

Nace's Stock Farm Proves To Be Another Mystery Farm At Kokomo

"That's my place. How'd you folks get a picture of my house in the paper?" Those were some of the remarks of Lawrence Nace when he came in the office to get his Sunday Mirror for the week and pick up the mounted photograph of his Mystery Farm Home.

Nace's stock farm is one mile north of Kokomo. When the picture was made it had not been too long since the house was rebuilt. For that reason it may have been a little hard to name.

Mr. Nace is a veteran of World War II. He saw service at Saipan, Tinian, Leyte and Okinawa. He was wounded at Okinawa. He is a member of the Disabled American Veterans chapter at Columbia, a member of the county soil conservation district and he and his family belong to the Shiloh Baptist Church.

Mr. Nace is taking advantage of the opportunity offered by the F. H. A. to enable a farmer to get going with his farming program. He says he expects to get into full production about next year. It takes a while to get things going as they should, with pastures to plant, fences to be built, etc.

His wife was Sarah Pittman. They were married on Christmas Eve of 1942. Now, they have three children, Sandra is seven and will be in the second grade at Kokomo when school opens. Edwin is three and Joyce Gail is eight months of age.

The 120 acres of land owned by the Nace's is not quite enough to allow them the room necessary to carry on their operations, so forty more acres are under lease.

Being a stock farm, pastures quite naturally play an important part in this program. 91 acres are devoted to pastures. Every advantage possible has been taken to insure the success of this farm. Soil tests, terraces and other soil conservation practices are all important to Mr. Nace.

Bahia grass, crimson and white clovers, oats, bermuda grass furnish their part of the year's pasture, in their season. Two kinds of Bermuda grass are on the place. Most of it is native, but a start of coastal bermuda has been planted. Bahia grass is being saved for hay.

One conservation practice that could be copied from Mr. Nace by

many farmers in the Columbia area is the use of grass waterways. Planting the drains from terraces, ditches, and other run-off areas in grass stops galleys from forming.

Twenty-six acres are in corn. There is no cotton. Although the acreage of timber land on this place is not large it is protected from fire.

The people of Pennsylvania are noted for being thrifty. Being a native of Lancaster county, Penna. he is no exception. In talking to Mr. Nace you soon get the idea that he doesn't shy away from work in the least. But, he wants his work to count for something.

Arranging fences in a convenient way is one method of getting the most from your work, he says. His pastures are fenced in such a way that they all lead to the lot just back of the barn. Running water is

available at the barn also.

The barn is a large building with 20 by 40 foot sheds around it. Inside the barn is a creep feeder. At the other end of the barn a pen leads into a loading chute.

Two stock ponds provide water for livestock in the pastures, at each pond is a creep feeder, making three on the farm. These creeps are so constructed that a calf can go in and eat until he weighs around 500 pounds. After that he is on the grass to graze with his bigger buddies. The cows can't get into the creep feeders, which, incidentally, are portable.

A tractor provides the power needed around the place for the farming operations, pulling the creeps, and whatever comes to hand.

Feed used in the creep feeders is

mostly home grown. Mr. Nace says he uses mostly corn and oats for feed. Sometimes he adds hay to the mixture. His feed is mixed at the nearby Kokomo feed mill.

Mr. Nace seemed a little surprised when asked why he got into the cattle growing business when he got out of service. His very prompt reply was, "It's the future of the South."

He went on to point out that pastures have a long growing season in the south and that this section of the country is a good area for growing cattle.

He says you can grow out of the cattle business, even if the price has dropped. He believes the secret of this is staying with the business and cutting all expense corners; grow your feed at home and tend to your own cattle business.

