

Mystery Farm Picture Number Six Is L. D. Bennett's Home At Darbun

Mystery Farm Number six was that of L. D. Bennett and his family. They live about one mile from Marion-Walshall School at Darbun. You can see the tops of the buildings from the Bennett house.

This family has four members. In addition to Mr. Bennett there are Mrs. Bennett, who was Margaret Later before they were married January 1, 1927, and two children. Whether they made any New Year's resolutions or not they have a good life together and you can tell they wouldn't swap for any other way of life.

The two children in the family are Vonceil, who is now Mrs. D. R. Hollingsworth of Meridian, and the nine year old son, Larry. Vonceil was active in the Marion-Walshall 4-H Club when she was in school there. Mr. Bennett says Larry is "pitching to get into 4-H Club work when school opens."

The Bennetts belong to Magee's Creek Baptist Church. He is a director in the Marion County Farm Bureau and an active Mason.

This farm of 150 acres has 110 acres in cultivation, and 40 acres in timber.

The timber is protected from fire and what cutting is done is by selection.

Twenty-five acres of alyce clover are up to a good stand. Hay will be the principal income from the pastures this year as Mr. Bennett sold all of his cattle last spring except one milk cow. 80 acres are in pasture and hay.

He said his reason for selling was because he figured that while the cattle market was so high it would be a good time to cash in on his cattle. He said, too, that he had begun to see that in a short time only top quality animals would be selling for any amount of money.

He figures, now, that he will start buying a cow here and there this fall when he sees one he really likes. He plans to gradually get back into the livestock growing business.

His barn is about ten years old, since it was completely rebuilt. It

has a large hay loft, corn crib, and stalls for his mules. Yes, Mr. Bennett still has a pair of mules, but he says they didn't do over a day's work all year. All they did was to plow in the garden for about twenty or thirty minutes at the time.

His tractor, a two-row tractor with all equipment, did all the farming this year and last. He says he figures he'll work his garden another year with the tractor. According to Mr. Bennett, tractor farming is here to stay unless there is a mighty big depression and as he expressed it, "we are forced back to mules."

His twenty-eight acres of cotton should run a bale to the acre. Mr. Bennett was not at home when we visited his place. We found him and

his wife and Larry at a neighbor's farm. They had just made a boll weevil check in Mr. Bourne's field and found some weevils. Mr. Bennett said he had plenty of weevils but would have been poisoning that afternoon if the weather had permitted. He has the poisoning machine at his place that is available in the county through the county agent's office.

The L. D. Bennett farm belonged to his father, Mr. E. C. Bennett. L. D. says he was two and a half years old when they moved there. Within the past five years Mr. and Mrs. Bennett have completely remodelled the house inside and out.

Mr. Bennett's hobbies are fishing and bird hunting, though he says there is getting to be a lot of walking in the bird hunting. Although

he doesn't have any bird dogs, he does have a registered Border Collie stock dog. This dog came from Oshkosh, Wisconsin. He refused to sell her when he sold his cattle, so you would be pretty safe to say that dogs are important to him.

Cake baking seemed to come as close to being a hobby with Mrs. Bennett as anything else. Mr. Bennett says she had rather cook her favorite cake and take it to someone in the community than anything else.

The Bennetts believe in plenty of good coffee to go with their cake and they enjoy visiting with their neighbors. Mr. Bennett says he can cultivate his 110 acres and have time to play, so it can be said the Bennetts know how to live and are enjoying life.

