Singley until she married Mr. Broom on January 21, 1933.

Among other things, Mrs. Broom is a teacher in the junior girls' division of the East Columbia Baptist Sunday School and active in the church. She is a member of the Frances West WNU circle. The Brooms belong to the Columbia PTA. Mrs. Broom likes to sew and takes in sewing. She drives a school bus on one of the school routes to the Columbia schools every day. And, as if this were not enough to fill the week, she is taking a correspondence course and attending classes at Mississippi on Saturdays and at night. She is a college senior and says she will get back into teaching next year.

Sarah, the youngest of three children, will be six in February. She is at home at present, taking care of her family of dolls and reading, writing and drawing when they don't need attention. Sarah also likes to fish. She says she caught a big trout, and judging from the way she stretched her arms out to show us how long the fish was, she's a real fisherwoman.

The two boys in the family are named Donald and John David. Donald, 9, is attending the Columbia Primary school. He likes to draw and reads a lot. He is a ball player and is taking music.

John David Broom is a junior at Mississippi College. He finished Columbia High School and Pearl River Junior College. He is an athletic fan and tries to keep up with all the sports. His college work is keeping him pretty busy. He is studying to be a minister.

Mr. Broom is balancing his agriculture with industry by working at the Reliance plant in Columbia. His agricultural enterprise is a dairy.

The sixty acres of open land on the farm are in pastures. Time was

when Mr. Broom was a row-crop farmer, but he built a dairy barn and began dairying eight years ago. At present he has 35 head of cattle and is milking 17 fine cows.

Pastures include clovers, coastal bermuda, oats and rye grass, buhiah and lespedeza serecia, in their seasons.

Last spring or early summer Mr. Broom planted 20,000 stolons of coastal bermuda which covered about four acres. This was fertilized with 100 pounds of phosphate, one ton lime, 100 pounds muriate of ipotash and 40 pounds of nitrate to the acre. Although growth was good last summer and fall, it should be much better another year. More acreage will be planted with stolons from this original planting.

Assistance from the various agricultural agencies in the county is

always sought and used when needed. Mr. Broom finds these agencies a quick and valuable source of information.

The stock pond on the farm is well stocked with fish. It is in the corner of the picture and is where Sarah caught her trout. It is conveniently located near the barn.

Many of the registered Jerseys drinking water from this pond are offspring of cattle John David won blue ribbons by showing when he was one of the county's leading H Club boys. Artificial breeding has been used and found very satisfactory by Mr. Broom for some time.

Mr. Broom is a member of the Marion County Farm Bureau and realizes the value of farmers' working together as well as each farmer's following sound agricultural practices as he does when he

follows results of soil tests when fertilizing.

There is some nice longleaf pine growing on the twenty acres of timber on Mystery Farm Number 55. Mrs. Broom says the last fire that swept across this acreage was in 1941, when it came through from the back.

The Columbian-Progress comes to the mailbox in front of the house every Thursday morning, and the Brooms pick up a Sunday Mirror every week. In addition to this source of information, WCJU is tuned in every day.

Mr. Broom is a leader in the Brotherhood at the East Columbia Church in addition to his other outside activities. Mrs. Broom says he likes to read and enjoys a period of relaxation after supper, when the work at the dairy barn is finished after the day's work at the plant.

