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HISTORY  
*of*  
VERMILION COUNTY  
ILLINOIS

BY  
JACK MOORE WILLIAMS

IN TWO VOLUMES

ILLUSTRATED

VOLUME TWO

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*C. K. McLevathan*

# History of Vermilion County

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**C. V. McClenathan** is prominent in business and financial circles in Danville, where he is president of the Second National Bank. He was born on a farm near Catlin, Illinois, October 3, 1864, the son of George S. and Sarah (Remley) McClenathan.

Both George S. McClenathan and his wife were natives of Pennsylvania. About 1854 they came to Illinois and settled in Vermilion County. The McClenathan family is of Scotch lineage and of Quaker belief. The great-grandfather of C. V. McClenathan was a native of the land of hills and heather and at an early period in the settlement of Pennsylvania he crossed the Atlantic in one of the old time sailing vessels, taking up his abode near Philadelphia. The Remley family is of English descent and dates its origin in America to the time of William Penn. The maternal grandmother of C. V. McClenathan bore the maiden name of Margaret Penn and was a relative of the celebrated family to which the renowned philanthropist and pioneer, William Penn, belonged. On removing to Illinois, George S. McClenathan settled in Catlin Township, where he purchased land and engaged in farming, being one of the most successful agriculturists of his community, and also serving acceptably as a township official. Eventually he removed to the village of Fairmount where both he and his wife lived retired. He died in October, 1896, and she died April 22, 1900. Both are buried in Oakridge Cemetery, near Catlin.

C. V. McClenathan was reared on the home farm, obtained his early education in the country schools, and remained at home until he attained his majority. He then went to Wichita, Kansas, where he remained eight years. He entered the Kansas National Bank, in the mortgage and loan department, and afterwards was placed in charge of the loan business of that institution. He returned to Danville in 1893 and became cashier of the State Bank, which was incorporated in 1901 as the Danville National Bank. In 1920 he was made vice president of the Second National Bank and five years later was elected president of that institution. As a financier Mr. McClenathan stands high in public esteem. He is also a director of the First National Bank of Homer, Ill., director and treasurer of the Equitable Building and Loan Association, of Danville, and also a director of the Vermilion Abstract Company, trustee Danville Country Club, and treasurer of the Musebeck Show Company.

In 1905 Mr. McClenathan was married at Louisville, Kentucky, to Alice Weston McIntosh, the daughter of Thomas McIntosh, a native of Will County, and a prominent merchant of Danville.

Mr. McClenathan was elected to the Illinois State Legislature in 1900 and reelected to that office in 1902. During his incumbency he was made chairman of a new committee that had just been created being the only Democratic chairman in the legislature. This was a joint committee on penal and reformatory institutions and labor and industrial affairs. As chairman of the same he introduced and passed the anti-convict labor bill, and also drew a bill to strike off the employes who were not in actual service in the house and senate, but it never came to vote.

During the World War Mr. McClenathan rendered patriotic service to the government in connection with various drives and campaigns.

Mr. McClenathan is a member of the Presbyterian Church; Olive Branch Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Modern Woodmen of America; and Danville Commercial Club. He is a trustee of the Lake View Hospital Association. He has various other interests in Danville besides those mentioned. A contemporary biographer has said of him: "His friends are legion, as his genial courtesy and kindly bearing are calculated to win confidence, which his sterling integrity and unquestioned candor serve to maintain."

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**John A. Cathcart**, president of the Palmer National Bank, of Danville, has had many years of experience in banking. He was born at Mason City, Illinois, March 31, 1876, the son of John M. and Sarah J. (Alexander) Cathcart.

John M. Cathcart was born at Cookstown, County Tyrone, Ireland, and his wife was a native of Belfast. Their marriage took place at Lincoln, Illinois, where Mr. Cathcart engaged in the grain business for many years. He was a highly esteemed and well-known citizen of that section. He died in 1907 and his wife died in 1917. They are buried at Indianola, Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Cathcart three children were born: Florence and William G., both deceased; and John A., the subject of this sketch.

John A. Cathcart acquired his early education in the grammar and high schools of Mason City and Sidell, Illinois. After leaving school he became interested in the grain and lumber business with his father. In 1898 he became associated with Lyons, Alexander & Company Bank of Sidell, as bookkeeper. He has since been connected with that institution, which is now known as the First National Bank, and he is vice president. He was also



elected president of the Palmer National Bank of Danville, January 1, 1929.

Mr. Cathcart married in 1899 Miss Mabel Wright, of Sidell, Illinois, the daughter of Silas and Nancy (Driscoll) Wright, both deceased. They have a daughter, Josephine. She is a graduate of Sidell High School and attended Columbia University.

Mr. Cathcart is a Republican, a member of Sidell Lodge Ancient Free and Accepted Masons No. 798, past master; Homer Chapter Royal Arch Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Medinah Temple; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; and Danville Country Club. He holds membership in the First Methodist Episcopal Church, Sidell, and is a trustee of Lake View Hospital.

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**George F. Rearick.**—One of the representative professional men of Vermilion County is George F. Rearick, a leading member of the Danville bar. He is a native of Beardstown, Illinois, born March 31, 1863, the son of Jacob W. and Elizabeth (Kuhl) Rearick.

Jacob W. Rearick, deceased, was a native of Germany. He was an early settler of Cass County, Illinois, and served as county judge. He was a hardware merchant for many years. Mr. Rearick is buried at South Mound, Kansas, and his wife, who died in 1863, is buried at Beardstown, Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Rearick the following children were born: Elsie R. McFarland, lives at Cimarron, Kansas; Lydia S. Rearick, lives at Chicago, Illinois; Susan Geisenheimer, lives at Chicago, Illinois; Elizabeth Beeley, lives at Princeton, Illinois; and George F., the subject of this sketch.

George F. Rearick first attended the public schools of Beardstown and following his graduation from Beardstown High School he entered Ohio Wesleyan University.

In 1885 he read law with William J. Calhoun and was admitted to the bar in 1888. Since that time Mr. Rearick has practiced his profession at Danville. He has offices in the First National Bank Building.

On September 27, 1893, Mr. Rearick was united in marriage with Miss Grace Haggard, of Danville, the daughter of Byron and Charlotte (Creamer) Haggard, natives of Ohio, both now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Rearick were born five children: Walter R., insurance, lives at Hartford, Connecticut; Elizabeth C., teacher of physical education, Jacksonville, Illinois; Francis G., lawyer, lives at Chicago, Illinois; Edward C., electrical engineer, lives at Cranford, New Jersey; and Harold H., attends Beloit College.

Mr. Rearick is a Republican. He has served as supervisor, city attorney, and as mayor of Danville. He is a member of St. James Methodist Episcopal Church, and is identified with the Vermilion County Bar Association, Illinois Bar Association, and American Bar Association.

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**George W. Telling.**—One of the substantial business men and leading citizens of Danville is George W. Telling, who is president of the Commercial Trust & Savings Bank. He was born at Springfield, Illinois, July 6, 1871, the son of Edward T. and Sarah F. (Taylor) Telling.

Edward T. Telling was a native of England. About 1860 he came to the United States and settled in Morgan County, Illinois, where he became successful as a farmer. He died June 28, 1908. His wife was born in Jacksonville, Illinois, and now resides in Danville.

George W. Telling attended the grade schools of Champaign County and later the high school at Danville. He also took a commercial course of study at the Gem City Business College at Quincy, Illinois. Mr. Telling entered the field of banking with the firm of Lyons, Alexander &

Company, at Sidell, Illinois, in the capacity of assistant cashier. After three years he became cashier of the First State Bank of Broadlands, in Champaign County. Mr. Telling served in that capacity for eleven years and in 1906 came to Danville as cashier of the Commercial Trust & Savings Bank. He was elected president of the institution in 1911. Besides his financial activities he is an extensive land owner and is also a director of the Webster Wholesale Grocery Company of Danville.

In 1898 Mr. Telling married Miss Anna Lyons, the daughter of William Lyons, who was a prominent banker of Danville. Their son, Gordon R. Telling, is assistant cashier of the Commercial Trust & Savings Bank.

Politically Mr. Telling is a Republican. The cause of education has always found in him a stalwart champion, and for four years he rendered active service as president of the Danville School Board. He manifests a keen and enthusiastic interest in every civic project looking toward community welfare. During the period of the World war Mr. Telling served as county chairman for the United States certificates of indebtedness and sent his county "over the top" on each drive. He was also chairman of the Boys' Working Reserves for Vermilion County during the war.

Mr. Telling is treasurer of the Danville Chamber of Commerce and belongs to the Danville Country Club; Further Light Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, past master; Danville Consistory, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, thirty-second degree, treasurer; Ansar Temple, and Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks No. 332. He holds membership in the St. James Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Telling is characterized as a careful, conservative financier, whose success is attributable to his unfailing good nature and kindly consideration of others.

**Al W. Heskett.**—Prominent in business and civic affairs, Al W. Heskett, secretary of the Fidelity Building Association of Danville, is a native of Indiana. He was born at Roachdale, August 6, 1898, the son of Dr. Wilbur C. and Katherine E. (Wells) Heskett.

Dr. Wilbur C. Heskett, deceased, was a physician and surgeon of Indiana. He was born at Hamilton, Ohio, and was a graduate of the Kentucky School of Medicine, as well as the Chicago Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat College. He practiced his profession at Roachdale for over twenty years and later settled at Indianapolis, where he was engaged in practice at the time of his death in 1926. He is buried at Roachdale. His widow lives at Nashville, Tennessee. Doctor Heskett was a Republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church, Masonic Lodge, thirty-second degree, and was identified with the Indiana Medical Society and the American Medical Association. There were two sons born to Dr. and Mrs. Heskett: R. C., who lives at Indianapolis, Indiana; and Al W., the subject of this sketch.

Al W. Heskett attended the public schools of Indianapolis and was graduated in 1916 from Manual Training High School in that city. He received the degree of Bachelor of Arts from DePauw University in 1922 and then came to Danville, where he became associated with John W. Webster in the insurance business. In 1924 he was made a partner and the firm became known as the Webster-Heskett Insurance Agency. At the death of Mr. Webster in 1928, Mr. Heskett became secretary of the Fidelity Building Association. At that time he also purchased the insurance business, which he still conducts.

On September 29, 1925, Mr. Heskett was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Webster, the daughter of John W. and Esther (Baum) Webster, of Danville. Mr. Webster was born at Springfield, Illinois, and was graduated from Danville High School, DePauw University, and the Harvard School of Law. He engaged in the practice of



law at Danville for several years and then became interested in the Fidelity Investment Building Association and the insurance business. At the time of his death, May 6, 1928, he was secretary of the Fidelity Building Association of Danville. Mr. Webster was a member of Saint James Methodist Episcopal Church, Elks Club, and Phi Kappa Psi fraternity. He was president of the board of trustees of Lakeview Hospital, and a member of the Salvation Army Board and the Illinois State Board of the Anti-Saloon League. Mr. Webster was married April 15, 1900, to Esther Baum, who survives him. To Mr. and Mrs. Heskett a daughter was born, Esther Webster Heskett, born February 18, 1927.

Politically, Mr. Heskett is a Republican. He belongs to the Elks Club, Kiwanis Club, Danville Country Club, Union League Club of Chicago, and Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

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**Michael E. King.**—One of the most influential figures in banking circles of Vermilion County for many years was Michael E. King, who served as president of the Second National Bank of Danville from 1902 until the time of his death, March 16, 1929. Mr. King was born at Dubuque, Iowa, September 24, 1857, the son of Austin and Ellen (Maley) King.

Austin King was born in County Clare, Ireland, September 7, 1822, and his wife was a native of Milltown, Malbay, County Clare, Ireland. Both are deceased and are buried at Danville. Nine children were born to this union, all of whom were reared in Danville.

The boyhood of Michael E. King was spent at Dubuque, Iowa, and in Danville. When ten years of age he was a mule driver in the coal mines of this section. He began his business career as a retail grocer and later became the successful owner of a large wholesale grocery business. Mr.









W. E. King



King was identified with banking interests of Vermilion County for many years and served as president of the Second National Bank of Danville, as stated above, from 1902 until his death. He was also chairman of the Board of Directors.

In June, 1887, Mr. King was united in marriage with Miss Catherine Cavanaugh, of Danville, the daughter of Frank and Ella (McLean) Cavanaugh. Their children were: Earl Francis, who is deceased; and Austin W., a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history. Catherine (Cavanaugh) King died January 25, 1904, and is buried in Danville.

Politically, Mr. King was a Republican. He was a devout member of the Catholic Church, and held membership in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and Knights of Columbus.

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**Austin W. King** is one of the representative young business men of Danville, where he is identified with the Second National Bank. He was born in this city, June 20, 1890, the son of Michael E. and Catherine (Cavanaugh) King.

A complete sketch of Michael E. King appears elsewhere in this history.

The boyhood of Austin W. King was spent in Danville, where he received his early education. He later attended Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass., and subsequently attended the University of Pennsylvania. He began his banking career in Danville as a clerk in the Second National Bank and is now one of the directors.

During the World War Mr. King served as a noncommissioned officer.

Mr. King holds membership in the Catholic Church, Danville.

**George F. Edmund** ranks high among the successful young business men of Danville, where he is identified with the firm of Edmund & Dickson, morticians, 440 North Vermilion Street. He was born at Woodhull, Henry County, Illinois, May 22, 1891, the son of Andrew J. and Margaret (Peterson) Edmund.

Andrew J. Edmund was born at Schmolon, Sweden, in 1831. He came to this country about 1866 and settled in Pennsylvania, where he followed his trade as a carpenter. About 1870 he located in Henry County, Illinois, where he purchased sixty acres of land. He became the owner of two hundred and twenty-seven acres of fine land and became a successful farmer. He also owned real estate at Woodhull, Illinois. Mr. Edmund was a Republican and a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church. He died in 1918 and his wife, born in Sweden in 1850, died in 1907. Both are buried at Woodhull, Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Edmund were born seven children, as follows: Emma, married Melcher Stevens, lives at Andover, Illinois; Hilda, married Oscar Hagg, lives at Cambridge, Illinois; Selma, married Perry Westerland, lives at Orion, Illinois; Ida, married Emil Peterson, lives at Woodhull, Illinois; Anna, died in 1906; John W., lives on the old homestead; and George F., the subject of this sketch.

George F. Edmund attended the public schools of Henry County and Brown's Business College, Rock Island, Illinois. He was employed in a general store at Woodhull and in 1910 went to Rock Island, where he was associated with Gustofson & Hayes, as a salesman. The following year he returned to Woodhull and in 1912 purchased a furniture and undertaking business at that place, which was known as the Edmund Furniture Company. He was graduated from the Worsham School of Embalming, Chicago, in 1912 and became a registered operator in January, 1913. Two years later he removed to Orion, Illinois, where he established an undertaking business. In



1919 he built a thirty-thousand-dollar funeral home and furniture house, which he disposed of in 1924 to Peterson & Wallen Company. In 1924 he came to Danville and purchased the J. W. Turner Company, Incorporated, and later Mr. Turner purchased a third interest in the business. Mr. Dickson also became a member of the firm finally, having taken over the interests of Mr. Turner. In 1924 the J. W. Strauss residence was purchased, and is now used as a funeral home by Edmund & Dickson. They rank among the dependable funeral directors of the city and they have an extensive clientele.

In 1913 Mr. Edmund married Miss May Rehnstrom, the daughter of Stephen and Caroline (Johnson) Rehnstrom, of Andover, Illinois. They have two sons, George and James.

Mr. Edmund is a Republican, a member of Saint James Methodist Episcopal Church, and belongs to Olive Branch Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons No. 38; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Gao Grotto; Iris Chapter Order Eastern Star, Past Patron; Orion Country Club; Chamber of Commerce; and American Business Club, vice president and director.

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**Hon. Walter C. Lindley**, who has served as judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Illinois since September 29, 1922, is a native of this state, graduating with honors from the Colleges of Liberal Arts and Law, University of Illinois, and in a career of twenty years as a member of the bar has fully justified the expectations entertained of him while a university man. Judge Lindley was born on a farm in Big Spring Township, Shelby County, Illinois, July 12, 1880. His paternal ancestors came from England and settled in New Jersey in Colonial times. Subsequently a branch of the family

moved to North Carolina. They were affiliated with the Quaker Church, and Judge Lindley's grandfather, on coming north, first settled in the noted Quaker community of Wayne County, Indiana. The grandfather was Osmond Lindley, who was born at Guilford Court House, North Carolina, in 1837. As a young man he moved to Wayne County, Indiana. He married there and became a pork packer and farmer. In about 1866 he moved with his family to Shelby County, Illinois, and was a school teacher and farmer there until his death in 1879. His wife was Achsah Wilson, who was born at Guilford Court House, North Carolina, in 1839, and died at Fairmount, Indiana, in 1919.

Alfred W. Lindley, father of Judge Lindley, was born at Dublin, in Wayne County, Indiana, September 7, 1856, and was about ten years of age when his parents moved to Shelby County, Illinois, where he was reared and finished his education. The greater part of his active life has been spent as a farmer. He has been an important and successful figure in the agricultural life of Shelby and Cumberland Counties, and still owns a large amount of farm land in those counties. He also engaged in the banking business and was president of the First National Bank of Chrisman, and of the Neoga National Bank. He is still a director in those institutions. His home was in Shelby County until 1895, when he removed to Neoga. Mr. Lindley is a Republican, and has served on the Board of Supervisors of Shelby County. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, though originally a Quaker. He married Irene Carey, who was born in Grant County, Indiana, September 7, 1858. Walter C. Lindley is the oldest of their children. Miss Jennie A. Lindley, at home with her parents, is a teacher of music. The two other children were Virgil, who died at the age of two years, and Vernon, who died when ten years old.

Walter C. Lindley, during his youth, lived on a farm and in the town home of his parents at Neoga. He was

educated in the public schools of Shelby County, graduated from Neoga High School in 1897, and from 1897 until 1901 was a student in the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Illinois, taking his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1901. From 1901 until 1904 he attended the College of Law, graduating in 1904. In 1910 the College of Law awarded him the degree of Doctor of Jurisprudence. From 1901 until 1905 he was instructor of rhetoric in the Academy of the University. While a student Judge Lindley became a member of Phi Gamma Delta social fraternity, Phi Beta Kappa honorary scholarship fraternity, Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity, and Theta Kappa Nu honorary legal fraternity. He also served as managing editor of the Daily Illini, was president of the Students' Republican Club, associate editor of the Illinois Magazine, chairman of the Senior Ball Committee, and chairman of the Cap and Gown Committee. He graduated at the head of his class from the Law School, and stood second in the entire graduating class of the university, a class numbering two hundred forty-five.

Admitted to the bar June 30, 1904, Mr. Lindley began practice at Danville, and until 1922 was a member of the firm of Lindley, Penwell & Lindley, handling a large general practice in all the courts of Eastern Illinois. From 1912 until 1918 he served as master in chancery of the United States Court, and from 1916 until 1920 was a member of the Board of County Commissioners of Vermilion County. The late President Harding appointed him judge of the United States District Court on September 29, 1922. His Eastern District comprises forty-five counties, extending from Kankakee County on the north to Alexander County, including the City of Cairo, on the south, and St. Clair County on the west.

Judge Lindley married April 30, 1913, at North Egremont, Massachusetts, Miss Louise Dewey Brown, daughter of Charles F. and Carrie (Dewey) Brown, both now de-

ceased. Her father was a prominent bridge contractor, for many years having headquarters at Chicago, Illinois. He helped to build the bridge at Thebes, Illinois, and many others in the United States, including the bridge across the Mississippi River at Memphis, Tennessee.

Judge and Mrs. Lindley have three children: Mary Aletta, Louise Dewey, and Walter C., Jr.

Judge Lindley is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and is affiliated with Olive Branch Ancient Free and Accepted Masons No. 38; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Medinah Temple, Chicago; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks No. 332; White Oaks Lodge No. 469, Knights of Pythias. He has served as a director of the Chamber of Commerce and Kiwanis Club, president of the Danville Country Club and the Vermilion County Bar Association. He is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association and American Bar Association. He is also a member of the College Club of Danville, the Union League Club of Chicago, and the Hamilton Club of Chicago.

Judge Lindley was a member of the Board of Education of Danville for three years and during this time the new million-dollar high school was built. During the World war he made more than two hundred speeches as a "four-minute speaker" in behalf of the Liberty Loan and Red Cross drives, and was a member of the Legal Advisory Board of Vermilion County.

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**William J. Parrett.**—One of the most influential figures in newspaper circles in Vermilion County is William J. Parrett, who is identified with the "Commercial-News" of Danville. He was born at Ottawa, Illinois, in 1873, the son of John and Emily (DeBolt) Parrett.

John Parrett was born at Newark, Ohio. Throughout his life he engaged in general farming and met with suc-



cess. He is now deceased. His widow lives at Ottawa, Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Parrett were born three children: Mrs. Thomas Reid, lives at Springfield, Illinois; Mrs. Edward Zelm, lives at Streator, Illinois; and William J., the subject of this sketch.

William J. Parrett began his newspaper career at Fonda, Iowa, and before locating at Danville worked as a reporter on newspapers in Sioux City, Iowa, and Des Moines, Iowa. He was connected with newspaper in Chicago in 1893; was manager of the Ottawa Journal in 1894-95; manager of the LaCrosse (Wisconsin) "Republican-Leader" in 1896; advertising manager of the Aurora (Illinois) "News" in 1898; and came to Danville in 1898, where he joined John H. Harrison, owner of the "Commercial-News," as business manager and co-partner. Mr. Parrett's ability as a newspaper executive has been demonstrated in the fact that after coming to the "Commercial-News" he increased the circulation from eight hundred to thirty thousand, giving it the largest circulation of any newspaper in the United States in a city the size of Danville.

In 1904 Mr. Parrett married Miss Margaret Connor, of Danville, the daughter of John Connor. They have no children.

Mr. Parrett is a Republican and for eleven years has been a member of the City Election Commission. He served during the World war as a "Dollar a Year" man with the United States Department of Labor, and was a member of the Wilson peace party, attending the Versailles Peace Conference in 1919. He has also been city collector for six years. Mr. Parrett is identified with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Kiwanis Club, and is vice president and director of the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Parrett is the originator of "Dollar Day Sales," known to newspaper readers throughout America, and for this innovation in merchandising through the printed



word has long enjoyed outstanding reputation. As first conceived, Mr. Parrett furnished plans for "Dollar Day" to two hundred twelve different newspapers in the United States for what is still believed to be a record for the sale of a single selling plan.

The "Commercial-News" has always followed a straightforward, aggressive editorial policy for the improvement and betterment of Danville, and through it and its exertions the influence of Mr. Parrett and Mr. Harrison has been felt in many directions and brought many public improvements and much public good to Danville. However, Mr. Parrett has also personally sponsored many movements for public good and among these holds credit for the adoption of the Danville City Plan, and the establishment of Danville's municipal golf course, the first municipal course to be provided by any city in the State of Illinois. He also personally sponsored and helped organize the Associated Charities in Danville, bringing together the charitable work of the city into a systematic plan of work.

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**John Higgins Harrison**—The late John Higgins Harrison was outstanding among the citizens of Danville both for his business ability and for his public spirited concern in the affairs of the community. He was born at Lebanon, Indiana, November 30, 1867, the son of Dr. Thomas H. and Minta (Higgins) Harrison.

Dr. Thomas H. Harrison was born at Ladoga, Indiana, December 10, 1842. He was a graduate of Ohio State Medical College and for a time practiced his profession at Lebanon, Indiana. Later, he became interested in the newspaper business at Lebanon and subsequently went to Michigan City, Ind. He was editor, publisher, and owner of the Lebanon Pioneer and the Michigan City Dispatch. Doctor Harrison became president of the State Benevolent



*John H. Harrison*



Boards of Indiana. He died August 12, 1890, and is buried at Thorntown, Indiana. His wife, born at Thorntown, Indiana, August 21, 1844, died October 25, 1925, and is buried at Danville. The only child born to Doctor and Mrs. Harrison was John Higgins, the subject of this sketch.

John Higgins Harrison attended the grade schools of Lebanon, Indiana, and after his graduation in 1884 from Lebanon High School he entered DePauw University, from which he was graduated in 1891. At an early age he learned printing in his father's newspaper plants and in 1888 went to Indianapolis, Indiana, as a reporter on the Indianapolis Sentinel. His newspaper career next took him to Chicago, where he was associated from 1891 until 1894 with the Chicago Times and the Chicago Mail as reporter, telegraph editor, and finally assistant editor. In 1895 he became press agent for a large circus and two years later was press agent for a theatrical circuit. He came to Danville in 1897 for the Evening Commercial and at that time acquired a half interest in the paper and also became its business manager.

The Commercial was established in 1866. The present Commercial-News is the result of a merger of the following papers: Commercial, established in 1866; News, established in 1872, consolidated in 1903; Press, established in 1887; Democrat, established in 1897; consolidated in 1908; and merged with the Commercial-News in 1927. Mr. Harrison was editor of the Commercial-News. He was also president of the Home Theatre Company. He was a trustee of Lakeview Hospital, DePauw University, and the Young Men's Christian Association.

Mr. Harrison was married on June 23, 1928, to Lucille (Brian) Gilmore, of Chicago, the daughter of Alexis and Helen (Kelley) Brian. Mr. Brian is deceased and his widow lives in Chicago and Brownwood, Texas.

In politics Mr. Harrison was identified with the Republican party. He was chairman of the Board of Commis-

sioners of Joliet Prison from 1905 until 1913 and during the World War was a member of the Illinois State Council of Defense. He held membership in St. James Methodist Episcopal Church, and had the following lodge affiliations: Olive Branch Lodge No. 38, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Vermilion Chapter, Royal Arch Masons No. 82; Danville Council, Royal and Select Master Masons No. 37; Athlestan Commandry, Knights Templar No. 45; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; and Medinah Temple of the Shrine. He also belonged to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332.

Mr. Harrison was a member of the Republican State Central Committee during 1914-16; chairman of the Republican State Convention in 1918; and a delegate to the Republican National Conventions of 1916 and 1928.

John H. Harrison died at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon, March 2, 1930, at the St. Francis hospital in Miami Beach, Fla. Mr. Harrison was stricken with a paralytic stroke Nov. 1, 1929, while in St. Louis, Mo., on business. He was taken to the Missouri Baptist hospital where he recovered to the extent that on Dec. 21, he was taken to Miami Beach, Fla., where he remained until his death.

Mrs. Harrison who was in Florida with her husband, returned to Danville with his remains. Funeral services were held at the Saint James Methodist Episcopal Church on March 6th and interment was made in Springhill Cemetery, Danville.

Mr. Harrison's death was deeply felt and sincerely mourned by Danville and Vermilion County. Those closest to this great man felt his loss most keenly. Expressive of the great esteem in which he was held by his employes, the following tribute appeared in the issue of March 4, 1930 of the Commercial-News, signed by the one hundred and one employes of that newspaper:



“The chief is gone.

And in his passing we have lost not only an employer, but a friend and adviser and a co-worker.

The door of his office was always open to his friends and we who worked, not for him, but with him, were made to feel we were his friends.

He always kindly listened to what we said. His keen, analytical mind readily grasped the problem presented, whether it concerned the business or our personal affairs.

The solution may not always have pleased, but calm reflection would reveal its correctness. In time of trouble, there was always sympathy and solicitude.

He asked for our best service and his was the type of employer that received our loyal support. The producer had no fear of censure from the chief.

We knew him as an ardent partisan in politics, but never did political or other ulterior considerations ever enter into the matter of our service.

We knew intimately his high ideals, his interests in community affairs, his love of Danville and never was there a question in the minds of we who served with him as to his sincerity in matters that concerned the public's welfare.

We have lost our friend and counselor, but in this loss we are confronted with the knowledge that we are the better for having known and enjoyed to the fullness his friendship.

We have lost the material contact we loved so well, but his memory will live on in our hearts and our tribute to his life will be our determination to do our part in carrying on the policies upon which he built The Commercial-News.”

**Harrison Park, Danville.**—Appreciation of the love of a mother who, through his long business career, was an adviser and friend, who devoted her life to his happiness

and welfare, prompted the gift to the city of Danville of Harrison Park by John H. Harrison, editor of the Commercial-News, and his wife, Mrs. Lucille Brian Harrison. Formal acceptance of the 233.47 acre tract was made by the city on November 13, 1928. Public announcement of the gift of the park was made by Mr. and Mrs. Harrison November 11, 1928.

The only restrictions accompanying the deed of the land were that the real estate should be held in trust by the city of Danville for the benefit of the public and forever be used only as a park and for recreational purposes by and for the public. The park was given in memory of Mr. Harrison's mother, Mrs. Minta Harrison, and is to be known as "Harrison Park." Mr. Harrison and his mother, during her lifetime, had often discussed its scenic beauty and advantages as a public park. Sixty-four acres of the tract was under lease for many years to the Danville Country Club and Mr. Harrison and his mother were wont to sit on the clubhouse veranda and look out over the beautiful golf course to the wooded acres and hills across the river and discuss what its use as a public park would mean to the future of Danville. Following the purchase of the land from Carroll Williams and the Interstate Water Company, the Danville Country Club gave up its lease to move to its new location on the west side of Lake Vermilion, and the clubhouse was bought by the city.

In addition to the 64 acres under lease to the Danville Country Club, the tract runs through to the road by the old Woodbury farm, the river dividing the park. Bridges will be built, making every part of the park accessible to the public. Already an entrance has been made from the west side off the Woodbury Hill Road, making the beautiful grove, with deep ravines on either side, available for picnic purposes.

Harrison Park has been pronounced one of the greatest scenic spots in Illinois. Its hills and its ravines, the river

cutting it in two, its wooded slopes, all blend to make it the most beautiful spot in Illinois. Nature left nothing to be supplied in the way of scenery. A spring of ice cold water at the bottom of one of the ravines on the west side adds the touch of completeness.

The park is a natural arboretum, presenting the opportunity for the study of trees, such as is offered by no other wooded tract in Illinois. Oaks of all descriptions, ash, maple, beech, dogwood, red cedars, black walnut, butternut, hickory, hawthorn, linn, cottonwood, coffee, locust, sycamore, wild cherry, willow are but a part of the marvelous assortment of trees. Stately white pines, native to Illinois, are found on the west side, perhaps the only touch to the natural beauty added by man, for they were planted some eighty years ago by Dr. W. W. R. Woodbury. The park offers tremendous possibilities along the line of development, exclusive of the magnificent nine-hole golf course, built and maintained by the Danville Country Club for many years and which represents an outlay of several hundred thousand dollars, of which the public will now reap the benefit.

It is safe to predict that Harrison Park will in the years to come become one of the scenic attractions of Illinois, attracting thousands of visitors each year.

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**Elmer O. Furrow.**—One of Danville's prominent men is Elmer O. Furrow, who holds the rank of State's Attorney. He is a veteran of the World War, having served in France with the Thirty-third Division. Mr. Furrow was born at Potomac, Vermilion County, March 29, 1885, the son of William Henry and Jessie H. (Ray) Furrow.

William Henry Furrow was born at Potomac in 1853. Throughout his life he engaged in general farming and stock raising in Vermilion County. He retired in 1919

and removed to Oakwood, Illinois, where he died November 13, 1925. His widow lives at Potomac. To Mr. and Mrs. Furrow were born three children: Estelle, married Elmer Rickert, lives at Potomac; Elmer O., the subject of this sketch; and George, who died August 25, 1927.

William Henry Furrow was the son of William R. Furrow, who was born in Ohio in 1830. He became a prosperous farmer and stockman of Vermilion County, where he died in 1901. He is buried at Armstrong, Illinois. Jessie H. (Ray) Furrow was the daughter of John L. Ray, who came to the United States from Ireland. He was a tailor by trade and spent many years at Mayview, Illinois.

After completing his early schooling at Danville, Elmer O. Furrow was graduated from the University of Illinois with the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1909. He was graduated the following year from the Law School of the University of Colorado and engaged in practice at Steamboat Springs, Colorado, until 1913. He then returned to Illinois and engaged in private practice at Danville until August, 1917, at which time he enlisted for service in the World War. He attended the Officers Training School at Fort Sheridan, Illinois, where he was commissioned first lieutenant, Field Artillery. He subsequently was sent to France, and attended the Saumur School of Artillery. Throughout the war period he was attached to Battery B, One Hundred Twenty-fourth Field Artillery, Thirty-third Division, and was later commissioned captain. He participated in the engagements at Meuse-Argonne, and the St. Mihiel Offensive, and was cited for gallantry at Epinonville, France, October 4, 1918. He was discharged at Camp Grant, May 9, 1919. After the close of the war Mr. Furrow resumed the practice of law at Danville. In December, 1924, he took the office of State's Attorney, and was reelected to office in December, 1928. He had previously served as assistant State's Attorney for three years.



In 1925 Mr. Furrow married Pauline Davis, the daughter of Floyd and Catherine Davis, natives of Indiana.

Mr. Furrow is a Republican, a member of the Christian Church, Elks Club, Knights of Pythias, Loyal Order of Moose, Modern Woodmen of America, and Rose Lawn Country Club. He also belongs to the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

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**Hon. Lawrence T. Allen.**—For many years Lawrence T. Allen has been a prominent citizen of Danville, a leading member of the bar, and actively concerned in all that serves to promote the welfare of his community. He was born at Hoopeston, Illinois, October 24, 1882, the son of Charles A. and Mary (Thompson) Allen.

Charles A. Allen was born at Rossville, Illinois, the son of William I. and Emily (Newell) Allen. William I. Allen served throughout the Civil War and held the rank of captain. He was county treasurer of Vermilion County and also served as justice of the peace. His wife, Emily Newell, was the daughter of Esquire Newell, after whom Newell Township, Vermilion County, was named. Charles A. Allen was graduated from the law school of the University of Michigan and became a leading attorney of Vermilion County. He was active in local politics and served for twenty-four years as a member of the Illinois State Legislature. He married Mary Thompson, the daughter of Lewis M. and Judith (Burrough) Thompson, early settlers of Danville.

Lawrence T. Allen received his early education in the public schools of Hoopeston and following his graduation from Greer College attended the University of Chicago, and the University of Illinois, from which he was graduated in law in 1905. He took an active part in college athletics and was also a member of the University band



and glee club. He was admitted to the bar in 1905 and at once engaged in the practice of law at Danville. From 1910 until 1918 he served as county judge of Vermilion County and in 1922 was appointed assistant United States District Attorney for the Eastern District of Illinois. In 1924 under the appointment of the United States Attorney General's office he served as special government prosecutor in full charge of the federal prosecutions of the noted Williamson County liquor cases.

Mr. Allen was married November 4, 1911, at Champaign, Illinois, to Miss Bess Trevett. They have two sons, John T., and Lawrence T.

Mr. Allen is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge, Elks Club, Sons of the American Revolution, Sigma Chi and Phi Delta Phi fraternities, and Danville Country Club. During the World War he served as major in the Tenth Illinois Infantry.

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**William Franklin Banta** is a highly esteemed and widely known citizen of Ridgefarm, where he has spent his entire life. He was born in Elwood Township, Vermilion County, December 9, 1857, the son of James Henry and Mary (Russell) Banta.

James Henry Banta was a native of Flat Rock, Bourbon County, Kentucky. The Banta genealogy, printed in 1893, states that the Bantas are descendants of Epke Jacobse, who came from Friesland, Netherlands, to New Amsterdam in February, 1659. The present Banta family at Ridgefarm is the ninth generation of this family. The history of the family also states that they were a very religious people. James Henry Banta, father of the subject of this sketch, was a farmer and was also interested in the grain business. Both he and his wife are buried in Crown Hill Cemetery, Ridgefarm. They were the parents of the following children: James A., deceased; William Frank-







W. F. Barnta





lin, the subject of this sketch; Nancy Elizabeth, deceased; Sarah Ann, deceased; Margaret Ellen, lives at Dana, Ind.; Amy Dorcas, lives at Danville, Ill.; Andrew Jackson, lives at Long Beach, Calif.; and John Harley, lives at Ridgefarm.

William Franklin Banta remained with his parents on the farm until he was 12 years of age, when the family removed to Ridgefarm. He received a limited education but never failed to take advantage of opportunities to supplement his education and early in life was recognized as a well informed young business man. Mr. Banta served an apprenticeship at the miller's trade and followed this business until 1882, when he purchased the mill property, which he continued to own and operate until his retirement from the grain business in October, 1908. The original mill building was erected in 1871 by Davis & Company. It was later equipped with a full set of rollers, operating by gradual reduction process and which utilized Nordyke Norman & Company's system of milling. This mill turned out the very best of flour, the Peerless brand being fine and pure. The Ridge Farm Mill grew steadily in popularity and Mr. Banta shipped about 700 carloads of grain annually and 300 cars of hay. He gave employment to many men and never failed to advance the business interests of his town. Since his retirement from the grain business in 1908 Mr. Banta has been interested in the stock and bond business with offices in the City National Bank Building, Ridgefarm.

On November 14, 1889, Mr. Banta was united in marriage with Miss Buena V. Jerome, born in Milwaukee, Wis., the daughter of Oliver and Sarah Jane (Crawford) Jerome, natives of Ohio and Canada. The Crawfords were early settlers of Vermilion County. Both Mr. and Mrs. Jerome are deceased. Three children were born to Mrs. and Mrs. Banta: Russell Crawford Banta was born December 30, 1890, and died July 3, 1917. He married Miss

Edith Elder of Georgetown, Ill. She now resides in Hollywood, California. One child was born to this union, William Russell. Helen T. Banta was born December 8, 1893, and died January 6, 1919. She was married to Russell P. Jones of Ridgefarm. To this union three children were born: Billie Banta, and twin daughters, Helen Elizabeth, and Anna Buena. The twins are being reared by Mr. and Mrs. William F. Banta. Robert Jerome Banta was born December 20, 1902, married Ida Gerlough Terry of Sidell, Illinois. They have one son, Robert Terry Banta.

Politically, Mr. Banta has always been a Democrat, and he has served as a member of the local school board for thirty-two years. He is a member of the Methodist Church, and belongs to the Masonic Lodge, thirty-second degree, and since November 3, 1880, he has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. Banta has without doubt inherited from his sturdy ancestors those qualities of character which are inseparable from the successful business man and useful citizen.

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**Fred Lincoln Endicott.**—In the responsible public office of county treasurer Fred Lincoln Endicott is devoting to the welfare of the people the talent and experience which have carried him to individual success and in his practical application of his abilities to the public service he is doing much for the local progress and well being. Mr. Endicott was born in Pilot Township, Vermilion County, June 22, 1876, the son of Austin and Ella (Ray) Endicott.

Austin Endicott was born in Pilot Township, and spent his entire life in Vermilion County. He was born in 1842 and died in 1878. Mr. Endicott was a carpenter and farmer. He was a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, and Masonic lodge. His widow, born in Indiana in 1855, lives at Frankfort, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Endi-

cott had only one child, Fred Lincoln, the subject of this sketch.

Austin Endicott was the son of Samuel and Nancy (Neal) Endicott, natives of Indiana. They were early settlers of Vermilion County, where Mr. Endicott became successful as a farmer and stock raiser. Ella (Ray) Endicott is the daughter of John and Hattie (Woodard) Ray, also natives of Indiana. Both are buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, Champaign County, Illinois. Hattie (Woodard) Ray was the sister of Wilkie Woodard, who laid out the city of Lafayette, Indiana.

Fred Lincoln Endicott has always been interested in farming. He spent his boyhood in Vermilion County and received his education in the district schools. In 1914 he purchased two hundred and twenty acres of land from Hon. Joseph Cannon, which was located in Oakwood Township, near Muncie, Indiana. He added to his holdings later with a purchase of forty acres from the estate of the Cannon heirs. This farm, located in Montgomery County, Indiana, is now rented by Mr. Edicott. He also owns a well improved farm of thirty acres near Danville.

Mr. Endicott served as tax collector of Pilot Township for a period of six years, and as road commissioner for nine years. He was elected county treasurer of Vermilion County in November, 1926, and took office on December 6, 1926.

In September, 1905, Mr. Endicott was united in marriage with Miss Nettie Epler, the daughter of John W. and Nancy (Williams) Epler, of Champaign County, Illinois. Mr. Epler died in 1926 and his wife died in 1924. They are buried at Fisher, Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Endicott were born four children: 1. Alma, married Cord Davis, lives at Oakwood, Illinois. They have two daughters, Nettie May and Margaret. 2. Charles, married Mereith Moorehouse, lives at Terre Haute, Indiana. They have three children: Wayne, Thelma, and Adine. 3.

Wilbur Austin, married Marie Bennett, lives at Farmersburg, Indiana. 4. Esther, married George Dysert, lives at Oakland City, Indiana. They have a son, Marion.

Mr. Endicott is a member of the Methodist Church, and is affiliated with Collison Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons No. 714; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Loyal Order of Moose; and Modern Woodmen of America.

Politically, Mr. Endicott has always been a Republican.

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**John R. Moore.**—Perhaps one of the best known and most highly esteemed men of Vermilion County is found in John R. Moore, who is serving as county clerk. He is a native of Vermilion County, born on a farm in Blount Township, July 12, 1869, the son of Rufus S. and Filena (Rowley) Moore.

Rufus S. Moore was born near Akron, Ohio, in 1826. His wife was born near Attica, Indiana, in 1833. He was educated in Ohio, where he spent his boyhood. Mr. Moore was a wagonmaker by trade and after coming to Danville in 1867 was employed in the building of the Wabash bridge. About 1868 he purchased a farm, which he operated until the time of his death in June, 1910. His wife died in 1895. Both are buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. Mr. Moore was a Republican and served as school director and treasurer. He held membership in the Methodist Church and belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. There were five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Moore: William R., died in 1918; Albert S., lives retired on the old homestead; U. Elmer, lives at Bismarck, Illinois; Emily R., died in 1927; and John R., the subject of this sketch.

John R. Moore has always lived in Vermilion County. He received his early schooling in the district schools and spent two years at Valparaiso University. In 1892, after



leaving college he became identified with the county offices at Danville and the following year was appointed deputy county clerk, under Walter C. Tuttle. The following year he was reappointed to this office under Thomas J. Dale, with whom he was associated until 1914. He was then elected county clerk and has continued to serve in that capacity to the present time, being again reelected to office in 1926.

In 1895 Mr. Moore married Miss Ida A. Ashworth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Garrison Ashworth, natives of Indiana, both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Moore have two children: Miriam A., employed in her father's office as deputy county clerk; and Edward G., connected with the Health Department, Chicago.

Politically, Mr. Moore is a Republican. He is a member of the First Presbyterian Church, and belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen of America, and Order of Redmen.

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**John D. Cole**, county coroner, is regarded as one of the substantial and best known citizens of Danville and Vermilion County. He is also a veteran of the World War, having served in France with the famous "Rainbow" Division. Mr. Cole was born near Catlin, Illinois, October 24, 1877, the son of W. A. and Fannie (Finley) Cole.

W. A. Cole, well known resident of Danville, is a native of Ohio, born at Zanesville in 1847. His wife was born at Danville in 1857. Mr. Cole began life as a railroader, and was employed as a fireman on the old Zanesville & Ohio Railroad. He came to Vermilion County in 1875 and spent three years as a farmer, after which he removed to Fort Scott, Kansas. He returned to Illinois in 1890 and became an engineer on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad. In 1894 he became interested in the coal business and is



thus engaged at the present time. Mr. Cole is a Republican and a member of the Lincoln Methodist Episcopal Church. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Cole: John D., the subject of this sketch; Charles, deceased; and Stella, married Edward Tate, lives at Danville.

Fannie (Finley) Cole is the daughter of John Finley, who settled near Catlin, Illinois, in 1831, being one of the first settlers of that section. He was a native of Pennsylvania.

John D. Cole grew up at Fort Scott, Kansas, and attended school there, the grade schools of Danville and the Danville High School. He then attended Danville Business College in 1899. He began his business career with Bell's Clothing Store, Danville, as bookkeeper and cashier. In 1908 he founded the Danville Gymnasium, which he successfully operated until 1916. Mr. Cole was elected coroner of Vermilion County in December, 1920. He was re-elected in December, 1921; November, 1924; and again in November, 1928.

During the Spanish-American War Mr. Cole enlisted in Battery A, First Illinois Field Artillery, and served in Porto Rico, being discharged as a private in November, 1898. He re-enlisted in the same battery and served until 1900. Five years later he again enlisted in Battery A. He served on the Mexican Border in 1916, and was mustered out of the federal service in February, 1917. During the World War he again enlisted in Battery A, First Illinois Field Artillery, which became the One Hundred Forty-ninth Field Artillery of the Forty-second Division. Mr. Cole saw active service in France and participated in seven major engagements. He was made color sergeant of this regiment and was discharged in May, 1919. He has since re-enlisted and received the commission of Second Lieutenant.

Mr. Cole is a Republican, a member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, Elks Club, Loyal Order of Moose,

Order of Redmen, Knights of Pythias, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and United Spanish War Veterans.

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**Clarence E. Vance**, who is superintendent of the city schools of Danville, is widely known in the educational life of Vermilion County. He was born at Crawfordsville, Indiana, September 25, 1882, the son of Joseph R. and Elizabeth (Shanklin) Vance.

Joseph R. Vance was a native of Lafayette, Indiana. He served for many years as police magistrate at Hoopeston, Illinois. He died at Hoopeston, Illinois, in 1916 and his wife died in 1918. Both are buried at Hoopeston. Their children were: C. M., lives at Urbana, Illinois; W. A., lives at Hoopeston, Illinois; Mrs. Dan Fitzgerald, lives at Los Angeles, California; Mrs. F. M. Schlippy, lives at Los Angeles, California; and Clarence E., the subject of this sketch.

Clarence E. Vance attended the public schools of Hoopeston. He completed a course at the State Teachers College, Normal, Illinois, and later received the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts from the University of Illinois. The professional educational work of Mr. Vance has been as follows: a teacher in the rural and village schools; principal of grade schools; district superintendent; assistant superintendent; and city superintendent.

In June, 1906, Mr. Vance was united in marriage with Miss Eva M. DeWitt, of Milford, Illinois, the daughter of E. A. and Olive (Hobson) DeWitt, the former a native of Newark, New Jersey, and the latter of Milford, Illinois. Mr. DeWitt is deceased, and his widow lives in Los Angeles, California. Mr. and Mrs. Vance have a son, John DeWitt, born April 27, 1909. He attends the University of Illinois.

Mr. Vance is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Masonic Lodge, Knights of Pythias, Grotto, Kappa Delta Pi, Sigma Delta Sigma, and Phi Delta Kappa fraternities, and Kiwanis Club.

Mr. Vance's maternal great-grandfather was one of the founders of Wabash College. His paternal grandfather was a teacher of languages in Cincinnati in 1830. The Vance family is of Scotch descent and the Shanklins were political refugees from England.

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**Alfred Henry Trego.**—To be well beloved by the community in which he spent the many years of his mature manhood, to be still active in the business and civic life of that community after he had passed the allotted period granted to man, to be ungrudging the honorably earned success and distinction that crowned his years, such was the happy lot of Alfred H. Trego, whose wish to "died in harness" had been frequently expressed by him. A son of the Keystone State, Mr. Trego came from a long line of American ancestry, who trace their lineage back to France, to the time of the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in the reign of Louis XIV. The Huguenots by the edict issued by Henry IV in 1588 had been granted freedom and liberty of conscience and worship. In 1685 at its revocation the cruel persecutions that followed drove them out of their homeland by thousands and they sought refuge in those welcoming lands that hospitably received them, many going to England and from there to America to join William Penn's colony of Friends.

So came Peter Trego, the founder of the American branch of the Trego family. He was born in France in 1655 and according to old manuscripts no mention is made of other members of his family accompanying him to









*A. H. Tracy.*



America, where he is next heard of as landing in this country in 1682 and in 1690 as an inhabitant of that part of Chester, now known as Delaware County. He married Judith, and their first child was Jacob. Jacob Trego was born in Chester, now Delaware County, Pennsylvania, August 7, 1687. He married Mary Cartlege, December 1, 1710. They removed to Merion, later Middleton, and were the progenitors of the Bucks County branch of the Trego family. He died at Middleton, April 10, 1724. He had four children, among whom was John. John Trego, son of Jacob and Mary (Cartlege) Trego, was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, May 6, 1715, and he married Hannah Hester. They had seven children, of whom one was William. William Trego, son of John and Hannah (Hester) Trego, was born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, March 16, 1744. He married Rebecca Hibbs, of Byberry, Ben-Salem Township, September 19, 1768. He died in 1827. They had nine children, of whom Jacob is mentioned. Jacob Trego, son of William and Rebecca (Hibbs) Trego, was born October 28, 1780. He married Letitia Smith. He died October 3, 1870. Curtis D. Trego, son of Jacob and Letitia (Smith) Trego, was born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, September 18, 1809. He married Mary Gilbert on October 30, 1834.

Alfred H. Trego, oldest son of Curtis D. and Mary (Gilbert) Trego, was born June 16, 1838. His father followed farming and about 1840 started with his family for the Middle West, traveling in covered wagon to Mercer County, Ill., where he established his home upon a farm. In 1856 he removed to Galesburg, his object being to give his children a better chance for their education, and to do this he carried on a grocery business for several years at Galesburg. During the Civil War he became engaged in purchasing horses for the post at Gallatin, Tennessee. Subsequently, he resided at Orion, Henry County, Illinois, and

the last ten years of his life he spent in Cass County, Iowa, where both he and his wife died.

Alfred H. Trego was five years of age when his family made the overland journey to Mercer County, and his experiences were those that fell to the lot of farmer boys in pioneer times. His preliminary education, acquired in the district schools, was followed by instruction gained in Lombard College, Galesburg, from which he was graduated in 1862. The month following his graduation, at the age of 24 years, he offered his services to the government, joining Company C, of the 102nd Illinois Infantry, under Capt. Frank Shedd, and Col. McMurtry. He served until the end of the war when he was honorably discharged in 1865, having seen active service during all that time. He served in Kentucky and Tennessee, and also in the campaign at Cincinnati. Subsequently he was stationed at Gallatin, Tennessee, where he served as aide-de-camp to Gen. E. A. Paine, continuing there until April, 1864, when he joined General Sherman's forces at Chattanooga, and owing to the absence of his captain on detached duty, took charge of the company as first lieutenant. He served throughout the Atlanta campaign until that city was captured and later was made adjutant general of the First Brigade of the Third Division of the Twentieth Corps, commanded by General Hooker. With that rank he served on the "march to the sea" in the campaign to Savannah, and from that point marching through the Carolinas and on to Washington, being mustered out of service in June, 1865. He was wounded three times.

After the war Mr. Trego returned to Galesburg, but soon after he removed to Rock Island, Ill., where he engaged in the retail grocery business with his father for one year. He then went to Chicago, Illinois, where for a brief period he was employed as a bookkeeper in a commission house. In 1867 he established a commission business of his



own on South Water Street. In 1871 the terrible fire that swept Chicago completely wiped out his business, the insurance company paying only ten cents on a dollar for the loss. His resources gone, Mr. Trego went as a dock laborer at \$1.50 per day, working six months and he then was promoted to shipping clerk, remaining until 1877, when he removed to Hoopeston. After locating in this city, Mr. Trego opened a lumber yard. He was very energetic and determined, and soon developed and built up a business that enabled him to discharge his financial obligations. In 1888 he established branch yards at Wellington, Illinois, and Ambia, Ind., and in the meantime became engaged in the canning business, associated with J. S. McFerren and A. T. Catherwood. In 1886 the present business, the Hoopeston Canning Company, was established, beginning operations on a small scale. During the first season the company canned from thirty to forty thousand cans; later this grew to two hundred thousand cans and the employment increased from three hundred to four hundred people during the season. After Mr. Trego became identified with the business the trade extended throughout the United States, this being the largest corn canning factory in the country. In 1910 they canned about six million cans, representing the products of about three thousand five hundred acres. The growth of this mammoth enterprise was largely due to the splendid business ability developed through his career by Mr. Trego, to his executive force and administrative powers.

Mr. Trego was also one of the eight organizers of the Union Can Company in 1894, which in 1900 was merged with the American Can Company, and Mr. Trego became a stock holder. He was also a director of the First National Bank of Hoopeston. He was equal owner with J. S. McFerran of one thousand seven hundred acres of land in Grant Township, Vermilion County, and also had ex-



tensive real estate holdings in Chicago. He was president of the Illinois Cuban Land Company, owners of twenty thousand acres near Santiago, Cuba, and he was president of the Cuban Cattle Company. The successful management of all of these companies with which he was connected was due in large measure to the impetus and guidance of his sound judgment and enterprising spirit. Mr. Trego also found time for civic duties and large social activities, and Hoopeston has benefited much by the spirit of cooperation that made him a chief factor in her advancement, not alone in trade but in civic virtue and socially.

Mr. Trego married (first) in October, 1869, Miss Frances Caroline Reed, a native of Farmington, Illinois. She died April 27, 1897. Their children were: Charles H., born August 3, 1870, died November 10, 1918; Carrie Jean, deceased; Edward Francis, born September 22, 1876; Walter, born September 20, 1883; Sidney Reed, deceased; and Gilbert Curtis, born February 22, 1888. Mr. Trego was married (second) to Florence Andrews Honeywell, who before her marriage was a portrait, scenic and landscape artist, as well as a teacher of art. She was born at Logansport, Indiana, the daughter of Alba and Cornelia (Andrews) Honeywell, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history.

Mr. Trego was always a Republican and served as mayor and alderman of Hoopeston. He was a member of the Universalist Church and served as Sunday School superintendent for over thirty years. He was affiliated with Star Lodge, No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Hoopeston Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; Knights Templar; and Grand Army of the Republic. He was a trustee of Lombard College and secretary of the Board of Trustees of Greer College.

Mr. Trego died October 19, 1915, and is buried in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston.

**Otis Kercher**, of Danville, is prominent throughout Vermilion County, of which he is serving as farm adviser. He was born at Goshen, Indiana, September 9, 1892, the son of Abraham and Anna (Buzzard) Kercher.

Abraham Kercher was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in 1851, and removed to Warren County, Ohio, with his parents when he was one year old. Later the family settled at Goshen, Indiana, where Mr. Kercher spent the remainder of his life. He died in 1922, and his wife, a native of Elkhart County, Indiana, died in 1906. Both are buried in Waterford Cemetery, Goshen. Mr. Kercher was a Republican and a member of the Menonnite Church. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Kercher: Olive, deceased; Cora E., teacher in Women's College, Montgomery, Alabama; William Wheeler, lives at Goshen, Indiana; Rosa Venetta, lives at Goshen; Lawrence Eugene, principal of Elkhart Township Schools, lives at Goshen; John Wesley, lives at Dayton, Ohio; Noble B., deceased; Oscar B., World War veteran, lives at Fort Worth, Texas; Otis, the subject of this sketch; and Merrill Abraham, engineer, with the Bell Telephone Company, Philadelphia. He is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, and served throughout the World War.

Abraham Kercher was the son of William and Mary (Moyer) Kercher. They came from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and in 1852 settled in Warren County, Ohio, and later located at Goshen, Indiana. He owned and operated a blacksmith shop at that place and for a number of years employed the Studebaker brothers as wagon-makers. William Kercher was the son of John Kercher, who came to Pennsylvania from Holland, being the possessor of a land grant from William Penn near the present site of Reading, Pennsylvania.

Otis Kercher obtained his early education in the public schools of Goshen and in 1914 received the degree of Bachelor of Science from the University of Illinois. He

taught agriculture at Homer, Louisiana, and later became head of the agriculture department at the State Industrial School at Rushton, Louisiana. In February, 1915, Mr. Kercher became identified with the Bureau of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry at the University of Kentucky. He was appointed farm adviser of Pike County, Illinois, in November, 1919, where he remained until March, 1924. He has since served in the capacity of farm adviser of Vermilion County.

In 1914 Mr. Kercher married Miss Genevieve Williams, the daughter of T. B. and Anna (Lucas) Williams, of Sidell, Illinois. They have a son, Richard Allen, born March 7, 1925.

Mr. Kercher is a Republican, a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Masonic Lodge, Young Men's Christian Association, Epsilon Sigma Phi fraternity, and Danville Rod and Gun Club. He is also a member of the Kentucky Academy of Science and a member of the staff of the United States Department of Agriculture.

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**John A. Foster**, justice of the peace, is a representative citizen of Danville. He was born at Auburn, New York, December 26, 1868, the son of William N. and Eleanor (McIntosh) Foster.

William N. Foster, deceased, was a leading druggist of Auburn, New York, where he was born. He was a graduate of the University of Syracuse. Later in life, due to ill health, he retired from business and lived on a farm near Fosterville, New York. He died in 1866 and his wife died in 1883. Both are buried at Fosterville. Mr. Foster was a Republican and held membership in the Methodist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Foster were the parents of three children: John A., the subject of this sketch; Nellie, the widow of Thomas Clark, lives at Auburn, New York; and Thomas J., who died in 1893.

John A. Foster was educated in the public schools of Auburn from which he was graduated in 1890. He then attended the University of Michigan and in 1892 was admitted to the bar. He engaged in private practice at Manistique, Saint Joseph, and Benton Harbor, Michigan. He also served one term as prosecuting attorney of Schoolcraft County, Michigan. In 1898 Mr. Foster enlisted in Company E, Second United States Volunteer Engineers, and was sent to Cuba. He took part in engagements near Santiago and was mustered out of service at Havana, Cuba. He then accepted a government position as quartermaster's agent at Havana for the entire Island. He remained there until October, 1902, when he returned to this country and engaged in the oil business at Beaumont, Texas. Later he spent five years as assistant superintendent of the Sells-Forpaugh circus, and in 1907 went to Chicago, where he became assistant curator of the medical department, University of Illinois. He came to Danville in 1909 and was identified with the Soldiers Home here in various capacities for eighteen years. He was elected justice of the peace in May, 1927.

On July 7, 1907, Mr. Foster married Miss Annie E. Page, of Chicago, the daughter of Dr. Albert Allison and Sarah Elizabeth (McCormick) Page. Doctor Page was a graduate of the University of Missouri and engaged in the practice of medicine at Clinton, Missouri, for many years. He died in 1869, and his wife died in 1887. They are buried in Kansas City, Missouri. Doctor and Mrs. Page were the parents of three children: Mamie, the widow of Robert Holmes, lives at Kansas City, Missouri; George A., lives at Los Angeles, California; and Annie E. Foster.

Mr. Foster is a Republican and is affiliated with Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post Number Seven Hundred Twenty-eight, and Spanish-American War Veterans, John A. Logan Camp, Number Forty-one.

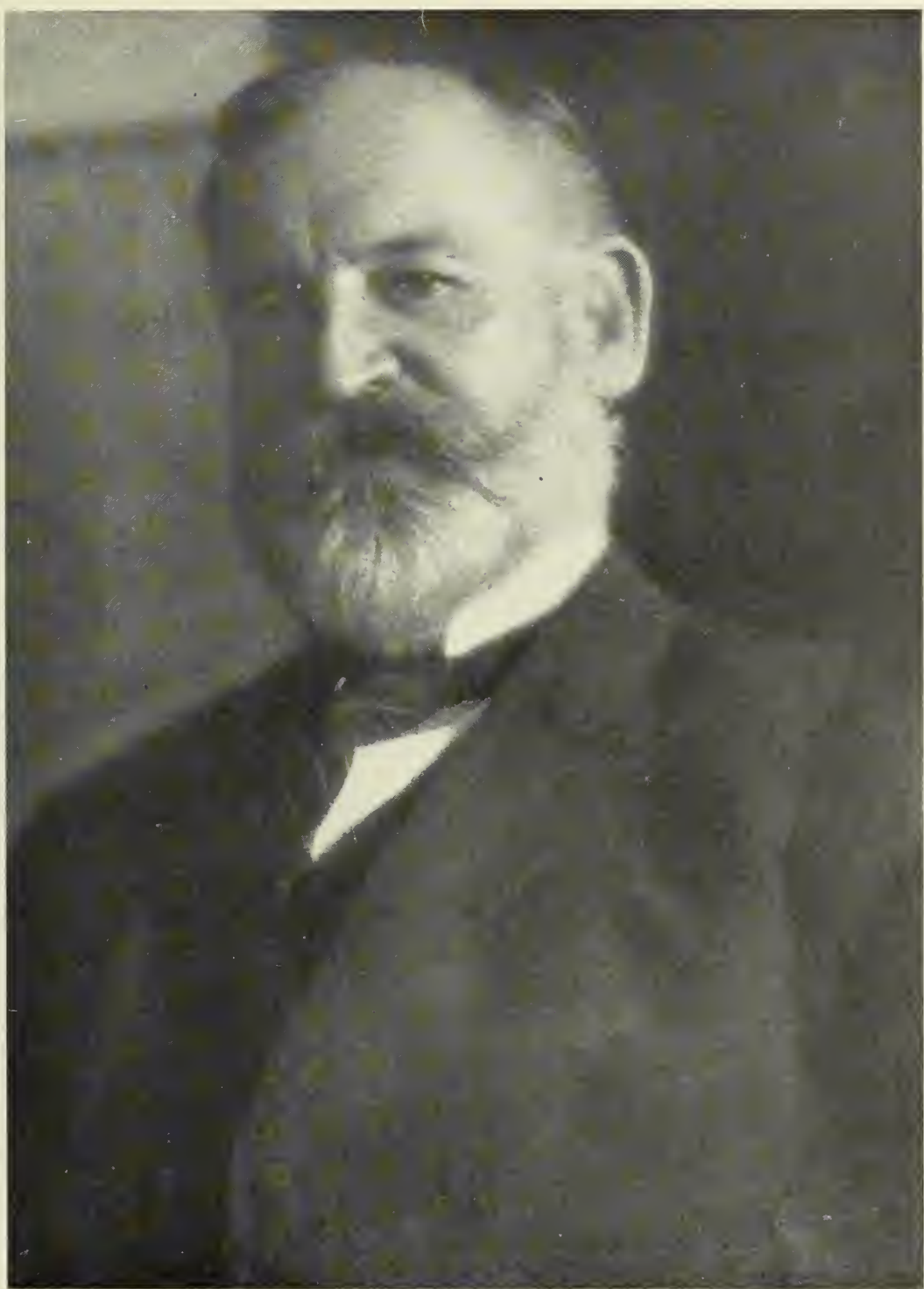


**Hon. Joseph B. Mann.**—The city of Danville lost one of its most prominent and valuable citizens in the death of Joseph B. Mann, which occurred on July 5, 1924. He was outstanding as a lawyer, being familiarly known as the "Dean" of the Vermilion County Bar Association, and he was also a leader in the civic and social life of the city. Mr. Mann was born at Somerville, New Jersey, November 9, 1843, the son of John M. and Elizabeth (Bonnell) Mann.

The Mann family is of Scotch and Dutch descent and the Bonnells are of French and Irish extraction. The Manns settled in Pennsylvania at an early date. The paternal grandfather of Joseph B. Mann fought at the battle of Germantown, where he was in command of a militia regiment. His great grandfather Mattison was a private soldier in the Revolutionary War.

John M. Mann, father of the subject of this sketch, was a native of Pennsylvania. He was a lawyer and engaged in the practice of his profession in New Jersey for thirty-five years. He was also prominent in public affairs and served as a member of the New Jersey State Legislature, as county clerk and surrogate of Somerset County, N. J., and he also held many minor offices. Both John M. Mann and his wife are buried at Somerville, New Jersey. They were the parents of eight children, of whom Joseph B., the subject of this sketch, was the youngest. During the Civil War four sons entered the service; William, who served as adjutant of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry; Charles B., who served as major of the Seventy-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was wounded at the battle of Chickamauga; Samuel B., who served as a sergeant major in the Third New Jersey Volunteer Infantry; and John W., who served as adjutant of the Twenty-Seventh New Jersey Volunteer Infantry. He died from an attack of typhoid fever, which was contracted while in service in the army.





HON. JOSEPH B. MANN



Joseph B. Mann attended the public and private schools of Somerville, New Jersey, and also attended a boarding school at Flatbush, New York. He was graduated from Riverview Military Academy, Poughkeepsie, New York, and Rutgers College, New Brunswick, New Jersey, in the class of 1865. He came west in the fall of that year and settled in Chicago, where he attended Kent Law School. The following spring he located at Danville and entered the law offices of the late Judge Oliver L. Davis, being admitted to the bar in March, 1867. He practiced law alone for several months and then was elected city attorney of Danville in May, 1867, holding office one year and refusing the re-election. He then became associated in practice with Judge E. S. Terry and in March, 1868, formed a partnership with Judge O. L. Davis, which continued until 1873. Mr. Mann then became a member of the circuit court and engaged in practice alone until 1875, when a partnership was formed with W. J. Calhoun. Later, DeWitt C. Frazier was admitted to the firm, which continued until the election of Mr. Calhoun as State's attorney. In 1885 Mr. Mann became identified with Judge O. L. Davis, who had retired from the bench. Three years later, however, Judge Davis retired from active practice and Mr. Mann again resumed partnership with Mr. Calhoun until 1892. At that time Mr. Mann removed to Chicago, and was associated with Curtis H. Remy until 1901, when he returned to Danville. He practiced alone from 1901 until his retirement in 1917. One of the most important cases tried by Mr. Mann was that which arose out of the Iroquois Theatre fire in Chicago, in which he was one of the attorneys for the defense.

Mr. Mann was a life long Democrat. He served for one term as alderman of Danville and in 1881 was elected a member of the Illinois General Assembly. In 1909 he became corporation counsel. He was identified with the Vermilion County Bar Society, Illinois State Bar Society, and

American Bar Association. He was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

As an after dinner speaker Mr. Mann was widely known throughout the State and was called upon to address numerous gatherings in Chicago, where he had an extensive acquaintance and a host of friends and admirers.

Mr. Mann married in January, 1874, Miss Lucy A. Davis, the daughter of Judge Oliver L. and Sarah M. (Cunningham) Davis. Judge Davis was a native of New York City and came to Danville in the early 40's. He was one of the first appellate judges in this section and served as circuit judge for thirty years. He was a personal friend of Abraham Lincoln, riding the circuit with him. It is believed that Judge Davis was the last man in Illinois to see President Lincoln alive, having met him at the station. Judge Davis ranked among the leading jurists of this section. He was offered a post in the cabinet of Lincoln, but declined the honor. Judge Davis died in January, 1892, and his wife died in August of the same year. To Joseph B. and Lucy A. (Davis) Mann were born three children: Fred B., lives at East Orange, N. J.; Oliver D., well known attorney of Danville; and Nell M., the widow of Howard Shedd, lives at Danville.

Mr. Mann is buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville.

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**Douglas F. Stevens** is an active, enterprising business man of Danville, where he is vice president and general manager of the Acme Brick Company. He was born at Minneapolis, Minnesota, September 27, 1883, the son of Charles P. and Mary Elizabeth (Neilson) Stevens.

Charles P. Stevens was a native of Ashburnham, Massachusetts, born in 1840. At the age of fourteen years he went with his father's business and was interested in the

manufacture of furniture in Baltimore, Maryland, until 1880. He then removed to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and engaged in the retail furniture business in that city for ten years. In 1890 he settled at Evanston, Illinois, where he became active in politics, serving as city treasurer. In 1906 he organized the Acme Brick Company, of Danville, Illinois, although he maintained his residence at Evanston. He became president of the new enterprise and continued as its active head until the time of his death in 1914. His wife, born at Baltimore, Maryland, died in 1917. Both are buried in Rose Hill Cemetery, Chicago, Illinois. Their children were: Charles Neilson, president of the City National Bank and Trust Company, and president of the Acme Brick Company, lives in Evanston, Illinois; Annie, married Edward F. Webster, lives at Los Angeles, California; Mary Florence, the widow of Samuel A. Dickie, lives at Evanston, Illinois; Edna, deceased; and Douglas Franklin, the subject of this sketch. Mr. Stevens was a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, the Masonic lodge, and was a Knights Templar.

Douglas F. Stevens attended the public schools of Evanston, Illinois, and spent three years at Northwestern University. He was graduated from Cornell University in 1907 with the degree of Mechanical Engineer. He immediately became identified with his father's brick manufacturing business as assistant superintendent. In 1908 he was made superintendent and at the time of his father's death in 1914 was elected secretary and general manager. Mr. Stevens removed to Danville in 1910. He became vice president and general manager of the company in 1919, and established offices at Danville.

In 1908 Mr. Stevens married Miss Ida Harriet King, the daughter of John F. and Emma L. (Brown) King, the former a native of Germany and the latter of New York City. Mr. King died in 1928 and his widow lives at Danville. He was well known in this city as an insurance man.



To Mr. and Mrs. Stevens have been born two sons: Robert Putnam, born November 6, 1912; and Donald King, born October 26, 1920.

Mr. Stevens is a Republican; a member of the First Presbyterian Church; Rotary Club; Masonic Lodge, thirty-second degree, and Knights Templar; and Walnut Hill Boat Club. He is secretary and former president of the National Brick Manufacturers Association. He was formerly president of the Illinois Clay Manufacturers Association and the Danville Choral Society, and has been an officer of the American Face Brick Association, and American Ceramic Society.

Douglas F. Stevens is a direct descendant of John Stevens, who settled at Chelmsford, Massachusetts, in 1654, coming from County Sussex, England. He was a prominent figure in Massachusetts and became an officer in the Army. Samuel Stevens, great-great-grandfather of Douglas F. Stevens, was a lieutenant in the Continental Army and served at the battle of Concord. He is buried at Chelmsford, Massachusetts.

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**The Acme Brick Company**, of Danville, Illinois, was organized in 1906 by Charles P. Stevens and Charles N. Stevens, with a capital stock of fifty thousand dollars. The original officers were: Charles P. Stevens, president; A. F. Carlson, vice president; and Charles N. Stevens, secretary and treasurer. In the beginning the company manufactured face brick exclusively and employed approximately thirty men.

In 1922 the capital stock of the Acme Brick Company was increased to one hundred fifty thousand dollars. The company had begun the manufacture of floor tile in 1913 and began the manufacture of roof tile in 1927. Face brick, however, is the chief output. The company also has pat-

ents on a special texture called "Persiantex," invented in 1926.

The officers of the Acme Brick Company in 1929 are: Charles N. Stevens, president and treasurer; Douglas F. Stevens, vice president and general manager; Ethel M. King, secretary; and George R. Johnson, superintendent. The company's offices are located at Danville, and the plant at Cayuga, Indiana.

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**Leo W. Burk.**—Among the younger men prominent in the professional and social life of Danville, one of the most outstanding is Leo W. Burk, attorney, with offices in the Daniel Building. He was born in Vermilion County, December 4, 1898, the son of George and Mary E. (Rickard) Burk.

George Burk was born at Higginsville, Vermilion County, in 1867. He was interested in general farming until 1903, when he removed to Danville, where he has since been well known as a cement contractor. He is a Republican, a member of the First Christian Church, Masonic Lodge, and Modern Woodmen of the World. Mr. Burk is the son of William and Mary Burk, natives of Indiana, and early settlers of Vermilion County. His wife, Mary E. (Rickard) Burk, was born in Vermilion County, the daughter of Jacob and Martha Rickard. Mr. Rickard died at Danville in 1914. His widow still lives in this city. To Mr. and Mrs. George Burk eight children were born, as follows: Leo W., the subject of this sketch; Raleigh O., lives at Indianapolis, Indiana; Jewell V., attends the Kent College of Law; George, lives at Indianapolis; Paul B., Marvin D., Gene, and Virginia E., all students.

Leo W. Burk, as a youth, attended the public schools of Danville and after his graduation from high school in 1917 spent a year at the University of Illinois before his

enlistment for service in the World War. He served as a member of the Three Hundred and Eighth Tank Corps and was stationed at Camp Polk, North Carolina, and later at Camp Green, South Carolina. He was discharged December 31, 1918, and resumed his work at the University of Illinois, from which he was graduated in law in 1922. He was subsequently admitted to practice in the Federal courts and served as inheritance tax attorney under the Attorney General of the State of Illinois.

In 1924 Mr. Burk married Miss Opal I. Ayres, the daughter of William E. and Oma (Butts) Ayres, of Mattoon, Illinois. They have a daughter, Sheila Ann.

Mr. Burk is a Republican, a member of the First Christian Church, Furtherlight Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, No. 1130, Master; Gamma Eta Gamma fraternity; American Legion; Adelphic Literary Society; and University of Illinois Law Club.

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**Harold Ferguson Lindley**, who is associated in practice with the law firm of Gunn, Penwell & Lindley, ranks among the successful attorneys of Danville. He was born at Mattoon, Illinois, April 3, 1888, the son of Charles and Zyphora (Ferguson) Lindley.

Charles Lindley was born at Dublin, Wayne County, Indiana, and his wife was born on a farm south of Mattoon, Illinois. He was employed by Alschuler & Company, wholesale and retail dry goods merchants, Mattoon. He died October 23, 1889, at the age of twenty-six years and is buried in Muddy Point Cemetery, Mattoon. Mr. Lindley was a Republican, a member of the Congregational Church, and Knights of Pythias. One child was born to Mr. and Mrs. Lindley: Harold Ferguson, the subject of this sketch. Mrs. Zyphora Lindley married the second time to C. W. Sellen, and they had a daughter Martha,

the wife of Mark W. Eichelberger; they live in Chicago. Mrs. Sellen died August 13, 1920, and is buried at Mattoon, Illinois.

Harold Ferguson Lindley attended the public schools of Mattoon and was graduated from high school in 1906. He also completed a course at the Mattoon Business College, and attended the University of Illinois during 1906-1908; graduated from the University of Chicago in 1910 with the degree of Ph. B.; and in 1912 was graduated from the Law School, University of Chicago, with the degree of J. D. After graduating in law Mr. Lindley practiced in Chicago for about three years. He then became associated with the law firm of Martin & Glenn at Murphysboro, Illinois. He left that firm to return to Chicago, where he became general counsel, secretary, and a member of the board of directors of the Jewel Tea Company, Inc. He came to Danville in 1922 as a partner in the law firm of Gunn, Penwell & Lindley. They maintain offices in the Daniel Building.

Mr. Lindley was married (first) November 22, 1916, to Miss Muriel Aken, a native of Elkhville, Illinois, the daughter of W. H. and Margaret (Cox) Aken, natives of Illinois. Mr. Aken lives at Elkhville. His wife died November 13, 1927. Muriel (Aken) Lindley died November 28, 1923, and is buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. She left two daughters: Muriel Zyphora and Dorothy Aken, both students. On June 10, 1925, Mr. Lindley married Miss Gladys Brewer, daughter of G. L. and Hester (Woolsey) Brewer. He is deceased and his widow lives at Indianapolis, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Lindley have a son, Charles Brewer Lindley, born in 1926.

Politically, Mr. Lindley is a Republican. He attends the Presbyterian Church, and is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge, Elks Club, Knights of Pythias, Sigma Chi fraternity, and Danville Country Club. He is a member of the Board of Education and a member of the Board of



Trustees, Lakeview Hospital, Danville. He is also secretary of the Vermilion County Central Republican Committee.

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**Larkin A. Tuggle** is widely known throughout Vermilion County as the capable superintendent of schools. He was identified with the city school system of Danville for a number of years before accepting his present position in 1923. Mr. Tuggle was born at Indianola, Illinois, July 29, 1875, the son of James M. and Laura F. (Hansbrough) Tuggle.

James M. Tuggle was born in Union County, W. Va., and his wife was a native of Indianola, Illinois. He was a minister of the United Brethren Church for thirty-five years and was identified with the upper Wabash Conference. His father settled at Fairmount, Illinois, in 1854 and enlisted in the Seventy-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry in 1861. He died in service December 24, 1861, at Nashville, Tenn. James M. Tuggle died Nov. 11, 1921, and his wife died December 13, 1928. Both are buried at Veedersburg, Ind. Their children were: Carrie Ward, lives at Owasa, Iowa; Orrie M., lives at Morocco, Indiana; Halsie, lives at Los Angeles, California; William, lives at Danville; Benjamin F. and Calvin, both deceased; Thersia Storm, lives at Veedersburg, Indiana; James, Mary Hullihan, and June, all deceased; Clifford, lives at Lexington, Missouri; and Larkin A., the subject of this sketch.

Larkin A. Tuggle spent his boyhood on a farm and attended the district schools of Illinois and Indiana. He was graduated from Battleground High School and attended Westfield (Illinois) College. Mr. Tuggle began his teaching career as a country school teacher and after six years was appointed principal of Lincoln School, Danville, in which capacity he served for seven years. He then was supervisor of manual training in the Danville schools for a





L. A. Fuggles



period of eleven years and in 1923 became county superintendent of schools.

On July 28, 1901, Mr. Tuggle was united in marriage with Miss Sadie E. Martin, of Georgetown, Illinois, the daughter of Dr. Franklin and Amanda (Hewitt) Martin. Dr. Franklin Martin, deceased, was descended from one of the first families of Vermilion County. His grandfather Henry Martin was one of the two sons-in-law of Achilles Morgan, who settled on the Vermilion River, east of Westville, in 1825. Achilles Morgan, with his two sons-in-law, Henry Martin and George Brock, came to the salt works west of Danville in 1821. Mrs. Amanda (Hewitt) Martin Bennett is now a widow and lives at Georgetown, Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Tuggle the following children have been born: Thelma, married Dan Stratman, lives at Danville; Gordon, deceased; Edith, Pauline, Floyd, Berlin, Eleanor, Lucile, Christine, and Peggy Jean, all at home.

Mr. Tuggle has always been a Republican. He is a member of the First United Brethren Church, Danville, and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, Loyal Order of Moose, Improved Order of Red Men, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans of the World War, and other lodge auxiliaries.

Mr. Tuggle has had a long and adventurous military career. He joined the Fifth Illinois National Guard as a private in Company I, May 16, 1905, at Danville. He was promoted to corporal on June 17, 1906; became quartermaster sergeant on September 14, 1906; second lieutenant on November 17, 1908; and was promoted to captain on August 5, 1910, which rank he held until the close of the World war. For seven years he was inspector of rifle practice of the Fifth Illinois Infantry, and during that time was state team coach for two years of the Illinois National Guard State Rifle Team, which took part in the National Rifle and Pistol Competitions, conducted by the

War Department at Camp Perry, Ohio, and Jacksonville, Florida. He was also range officer for the rifle ranges at Georgetown, Peoria, and Springfield and trained thousands of national guardsmen in the use and art of rifle and pistol firing. He won many state and national matches, winning the highest rank in both rifle and pistol, that of Expert Rifleman and Expert Pistolman. He represented General Headquarters of the American Expeditionary Forces at LeMans, France, in May, 1919, at the National A. E. F. Rifle and Pistol matches.

Mr. Tuggle was assigned as Company Commander of Company E, Fifth Infantry, at Hillsboro, Illinois, on February 1, 1917, and was called into active service March 26, 1917, and sent to Cairo and Thebes, Illinois, where he guarded bridges across the Ohio and Mississippi rivers until August 15, 1917. He was then sent to Houston, Texas, where the "Prairie Division" or Thirty-third Division was mobilized and organized for war training. Company E arrived in Houston about August 20, 1917, and Mr. Tuggle being senior line officer was placed in command of the camp until the arrival of General Bell. In the interim the 24th United States Infantry (colored) broke out in riot and killed twenty-three people and wounded fifty-seven men, women and children. Mr. Tuggle got his Illinois troops in action and quelled the riot before midnight, capturing one hundred and seventy-five of the rioting soldiers. Houstonians gave Mr. Tuggle credit for "saving the city of Houston." Throughout the investigations and trials in this case not one word of criticism was ever offered by the War Department concerning the handling of the situation by Mr. Tuggle. Nineteen of the rioters were hanged, and forty-three were given life sentences in the penitentiary.

Mr. Tuggle served for two years and four months in the World War, fourteen months of which were spent in France. He attended the Officers Training School at Fort

Sill, Oklahoma, in the fall of 1917, and was made an instructor. He saw front line trench service in France while in command of the One Hundred and Twenty-second Machine Gun Battalion, Thirty-third Division, for two months of continuous fighting in the Somme River Sector, east of Amiens. He was then assigned to the First Army Headquarters in G I and joined them at Chateau Thierry in August, 1918. After the armistice he was town major for six months near Chaumont, Headquarters American Expeditionary Forces. Later he was District Commander at Chalons-sur-Marne, and his last service was at Dijon, France, in May and June, 1919.

Mr. Tuggle is State Department Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, with headquarters at Danville, and he is also second junior vice commander of Illinois of the Disabled American Veterans of the World War. He is also in command of the Military Department of the Supreme Lodge of Knights of Pythias, with headquarters in Danville. In 1929 he was appointed by Governor Lewis L. Emerson, one of the five members of the Advisory Board of the Department of Public Welfare, State of Illinois, as representative of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

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**Walter T. Gunn**, of Gunn, Penwell & Lindley, attorneys, Danville, is widely known throughout Vermilion County, where he has successfully engaged in practice for a period of almost thirty years. He was born at La Salle, Illinois, June 4, 1879, the son of Luther V. and Alice E. (Rogers) Gunn.

Luther V. Gunn was born in New York, November 20, 1856. He attended the common schools until he was fourteen years of age and then worked on a farm in La Salle County, Illinois, for seven years. He came to Vermilion



County in 1880 and purchased a tract of land here, which he farmed for a number of years. Mr. Gunn now lives retired at Hoopeston, Illinois. His wife died in 1915. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Gunn: Walter T., lives at Danville; Roger F., lives at Rensselaer, Indiana; Robert L., Jennie, Letha A., Myra, all live at Hoopeston; Jessie, deceased; and Walter T., the subject of this sketch.

Walter T. Gunn received his education in the public schools of Hoopeston, Illinois, and attended Green College. He was graduated from the Law School, Illinois Wesleyan University, in 1901 and during that year was admitted to practice at the Illinois bar. He engaged in practice alone for one year at Danville and then was associated with J. W. Keeslar. Mr. Gunn went to California in 1911 and spent three years in practice at Los Angeles, after which he returned to Danville and formed the partnership of Gunn & Platt. The present firm of Gunn, Penwell & Lindley has been in existence since 1922. They have offices in the Daniel Building.

Mr. Gunn was married in 1904 to Miss Vina Dayton, of Santa Barbara, California, the daughter of W. H. and Sarah (Gundy) Dayton, natives of Vermilion County. Mr. Dayton died in 1919. His widow lives at Danville. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Gunn: Horace, attorney, 231 South La Salle Street, Chicago, is a graduate of the University of Illinois; and Marjorie, who attends the University of Illinois.

Mr. Gunn is a Republican in politics. He served as assistant state's attorney in Vermilion County from 1902 until 1908; in 1909 was elected alderman of the Seventh Ward, Danville; in 1906 was Master in Chancery, United States Circuit Court, and served until 1912; and from 1915 until 1919 was corporation counsel for the city of Danville.

Mr. Gunn is affiliated with the Elks Club, and Masonic lodge, thirty-second degree. He is identified with the Vermilion County Bar Association, Illinois Bar Association, and American Bar Association. He also belongs to the Danville Country Club.

Luther V. Gunn was the son of Luther and Lydia (Gage) Gunn, natives of New York.

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**William G. Hartshorn.**—Outstanding among the citizens of Danville, both for his business ability and for his public-spirited concern in the affairs of the community, was William G. Hartshorn, who died November 18, 1926. He was born at Corydon, Iowa, January 17, 1860, the son of William G. and Mary Ann (Thompson) Hartshorn.

William G. Hartshorn was a native of Dublin, Ireland. Early in life he went to Liverpool, England, where he was identified with one of the largest iron merchants as bookkeeper and traveling salesman. After coming to this country he accepted a position as bookkeeper in St. Louis and later went to Keokuk, Iowa, and worked at the same occupation. After his health failed he went to Corydon, Iowa, where he published the first Republican newspaper, which was known as the Corydon "Monitor." He was elected United States Senator on the Republican ticket but died the same year, 1867. His wife, who was born in London, England, died March 10, 1903. Both are buried at Corydon, Iowa. They had five children: Mrs. Kate H. Hayes, born May 6, 1859, lives at Danville; William G., the subject of this sketch; John G., born May 17, 1862, lives at Danville; Mrs. C. W. Martindale, born January 25, 1864, lives at Fargo, North Dakota; and Mrs. M. J. Elrod, born March 5, 1866, lives at Missoula, Montana.

William G. Hartshorn received his education in the schools of Corydon, Iowa. After leaving school he found

his first employment as a clerk in a hardware store. He became actively identified with the coal business with R. R. and J. G. Hammond about 1894 in Iowa. In 1895 he came to Danville as president and general manager of the Economy Coal Company. He later organized and opened a mine to be known as the Electric Coal Company in 1903. In 1911 Mr. Hartshorn had designed and built the first successful stripping shovel in the world. He then organized several other stripping companies, all of which were highly successful.

In April, 1891, Mr. Hartshorn married Miss Myrtle Prentice, of Pleasantville, Iowa, the daughter of Thomas Jefferson and Sophronia (Jordon) Prentice, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Iowa. Mr. Prentice died in 1893. His widow lives at Long Beach, California. To Mr. and Mrs. Hartshorn was born a son, William G., Jr. He is a well known coal operator of Danville.

Mr. Hartshorn was a Republican, and a member of the Elks Club and Kiwanis Club.

Mr. Hartshorn was chairman of the County Red Cross during the World War in 1917 and 1918 and took a very active interest in that work.

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**The Equitable Building & Loan Association** is one of the oldest and most substantial institutions of its kind in Vermilion County. It was organized in Danville in 1880 by Asa Partlow, and was capitalized at that time for \$50,000.

The first officers of the company were: W. P. Cannon, president; and Asa Partlow, secretary. In 1885 Edwin R. Partlow became secretary, and continued in that capacity until his death, February 27, 1928. He was succeeded in that office by F. E. Partlow.

The officers for 1929 are, as follows: George M. Wright, president; F. E. Partlow, secretary; and C. V. McClenathan, treasurer. The directors are: Frank L. Hill, C. V. McClenathan, A. A. Partlow, F. E. Partlow, A. R. Samuel, W. L. Syrcle, and George M. Wright.

The statement as of February 28, 1929, follows: Assets: Loans on Real Estate, \$3,195,875.53; Stock Loans, \$65,753.62; Real Estate and Costs, \$73,909.00; Taxes Advanced, \$1,578.02; Furniture and Fixtures, \$2,500.00; Interest in Arrears, \$13,802.04; Cash in Bank, \$171,860.37; Total, \$3,525,278.58. Liabilities: Installments paid on Stock, \$3,012,191.34; Dividends Credited on Stock, \$486,587.24; Contingent Fund, \$21,500.00; Undivided Profits, \$5,000.00. Total, \$3,525,278.58.

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**Edwin Reuben Partlow.**—One of the most progressive and best known business men of Danville was Edwin Reuben Partlow, who died February 27, 1928. He was identified with the Equitable Building & Loan Association throughout his entire business career and served as secretary from 1885 until the time of this death in 1928.

Mr. Partlow was born in Danville, February 6, 1867, the son of Asa and Mary (Murdock) Partlow. Asa Partlow was the founder of the Peoples Building Association in 1870, and in 1880 he organized the Equitable Building & Loan Association. He served as secretary until 1885 and was succeeded at that time to the office by his son, Edwin Reuben Partlow.

The education of Edwin Reuben Partlow was received in the public schools of Danville and following his graduation from Danville High School in 1885 he immediately accepted the office of secretary of the Equitable Building & Loan Association.



Mr. Partlow was married on September 19, 1893, to Miss Lorene Fanson. They had a daughter, Edna M. Syrcle, who lives in Danville.

Mr. Partlow held membership in St. James Methodist Church, of which he was a trustee, and he was affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Knights of Pythias; Olive Branch Lodge No. 38, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; and Rotary Club. He was president of the Illinois League of Building Associations and for seven years was Illinois representative on the executive committee of the United States League of Building Associations.

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**John F. Fisher**, civil engineer, with offices in the Dale Building, ranks among the prominent citizens of Danville. He was born near Indianola, Vermilion County, April 24, 1865, the son of Michael and Maryetta (Baum) Fisher.

Michael Fisher was born near Indianola, Vermilion County, in November, 1835, and died January 10, 1923. He was a graduate of Georgetown Seminary and taught school in Vermilion County. Later, he farmed near Emporia, Kansas, and from there went to Missouri, and settled near Springfield, where he again taught school. Upon his return to Indianola, Illinois, he was married June 30, 1864, to Maryetta Baum, who was born there, in February, 1845. She now resides at Sidell, Illinois. Mr. Fisher became interested in the nursery business and was the owner of fine orchards. He also owned and operated a hardware business from 1878 until 1904, at which time he retired. He was a Democrat and for several years served as justice of the peace. His wife held membership in the Methodist Church and he was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. Fisher is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Indianola. The children born to Mr. and





JOHN F. FISHER



Mrs. Fisher were: John F., the subject of this sketch; Maude, the widow of Joseph J. Sidell, lives at Sidell, Illinois; and Eva, married Harvey Sconce, lives at Sidell.

Michael Fisher was the son of David P. and Jane (Weaver) Fisher. He was born in Brown County, Ohio, in 1809, and his wife was born in Clairmont County, Ohio, in 1813. He died in August, 1881, and she died in July, 1907. Both are buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Indianola, Illinois. Their marriage took place in 1834. He had settled at Indianola in 1833, where he became successful as a farmer and stock raiser. Jane (Weaver) Fisher was the daughter of Michael and Mary (Spessard) Weaver. He was born at Hagerstown, Maryland, August 18, 1775, and his wife was a native of Pennsylvania, of German descent. In 1875 Michael Weaver celebrated his 100th birthday anniversary. He died in October of that year and is buried in Weaver Cemetery. He had settled near Indianola about 1828 and became a farmer. He served in the War of 1812.

Maryetta (Baum) Fisher is the daughter of Dr. John W. and Harriet (Wendel) Baum, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Indiana. He died in 1854 and she died in 1889. Both are buried in Illinois.

John F. Fisher received his early education in the public schools of Indianola. He was graduated from the University of Illinois in 1890 with the degrees of Bachelor of Science and Civil Engineering. After leaving college he went to Chicago and was employed in the engineering department of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. Later, he went with the Illinois Central Railroad, and finally was associated with W. L. Stebbings, consulting engineer, Chicago. In 1900 Mr. Fisher went to the Indian Territory, now Oklahoma, and served as engineer for the Interior Department of the United States Government, laying out town sites. This work was completed in De-

ember, 1904, and Mr. Fisher then came to Danville, where he established private offices.

In 1900 Mr. Fisher married Miss Maude Songer, daughter of W. W. and Elsie Ellen (Shore) Songer. A sketch of W. W. Songer appears elsewhere in this history in the biography of Robert C. Songer. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher have a daughter, Georgia, who is a graduate of Danville High School and the University of Arizona. She was also a student at the Alameda County Hospital, Oakland, California, and is now dietitian at Good Samaritan Hospital, Phoenix, Arizona.

Mr. Fisher is a Republican and held the office of collector of Carroll Township, Vermilion County, in 1895-96. He is a member of the Methodist Church, Modern Woodmen of America, and Illinois Society of Engineers.

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**Richard H. Johnson.**—Representative among the successful young men of Danville may be mentioned Richard H. Johnson, who is identified with Johnson's Printing House, 115 West Main Street. He is a native of this city, born August 20, 1895, the son of C. S. and Alma (Dillon) Johnson.

C. S. Johnson was born at Richmond, Kentucky, in 1862, the son of Richard Henderson and Susan (Goodwill) Johnson, the former a native of Lafayette, Indiana, and the latter of Kentucky. Mr. Johnson was a publisher and settled at Danville in 1866, where he was the founder of the old "Danville News" in 1872. He served as coroner of Vermilion County and was a leading citizen of his time. He died in 1911 and his wife died in 1910. They are buried in Spring Hill Cemetery, Danville. She was an ardent lover of flowers and it was in honor of her beautiful flower garden, "Rose Lawn," that the new residential section of Danville was named. The son of Richard Hender-

son Johnson was C. S., father of the subject of this sketch. When fourteen years of age he learned the printer's trade at Danville, having come to this city with his parents in 1866. In 1895 Mr. Johnson established a job printing company, and it ranks among the city's leading business houses. They specialize in job printing, office supplies, and manufacture rubber stamps.

Mr. C. S. Johnson is a Republican, a member of the First Church of Christ, Masonic Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Modern Woodmen of America. Alma (Dillon) Johnson was born at Georgetown, Illinois, in 1862. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson: Georgia Frances, lives at home; and Richard H., the subject of this sketch.

Richard H. Johnson grew up in Danville and obtained his early schooling here, being a graduate of Danville High School in the class of 1915. He received the degree of Bachelor of Science at the University of Illinois in 1919. He volunteered for service during the World War and enlisted in the Ordnance Department, United States Army. He was stationed at Camp Hancock, later at Fort Sheridan, and finally at the Charleston General Ordnance Supply Depot, South Carolina. He was discharged on March 14, 1919. Following his graduation from college, Mr. Johnson went to Chicago where he was associated with Butler Brothers, as buyer. Later, he was buyer for Sears Roebuck Company. He returned to Danville in 1921 and has since been connected with the Johnson Printing House.

In 1921 Mr. Johnson married Miss Dorothy Primm, the daughter of W. L. and Sarah E. (Webb) Primm, of Chicago, both now deceased. They have three children: Richard H., Jr., born in 1922; Hubert, born June 1, 1925; and Sarah Elizabeth, born September 1, 1928.

Mr. Johnson is a Republican and in 1928 was elected supervisor of Danville Township. He is a member of the First Church of Christ, Masonic Lodge, Elks Club, American Legion, and "40 and 8" Society.



**William I. Bowman.**—One of the well known men of Danville is William I. Bowman, portrait artist and commercial photographer. He was born near Fairmount, Vermilion County, February 17, 1889, the son of Isaac N. and Rachael Elizabeth (Current) Bowman.

Isaac N. Bowman was born in Vermilion County, April 30, 1861, the son of William and Mary (Wiggins) Bowman, the former a native of Manchester, England, and the latter of Vermilion County. William Bowman was a pharmacist and came to the United States about 1855. He and his wife are buried in Leonard Cemetery, near Danville. Their son, Isaac N. Bowman, engaged in general farming in Vermilion County for more than twenty years and in 1902 removed to Chanute, Kansas, where he owned and operated a farm until the time of his retirement in 1920. He is a Republican, a member of the United Brethren Church and Modern Woodmen of America. Rachael E. (Current) Bowman was born in Vermilion County, December 8, 1865, the daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth (Lynch) Current. Both were natives of Vermilion County, where Mr. Current engaged in farming. He lives retired at Danville. His wife is deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Isaac N. Bowman were born five children: William I., the subject of this sketch; Mary J., married Earl Wertz, lives at Chanute, Kansas; Harry M., a World War veteran, lives at Danville; Ruth M., married Oscar McClarren, lives at Chanute; and George N., lives at Danville.

William I. Bowman received his education in the public schools of Vermilion County and Chanute, Kansas. He also took a commercial course and at the same time studied photography. He began his business career in the Moore Studio, Chanute, Kansas. After coming to Danville in 1909 he was associated with the studio of A. R. Campbell until 1914, when he purchased Mr. Campbell's interest in the business. In July, 1925, Mr. Bowman removed to his present location, 22 North Hazel Street. He specializes

in high grade portrait work and has also been official photographer for the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad for the past fifteen years.

April 20, 1913, Mr. Bowman married Lena Rader, the daughter of S. W. and Mary (Myers) Rader, of Marion, Indiana. He is chief engineer for the Western Brick Company and now lives at Danville. Mr. and Mrs. Bowman are the parents of five children: William R., Gertrude, Dallas, and Robert, all students; and Herbert, born in 1916, died in 1924, buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Danville.

Mr. Bowman holds membership in the First United Brethren Church, Olive Branch Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons No. 38; Vermilion Chapter, Royal Arch Mason No. 182; Athlestan Commandery, Knight Templar No. 45; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Mohammed Temple; Loyal Order of Moose; Rotary Club; and Chamber of Commerce. He is a life member of the Amateur Trap Shooting Association, Vandalia, Ohio.

Mr. Bowman is a Republican.

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**John G. Hartshorn**, retired, is numbered among the progressive men of Danville, where he has lived for more than thirty years. He was born at Corydon, Iowa, May 17, 1862, the son of William G. and Mary Ann (Thompson) Hartshorn.

William G. Hartshorn was a native of Dublin, Ireland. Early in life he went to Liverpool, England, where he was identified with one of the largest iron merchants as bookkeeper and traveling salesman. After coming to this country he accepted a position as bookkeeper in St. Louis and later went to Keokuk, Iowa, and worked at the same occupation. After his health failed he went to Corydon, Iowa, where he published the first Republican newspaper,

which was known as the Corydon "Monitor." He was elected United States Senator on the Republican ticket but died the same year, 1867. His wife, who was born in London, England, died March 10, 1903. Both are buried at Corydon, Iowa. They had five children: Mrs. Kate H. Hayes, born May 6, 1859, lives at Danville; William G., a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history; John G., the subject of this sketch; Mrs. C. W. Martindale, born January 25, 1864, lives at Fargo, North Dakota; and Mrs. M. J. Elrod, born March 5, 1866, lives at Missoula, Montana.

John G. Hartshorn attended the schools of Corydon, Iowa. After his graduation from high school he was employed as a clerk in the dry goods store of B. F. Miles for three years. He then became associated in the general mercantile business with his brother, William G. Hartshorn, at Pleasanton, Iowa. Later, he conducted a coal business at Dunreath, Iowa, from 1887 until 1898. In the latter year the brothers came to Danville, where they purchased the Economy Mine, as well as numerous other mines in this section. They also operated mines in Ohio and Indiana. Their interests in southern Illinois were sold in September, 1928, to the Truax Traer Coal Company. In 1922 the Hartshorn mining interests in and about Danville were disposed of to the United Electric Coal Company. Mr. Hartshorn maintains private offices in the Adams Building, Danville. His residence is at 1102 North Walnut Street.

On March 1, 1888, Mr. Hartshorn was united in marriage with Miss Minnie E. Shepherd, of Mt. Ayr, Iowa, the daughter of Joseph S. and Mary (Moore) Shepherd. Both Mr. and Mrs. Shepherd are deceased and are buried at Keosauqua, Iowa. He was a publisher at Keosauqua and Mount Ayr, Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Hartshorn two children were born: Harry, died February 29, 1892; and Helen Carson, born May 6, 1897, lives at Danville.

Politically, Mr. Hartshorn is a Republican. He is affiliated with the Elks Club, Loyal Order of Moose, Rotary Club, and Danville Country Club. He has served as president of the Board of Education, Danville, and as president of the Chamber of Commerce. He was chairman of the Vermilion County Centennial Association.

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**Fred Bowman Penwell**, of Danville, is recognized as one of the leading members of the Vermilion County bar. He was born in this city, September 2, 1878, the son of Frank W. and May (Bowman) Penwell.

Frank W. Penwell, deceased, was a leading attorney of Vermilion County. He was born near South Bend, Indiana, and following his graduation from Saint Joseph's Academy and the University of Michigan Law School he engaged in practice at Shelbyville, Illinois. He came to Danville in 1873, where he formed a partnership with a Mr. Henry, the firm being known as Henry & Penwell. In 1880 Mr. Penwell became associated with Frank Lindley, and that partnership continued until the retirement of Mr. Penwell in 1907. He died June 19, 1920, and is buried in Spring Hill Cemetery, Danville. His widow, born in New York, lives at Danville. Their children were: Fred Bowman, the subject of this sketch; Jeanette, married Dr. A. M. Miller, lives at Danville; and Edward E., lives at Danville.

The early education of Fred Bowman Penwell was received in the public schools of Danville. He attended Michigan Military Academy and in 1905 was graduated from the Law School of the University of Illinois. Mr. Penwell's first experience in legal work had come when he was employed as a clerk in the offices of Penwell & Lindley, of which his father was the senior member.



After his father's retirement a reorganization of the firm in 1907 took place, and became known as Lindley, Penwell & Lindley, Frank Lindley being the senior member of the firm. At that time Walter C. Lindley, now United States Judge, also became a member of the firm, and the firm continued as Lindley, Penwell & Lindley until October, 1922, when Walter C. Lindley was appointed to the Federal Bench.

The firm was then again reorganized, Mr. Walter T. Gunn becoming the senior member, and Harold F. Lindley, of Chicago, becoming associated as a partner.

The firm is now known as Gunn, Penwell & Lindley, with offices in the Daniel Building.

Politically, Mr. Penwell is a Republican. He is affiliated with Olive Branch Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, No. 38; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Sigma Chi fraternity; Danville Country Club; Union League Club of Chicago; and Chamber of Commerce. He is also identified with the Vermilion County Bar Association, Illinois State Bar Association, and American Bar Association.

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**Howard A. Swallow**, who is identified with the firm of Swallow & Bookwalter, with offices in the First National Bank Building, Danville, is one of the leading members of the Vermilion County bar. He was born at Danville, August 18, 1878, the son of Charles M. and Clara (Northup) Swallow.

Charles M. Swallow was a native of Pennsylvania. He came to Danville in 1871 and the following year was graduated from the University of Michigan. He was admitted to the bar in 1872 and engaged in the practice of law at Danville continuously from that time until his retirement in 1899. Mr. Swallow married Miss Clara Northup, of





HOWARD A. SWALLOW



Clark Summit, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania. She died February 7, 1879. Howard A., the subject of this sketch, was their only child.

The early schooling of Howard A. Swallow was received in the schools of Danville. He was graduated from Keystone Academy, Factoryville, Pennsylvania, in 1896, and four years later from Brown University with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. In 1902 he was graduated from the Law School of Columbian University, Washington, District of Columbia. Mr. Swallow established offices at Danville in 1902, where he has since engaged in practice. From 1911 until 1915 he served as corporation counsel for the city of Danville, and from 1915 until 1921 was master in chancery. He is prominent in the business life of the city, being president of the United Electric Coal Companies and Danville Building Association, and director in the following companies: Electric Coal Company of Chicago; Danville Building Association; Western Indiana Gravel Company; United Electric Coal Companies and Illinois Electric Limestone Company.

Mr. Swallow married May 29, 1905, Miss Grace Margaret Hamilton, at Providence, Rhode Island. They have two children, Richard Hamilton and Barbara Northup.

Mr. Swallow holds membership in the Masonic and Elk lodges, Sigma Chi fraternity, Knights of Pythias, Loyal Order of Moose, Modern Woodmen of America, Brown Club of New York, and Union League Club of Chicago, and Medinah Athletic Club of Chicago.

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**Otto W. Longenecker**, lawyer and present assistant state's attorney, is among the prominent Republicans of Danville and Vermilion County. He was born in Lawrence County, Illinois, March 12, 1883, the son of Samuel A. and Elvessa (Warner) Longenecker.

Samuel A. Longenecker, retired, was born in Crawford County, Illinois, in 1852, the son of Benjamin F. and Lydia (Buzzard) Longenecker, who were natives of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and early settlers of Illinois. He is buried in Ward Cemetery, Shelby County, Illinois, and his wife is buried in Charlottsville Cemetery, Lawrence County, Illinois. Their son, Samuel A. Longenecker, spent his early boyhood on his father's farm and throughout his active career engaged in farming in Lawrence County, Illinois, where he now lives retired. He is a Republican and has served as school director, commissioner and road supervisor. He holds membership in the Methodist Church. Elvessa (Warner) Longenecker was born in Lawrence County, Illinois, and died in 1921. She is buried in Lawrenceville Cemetery, Lawrenceville. She was the daughter of John W. and Harriet (Goffe) Warner, natives of Virginia and Illinois, respectively. Both are deceased and are buried in Charlottsville Cemetery, Lawrence County, Illinois. To Samuel A. and Elvessa (Warner) Longenecker were born four children: Minnie M., married J. Herman Highsmith, lives at Lawrenceville, Illinois; Roscoe C., who died in 1909; Otto W., the subject of this sketch; and Lena I., lives at home.

Otto W. Longenecker grew up in a rural locality and attended the country schools. He attended Central Normal College, Danville, Indiana; Austin College, Effingham, Illinois; Illinois Wesleyan College; and graduated from the Bloomington Law School in 1909 with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. In that year Mr. Longenecker was admitted to practice at the Illinois bar and in 1910 engaged in practice at Bridgeport, Illinois. Later, he purchased an interest in an abstract firm at Lawrenceville, Illinois, and also established law offices at that place. From 1914 until 1918 he served as county judge of Lawrence County, and in the latter year removed to Danville, where he became associated with the Vermilion Abstract Company.

From 1920 until 1924 he served as state's attorney for Lawrence County, and in January, 1925, became assistant state's attorney for Vermilion County.

In 1910 Mr. Longenecker married Martha May Miles, daughter of John W. and Mary (Burcelle) Miles, the former a native of Lawrence County, and the latter of Crawford County, Illinois. He died in May, 1928, and she died in 1924. Both are buried at Charlottsville, Illinois. He was a farmer and a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. and Mrs. Longenecker have a son, Hal A., born in 1912. He attends Oakwood High School.

Mr. Longenecker is a member of Saint James Methodist Episcopal Church, and is affiliated with Edward Dobbins Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, No. 164, Lawrenceville; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Court of Honor; Modern Woodmen of America; Vermilion County Bar Association; Illinois State Bar Association; and American Bar Association.

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**Roscoe Simpson Fairchild** is among the well known and highly esteemed men of Danville, where he is secretary of the Danville Benefit & Building Association. He was born on a farm ten miles northwest of Danville in the Fairchild neighborhood, May 12, 1878, the son of Harrison and Sarah E. (Lanham) Fairchild.

Harrison Fairchild was born near Danville, December 25, 1840, the son of Daniel and Lucy (Hemenway) Fairchild. Daniel Fairchild was a pioneer Methodist circuit rider. His son, Harrison, became a progressive and successful farmer, who was interested in educating a family of twelve children. He spent four years in service during the Civil War as a member of Company B, Twenty-fifth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was an active churchman, being a member of the Methodist Episcopal



Church. Mr. Fairchild died February 14, 1917, and his wife, born at Jamesburg, Illinois, September 11, 1845, died December 28, 1904. Both are buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. Their children were: Rev. W. D., area secretary of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Chicago, Illinois; Mrs. Lillie Jane Crawford, lives at Detroit, Michigan; Mrs. Effie Bennett, lives at Hammond, Indiana; Oscar H., chemical and mining engineer, lives at Chicago, Illinois; John L., farmer, lives at Danville; Mrs. Ethel Church, lives at Elkhart, Indiana; Mrs. Bessie Coil, lives at Ida Grove, Iowa; Mrs. Ruby Johnson, lives at Danville; Harry V., mining engineer, lives at Leadville, Colorado; Albert K., farmer, Ida Grove, Iowa; and Roscoe Simpson, the subject of this sketch.

Roscoe Simpson Fairchild spent his boyhood on a farm ten miles northwest of Danville. Following his graduation from Danville High School in 1899 he taught school. He became principal of Roselawn School before entering the University of Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1907. He had studied in the department of philosophy and divinity and entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Colorado in 1908 after spending one year in business training in the Otero County Bank at Ordway, Colorado. Mr. Fairchild felt that this business training was helpful in conducting the affairs of his church and also that this western experience would give him a liberal view as a minister. Among the churches served by him were: Durango, Colorado, from which church he came to Rantoul, Illinois, in 1915; other churches served in Illinois were Casey, Farmer City, and Beardstown. He was the son-in-law of M. J. Wolford and upon the death of his son, Harold Wolford, Mr. Fairchild was asked to come to Danville and take up work in connection with the Danville Benefit & Building Association. Soon after the death of Mr. Wolford in 1928 he was elected secretary of this association in 1929. This association is one of the oldest and

largest in Illinois. Mr. Fairchild believed in accepting this office that all work done well contributes to the welfare of humanity, even though it be in the field of business. He is also interested in music and has sung leading parts in several operas with the Danville Choral Society. He is a graduate of the Gottschalk School of Music, Chicago.

June 4, 1913, Mr. Fairchild married Miss Sara Wolford, of Danville, the daughter of Milton J. and Maude (Blackwell) Wolford, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of North Carolina. He died May 28, 1928, and his widow lives at Wolford Hotel, Danville. Mrs. Fairchild is a graduate of Danville High School, class of 1900, and spent three years at the Art Institute, Chicago, where she received honorable mention for her work. She attended the University of Illinois, and was graduated from the Loring School for Girls in Chicago. She is a talented pianist. Mr. and Mrs. Fairchild have two sons: Roscoe Wolford, born June 18, 1917; and Harold Blackwell, born March 27, 1921.

Mr. Fairchild is a Republican but has never sought public office. He holds membership in Saint James Methodist Episcopal Church, and his wife is a teacher in the Sunday School. He is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge, thirty-second degree. During the Spanish-American War he served as a corporal in Battery A, Illinois Light Artillery, and participated in the Porto Rican campaign.

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**The Danville Benefit & Building Association** is among the oldest and most dependable business institutions of Vermilion County. It was chartered on June 12, 1874, with a capital stock of five hundred thousand dollars. It was subsequently increased to five million dollars; later increased to fifteen million dollars; and finally increased to thirty million dollars. The business was begun in the office

of the J. G. Holden Lumber Company at the corner of Hazel and Van Buren streets. J. G. Holden was president, and Seth Steward became secretary.

The business was later located in the office of L. T. and C. J. Palmer in the basement of the Old First National Bank Building, with M. J. Wolford as secretary. When the Palmer National Bank was established they removed to the rear room of this bank, later to the adjoining room, where it was improved and rebuilt. The present beautiful quarters of the company are the result of the remarkable growth of the institution.

M. J. Wolford served in the capacity of secretary of the Danville Benefit & Building Association continuously from two years after its organization until his death, May 28, 1928. Present assets amount to an excess of eight million dollars. The present officers are: C. U. Feldkamp, president; J. T. McMillan, vice president; R. S. Fairchild, secretary; J. E. Walker, treasurer; and W. Brewer, attorney. C. U. Feldkamp and J. T. McMillan make up the advisory committee. The directors are: C. U. Feldkamp, C. K. Palmer, C. F. Shane, J. A. Cathcart, W. C. Rankin, W. Brewer, R. S. Fairchild, J. W. Meitzler, J. T. McMillan, Thomas Conron, J. E. Walker, and C. H. Gones.

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**William Y. Ludwig**, who is serving as deputy county treasurer of Vermilion County, is one of the leading citizens of Danville. He was born at Amityville, Berks County, Pennsylvania, February 10, 1869, the son of William V. R. and Mary Y. (Jones) Ludwig.

William V. R. Ludwig was born near Reading, Pennsylvania, October 28, 1843. He clerked in a general store as a youth and later learned the miller's trade. In 1867 he came west and settled near Pilot Grove, Vermilion County, on the California Ridge, where he farmed. Sub-

sequently he removed to Catlin, and in 1876 purchased a farm near Fithian, Illinois, where he spent the remainder of his life. He died January 19, 1918, and is buried in Stearns Cemetery, Fithian. His first wife, Mary Y. (Jones) Ludwig, was born in Berks County, Pennsylvania, September 8, 1843, and died February 12, 1876. She is buried at Catlin, Illinois. To this union were born three children: William Y., the subject of this sketch; Charles J., born November 4, 1870, farmer, lives near Fithian, Illinois; and Rosa Imogene, born January 9, 1875, married Frank W. McCullough, lives at Wingate, Indiana. Mr. Ludwig was married second to Martha Ludwick, deceased. To them were born two daughters: Eva Ann, born August 16, 1879, married Lester Fellows, lives at Fithian, Illinois; and Deborah Margery, born September 15, 1881, died November 2, 1917. She was a school teacher.

The boyhood of William Y. Ludwig was spent in Vermilion County. He was graduated from Indiana Normal College in 1891 and began his teaching career in Vermilion County schools. He then taught in the schools of Buffalo County, Nebraska, for two years and upon his return to Vermilion County again resumed his teaching in the schools here for four years, after which he was appointed county superintendent. In that capacity he was in charge of two hundred and thirty-six schools, four hundred and thirty-seven teachers, and sixteen thousand pupils. He became assistant state superintendent of public schools at Springfield, Illinois, in 1911, and remained in that position until 1917. Mr. Ludwig went to Peoria, Illinois, in January, 1919, with the Federal Baking Company as auditor. Early in 1921 he became trust officer for the American Bank & Trust Company of Danville. He resigned from that office in July, 1926. In 1926 he became deputy county treasurer, which office he still holds.

Mr. Ludwig has always been a Republican. He holds membership in Saint James Methodist Episcopal Church,



and has the following lodge affiliations: Olive Branch Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, No. 38, Past Master; Vermilion Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 82; Danville Council, Royal and Select Master Masons, No. 37, Past Thrice Illustrious Master; Athlestan Commandery, Knights Templar, No. 45, Past Commander; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Past Thrice Potent Master, Lodge of Perfection; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; and Sons of the Revolution.

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**Harlin Melville Steely** was born one mile south of Hoopeston, in Grant Township, Vermilion County, November 25, 1856. He is the son of George Steely and Hannah (Hiser) Steely. George Steely was born in Fountain County, Indiana, September 6, 1830, and died August 15, 1907. His wife, Hannah Hiser, was born in Kent Township, Warren County, Indiana, February 16, 1836, and died September 11, 1892. They were married October 22, 1854. Both are buried in Red Top Cemetery on the Dixie Highway two miles south of Hoopeston. Mr. Steely's grandfather, George Steely, was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, May 20, 1778, died February 20, 1848, and he served as a soldier from Ohio under General Harrison at the battle of Tippecanoe on November 7, 1811, and in the War of 1812, he served as Lieutenant in Captain George Wolfe's company, in the Second Regiment of Ohio, commanded by Colonel James Renick. He married, in Pickaway County, Ohio, November 24, 1811, Elizabeth Emerson, born November 16, 1791, and died February 10, 1853, daughter of Captain Thomas Emerson and Mary Downey Emerson, his wife, and to this couple twelve children were born, nine of whom reached manhood and womanhood, and married.







*H. M. Stealy.*



MARIAM M. MARQUESS STEELY





Their son, George Steely, was reared on a farm two miles north of Covington, Indiana. He was educated in the common schools of the county, and Indiana Asbury, now known as DePauw University, and enlisted as a soldier in the War with Mexico in 1847. Ten children were born to George Steely and Hannah (Hiser) Steely, his wife, to-wit: Harlin Melville Steely, born November 25, 1856; William Wallace Steely, born October 11, 1858; Clara Isabel (Steely) Stone, born September 4, 1860, died May 30, 1902; Charles Steely, born January 14, 1863, died January 30, 1863; Zaidee (Steely) Phillips, born June 3, 1864; George Steely, born May 12, 1867, died January 27, 1869; Mark Antony Steely, born December 6, 1869; Earl Steely, born July 30, 1873, died September 10, 1873; Gertrude Steely, born August 28, 1874, died January 11, 1875; an infant son, unnamed, born May 28, 1879, died May 29, 1879.

The great-grandparents of Mr. Steely were Gabriel Steely and Mary Steely, his wife, of Pickaway County, Ohio. Gabriel was born August 19, 1763, it is believed in North Carolina, and died May 2, 1830. He served as a private in Captain Jehiel Gregory's company in the Third Regiment of Ohio, in the War of 1812. His wife, Mary Steely, was born January 28, 1767, and died in Fountain County, Indiana, January 25, 1850, and Gabriel Steely was the son of Ulrich Steely, and Anna Steely, his wife, who died in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, in May, 1793.

Harlin Melville Steely was raised on a farm, attended the rural school, and the high school at Hoopeston, and in 1875 became a teacher, which profession he followed for seven years, and was principal of the high school at Potosi in the years 1878 and 1879. While teaching he read law, and on September 17, 1880, was admitted to the bar by the Supreme Court of Illinois, and began practice in the City of Hoopeston, and served ten years as City Attorney of that city, and in 1892 removed to Danville, and

formed a co-partnership with William J. Calhoun, with offices in the First National Bank Building, where this partnership continued for eleven years. Mr. Steely still maintains his office in the same building and is associated in practice with his son, H. M. Steely, Jr.

On August 25, 1878, he was united in marriage with Miss Mariam M. Marquess, the daughter of James F. and Sarah Ellen (McLean) Marquess. She was born at Rob Roy, Indiana, February 9, 1859. Mr. Marquess was born in Miami County, Ohio, March 23, 1834, and died in Fountain County, Indiana, October 12, 1894. He was married to Sarah Ellen McLean, April 25, 1858, and she was born January 7, 1842, and died in Grant Township, Vermilion County, Illinois, in 1867. To Mr. and Mrs. Steely were born three sons, Dr. George Steely, born September 30, 1879, physician and surgeon, with offices in The Temple Building, Danville, who is a World War soldier, having served with the rank of captain; Robert Wallace Steely, born January 2, 1882, died August 29, 1903, who was a soldier in the Spanish-American War, and H. M. Steely, Jr., born July 16, 1884, who graduated from Yale University in 1908, was admitted to the bar in Illinois in 1911, was enlisted, examined, and accepted at Camp Taylor, Kentucky, held up on account of the flu, and did not get to see service, and who is now associated in the practice of law with his father.

Mr. and Mrs. Harlin Melville Steely have two grandchildren: Elizabeth and Roberta Steeley. They are children of H. M. Steely, Jr. His wife is Fern E. Hostettler, a native of Olney, Illinois, daughter of Prof. Henry W. and Stella (Shaw) Hostettler. Doctor George Steely married Edythe H. Nims, of Hinsdale, New Hampshire. Both of the daughters-in-law of Mr. Steely are members of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and his two sons are members of the Sons of the Revolution.

Mr. Steely in politics is a Republican, attends the Christian Church, of which his wife is a member. He is a member of Star Lodge, No. 709, A. F. and A. M. of Hoopeston, Illinois; Hoopeston Chapter R. A. M. No. 181; Mt. Olivet Commandery No. 38 K. T.; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Sons of the Revolution; Sons of the War of 1812, and Mrs. Steely is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

The Revolutionary records of Mrs. Steely come from John McLean, Revolutionary soldier from Pennsylvania, and Sarah Armstrong, his wife, who died in Benton, Yates County, New York; William F. McLean, his son, who was a soldier in the War of 1812, and Sarah Woodhull, his wife; Alexander Armstrong McLean and Mary Jane Potter, his wife; Sarah Ellen McLean and James Franklin Marquess, her husband, and the revolutionary record on her father's side is William Marquess, William Kidd Marquess, and Jane Trussel, his wife of Loudoun County, Virginia; William Kidd Marquess, Jr., who was a member of the Legislature in Indiana in the Session of 1850, from Fountain County, and Elizabeth Phillips, his wife, James F. Marquess and Sarah Ellen McLean, his wife.

The Revolutionary records of Mr. Steely come from Colonel Alexander Lawson Smith, who served as a private in 1775, was appointed a captain by Congress, July 13, 1776, became a major, a lieutenant colonel, and then a colonel, and who died in 1801, in Berkeley County, West Virginia, and Mary Smith, his wife; Hannah (Smith) Starry, their daughter, born October 25, 1778, married at Martinsburg, West Virginia, October 25, 1798, died Warren County, Indiana, September 19, 1861; Daniel Starry, her husband, was born June 1, 1777 and died November 29, 1842; Hannah (Starry) Hiser, born in Berkeley County, West Virginia, September 25, 1806, married in Warren County, Indiana, December 2, 1830, died November 8, 1858, and Nicholas Hiser, her husband, born No-

vember 1, 1800, died February 7, 1847; Hannah (Hiser) Steely, born February 16, 1836, married October 22, 1854, died September 11, 1892, and George Steely, her husband, born September 6, 1830, died August 15, 1907. The second record being Captain Thomas Emerson and Mary (Downey) Emerson, his wife, who was commissioned captain or master of the sloop Lethe, September 5, 1782, a privateer, and who had previously served on the sloop Franklin, and had been captured and imprisoned by the British; Elizabeth Emerson, their daughter, who married George Steely, lieutenant in the War of 1812; George Steely, their son, who married Hannah Hiser, and who were the parents of Harlin Melville Steely.

Mr. Steely for years has been attorney for the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railway Company, the Lake Erie and Western Railroad Company, the Toledo, Saint Louis and Western Railroad Company, the street railway system of the City of Danville, and the Illinois Power and Light Corporation, and a great number of coal and other business corporations, and is still active in the practice.

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**Oliver Morton Jones**, an attorney with offices in the Daniel Building, at Danville, has practiced law in this city for over thirty-eight years and ranks among the most prominent lawyers of Vermilion County. He was born at Rob Roy, Fountain County, Indiana, January 18, 1867, the son of Henry B. and Joanna Dudley (Meeker) Jones.

Henry B. Jones was born at Rob Roy, Indiana. He was a farmer during his life and lived on the same farm, where he was born, until seven months prior to his death in 1904. He is buried in Fountain County, Indiana. Mr. Jones took an active part in the public affairs of his community, holding public office, such as trustee of schools a number of times. He was an active Republican from the



organization of that party until his death. His widow lives at 821 Franklin Street, Danville. She is a native of Fountain County, Indiana. Two sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Jones: Oliver Morton, the subject of this sketch; and L. E., lives at 821 Franklin Street, Danville.

Oliver Morton Jones spent his boyhood on a farm near Rob Roy, Indiana, and attended the country schools near his home. He attended high school at Attica, Indiana, and was graduated from Purdue University with the degree of Bachelor of Science in June, 1889. He was graduated from the Law Department of the University of Michigan in June, 1891, and was licensed to practice law by the Supreme Court of Michigan on the 29th day of May, 1891, by the Supreme Court of Indiana, June 26, 1891, and by the Supreme Court of Illinois on January 19, 1892. Mr. Jones came to Danville to begin the practice of law on November 9, 1891, and has practiced here continuously since that date.

October 7, 1891, Mr. Jones married Miss Emma Fouts, a native of Deer Creek, Indiana, the daughter of Solomon and Margaret (Bridge) Fouts, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. He died April 1, 1907, and his wife died November 1, 1911. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Jones: 1. Josephine, was a teacher of music and voice culture at the University of Wisconsin prior to her marriage to Professor L. L. Iltis, who is also connected with the Department of Music at the University of Wisconsin. She is a graduate of Northwestern University. Mr. and Mrs. Iltis live at 2306 Van Hise Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin. 2. Joanna, the wife of Louis G. Bishop, of Danville. She is a teacher of elocution. She is a graduate of Hamilton College, Lexington, Kentucky, and of the Leland Powers School of the Spoken Word, Boston, Massachusetts. 3. Paul F., resides at 208 East Roselawn Avenue, Danville. He was born November 6, 1898. He is a graduate of Danville High School,



1917, and attended Northwestern University. He was second lieutenant of Infantry, United States Army, during the World War. He was graduated from the Law Department of the University of Michigan in 1922 and was admitted to practice by Supreme Court of Illinois in that year. He is now a member of the firm of Jones, McIntire & Jones, attorneys, Danville. He is a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Phi Delta Phi fraternities. Mr. Jones was city attorney for Danville in 1925. He was commander of American Legion Post No. 210, in 1927. Politically, he is a Republican. He married Edith L. Fairchild in 1924.

Mr. Jones has always been a Republican. He was a member of the Vermilion County Board of Supervisors for twelve years, chairman of the Road Committee for eight years during the time the county hard road system was constructed. Acting with Arthur R. Hall, he prepared and introduced all resolutions and other legal work for the county hard road system. He was a member and president of the Board of Education for about twelve years, and was corporation counsel for the city of Danville for six years. Mr. Jones holds membership in St. James Methodist Episcopal Church, Danville, and is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias.

Hiram Jones, paternal grandfather of Oliver Morton Jones, was born in North Carolina in 1796. When a child of eight he moved to Tennessee and from there to Kentucky, where he was married to Sally Taylor in 1818. They moved to Fountain County, Indiana, in 1828. Sally Taylor was born in Kentucky. Both paternal grandparents died in Fountain County, Indiana, in 1878.

Usual H. Meeker, maternal grandfather of Oliver Morton Jones, was born in New York State in 1811. His wife, Sarah Dudley, was born in Maine in 1809. Both of them, during childhood, moved to Hamilton County, Ohio, where

they were married. They moved to Fountain County, Indiana, in 1833. Both died and are buried in Fountain County, Indiana.

The ancestry of Oliver Morton Jones is an example of the mingling of the people of New England with the people of the southern states in the settlement of the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin. A large percentage of the citizens of these states are descended from pioneers who came from both the northeastern and southeastern parts of the United States. The citizens of these states present a composite picture of the citizens of America during and shortly after the Revolutionary War.

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**I. Ray Carter.**—Perhaps one of the best known of the younger lawyers of Vermilion County is found in I. Ray Carter, of Danville. He is a native of Illinois, born at Thomasboro, Champaign County, September 22, 1891, the son of Isaac and Eliza Ann (Faulkner) Carter.

Isaac Carter, who lives retired at Rossville, Illinois, has been a highly successful farmer of Champaign County. He was born at Bismarck, Illinois, and when a young man located at Thomasboro, where he remained until 1893. He then removed to Gifford, Illinois, and in 1902 settled at Henning. He has lived at Rossville since 1904. Eliza Ann (Faulkner) Carter was born at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and died March 24, 1928. She is buried at Rossville. To Mr. and Mrs. Carter were born four children: I. Ray, the subject of this sketch; Clark C., Leslie, and Edna, all living at Rossville.

I. Ray Carter grew up at Rossville, where he received his early education. Following his graduation from Rossville High School in 1910 he attended the University of Illinois, from which he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1914. Two years later he was graduated in law

from the University of Chicago, and immediately engaged in practice as assistant state's attorney under John H. Lewman. In 1924 Mr. Carter left the state's attorney office and at that time formed a law partnership with John H. Lewman.

On April 23, 1921, Mr. Carter was united in marriage with Miss Carrie Partlow, of Danville, the daughter of Hon. Augustus A. and Zora (Bookwalter) Partlow, of Illinois. Mr. Partlow was circuit judge for two terms and at present is Commissioner of Supreme Court of Illinois. His wife is deceased. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Carter, Robert Partlow and Anne Carolyn.

Mr. Carter is a member of the Methodist Church, Masonic Lodge, thirty-second degree; Elks Club, Knights of Pythias and American Legion. He is a Republican in politics.

During the World War, Mr. Carter enlisted in the Ordnance Department, April 11, 1918, and was discharged from the service, December 29, 1918.

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**George Steely, M. D.**—One of the foremost physicians and surgeons of Vermilion County is Doctor Steely, who has successfully engaged in the practice of his profession at Danville for almost twenty-five years. He was born at Hoopeston, September 30, 1879, the son of Harlin M. and Miriam M. (Marquess) Steely.

A sketch of Harlin M. Steely appears elsewhere in this history.

George Steely was educated in the public schools of Hoopeston and Danville. He attended the University of Illinois and the University of Chicago, graduating from the latter in 1902 with the degree of bachelor of science. He took a course at Rush Medical College, Chicago, and the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Boston, being



GEORGE M. STEELY, M. D.





graduated from the latter in 1905 with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He began the practice of his profession at Danville in 1905 and continued in general practice until he entered the service of his country in the World War. He enlisted September 30, 1918, and was commissioned captain in the Medical Corps, U. S. A., October 24, 1918. He was stationed at Camp Greenleaf, Georgia, from November 8 to December 24th; then ordered to Hoboken, New Jersey; and then stationed at General Hospital, No. 1, from December 31, 1918, to August 23, 1919, with the exception of two weeks in March, when he was ordered to Rockefeller Institute for special training in the treatment of infected wounds under Doctor Alexis Carrel and staff, and one week under Doctor Shutro at Polyclinic Institute, New York. On August 23, 1919, he was honorably discharged and returned to Danville where he resumed his practice, which has been limited entirely to general surgery.

Doctor Steely is staff surgeon at St. Elizabeth and Lake View Hospitals, Danville: lecturer on orthopedic surgery in the Training School for nurses at both of these hospitals; and local surgeon of the New York Central Railroad, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland and St. Louis Railroad, Illinois Power and Light Corporation, Danville Street Railway and Light Company, and numerous industrial and casualty companies. He is a member of the Vermilion County Medical Society, Illinois State Medical Society, Aesculapian Society of the Wabash Valley, Tri State Medical Society, Association of New York Central Railway Surgeons, American Association of Railway Surgeons, American Medical Association, and became a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons at New York City October 24, 1924.

On January 17, 1906, Doctor Steely married Miss Edythe H. Nims, of Hinsdale, New Hampshire, the daughter of Ruel P. and Mary (Mann) Nims. Mr. Nims died in 1916 and his wife died in 1892. Doctor and Mrs. Steely

have no children. She is the registrar of Governor Bradford Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, Danville.

Doctor Steely is a Knight Templar, a thirty-second degree Mason, a Shriner, and belongs to the Elks Club. He is also a member of Delta Tau Delta college fraternity and Phi Rho Sigma (medical) fraternity, and the Kiwanis, Country, and Yacht Clubs of Danville. He is also a life member of the Sons of American Revolution. Politically he is a Republican.

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**Milton John Wolford**, deceased, often referred to as "the first citizen of Danville," was widely known throughout Vermilion County as a banker, philanthropist, and distinguished citizen. He was born near Coultersville, now West Sunbury, Butler County, Pennsylvania, April 6, 1844, and died in Danville, May 28, 1928. He is buried at Danville.

Mr. Wolford received his education in the public schools of Butler County, Pennsylvania, and attended Westminster College. He gave up his university work in his junior year and was later graduated from the Iron City Commercial College, Pittsburgh. On August 4, 1862, he enlisted in Capt. Winfield H. Clarke's Company F, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, serving nine months, and was honorably discharged on May 26, 1863, at Camp Custin, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. In 1864 he re-enlisted as first sergeant in Company A, Capt. W. R. Hutchinson's company, Sixth Regiment of Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, or the Two Hundred Twelfth Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers. Later, he was promoted to the rank of second lieutenant and as a member of Battery A, Sixth Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, participated in the campaign through Maryland to Antietam, arriving there

the last day of the battle. He was wounded at the battle of Fredericksburg. He saw service in nearly all the important engagements in the Civil War, and was honorably discharged at Fort Ethan Allen, Virginia, June 13, 1865, as a second lieutenant.

In 1866 Mr. Wolford came to Illinois, first locating in Arcola, Douglas County, where he taught school for two terms. He then accepted a position as cashier of the Cannon & Wyeth Bank, remaining there until the firm moved to Danville. He then went with his brother-in-law, J. C. Justice, in the banking business. In October, 1875, he removed to Danville and went with the Vermilion County Bank. Later he went with the L. T. & C. J. Palmer Brothers in their loan office. In 1880 he was elected secretary of the Danville Benefit & Building Association, and also carried on an insurance business. On May 2, 1892, he with Messrs. Palmer, organized the Palmer National Bank, and Mr. Wolford was the first cashier and served in that capacity until 1902, when he was elected president and held that position until his death. He also served as secretary of the old Danville Opera House Company and director of the Vermilion County Abstract Company. For years he was on the board of directors and president of the Lakeview Hospital, and was a prominent figure in promoting and building the new addition to the hospital. He was also largely instrumental in making the Young Women's Christian Association Building a realization, and he was an important figure in the building of the Salvation Army Citadel, Old Ladies Home, and Young Men's Christian Association.

The Hotel Wolford was named in honor of Mr. Wolford and it is situated on the old Wolford homestead in Danville.

In 1873 Mr. Wolford married Miss Maude S. Blackwell, of Arcola, Illinois, born January 21, 1848, at New Bern, North Carolina. She lives at Danville. To Mr. and Mrs. Wolford were born the following children: Ann Selby,

born November 17, 1873, the widow of Orndorf Long Ridgely; Frances McCann, born February 19, 1875, died October 28, 1884; Maude Blackwell, born October 8, 1876, married Charles Frederick Shane, Danville, Illinois, and they have two children, Wolford Milton, born September 22, 1907, and John W., born February 11, 1916; Sarah Wicks, born June 26, 1882, married Roscoe Simpson Fairchild, Danville, Illinois, and they have two children, Roscoe W., born June 18, 1917, and Harold B., born March 27, 1921; Albert Milton, born March 22, 1889, died October 22, 1899; and Harold Earnest, born July 23, 1891, died March 9, 1924. He married, October 3, 1913, Margaret Herbst. She resides in Danville. Two children were born to this union, Mary Jane, born July 8, 1914, and Milton John, born January 19, 1916.

Mr. Wolford was affiliated with the Elks Club, Grand Army of the Republic, Sons of the Revolution, and Young Men's Christian Association.

The European ancestors of Mr. Wolford were French Huguenots. In other words, they were French Protestant refugees, who were stoned out of France during the religious wars of the sixteenth century. They took refuge in the mountains of Switzerland, from whence they came directly to America in the early part of the eighteenth century. The progenitor of this line in America, Johannes Wolfort, landed at the port of Philadelphia in 1739. His son, George Wolfort, served in the War of the American Revolution as a private in Capt. Joseph Gear's Company, Ninth Battalion, for Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and under Col. J. Huber for 1778.

Milton John Wolford was the son of Jacob and Lavina (Adams) Wolford. He was born in Slippery Rock Township, Butler County, Pennsylvania, April 22, 1817, and died August 21, 1897. His wife was born August 9, 1817, and died in September, 1902. They were married July 4, 1839, and spent their entire lives in Butler County. Their chil-



dren were: Perry, born June 25, 1840, died in 1905; Emeline, born April 13, 1842, deceased; Milton John, the subject of this sketch; Lewis I., born January 27, 1846, died in 1913; Charlotte, born February 18, 1848, died October 20, 1864; Sarah Margaret, born October 25, 1854, deceased; John R., born March 31, 1857, died May 21, 1872; and Angeline, born August 8, 1859.

Jacob Wolford was the son of Henry and Mary (Frick) Wolford. He was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, and died in 1856. She was born there and died in June, 1868. They came to Blacktown, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, in 1807, and later removed to Slippery Rock Township, Butler County, Pennsylvania. Finally, they located in Cherry Township, Butler County. The first school house in Butler County was erected on the Wolford clearing near Centreville.

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**John F. Twomey.**—Prominent among the young attorneys of Danville may be mentioned John F. Twomey, who is engaged in practice with Hugh E. Bouton, with offices in the Adams Building. Mr. Twomey was born at Kankakee, Illinois, November 26, 1900, the son of Daniel E. and Martha (Creighen) Twomey.

Daniel E. Twomey was born in Bedford, Indiana, in 1863. His wife was born in County Clare, Ireland, in 1865, and came to this country with her parents in 1877. Mr. Twomey entered the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad in 1881, at the age of nineteen years, and retired from the company's employ in November, 1927, as a passenger conductor. He is a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus, Ancient Order of Hibernians, and Holy Name Society. Mr. and Mrs. Twomey reside at Bloomington, Illinois. They are the parents of the following children: Marie, married Raymond Brady,



lives at Cheyenne, Wyoming; Florence, married A. J. Zehnedner, lives at Huntington, Indiana; Edward, lives at Bloomington, Illinois, is a World War veteran, having served in France with the Three Hundred and Fifth Motor Transport Corps; Mildred, school teacher, Chicago, Illinois; and John F., the subject of this sketch.

John F. Twomey received his education in the parochial schools of Bloomington, Illinois, and in 1918 was graduated from St. Mary's High School. He received his degree from the Law School of Illinois Wesleyan University in 1924, and was admitted to the bar of Illinois on October 16, 1924. Mr. Twomey came to Danville at that date and established offices in the First National Bank Building. He has been associated in practice with Mr. Bouton since July 1, 1928. On July 1, 1929, Circuit Judge S. Murray Clark appointed Mr. Twomey Adult Probation Officer of Vermilion County.

Mr. Twomey is a Republican and a member of the board of supervisors of Vermilion County. He was senatorial committeeman of this district in 1928. He holds membership in St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus, and Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Twomey is not married.

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**John H. Lewman.**—As a practicing attorney, the career of John H. Lewman has been identified with the city of Danville for almost thirty-five years. Mr. Lewman was born at Danville, December 28, 1866, the son of Hugh and Mary (Liggett) Lewman.

The paternal grandfather of John H. Lewman, James Lewman, was a native of Kentucky. He was among the earliest settlers of Vermilion County and became a successful farmer. He sold his land in 1875 and removed to Kansas, where he died. Jesse Liggett, maternal grand-

father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Virginia in 1805 and was only a year old when his parents brought him to Ohio, where he lived until 1835. He then came to Vermilion County and entered a tract of land in Pilot Township, where he lived until his death in 1898.

Hugh Lewman was interested in agriculture throughout his life and owned a well improved farm in Vermilion County. He died in 1869. His wife is also deceased. Their sons were: W. C., postmaster of Danville; and John H., the subject of this sketch.

John H. Lewman spent his boyhood on a farm and was educated in the country schools of Vermilion County. Following his graduation from Danville High School in 1888 he taught school at Danville for a short time. He then spent two years at Cornell University and in 1894 was graduated from the Law School of the University of Michigan. During that year he was admitted to the bar of Vermilion County. Mr. Lewman has taken an active part in public affairs. In 1899 he was elected city attorney of the city of Danville and was re-elected twice, serving in that office for six years. He was elected mayor of Danville in 1905 and re-elected in 1907. In 1908 he was elected State's Attorney.

In 1898 John H. Lewman enlisted in Battery A, First Illinois Volunteers, for service in the Spanish-American War and served in Porto Rico. He was honorably discharged in the fall of 1898 as sergeant and became an officer in the Illinois National Guard in 1899. He was promoted to captain in 1904 and resigned from the service in 1909. In 1918, with Oscar P. Yeager, he organized the Tenth Regiment, Illinois National Guard, and became Lieutenant Colonel of this regiment. He served until 1921 when he resigned.

John H. Lewman is identified with the Vermilion County Bar Association, and the Illinois State Bar Association. He is a member of Olive Branch Lodge, Ancient

Free and Accepted Masons, No. 38; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Ansar Temple; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; and Veterans of Foreign Wars. He is also a member of United Spanish-American War Veterans Camp Egbert No. 1, Past Commander.

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**Asa M. Bushnell.**—The years that cover the active business career of Asa M. Bushnell, who is president of the American Bank & Trust Company, Danville, have chronicled his success as the result of determined and persistent purpose and close application. He is well known as a financier, but has also identified himself with various other enterprises which have materially advanced the interests of the city and county. Throughout his entire career he has retained the high regard of a large circle of friends—a fact indicative that his pronounced traits of character are those which everywhere command confidence and trust.

A native of Illinois, Mr. Bushnell was born in Cook County, December 8, 1849, his parents being Henry and Lavina (Dayton) Bushnell, who were natives of Ohio and New Jersey, respectively. Before his marriage the father came west becoming one of the early settlers of Cook County, Illinois, and he purchased a farm in Blue Island, which he operated for a number of years. In 1854, however, he removed to Vermilion County, taking up his residence about ten miles east of Danville, where he continued in agricultural pursuits for a few years. At the end of that time, however, he returned to Cook County, where he made his home during the Civil War. He was the first man drafted from that county but his services were refused and the company he organized there was given to another. After the close of the war he again came to Vermilion County but in 1874 removed to California and spent the remainder of his life in Monterey County, his time and



*A. W. Russell*





attention being devoted to farming. His death occurred there March 19, 1901.

In the acquirement of an education, Asa M. Bushnell attended the grade schools of Cook County, Illinois, Marion Academy in Indiana, and the Bryant & Stratton Business College of Chicago. Upon the home farm he spent his boyhood days, remaining under the paternal roof until twenty-two years of age. He engaged in clerking for the firm of Gundy Brothers at Myersville, Vermilion County, for one year and in 1873 opened a store of his own at Bismarck, Vermilion County, which he conducted for twenty years. While engaged in business there he also served as postmaster for eighteen years, one term of this time being under the administration of President Cleveland, although he is a strong Republican. While residing at Bismarck he also served as school director for several years. It was in 1894 that Mr. Bushnell removed to Danville, where he was first engaged in the music business, purchasing his stock from the firm of Lyon & Healy, of Chicago, but a few months later he sold out and bought an interest in the implement and hardware business with J. B. Chambers, with whom he was connected for seven years. On disposal of his interests in that enterprise he organized the Danville Wholesale Grocery Company, but sold out at the end of a year and in 1907 organized the American Bank & Trust Company, of which he has since been its president. The bank has steadily prospered and is regarded as one of the safest and most conservative financial institutions of eastern Illinois. The building it occupies and the one adjoining it are owned by Mr. Bushnell, who still owns a fine farm near Bismarck.

Mr. Bushnell carried into the banking business the friendly courtesy for his customers, learned in his many years as a merchant, and the patrons of the American Bank & Trust Company are welcomed as they pass the president's desk with a cheery "Hello, George," and

"Howdy, Charlie," which has done much to increase the business of the institution.

On October 15, 1873, Mr. Bushnell married Miss Willa M. Shockley, a native of Ohio. Their family numbers three sons and a daughter, as follows: Clyde H., farmer, lives in Vermilion County; Frank, broker, lives at Wichita, Kansas; Mabel, married O. H. Fairchilds, of Chicago and they have two children; and Asa Barton, merchant, lives at Danville.

Fraternally, Mr. Bushnell is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and Modern Woodmen of America. He attends the Methodist Church.

A man of good business and executive ability, Mr. Bushnell has met with excellent success in his undertakings, and is today numbered among the men of affluence in Danville. He has known the pleasure of success, not simply in the pecuniary reward that has come to him, but also in that enjoyment which comes in the accomplishment of what one undertakes. He has ever persevered in the pursuit of a persistent purpose and is now numbered among those who are the factors in Vermilion County's material upbuilding. He is a splendid type of the American business man, alert, energetic, and determined, carrying forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

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**James A. Foster**, well known in Danville as the efficient cashier of the American Bank & Trust Company, was born at Newark, West Virginia, May 4, 1873, the son of Thomas and Mary (Hustead) Foster.

The Foster family is of English descent. Thomas Foster was born in Wirt County, West Virginia, and throughout his life engaged in the mercantile and lumber business.

He served as sheriff and treasurer of Wirt County, West Virginia. He died in 1917 and his wife died in 1920. Both are buried at Newark, West Virginia. Mary (Hustead) Foster was born in the Ohio Valley, her ancestors being of French extraction. There were three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Foster: Lena, died at the age of eighteen years; Frances, married William Bailey, lives at Oilton, Oklahoma; and James A., the subject of this sketch.

James A. Foster was educated in the grade and high schools of Elizabeth, West Virginia. Shortly after completing his schooling he came to Illinois, locating at Ridgefarm, in Vermilion County, where he secured a clerkship in the Farmers State Bank, in which institution he rose to the position of cashier. Subsequently, he assumed the duties of assistant cashier in the State Bank of Danville, after reorganized as the Danville National Bank, and he was so serving when in May, 1907, in association with Asa M. Bushnell and Alonzo L. Lyons, he established the American Bank & Trust Company, of Danville. Mr. Foster was elected cashier of the newly organized institution, with which he has thus been officially identified during the entire period of its existence, and to the continued success of which he has contributed in material measure. He belongs to various banking associations and formerly served as chairman of the Vermilion County Federation.

In 1901 Mr. Foster married Mary E. Bines, the daughter of William M. Bines, of Ridgefarm, Illinois. Mr. Bines was a prominent Democrat who represented his district in the State Legislature, and also served the people of his community in various other offices of public trust and responsibility.

Mr. and Mrs. Foster are the parents of a daughter, Mary, who attends the Western College for Women, Oxford, Ohio.



Mr. Foster is a staunch Republican and is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Anchor Lodge; and Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree. He also belongs to the Chamber of Commerce. His wife holds membership in the Presbyterian Church.

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**The American Bank & Trust Company**, of Danville, was established in May, 1907, by A. M. Bushnell, Alonzo L. Lyons, W. M. Acton, and J. A. Foster. Its first officers were as follows: A. M. Bushnell, president; A. L. Lyons, vice president; and J. A. Foster, cashier.

The capital stock was fixed at \$100,000.00. It has been augmented since by a surplus of \$75,000.00, undivided profits, capital and surplus of over \$300,000.00, which places the American Bank & Trust Company on the honor roll of Illinois financial institutions.

The present officers and directors of the American Bank & Trust Company are, as follows: A. M. Bushnell, president; W. M. Acton, vice president; J. A. Foster, cashier; L. O. Froman and E. H. Bleveans, assistant cashiers; and J. H. Willett, trust officer. Directors: W. M. Acton, W. F. Banta, N. J. Basch, H. F. Brown, A. M. Bushnell, H. C. Darnall, August Faulstick, J. A. Foster, and C. W. Johns.

A. M. Bushnell and J. A. Foster, to whom largely belongs the credit for the growth of the institution, have been squarely backed by the board of directors, which is composed of some of Danville's outstanding citizens. The quarters of the American Bank & Trust Company, which have been maintained in the same building from the beginning, were modernized for banking purposes and are modern in every detail.

**Robert W. Johnson.**—One of the most prominent of the younger attorneys of Danville may be found in Robert W. Johnson, who has offices in the Daniel Building. He is a native of this city, born October 13, 1903, the son of Archibald G. and Julia (Young) Johnson.

Archibald G. Johnson is a native of Danville, the son of Richard H. and Susan (Goodloe) Johnson. Both were born near Richmond, Kentucky. Richard H. Johnson came to Danville early in life and was prominent in newspaper circles, being editor of the Danville News for many years. He was also correspondent for several western newspapers. Both he and his wife are buried in Spring Hill Cemetery, Danville. Their son, Archibald G. Johnson, obtained a good education in the schools of Vermilion County. Early in life he was interested in the grocery business and later became associated with C. M. Young in the furniture business at Danville. After the latter's retirement Mr. Johnson continued the business until 1910, when he retired. He then became interested in the real estate business, with which he is now connected, ranking among the leading realtors of the city. Mr. Johnson is a Republican and has served as alderman of the Seventh Ward. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Julia (Young) Johnson, who died March 30, 1928, was a native of Crawfordsville, Indiana, and the daughter of Cornelius M. and Alice (Welsheimer) Young, natives of Indiana, both now deceased. Mr. Young became a successful furniture dealer of Danville and it was he who was associated in business for many years with Archibald G. Johnson. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson: Robert W., the subject of this sketch; and Archibald, Jr., who attends the University of Illinois.

Robert W. Johnson was educated in the public schools of Danville and following his graduation from Danville High School in 1921 he attended Wabash College for two

years. He then entered the Law School of the University of Illinois, from which he was graduated in 1926. He was admitted to practice before the Illinois Bar in December of that year and then became associated in practice with the firm of Lewman & Carter, attorneys, Danville. Mr. Johnson was subsequently admitted to practice before the Federal Courts.

Politically, Mr. Johnson is a Republican. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, Kappi Phi, Alpha Delta Phi, and Phi Delta Phi fraternities, and Young Men's Christian Association. He is past secretary and treasurer of the Vermilion County Bar Association and is a member of the American Business Club.

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**Woods Hibbard Martin.**—Recognized as one of the most influential citizens of Danville, where he is identified with the Second National Bank as executive vice president, is Woods Hibbard Martin. He was born at Shelbyville, Illinois, June 25, 1882, the son of Elgin Homer and Mary (Sylvester) Martin.

Both Elgin Homer Martin and his wife are natives of Illinois. Throughout his active career he engaged in the printing business. He now lives retired at Wilmer, Alabama. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Martin: Carlie E. Johnson, lives at Wilmer, Alabama; Bartlett F., lives at San Francisco, California; George M., lives at Danville; Ward E., lives at Wilmer, Alabama; Harry W., lives at Mobile, Alabama; and Woods Hibbard, the subject of this sketch.

Woods Hibbard Martin began life as a newsboy. He later learned the printer's trade and in February, 1906, entered the services of the Second National Bank of Danville as a messenger. He became collection clerk, general bookkeeper, and subsequently teller, being elected assis-

tant cashier on May 19, 1909. He became cashier of the institution August 10, 1925, and vice president and cashier on January 12, 1926. Mr. Martin has served in his present capacity as executive vice president since January 8, 1929.

On December 3, 1912, Mr. Martin married Miss Mildred L. Erickson, of Danville, the daughter of L. M. and Nettie (Tyler) Erickson, of Iowa and Indiana, respectively. At present Mr. and Mrs. Erickson are residents of Danville. There are three children in the Martin family: Robert Woods, Jeanne Louise, and Barbara Ann, all students.

Politically, Mr. Martin is identified with the Republican party; a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332, Past Exalted Ruler; and president of Piankeshaw Council, Boy Scouts of America. He served four years as a member of Company H, Fourth Illinois Infantry.

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**Eldon LeRoy McLaughlin**, who is successfully engaged in the practice of law at Danville, with offices in the Daniel Building, is among the leading young lawyers of Vermilion County. He was born at Elkhart, Indiana, January 14, 1903, the son of Abraham Weldy and Dora Salome (Stalter) McLaughlin.

Abraham Weldy McLaughlin was born in Fairfield County, Ohio. He spent his boyhood on a farm and became well known as a teacher of music. Later, he became a carpenter. He died October 15, 1911, and is buried at Elkhart, Indiana. Mr. McLaughlin was a Democrat and a member of the Mennonite Church. His wife was born in Allen County, Ohio. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. McLaughlin: Grover Cleveland, lives at Elkhart, Indiana; Lloyd, deceased; Harry, deceased; Nellie, deceased; Frederick Luther, lives at Elkhart, Indiana, is a World War veteran, having served with the rank of second lieutenant; Eldon LeRoy, the subject of



this sketch; John Willard, lives at Elkhart, Indiana; and Joy Lucille, lives at home.

Eldon LeRoy McLaughlin attended the public schools of Elkhart, and in 1927 was graduated from the Law School of the University of Illinois. He was admitted to the bar on October 15, 1927, and came to Danville in February, 1928. He was later admitted to practice in the Federal Court.

Mr. McLaughlin is a Republican. He holds membership in St. James Methodist Episcopal Church, being a member of the choir. He belongs to Delta Theta Phi and Phi Eta Sigma fraternities, and Young Men's Christian Association. While a student at the University of Illinois, Mr. McLaughlin took an active part in athletics, being a member of the freshman varsity track teams. He also made freshman honors at the University.

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**Ralph L. McCalman**, who is president of R. McCalman, Inc., Danville, ranks among the city's most influential business men. He was born at Wilson, Wisconsin, October 20, 1871, the son of John and Lucy (Lynde) McCalman.

John McCalman was born at Glasgow, Scotland. He was graduated from Glasgow University when 21 years of age and soon after came to the United States, where he followed his profession as construction engineer. He engaged in railroad construction work in Michigan, and was identified with the building of the Wisconsin Central Railroad, Chicago & Grand Trunk Railroad, and London, Huron & Bruce Railroad. His activities took him through the United States, Canada, and Mexico. He retired in 1912 and lived at Traverse City, Mich., until his death in 1914. His wife, born at Rock Island, Illinois, died in 1928. Both are buried at Traverse City, Michigan. Mr. McCalman



RALPH L. McCALMAN



was a Republican and a member of the Episcopal Church. To Mr. and Mrs. McCalman were born five children: John L., born in 1868, died in 1914, was widely known throughout Michigan as a consulting engineer; George, born in 1874, died in 1895; Ralph L., the subject of this sketch; Donald, born in 1877, consulting engineer, lives at St. Louis, Mo.; and Malcolm, construction engineer, lives in Michigan.

Following his schooling at Racine, Wis., where he completed a college course at Racine College, Ralph L. McCalman went with the civil engineering department of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad. He was later associated with the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad and the Sandusky & Columbus Short Line Railroad. In 1893 he went with the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad at Danville, where he was identified with the engineering department, later becoming assistant engineer. He subsequently served as locating engineer and resigned from the company's employ in 1906 as division engineer and went with the Illinois Traction System at Decatur, Illinois, as maintenance engineer. In 1910 he established an engineering contracting business at Decatur and six years later removed to Danville, where he established the R. McCalman Construction Company, which was later incorporated as R. McCalman, Inc. The company specializes in heavy concrete work, including road and bridge building. Mr. McCalman was also one of the incorporators of the Material & Fuel Company, Inc., being president and treasurer of both companies.

March 3, 1901, Mr. McCalman married Miss Myrtle Hopple, daughter of Jerry and Mattie (Schieber) Hopple, natives of Crawford County, Ohio. He lives at Bucyrus, Ohio. His wife died in 1928. The children of Mr. and Mrs. McCalman are: Helen, married John Funk, lives at Danville, and they have one daughter, Marj; and Myra,



married M. Rovelstadt, lives at Urbana, Ill., and they have a daughter, Sue.

Politically, Mr. McCalman is a Republican. He is affiliated with Furtherlight Lodge, No. 1130, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Macon Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 21; Springfield Consistory, thirty-second degree; Ansar Temple; Gao Grotto; Danville Yacht Club; and Roselawn Golf Club.

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**Clarence F. Carter.**—Numbered among the enterprising and successful young business men of Danville is Clarence F. Carter, who is vice president and general manager of The Modern Machine Shop, Inc., 123-125 North Hazel Street. He was born at Sidell, Illinois, March 12, 1895, the son of Charles E. and Birdie (Mitchell) Carter.

A complete sketch of Charles E. Carter appears elsewhere in this history.

Clarence F. Carter was educated in the public schools of Wichita Falls, Texas, and Canton, Mississippi. After leaving school he learned the machinist's trade while in the employ of Robert Holmes & Brothers. He completed his apprenticeship in March, 1915, and two years later went to San Francisco, California, where he was engaged in marine work for the Union Iron Works. Mr. Carter returned to Illinois in 1921 and located with the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, Danville, as a machinist. In January, 1922, he established a machine shop at the rear of 516 West Harrison, Street, called The Modern Machine Shop. The business was moved to 22 East Harrison Street in 1922, and in July, 1925, a modern plant was erected at the present location. The company was incorporated in June, 1924, at which time Mr. Carter became vice president and general manager. He is the builder of the engine of the boat, "Miss Danville II," a one hundred fifty-one

inch hydroplane type speedboat, which won the Mississippi Valley Power Boat Association championship in 1927. Mr. Carter was associated in this work with James Barton.

October 12, 1914, Mr. Carter married Miss Emily M. Robinson, the daughter of George and Leota (Atherton) Robinson, natives of Pennsylvania and residents of Danville. They have two children: Robert Eugene, born November 12, 1915; and Mildred, born June 12, 1917.

Mr. Carter is a member of the Third Church of Christ, and is affiliated with the Masonic lodge, thirty-second degree, Elks Club, Rotary Club, Danville Country Club, Walnut Hill Boat Club, National Speed Boat Club of New York, and Chamber of Commerce. Politically, he is a Republican.

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**Charles E. Carter**, who is president of The Modern Machine Shop, Inc., Danville, is widely and favorably known among the dependable business men of Vermilion County. He is a native of this county, born December 30, 1871, the son of Ezekiel and Cecelia (Hunt) Carter.

Ezekiel Carter was a native of Pennsylvania and his wife was born in Ohio. He came to Vermilion County when a young man and on several occasions drove cattle from Danville to Buffalo, New York, during the early days and drove hogs to Chicago, Illinois. He became a successful farmer of Vermilion County. He and his wife are deceased and are buried in Fairmount Cemetery, Fairmount, Illinois. He was a Republican and a member of the Presbyterian Church. To Mr. and Mrs. Carter the following children were born: John, lives at Rochester, Indiana; Alexander and George, both deceased; Will, lives at Armstrong, Illinois; Charles E., the subject of this sketch; Lottie, deceased, was the wife of James McAllister; Alice, the widow of George Bird, lives at Danville; and Belle, married J. A. Boyd, lives at Wellington, Texas.

Charles E. Carter spent his boyhood in Vermilion County and was educated in the district schools. He went to Ludlow, Illinois, in 1892, where he spent two years as a meat dealer. He then went to Canton, Mississippi, where he purchased a large plantation and sawmill, which he operated until 1903. The next five years were spent at Iowa Park, Texas, and in 1908 Mr. Carter returned to Danville, where he became associated with the Western Brick Company. In 1927 he became identified with the Modern Machine Shop, Inc., with which he has since been actively identified as president.

In 1892 Mr. Carter married Miss Birdie H. Mitchell, daughter of Oscar Mitchell, a native of Indiana. He died in California. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Carter: Charles Harvey, lives at Danville, married Mary Hankins; Clarence F., a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history; and Birdie, married Earl Amos, lives at State Line, Illinois.

Mr. Carter is a Republican, a member of the Baptist Church, and belongs to the Elks Club.

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**Louis Clements.**—One of the most influential figures in professional circles in Vermilion County, is Louis Clements, who as a successful lawyer of Danville holds leading rank in his chosen field of advance. He is a native of Carbondale, Illinois, born September 12, 1877, the son of Col. Isaac and Josephine (Nutt) Clements.

Col. Isaac Clements was born at Brookville, Indiana, March 31, 1837. He taught school early in life in Indiana, and later entered Asbury University, now DePauw University, at Greencastle, Indiana, from which he was graduated in 1859. He then removed to Jackson County, Illinois, where he taught school and studied law, being admitted to the Illinois bar in 1861. At the beginning of the Civil

War he entered the service and became a second lieutenant in Company G, Ninth Illinois Regiment. He was promoted to provost marshal at Athens, Alabama, and served until 1864, resigning to join his company which was marching on Atlanta. He was twice severely wounded at Shiloh and again at Corinth, and participated in many important battles. He was honorably discharged with the rank of captain. Upon his return to Carbondale, Illinois, he practiced law and played a prominent part in public affairs, being elected to Congress from his district. In 1877 he was appointed penitentiary commissioner for southern prisons at Chester, serving eleven years. Later, he was United States pension agent at Chicago for three years. He spent one year as superintendent of the Soldiers Orphans Home at Normal Illinois, and in December, 1898, was appointed governor of the National Soldiers Home at Danville, being the first to hold that position. He was an honorary member of the Masonic fraternity and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Colonel Clements died May 31, 1909. His wife was the daughter of Cyrus Nutt, D. D., LL. D., of Bloomington, Indiana. He was a professor in Allegheny College, Meadville, Pennsylvania, at one time, and was the first president of Asbury University. Later, he served as professor at the University of Bloomington, Indiana. Three sons were born to Col. Isaac and Josephine (Nutt) Clements, as follows: Frank, retired, lives at Carbondale, Illinois; Louis, the subject of this sketch; and Robert, physician, lives at Danville.

Louis Clements grew up at Carbondale, Illinois, where he received his schooling. He was graduated from Illinois State Normal College in 1897 and from Northwestern University with the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1902. He studied law and was admitted to practice in 1904, at that time forming a partnership with H. M. Steely, of Danville. This association continued until 1908, and since that



date Mr. Clements has engaged in private practice. He has offices in the First National Bank Building.

Mr. Clements was married June 29, 1910, to Miss Blanche Hogan, of Mound City, Illinois, the daughter of Major Daniel and Dora (Wallace) Hogan, the former, a native of Ireland and the latter of Kentucky. Mr. Hogan, deceased, was prominent in Illinois politics for many years and served with distinction in the Illinois State Senate. His widow lives at Los Angeles, California. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Clements: Charlotte Carter, born July, 1914; and Louis, Jr., born August, 1917.

Mr. Clements has always been a Republican. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Masonic Lodge, Elks, Danville Country Club, and Danville Yacht Club. He is president of the Big Bend Coal & Clay Company and a director of the Eel River Coal Company, both of Indianapolis, Indiana.

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**Herbert E. Cockerton**, who is identified with the firm of George E. Cockerton & Son, Danville, is numbered among the highly successful business men of Vermilion County. He was born in this city, July 26, 1877, the son of George E. and Lillian (Jack) Cockerton.

George E. Cockerton was born at Dundee, Illinois. He learned the printer's trade when a young man and in 1864 came to Danville, locating here with his parents, John C. and Hannah (Pate) Cockerton. The family is of English lineage and representatives of the name came from England to America, locating first in Chicago, and later at Elgin, Illinois. They came to the United States in 1849. George E. Cockerton was educated in Danville, being a student at the local high school under Professor Spellman. He was employed in the offices of the Danville Plain Dealer, and later was connected with the Danville Times.

Mr. Cockerton became an expert printer and was put in charge of the newspaper plant of the Danville Times. He later became the business manager of the "Enterprise" and was in charge of the plant. He spent several years in Indianapolis and in 1877 returned to Danville, where he assumed complete charge of "The Times." Two years later he formed a partnership with F. E. Bowman but the business was sold in 1881. Later, Mr. Cockerton established a job office and conducted it for four years. He then became business manager for the Press Company. In 1889 he established an exclusive job and book business and two years later his son became a partner in the business. In 1898 Mr. Cockerton added a book binding department and stamp manufacturing plant.

Mr. Cockerton married in 1876 Miss Lillian E. Jack, the daughter of Matthew W. and Ann (Sackett) Jack, of Centerville, Indiana, both now deceased. Mrs. Cockerton died in August, 1923, and is buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville.

Herbert E. Cockerton attended the public and high schools of Danville and throughout his business career has been identified with his father's printing and book binding plant. Since January 1, 1900, the business has been known as George E. Cockerton & Son. Its activities extend throughout Vermilion County.

In 1901 Mr. Cockerton married Miss Lola G. Young, the daughter of C. M. and Alice W. (Welsheimer) Young, of Thorntown, Indiana, both deceased. Their daughter, Mary Alice Cockerton, attended Danville High School, and now lives at home.

Politically, Mr. Cockerton is a Republican. He is a member of the First Presbyterian Church and Rotary Club. His lodge affiliations are: Anchor Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, No. 980, charter member; Vermilion Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 82; Danville Council, Royal and Select Masters, No. 37; Athlestan Com-

mandery, Knights Templar, No. 45; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; and is Past Most Wise Master of Gil W. Barnard Chapter Rose Croix, eighteenth degree; Goa Grotto; Mohammed Shrine; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Knights of Pythias, No. 84; Modern Woodmen of America.

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**Charles P. Nelson.**—Prominent in business and financial circles in Danville, Charles P. Nelson, president of the First National Bank, has played an integral part in the growth of his city. He is a native of New York, born at Spencer, Tioga County, March 18, 1863, the son of David and Clarissa (Watson) Nelson.

Both David Nelson and his wife were natives of Tioga County, New York, born in 1823 and 1825 respectively. He attended college and became a dentist. In later life he lived at Covington and Attica, Indiana, and in 1870 settled at Danville, where he engaged in practice until his death in 1896. His wife died in 1880. Both are buried in Spring Hill Cemetery, Danville. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson had four children; Clarence; Clara, married F. Miller; Minnie, married Charles Newman; and Charles P., the subject of this sketch. All are deceased except Charles P.

After completing his education in the public schools of Danville, Charles P. Nelson became a clerk in the dry goods store of William Mann & Company. He later became bookkeeper and in 1885 became identified with the First National Bank as exchange teller and correspondent. He subsequently was assistant cashier and in 1912 was elected cashier. He has served as president of the First National Bank since July 1, 1928.

In 1888 Mr. Nelson married Miss Cora N. Anderson, of Danville, the daughter of William Anderson. She died in 1921 and is buried in Spring Hill Cemetery. To Mr.



CHARLES P. NELSON





and Mrs. Nelson were born three children: Edna and Donald, both deceased; and Charles L., born in 1898. He attended Danville High School and was graduated from St. John's Military Academy in 1917. He enlisted in the Fifth Illinois Regiment and was sent to Springfield, Illinois. He served throughout the World War and was stationed at Newport News. He has remained in the service and at present is located at Governor's Island, N. Y. He holds the rank of sergeant.

Mr. Nelson is a member of St. James Methodist Episcopal Church and is a thirty-second degree Mason and a member of the Elks Club, Knights of Pythias, and Modern Woodmen of America. He is a charter member of the Half Century Club, having lived in Danville for fifty-nine years. He is a Republican.

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**Herman E. Douglas**, cashier of the Second National Bank of Danville, and also president of the First National Bank of Catlin, is numbered among the leading financiers of Vermilion County. He was born at Catlin, Illinois, January 11, 1886, the son of Winfield Scott and Elizabeth (Clark) Douglas.

Winfield Scott Douglas spent his entire life at Catlin, Illinois, and died there January 19, 1908. He was a farmer in early life, later served as school teacher, and from 1904 until 1908 was cashier of the First National Bank of Catlin. His wife died in July, 1913. Both are buried in Oakridge Cemetery, Catlin. Their children were: Thomas W., lives at Denver, Colorado; Dora Gibson, deceased; Chloe Matthews, lives at Bellefontaine, Ohio; Ethel Jones, lives at 1510 Franklin Street, Danville; Carroll Douglas, deceased; and Herman E., the subject of this sketch.

Herman E. Douglas has been identified with banking interests throughout his life. Following his schooling at

Catlin and Danville, he attended Millikin University, Decatur, Illinois, for two years. He became assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Catlin in 1905 and served in that capacity until 1917, at which time he was elected cashier. From that date until 1925 he was cashier and in the latter year was elected president of the institution. Mr. Douglas became cashier of the Second National Bank of Danville on January 1, 1929.

Mr. Douglas was married on June 7, 1911, to Miss Catherine Taylor, of Catlin, the daughter of Thomas A. and Mary (Acre) Taylor, natives of Illinois. Mr. Taylor died May 28, 1925, and his wife died October 27, 1927. Both are buried in Oakridge Cemetery, Catlin. Mr. and Mrs. Douglas have an only child, John Allen, born January 26, 1917.

In politics Mr. Douglas is identified with the Republican party and is a precinct committeeman, also member of the executive committee of Vermilion County. He has held the offices of town clerk and school treasurer of Catlin Township. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and affiliated with Catlin Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; and Kiwanis Club.

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**James W. Hunter**, who is vice president of the R. McCalman Company, Inc., and the Material and Fuel Company, was born at Zanesville, Ohio, January 22, 1881, the son of Joseph Allen and Margaret Ellen (Williamson) Hunter.

Joseph Allen Hunter was born in Miami County, Ohio, in 1850, the son of James W. and M. (Irving) Hunter. James W. Hunter was a native of Miami County, Ohio, and his wife was born in the northern part of Ireland. Both are deceased and are buried at Piqua, Ohio. Their son, Joseph Allen Hunter, spent his boyhood on his father's

farm and early in life entered the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company in the offices at Zanesville. He was serving as chief clerk to the general freight and passenger agent at the time of his death in 1919. He was a Republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church; Amity Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Past Master; Garfield Commandery, Knights Templar. His wife was born at Zanesville, Ohio, and died in 1922. She was the daughter of David and Eliza Williamson, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of Kentucky. To Mr. and Mrs. Hunter were born two children: James W., the subject of this sketch; and Edna, lives at Danville.

James W. Hunter attended the public schools of Zanesville, Ohio, and was graduated with the degree of Civil Engineer from Ohio State University in 1904. He then became associated with the Pennsylvania Railroad at Terre Haute, Indiana, and later with the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad in the chief engineer's office at Chicago. The following year he was transferred to Salem, Illinois, as assistant division engineer. In 1906, Mr. Hunter was sent to Evansville, Indiana, as division engineer and in 1911 he returned to Salem, Illinois, in the same capacity. He came to Danville in 1915 in the same capacity for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, but resigned his position in 1920 to enter the business in which he is now engaged.

In 1910 Mr. Hunter married Miss Harriette Townley, the daughter of H. P. and Nellie (Graham) Townley, natives of Ohio, both now deceased. They are buried at Terre Haute, Indiana, where Mr. Townley was a successful hardware merchant. Mr. and Mrs. Hunter have two daughters, Margaret Ellen and Harriette Townley, both students.

Mr. Hunter holds membership in the First Presbyterian Church, Olive Branch Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, No. 38, Young Men's Christian Association,



Rotary Club, and Danville Country Club. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and vice president of the Allied Construction Industry Council. Politically, Mr. Hunter is a Republican.

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**William H. Debenham**, who is general secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association, Danville, was born in Grundy County, Iowa, January 23, 1880, the son of William and Martha (Hunting) Debenham.

William Debenham was a native of Brooklyn, New York. He was a farmer in early life and lived for a number of years at Adeline, Illinois. Later, he lived in Grundy County, Iowa, where he farmed until 1889. He then moved to Everly, Clay County, Iowa, and while a resident of that place engaged in the general merchandise business. He went to Arapahoe, Nebraska, in 1909, where he remained until the time of his death in December, 1917. He is buried at Arapahoe, Nebraska, and his first wife died in 1884, and is buried in Grundy County, Iowa. Children born to this union were: William H., the subject of this sketch; and Charles L., born May 17, 1881, lives in Colorado. On May 27, 1886, William Debenham married Miss Edna F. Middlekauff. She died in November, 1927, and is buried at Glendale, California.

William H. Debenham was reared in Grundy County, Iowa, and attended the public schools of Everly, Iowa. He was graduated from Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa, in 1905. In that year he entered Young Men's Christian Association work at Ottumwa, Iowa. He served as general secretary at Burlington, Iowa, from 1908 until 1917; as associate general secretary at Camden, New Jersey, from 1917 until 1918; and has been general secretary at Danville since 1918. In 1911 Mr. Debenham raised money for the New Young Men's Christian Association

building at Burlington, Iowa, the total being one hundred thousand dollars.

On September 12, 1906, Mr. Debenham married Miss Evva C. Erskine, of Chicago, the daughter of L. R. and Adella V. (Rogers) Erskine. Mr. Erskine is a successful business man and lives in Chicago. Adella V. Erskine died May 21, 1887. Mr. Erskine married the second time to Miss Mary Hepperly. To Mr. and Mrs. Debenham were born five children: Elizabeth, Roger, Stuart, David, and Theodore, all at home.

Mr. Debenham is a Republican. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and Rotary Club, of which he is secretary.

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**Colfax T. Martin** has been a practicing attorney in Danville for the past twenty years. The years of his early manhood were spent largely as a teacher in his native state of Indiana. His reputation is that of an able lawyer and a popular and useful citizen. He was born near Adams, Decatur County, Indiana, September 24, 1873.

The Martin family is of English ancestry and was established in Virginia before the War of the Revolution. His grandfather, John Martin, was born in Harrison County, Kentucky, lived there until middle life, and then moved to the vicinity of Greensburg, Indiana, where he followed farming until his death. He married Nancy Martin, of a distinguished family of that name, also a native of Kentucky. Their son, Ralph Martin, was born near Greensburg, Indiana, in 1834, and spent practically all his life in that section, becoming a substantial farmer. Late in life he retired to Indianapolis and died in that city in 1914. He was a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, and the Masonic fraternity. His wife, Eva Tevis, was born near Moscow, Indiana, in 1849, and died at Lawrence in that state in 1907. She was the daughter of Thomas and

Mirza Tevis, her parents also being natives of Harrison County, Kentucky. She was of Scotch descent and her people were scholars and chiefly connected with the learned professions. Many of her people occupied high positions in the law or ministry or were engaged in University or Governmental work. Colfax T. Martin was the oldest of their children. The others were: Luther S. Martin, Principal Central High School, Muncie, Indiana; Rev. Charles P. Martin, Pastor United Brethren Church, Indianapolis, Indiana; John E. Martin, farmer near Carlyle, Montana; Rev. Otto T. Martin, District Superintendent of the Crawfordsville District, North Western Indiana Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church; Rev. Ottis T. Martin, Pastor Simpson Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church, at Fort Wayne, Indiana; Eva, married Harry W. Hasewinkle, lives at Indianapolis; and Marquis E. Martin, died at Cayuga, Indiana, at the age of twenty-three years. The father of these children, by his first marriage, had a son, Ralph E. Martin, who was a farmer. He died at Rushville, Indiana, in 1918.

Colfax T. Martin spent his early life on a farm in Decatur County, Indiana, and was educated in the public schools. He was graduated from Clarksburg High School in 1891 and for three years taught in Rush County, Indiana, in the intervals of his teaching attending the Central Normal College in Indiana, where he was graduated in 1894. For a year he was Principal of the high school at Milroy, Indiana, and in 1897 was graduated with a professional Life State License as a teacher from the Indiana State Normal School at Terre Haute, Indiana. While at the State Normal he was editor of the Normal Advance, the college paper there. Then for a year he was superintendent of schools at LaFollette, Tennessee, and for seven years superintendent of schools at Cayuga, Indiana. Teaching supplied him means to complete his higher education and in 1907 he was graduated from the Indiana University

at Bloomington, Indiana, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He took his law course in Indiana University and in the Indiana Law School, of the law department of the University of Indianapolis, and was graduated in 1909, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws, and was admitted to the bar both in Indiana and Illinois and in the United States Courts the same year. His work in the law school was of such character that he was awarded honorable mention by the college authorities on the date of his graduation. In 1909 Mr. Martin came to Danville and established a private practice in this city. From 1915 until 1921 he was a member of the city council of Danville, in which body he served as chairman of the Ordinance Committee, the Finance Committee and other important committees.

On December 25, 1900, Mr. Martin was united in marriage with Miss Ruth Patrick, who comes of a very prominent and highly respected family. She is the daughter of Thomas Patrick and Thamar E. Patrick, of Cayuga, Indiana, both now deceased. They have three children: Della F., a graduate of the Danville High School and a student at the DePauw University, of Greencastle, Indiana, and the John Herron Art Institute of Indianapolis, Indiana; Thamar E., also a graduate of the Danville High School, and a student at DePauw University, at the University of Illinois, and now a teacher in the Danville, Illinois, city schools; and Colfax T., Jr., now eleven years old.

Mr. Martin is a Republican and a member of Saint James Methodist Episcopal Church. He is affiliated with Olive Branch, Lodge No. 38, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Vermilion Chapter, No. 82, Royal Arch Masons; Athelstan Commandery, Knights Templar, No. 45, and Damascus Lodge, No. 84, Knights of Pythias. He is identified with the Vermilion County Bar Association, Illinois State Bar Association, American Bar Association and the American Branch of the International Law Association.



**William F. Baum**, for fifty years was actively engaged in the drug business at Danville, and still looks after a wide diversity of interests, including public office. He is one of the senior business men and citizens of Vermilion County.

He was born over the Indiana line in Fountain County, at Covington, February 5, 1848. The Baum family came from Germany and settled in Pennsylvania in Colonial times. His grandfather, Jonas Baum, a native of Ohio, was a soldier in the War of 1812. About 1825 he settled at Covington, Indiana, being one of the pioneers of Fountain County, and helped develop a farm and home out of the wilderness. He lived there until his death. His wife was Elizabeth Steely, a native of Ohio, who also died in the homestead at Covington. Their son, Abner Baum, was born in Ohio, in 1819, was about six years of age when taken to Indiana; was reared and married there, and spent the greater part of his active life as one of the leading farmers in that community. He began voting as a whig and later became a republican, and was a strong and ardent member of the Baptist Church. He finally moved to Nebraska, and died at Rising City, that state, in 1906. His wife, Eliza Hull, was born in Ohio, in 1840, and died at Rising City in 1906. Their children consisted of the following: William F.; Jonas, a druggist who died at Osceola, Nebraska, in 1891; James, a druggist living at Omaha, Nebraska; Daniel, who was a business man and died at Osceola, Nebraska, in 1888; Emma, wife of Frank Scott, a druggist at Rising City, Nebraska; and Oliver S., a minister of the Presbyterian Church at Los Angeles, California.

William F. Baum had a farm rearing at Covington, attending country schools and town schools, and also the Baptist College at Ladoga, Indiana. Leaving college at the age of twenty-two, he had previously taught a term of school in the winter of 1869 in Warren County, Indiana.



WILLIAM F. BAUM



In 1870 he entered the drug store at Covington, and by a hard working service apprenticeship learned every element in the profession and business of a druggist. In 1872 he acquired at Marshfield, Indiana, a branch store owned by the firm of Board, Gish & Company, and remained in business there until 1875. In the meantime, on November 1, 1874, he had established a drug store at Danville, the fifth store of that kind in the little city, and after 1875, when he sold his Marshfield store, he gave all his attention to the store at Danville. He was the leading druggist in the city for over fifty years, until he retired and sold out his store in 1920. He has had a prominent part in raising the standards of the drug business in Illinois, serving one year as president of the Illinois State Pharmaceutical Association, and in September, 1897, helped organize the National Association of Druggists at St. Louis, being the Illinois Delegate at the convention. Mr. Baum during 1897-98 erected one of the first modern office buildings in Danville known as the Baum Building, a seven-story structure at 41-43 North Vermilion Street. He still owns this building, and has his offices there. He has another business building, occupied by five stores at the corner of Main and North Jackson streets, and a three-story building at 20-22 West Main Street, and much other property, including his attractive home at 318 North Vermilion Street. He is president of the Pioneer Oil, Gas and Refining Company of San Antonio, Texas.

Mr. Baum is serving his tenth consecutive year as a member of the Board of Supervisors in Vermilion County. He was for four years a member of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Danville. Mr. Baum was elected twice to the city council, and while a member of this body introduced a resolution taking into Greater Danville the suburbs of Germantown, South Danville and Rose Lawn, incorporated villages, making six altogether, and by this action automatically increased the population of Danville by



eight hundred people. Mr. Baum is a republican, a member of St. James Methodist Episcopal Church, and is affiliated with Olive Branch Lodge No. 38, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Vermilion Chapter No. 82, Royal Arch Masons; Athlestan Commandery No. 45, Knights Templar; Danville Consistory of the Scottish Rite; and is a thirty-second degree Mason. He is also a member of Danville Lodge No. 332, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; the Danville Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the Danville Country Club.

Mr. Baum married in September, 1874, at Marshfield, Indiana, Miss Louisa A. Johnson, who was born in that locality. She died at Danville in 1905. The only child of this marriage was Clarence Henry, who graduated from the Danville High School; from the University of Michigan in the pharmacy and chemistry department, and for twenty years was actively associated with his father in the drug business. He is now superintendent of the Lake View Hospital of Danville. Mr. Baum, on February 2, 1917, at Sandusky, Ohio, married Miss Bertha L. Levensburger, who was born in that Ohio city. She died at Danville, November 22, 1922.

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**Clint L. Sandusky**, deceased, was a veteran business man of Danville, where he was identified with the Sandusky Furniture Company as president. He was born at Catlin, Illinois, September 30, 1871, and died in Danville, August 26, 1921. He is buried in Springhill Cemetery.

Clint Sandusky was the son of Jacob and Mary Jane (Gones) Sandusky. Jacob Sandusky was a native of Kentucky and his wife was born in Ohio. Mr. Sandusky was a farmer and well known as a breeder of pure bred stock. He came to Illinois when a child with his parents, his father being Isaiah Sandusky. The family became prominent residents of Catlin and were substantial citizens.

Jacob Sandusky died in 1884 and his wife died in 1906. Both are buried at Catlin, Illinois. Mr. Sandusky was a Republican and a member of the Presbyterian Church. To Jacob and Mary Jane (Gones) Sandusky were born three children: Effie, married John Keeslar, attorney, deceased, and she lives in Danville; Viola, married W. A. Balsley, lives in Danville; and Clint L., the subject of this sketch.

The education of Clint L. Sandusky was received in the public schools of Fairmount, Illinois, and his boyhood was spent on his father's farm. In 1896 he came to Danville, where he became associated with the clothing firm of L. Platt & Son. Later he was identified with Owen Pixley & Company and in March, 1900, purchased the interests of C. H. Gones in the firm of C. H. Gones & Brother, furniture dealers. The business was thereafter known as Gones & Sandusky until 1901, at which time Mr. Sandusky became sole owner. The business was incorporated on September 1, 1919, under the name of the Sandusky Furniture Store, and Mr. Sandusky became president. His wife served as secretary and treasurer until the death of her husband in 1921, at which time she became president. She continues to carry out the straightforward business policies of her late husband and has met with unusual success in her business undertaking. The Sandusky Furniture Store is the largest business of its kind in the State of Illinois and owes its merited success to the fact that its owners have always insisted upon maintaining the highest possible quality in their merchandise.

On October 5, 1892, Mr. Sandusky was united in marriage with Miss Sara Marble, the daughter of Jacob and Susan (Rogers) Marble, natives of Indiana. Mr. Marble was a successful farmer and grain dealer. He was a Republican and served as justice of the peace. He held membership in the Christian Church. He died in 1914 and his wife died in 1888. Both are buried in Atherton Cemetery,

near Danville. Their children were: W. A., who died October 13, 1925, was treasurer of the Huber Manufacturing Company, Marion, Ohio; Sara Sandusky; and Lela, married Fred Hughes, of Danville. She died in 1910. To Clint L. and Sara (Marble) Sandusky were born two children: Clinton D., born in 1912, graduate of Danville High School; and Nina, born in 1894, died in infancy.

Mr. Sandusky was affiliated with Olive Branch Lodge No. 38, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Vermilion Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 82; Danville Council, Royal and Select Masters; Athlestan Commandery, Knights Templar; Ansar Temple; and Danville Consistory. In 1911 he was crowned a thirty-third degree Mason at Boston, Massachusetts, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. He was very active in Masonic circles, being District Deputy Grand Lecturer for many years, and he was largely instrumental in bringing to Danville the local consistory. He was a trustee on the Danville Consistory Building Committee. He was also affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332. He was vice president of the Chamber of Commerce, a director of the Webster Home for Aged Women, and a director of Lakeview Hospital from 1907 until 1921.

Mr. Sandusky was always among the first to offer his assistance in civic and charitable movements and while he was interested in many philanthropic projects and enjoyed doing good work, few people knew of his activities in this channel.

Mrs. Sara Sandusky is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and belongs to the Altrusa Club. She has served for the past five years as treasurer of the Board of Managers of the Webster Home for Aged Women. She ranks among the leading women in the social, civic, and business life of Danville and has a wide acquaintance throughout Vermilion County.

**Clarence S. Dickson**, associated with the firm of Edmund & Dickson, morticians, is among the substantial young business men of Danville. He was born near Fithian, Vermilion County, January 8, 1894, the son of Hiram Catlin and Dora Ellen (Ward) Dickson.

Hiram Catlin Dickson, deceased, was a native of Illinois. He was the son of Dr. Simon A. Dickson, who served throughout the Civil War as a captain in the Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He died while in service. His son, Hiram C., became a successful farmer of Vermilion County and was the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of well improved land. He died in 1908 and his wife, a native of Ohio, died in 1909. Both are buried in Stearns Cemetery, Fithian. She was the daughter of Charles C. Ward, a native of Ohio, and an earlier settler of Vermilion County. To Mr. and Mrs. Dickson six children were born: Bert, deceased; Earl W., lives at Mason City, Iowa; James P., lives near Catlin, Illinois; Simon A., lives at Gray's Lake, Illinois; Franklin Harrison lives at Wauconda, Illinois; and Clarence S., the subject of this sketch.

Clarence S. Dickson received his early education in the schools of Vermilion County and attended Illinois University preparatory school. He went to Chicago in 1912 and studied at the Barnes School of Sanitary Science and Embalming. Following his graduation he came to Danville where he was employed in the funeral home of Turner & Gilmore. In 1914 he went to South Bend, Indiana, with Finch & Sprague, but the following year returned to Danville where he was connected with the Gilmore Funeral Home until 1919. The next two years were spent with the Pape Funeral Home and Mr. Dickson again returned to the employ of Mr. Gilmore until 1925. At that time he purchased the interest of J. W. Turner in the firm of Turner & Edmund, and the business has since been known as Edmund & Dickson. This modern funeral home is located at 440 North Vermilion Street.



On January 14, 1915, Mr. Dickson married Miss Mary Belle Scott, the daughter of Charles and Agnes (Noble) Scott, both deceased. They have two daughters, Margaret Delores, born October 24, 1915; and Barbara Jean, born March 20, 1925.

Politically Mr. Dickson is a Republican. He is a member of the First Baptist Church and a charter member of Further Light Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, No. 1130; and Palatine Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 226.

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**Carey B. Hall.**—One of the best known business men of Danville is Carey B. Hall, who is president of the Danville Transfer & Storage Company. He was born at Homer, Champaign County, Illinois, November 17, 1879, the son of Levi M. and Mary F. (Patterson) Hall.

Levi M. Hall was born in Butler County, Ohio, June 19, 1827, and died September 5, 1919. He was the son of Frost Hugh and Maria (Meade) Hall, natives of Hamilton, Ohio. He was a school teacher, lawyer and farmer, and was also proprietor of the hotel at "Halls Locks." He was interested in canal boats extensively. Mr. Hall later settled at Eugene, Indiana. He died in 1848 and is buried in Butler Cemetery, near Newport, Indiana. He was prominent in Masonic circles during the early days. Levi M. Hall, father of the subject of this sketch, spent his boyhood on a farm and after removing to Eugene, Indiana, followed the blacksmith trade. He also owned a shop later at Homer, Illinois, which he operated for a period of twenty years. In later life Mr. Hall farmed. He retired in 1898 and lived at Homer, Illinois, until his death in 1919. He was a Republican and for seventeen years served as commissioner of highways in Homer Township. He held membership in the Methodist Church, of which he was a deacon. Mary F. (Patterson) Hall was born near Homer, Illinois,

December 13, 1847, and died March 1, 1928. Both she and her husband are buried at Homer. She was the daughter of Thomas Patterson, a native of Saint Joseph, Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Hall were born five children: Charles Allen, deceased; Carl, deceased; Ada, married Edward Beazley, lives at Danville; Laura A., married Ernest Fox, lives at Bloomington, Illinois; and Carey B., the subject of this sketch.

Carey B. Hall attended the public schools of Allerton and Homer, Illinois, and in 1899 was graduated from Brown's Business College. After leaving school he went to Chicago for Carson, Pierie & Scott Company, dry goods merchants. In 1900 he removed to Danville, where he became associated with the Danville Transfer & Storage Company as bookkeeper. In 1903 he purchased an interest in the business and eight years later, when the company was incorporated, Mr. Hall became president. He purchased the remaining stock in 1927 and is now sole owner of the business, which is located at 12 College Street.

In 1902 Mr. Hall was united in marriage with Miss Lillian M. Poage, the daughter of Porterfield and Anna (Clemens) Poage, of Homer, Illinois, now residents of Danville. They have a son, Melvin P. Hall, born December 16, 1903. He was married in 1921 to Miss Mildred McClain, and they have a daughter, Lillian L. Hall, born August 23, 1923. Mr. Hall is associated in business with his father. He is a graduate of Danville High School, and attended the University of Illinois.

Mr. Hall is a Republican, a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Danville Country Club, and Roselawn Country Club. His fraternal affiliations are as follows: Olive Branch Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, No. 38; Vermilion Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 82; Danville Council, Royal and Select Masters, No. 37; Athelstan Commandery, Knights Templar, No. 45; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Past Sovereign Prince of

Council Princes of Jerusalem; Past Most Wise Master of Chapter Rose Croix, First Lieutenant Commander of the Consistory; Gao Grotto, Monarch; and on September 21, 1926, he was crown a thirty-third degree Mason at Buffalo, New York, in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. He is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332.

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**Maj. Gen. Oscar Philip Yeager**, deceased, was a prominent figure in the business life of Danville for many years. He was born in this city, October 25, 1866, the son of Magnus and Hannah (Campbell) Yeager.

Magnus Yeager was born in Germany and was a lad of fourteen years when he emigrated to the United States with his parents. They settled on a farm near Decatur, Indiana. He was a Civil War veteran, having enlisted with an Indiana Cavalry Regiment. His wife was born near Campbell's Station, Illinois. Both are buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville.

Oscar Philip Yeager was educated in the public schools of Danville and was a graduate of Danville Seminary. He engaged in the contract business in his teens, with his father, the late Magnus Yeager, under the firm name of M. Yeager & Son. He remained with his father until 1892, when he formed a partnership with Charles F. Schultz, under the firm name of Charles F. Schultz & Company. Their operations extended outside the city of Danville. The Plano Manufacturing Company of Plano, Illinois, erected in West Pullman, and which is now a part of the International Harvester Company, was among the first large contracts handled by the new firm. In 1893 they had the contract for the basement of the Federal Building on Harrison and Vermilion streets. In 1893-94-95 they built the new building of the College of Engineering at the University of Illinois. Magnus Yeager then entered the firm and the



*O. P. Yeager*





name was changed to Yeager & Schultz. Courthouses were erected at Monticello, Clinton and Paris, Illinois, and one at Sparta, Wisconsin. With the retirement of Mr. Schultz the firm became known as Yeager & Son. The Federal building at Hot Springs, Arkansas, was then built by the company.

Some of the largest post office and custom house buildings were erected by Yeager & Son, one of the largest being at Newport, Rhode Island. Among the important buildings erected at Danville were the Federal Building, Court House, First National Bank Building, Baum Building, Elks Club, Washington School, and the last important contract handled by General Yeager was the Memorial Bridge on Gilbert Street over the Vermilion River. Mr. Yeager died February 28, 1923.

General Yeager married Martha E. Smith, the daughter of David John and Ellen (Conlin) Smith, pioneers of Tilton, Illinois. Both are deceased and buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. Mrs. Yeager died in 1895, leaving three children: O. K., a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history; Phyllis, married Drew Tenbroeck, lives at Hinsdale, Illinois; and Ralph O., lives at Terre Haute, Indiana. On March 5, 1902, Mr. Yeager married Miss Grace Dillon, a native of Danville, Illinois, where she now resides.

General Yeager's military record in national guard circles in Illinois was unequaled in Vermilion County. He enlisted as a private in Battery A, Artillery Battalion, June 1, 1883, at the age of seventeen years. He received his discharge February 4, 1887, and re-enlisted August 10, 1889, receiving a commission as first lieutenant, November 18, 1889. In January, 1890, he was promoted to captain and on January 28, 1901, became a major. General Yeager retired October 6, 1910, and was placed on the retired list as Lieutenant Colonel, being transferred to the National Guard Reserve March 6, 1917. He assisted in

the reorganization of the Illinois National Guard to replace the companies that had been sent into active service in the World War. He remained in command until June 22, 1921, when he was promoted to Brigadier General of the Sixty-fifth Infantry Brigade, Thirty-third Division. He retired from service June 9, 1922, with the rank of Major General.

At the outbreak of the Spanish-American War, Captain Yeager led Battery A, First Illinois Field Artillery, United States Volunteers, and served in Porto Rico.

General Yeager was a life long Republican and always took an active interest in politics. He was a member of Olive Branch Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons No. 38; Vermilion Chapter, Royal Arch Masons No. 82; Athelstan Commandery, Knights Templar No. 35; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Ansar Temple; and Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks No. 332. He was also a member of United Spanish War Veterans, Camp Egbert No. 1, charter member; and an honor member of Jewell White Post No. 728, Veterans of Foreign Wars.

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**Col. O. K. Yeager.**—An energetic and successful business man of Danville, whose career has been steadily upward and marked by progressiveness from the first, is Col. O. K. Yeager, who is identified with Yeager & Son. He began his business experience with his honored father, who was also one of Danville's highly regarded business men.

Colonel Yeager was born in Danville, February 5, 1888, the son of Major General Oscar Philip and Martha E. (Smith) Yeager. A complete sketch of Maj. Gen. Oscar Philip Yeager appears elsewhere in this history.

O. K. Yeager obtained his early education in the public schools of Danville, and following his graduation from high

school in 1906 he entered DePauw University. He subsequently entered the University of Chicago, and in 1911 was graduated from the University of Illinois with the degree of Bachelor of Science. Mr. Yeager has since been identified with the interests of Yeager & Son, Danville, and in 1920 became a member of the firm. At the time of his father's death, February 28, 1923, Mr. Yeager became sole owner.

In 1913 Mr. Yeager married Sara Hazel Brand, the daughter of Dr. E. P. and Vienna (Moore) Brand, natives of West Virginia. He was superintendent of Baptist Missions at Normal, Illinois. He is deceased and his widow lives at Tucson, Arizona. Colonel and Mrs. Yeager have two children, Betty Ann and Philip Brand, both students.

In 1905 Colonel Yeager enlisted in Battery A, First Field Artillery, but at the inception of Company I, Fifth Illinois Regiment, he transferred to that organization. Later, he became a member of Battery A, First Illinois Field Artillery. In June, 1917, he was transferred to Camp Meade, Maryland, and was there attached to an engineering corps, where he was commissioned a captain. He was subsequently sent to Camp Raritan, New Jersey, where he engaged in construction work, later being transferred to Frankfort Arsenal, as executive officer in charge of construction work. He served at Camp Knox, Louisville, Kentucky, in the same capacity and was discharged in July, 1919. He reorganized Company A, Fourth Illinois Infantry, National Guard, which was later federally recognized as Company D, One Hundred and Thirtieth Infantry, Thirty-third Division. He was commissioned captain, November, 1920, and resigned in May, 1923. However, the following year he returned to the service as captain of Company D, One Hundred and Thirtieth Infantry, and in July, 1927, was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, and attached to the Thirty-third Division Staff.



Politically, Colonel Yeager is a Republican. He is affiliated with Anchor Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons No. 980, charter member; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Ansar Temple; "40 and 8" Society; Veterans of Foreign Wars; American Legion; Phi Delta Theta fraternity; Kiwanis Club; and Danville Country Club. He is a member of the Western Society of Engineers, Society of American Military Engineers, and American Society of Civil Engineers. He has various business connections in Danville, being president of the Domestic Appliance Company, president of the Danville Lumber Company, and a director of the Western Indiana Gravel Company.

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**John W. Speakman.**—One of the best known of the younger lawyers of Vermilion County is John W. Speakman, of Danville, who is serving as assistant United States District Attorney. He was born near Jamaica, Illinois, March 5, 1900.

John W. Speakman was educated in the public schools of Danville. He was graduated from the University of Illinois, from which he received his degree in law in 1924. The following year he was admitted to the Illinois bar. He spent six months in Los Angeles, California, and then returned to Danville, where he became a member of the firm of Jewel and Speakman, being associated in practice with William Jewel, of Danville. Mr. Speakman was subsequently admitted to practice in the Federal Courts.

Mr. Speakman is a Republican and served as precinct committeeman of the first precinct, Third Ward, in 1926. He was elected secretary for the Vermilion County Republican Central Committee in April, 1926, and was appointed assistant United States district attorney August 23, 1926.

Mr. Speakman holds membership in Saint James Methodist Episcopal Church, Delta Sigma Phi, Phi Delta Phi, and Delta Sigma Rho fraternities. He is also a member of the Vermilion County Bar Association and Illinois State Bar Association. He is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Olive Branch Lodge, No. 38, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons; Goa Grotto; and American Legion.

During the World War Mr. Speakman served in the Student Army Training Corps at the University of Illinois. While a student at the university he was also a member of the debating team for three years.

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**Cecil D. Steely.**—One of the progressive young business men of Danville is found in Cecil D. Steely, who is identified with the Danville Poster Advertising Company as manager. He is a native of Indiana, born at West Lebanon, February 10, 1898, the son of William J. and Lilly R. (Ritchey) Steely.

William J. Steely, retired, has spent his entire life in Indiana. He was born at West Lebanon in Warren County, the son of George W. and Mary E. (Brenner) Steely. Both George W. Steely and his wife are deceased. George W. Steely was a leading agriculturist of Warren County, Indiana, and prominent in politics, having held various public offices at West Lebanon. His son, William J., followed general farming and stock raising throughout his active career. He specialized in the breeding of pure bred stock. Mr. Steely retired from his farm in 1923 and now lives at State Line, Indiana. His wife, born in Warren County, Indiana, died in July, 1923, and is buried at Mound Prairie, near Covington, Indiana. She was the daughter of Charles and Elizabeth Jane (Dixon) Ritchey, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Indiana. Mr.

Ritchey died in 1923 and his widow lives at State Line, Indiana. To Mr. and Mrs. William J. Steely was born one child, Cecil D., the subject of this sketch.

William J. Steely is a Republican and a member of the Methodist Church.

The boyhood of Cecil D. Steely was spent in Warren County, Indiana. Following his graduation from Richmond (Indiana) High School in 1916 he attended Earlham College. Mr. Steely began his business career as a salesman for the Peabody-Houghteling Bond & Investment Company, of Chicago, Illinois, being identified with their Chicago, Illinois, offices. In 1917 he attended the Detroit Aeronautical School and completed the ground school course in October, 1918. He then came to Danville, where he has since been connected with the Danville Poster Advertising Company as manager. He is also associated with the Haskell Sign System.

Mr. Steely married in 1922 Miss Esther Haskell, daughter of W. J. and Eva C. (Dudenhofer) Haskell. Mr. Haskell is president of the Danville Poster Advertising Company. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Steely are: Catherine Elizabeth, born in 1924; and William J., born in 1928.

In politics Mr. Steely is identified with the Republican party. He is a member of the First Presbyterian Church, and Mound Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, No. 274. He also belongs to the Chamber of Commerce, Danville.

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**Eugene S. Lamm** is numbered among the energetic and successful young business men of Danville, where he is associated with the interests of E. C. Lamm & Company. He was born in this city, July 24, 1896, the son of Edward C. and Edith (Elliott) Lamm.

Edward C. Lamm, deceased, was widely known in Danville, where he was the founder of the business which bears

his name. He was born in Danville in 1858. He went west early in life and lived on a ranch about thirty miles from Trinidad, Colorado. He later sold his interests and returned to Danville, where he established a lumber and milling business in partnership with his brothers. This enterprise was begun in 1857 by William Lamm, father of Edward C. Lamm. Later, Edward C. Lamm purchased his brothers' interests and conducted the business successfully until his death, April 3, 1922. The original plant was located at Hazel and North streets, and removed to its present location in 1909. Mr. Lamm was a Republican and held membership in the Presbyterian Church. His widow, born in San Francisco, California, now lives at Santa Barbara, California. Their children were: Marjorie, deceased; Ethel, married Louis Fisher, lives at Santa Barbara, California; Edith, lives at Santa Barbara, California; Wilford E., lives at Modoc Point, Oregon; Eugene S., the subject of this sketch; and Elsa, married Charles R. Ehlers, lives at Danville.

Eugene S. Lamm received his schooling at Danville and was graduated from high school in 1915. He then went to Modoc Point, Oregon, where he was associated with his brother's lumber interests. In September, 1917, he enlisted in the Forestry Engineers from Oregon, Twentieth Engineers, Fourth Company. This outfit was sent to France in November, 1917, and saw active duty in the Vosges Mountains. Mr. Lamm was discharged from the service at Rockford, Illinois, in May, 1919. Upon his return to Danville he became identified with his father's business and after the latter's death in 1922 he assumed full charge of the concern. They do general mill work, manufacturing frames, mouldings and various sundries. A large lumber yard is also owned and operated by E. C. Lamm & Company.

In 1925 Mr. Lamm married Miss Katherine Mason, the daughter of Dr. F. R. and Katherine (Livengood) Mason.



He is a prominent physician and surgeon of Danville. Mr. and Mrs. Lamm have a son, Edward C., born in 1927.

Mr. Lamm is a Republican, and is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332, Loyal Order of Moose, and American Legion.

In 1928 to 1929 Mr. Lamm operated the Aerial Transit Company and has the only privately owned plane in Danville. He and his wife are both licensed pilots. In 1929 Mr. Lamm organized the Danville Flying Club.

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**Everett Leslie Dalbey.**—Prominent among the leading members of the Vermilion County Bar Association is Everett Leslie Dalbey, who is engaged in the practice of his profession at Danville, with offices in the Adams Building. He was born in Oakwood Township, Vermilion County, May 10, 1889, the son of Verner R. and Sarah G. (Lucas) Dalbey.

Verner R. Dalbey was born in Oakwood Township, Vermilion County, near Newtown, May 8, 1856. He spent his boyhood on his father's farm and after his marriage, December 5, 1875, followed farming for several years. He then became interested in the mercantile business at Steam Corner, Indiana, and from there went to Muncie, Illinois, where he engaged in the grain and stock business. He also constructed a store and served as postmaster at Muncie. For several years he had charge of a fine tract of land, containing 1,000 acres, known as the "Fox Farm." Mr. Dalbey engaged in business at Muncie for a period of eighteen years. He died in August, 1925, and is buried in Stearns Cemetery, near Muncie. He was a Democrat, and a member of the Baptist Church, having served for twenty-seven years as Sunday school superintendent. He was honorary superintendent at the time of his death. Mr. Dalbey married Sarah G. Lucas, of Veedersburg, Indiana.



*E. L. Dalbey.*



She now lives at Tilton, Illinois. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Dalbey: Robert F., lives in Chicago, Illinois; Herman S., lives at Tilton, Illinois; Myrtle, married M. R. Waddell, lives at Danville; Wilbern A., lives at Robertsedale, Alabama; Everett Leslie, the subject of this sketch; Beulah, deceased; Virgie, lives at Danville; and Kenneth, at home.

Everett Leslie Dalbey grew up at Muncie, Illinois, where he attended the public schools. He also attended the Danville High School, the College of Literature and Arts at the University of Illinois, and was a member of the graduating class of 1913 of the Law School, University of Illinois. While there he also made records in scholarship and was awarded membership in the Order of Coif, honorary legal fraternity, during his senior year. Mr. Dalbey was admitted to practice at the Illinois bar in July, 1913, and immediately came to Danville, where he was associated in practice with Rearick & Meeks for ten years. He then practiced alone for a short time before forming a partnership with ex-Judge Lawrence T. Allen, under the firm name of Allen & Dalbey. They have specialized mainly in corporation law.

In September, 1909, Mr. Dalbey was united in marriage with Miss Leah G. Collett, daughter of Lemuel G. and Dora (McFarland) Collett, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Illinois. Both are deceased and are buried at Oakwood, Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Dalbey the following children were born: Dora Wintress Dalbey, who attends the University of Illinois; Beulah Marie, attends the Danville High School; Sarah Henrietta, and Everett Linden at home.

Mr. Dalbey has always been a Democrat. He is a trustee of the First Baptist Church, and has been active in church work throughout his life. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Phi Delta Phi fraternity; Exchange Club; Danville Country



Club; Young Men's Christian Association; and Chamber of Commerce. He is identified with the Vermilion County Bar Association and Illinois State Bar Association.

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**Edward J. Ryan** is numbered among the most progressive business men of Danville, where he is president of the E. J. Ryan Company, 117 North Walnut Street. He was born at Chillicothe, Illinois, July 16, 1867, the son of John and Elmira Jane (Goff) Ryan.

John Ryan was a native of Kane County, Illinois, and his wife was born in New York. He grew up on his father's farm and at an early age became interested in bridge building, later becoming widely known as a bridge contractor. He died in 1882 and his wife died in 1923. Both are buried in the Masonic Cemetery, Streator, Illinois. Mr. Ryan was a Republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church, Streator Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. There were three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Ryan: Minnie, deceased; Edward J., the subject of this sketch; and Charles, deceased.

Edward J. Ryan was educated in the public schools of Chicago. As an apprentice plumber he served with the Mulford Plumbing Company, Streator, Illinois, and was identified with that company for a period of ten years. He then, in partnership with a Mr. Ferguson, established a plumbing business at Streator, which was continued for four years. In 1890 Mr. Ryan came to Danville and after a short time went to Aurora, Illinois, where he followed his trade and engaged in business. In 1893 he returned to Danville and established a business of his own, having purchased the plumbing establishment of W. A. Hill & Company. The business was incorporated in 1918 and Mr. Ryan became president. Among the large and noteworthy contracts completed by the E. J. Ryan Company may be

mentioned the following: Danville Hospital; National Soldiers Home; Danville High School; Lincoln School; Jackson School; Douglas School; Danville Consistory; Franklin School; Washington School; Grant School; Lakeview Hospital; Illinois Printing Company; Baum Building; Adams Building; Daniel Building; First National Bank; Second National Bank; Kankakee High School, Kankakee, Illinois; New York Central Railroad Office Building, Gibson, Indiana; Lincoln Hall, University of Illinois, Champaign, Illinois; Indianola High School, Indianola, Illinois.

Mr. Ryan married Miss Minnie M. Barr. Their daughter, Helen, married William Auer, and lives at Rochester, New York. They have a daughter, Jean.

Mr. Ryan is a Republican, and is affiliated with Olive Branch Lodge, No. 38, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Medinah Temple; Gao Grotto; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Modern Woodmen of America; Rotary Club; Danville Country Club; and Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Ryan is identified with the Illinois State Master Plumbers Association and National Master Plumbers Association.

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**Robert C. Songer.**—Among the substantial business men and highly esteemed citizens of Danville may be mentioned Robert C. Songer, who is identified with Hought & Songer, of 207 South Street. He is a native of Vermilion County, born December 18, 1881, the son of William W. and Ella E. (Shore) Songer.

William W. Songer was born in Vermilion County, Indiana, in 1857, the son of Lewis and Matilda (Lowe) Songer, both natives of Indiana. The Songer family removed to Vermilion County, Illinois, from Indiana about 1865 and settled near Alvin, where they became prosperous farmers. William W., father of the subject of this sketch,

was eight years old when his parents brought him to Alvin, Illinois. He learned the carpenter trade and followed that throughout his active career. In 1907 he retired and removed to Danville, where he died in 1915. He is buried in Bethel Cemetery, near Alvin, Illinois. Mr. Songer was a Republican and served as assessor of Ross Township for four terms. He was a member of the Church of Christ. Ella E. (Shore) Songer was born in Shelby County, Ohio, and came to Neoga, Illinois, with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Shore, when she was a very young girl. She now resides at Danville. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Songer: Maude, married Charles Darling, lives at Oakland, California; Robert C., the subject of this sketch; Myrtle, married T. L. Cummins, lives at Catlin, Illinois; Lucile, married Robert Burow, lives at Joliet, Illinois; Joseph, lives at Lewistown, Montana; and Zora, married Benjamin Robinson, lives at Danville.

The boyhood of Robert C. Songer was spent at Alvin, Illinois, where he attended the public schools. He was graduated from Brown's Business College in 1901. Mr. Songer learned carpentry in association with his father's business and from 1903 until 1905 was a building contractor in Indiana. In 1906 he came to Danville as manager of the Henry Taylor Lumber Company, at present the Alleth-Prouty Company. In 1912 he became manager of the City Coal Company, but two years later purchased a half interest from William R. Houpt in his building supply business. This was a small organization in 1914 but today ranks as one of the largest houses of its kind in the city.

In 1905 Mr. Songer married Miss Theresa M. Claypool, the daughter of Squire and Julia (Harrison) Claypool, of Danville. The former is deceased and the latter lives at Bismarck, Illinois. There are four children in the Songer family. Roberta, attends Jacksonville Women's College;

Glen Harrison, Robert Franklin, and John William, all students.

Mr. Songer holds membership in Saint James Methodist Episcopal Church, is vice president of the Rotary Club, and a member of Further Light Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, No. 1130; Knights of Pythias; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; and Loyal Order of Moose. Mr. Songer is a Republican.

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**Clarence Edwin Wellman**, who is serving his fourth term as clerk of the Circuit Court of Vermilion County, is a highly esteemed and widely known citizen of Danville. He was born at Sardinia, Ohio, September 8, 1877, the son of Thomas and Sarah (Roudebush) Wellman.

Thomas Wellman, deceased, was a farmer and spent the greater part of his life in Brown County. He was a native of Farmington, Maine, and his wife was born in Ohio. She is also deceased. Clarence Edwin, the subject of this sketch, was their only child.

The boyhood of Clarence Edwin Wellman was spent on a farm. He came to Illinois from Ohio when he was sixteen years of age and worked on a farm near Rossville for several years. He attended Greer College, Hoopeston, and also was a student at Eureka College, Eureka, Illinois. He left school in March, 1898, and enlisted in Battery A, First Illinois Volunteer Light Artillery, and was sent for training to Chickamauga Park, Georgia, and then to Porto Rico. He returned to the United States and was honorably discharged on November 25, 1898. After his service in the Spanish-American War, Mr. Wellman entered the employ of the Sprague Canning Machinery Company at Hoopes-ton, Illinois, as a mechanic, and remained in their employ until January 1, 1912. At that time he accepted the office of deputy clerk in the office of the Circuit Court. He was



elected clerk of the Circuit Court in 1916, and is now serving the fourth term in that office.

December 25, 1901, Mr. Wellman married Miss Mary A. Lindahl, of East Lynn, Illinois, the daughter of Augustus and Emily Lindahl, of Hoopeston, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Lindahl were born in Sweden. To Mr. and Mrs. Wellman were born three children: Earle F., born April 2, 1906, lives at home; Gladys M., born November 26, 1908, married Donald G. Finch, lives at Danville; and Marion E., born March 23, 1912, attends Danville High School.

Politically, Mr. Wellman is a Republican. He is a member of Saint James Methodist Episcopal Church, and has served for fourteen years as general secretary of the Sunday School. He is affiliated with Oliver Branch, No. 38, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Past Monarch Gao Grotto; Mystic Order of Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm; Modern Woodmen of America; Knights of Pythias; and he is past department commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Mr. Wellman enlisted in Company B, Third Infantry, Illinois National Guard, March, 1908, and was made second lieutenant in 1911. He was transferred to the 5th Infantry Illinois National Guard in 1912 as Battalion Quartermaster and Commissary. He resigned from the National Guard on November 26, 1916.

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**Lewis G. Bishop** is a veteran of the World War and a leading business man of Danville, where he is president of the Bishop Construction Company, with offices in the Adams Building. He was born in Crawford County, Illinois, May 13, 1893, the son of William L. and Emily E. (Adams) Bishop.

William L. Bishop, deceased, was a native of Crawford County, Illinois, and his wife was born in Indiana. He

was reared on his father's farm and was well educated. He became a merchant at Hutsonville, Illinois, and in 1900 located at Danville, where he was associated with the Danville Wholesale Grocery Company until the time of his death in 1904. He is buried at Danville. Mr. Bishop was a life long Republican, a member of the Christian Church, and Hutsonville Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of which he was Past Master for fifteen years. Emily E. (Adams) Bishop is the daughter of Lewis and Hannah S. (Shewman) Adams, natives of Ohio and early settlers of Crawford County, Illinois. She lives at Danville. Mr. and Mrs. Bishop were the parents of five children: Dr. Frank, physician and surgeon, died in Los Angeles, California, in September, 1928, was a graduate of the University of Kentucky and the University of Southern California, and a World War veteran, having served in France with the United States Medical Corps as a captain; Zella, married W. E. Reynolds, lives at Jacksonville, Florida; Fern, married H. E. Parker, Jr., lives at Danville; Lewis G., the subject of this sketch; and Blanche, lives at home.

Lewis G. Bishop was educated in the public schools of Crawford County and also attended school in Danville. He began his business career with the Danville Brick Company as a salesman and in 1916 established the Bishop Construction Company, which was incorporated three years later. They specialize in road building and have to their credit the building of the Paxton and Elliott road, several excellent roads in Vermilion County, and the first road of brick that was built in Iroquois County, Illinois.

In September, 1921, Mr. Bishop was united in marriage with Miss Joanna Jones, the daughter of O. M. Jones, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history. Mr. and Mrs. Bishop have two children: William, born July 4, 1923; and Emmalou, born February 23, 1927.

Mr. Bishop is a Republican, a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Anchor Lodge, Ancient Free and

Accepted Masons, Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Ansar Temple, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Danville Country Club, and Kiwanis Club.

During the World War Mr. Bishop enlisted on December 3, 1917, in the Ordnance Department. He was sent to the Columbus (Ohio) Barracks, later to Fort Dodge, Iowa, and Washington, District of Columbia. He served in France with the Advanced Ordnance Corps, No. 4, Ammunition Dump at Neuf Chateau. He was discharged in May, 1919, as sergeant of ordnance.

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**Herman Carl Horneman**, who is president of the Sugar Creek Creamery Company, 123 North Washington Avenue, is one of the representative business men of Danville and Vermilion County. He was born at Harlan, Kansas, May 13, 1884, the son of Charles and Caroline (Leifheit) Horneman.

Charles Horneman was born near Berlin, Germany, in 1839, and came to the United States in 1858. He settled in DeKalb County, Illinois, where he followed his trade as a blacksmith and machinist. He was married at Hinkley, Illinois, to Caroline Leifheit, also a native of Germany, and they then settled at Harlan, Smith County, Kansas. Later, the family located in Nebraska and from there went to Des Moines, Iowa. At the time of his death in 1917 Mr. Horneman was living at Long Beach, California. He is buried at Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. Horneman was a Republican, a member of the German Lutheran Church, and held various club and lodge memberships. His widow lives at Long Beach, California. To Mr. and Mrs. Horneman were born seven children, as follows: Will, lives at Des Moines, Iowa; Charles, deceased; Frank, lives at Danville; Albert, deceased; Albertina, married Dr. H. C. Jones, lives



HERMAN CARL HORNEMAN





at Los Angeles, California; Walter, lives at Louisville, Kentucky, where he is manager of the Sugar Creek Creamery Company; and Herman Carl, the subject of this sketch.

The boyhood of Herman Carl Horneman was spent at Des Moines, Iowa, where he received his early schooling. He was graduated in agriculture from Iowa State College in 1907 and in 1920 received his Master's degree from the same institution. After leaving college in 1907 he was identified with the Agricultural Extension Department of the State of Iowa for two years. He was then associated with the Blue Valley Creamery Company of Chicago, in charge of cream purchasing for their entire creamery system. In June, 1910, Mr. Horneman organized the Watseka Creamery Company at Watseka, Illinois. The business expanded rapidly and was incorporated in 1914 as the Sugar Creek Creamery Company. The company's general offices were removed to Danville in 1917 and factories in other cities have been established, as follows: Danville and Pana, Illinois, in 1913; Louisville, Kentucky, in 1917; St. Louis, Missouri, in 1919; Indianapolis and Evansville, Ind., in 1921; Marshfield, Missouri, in 1922; and Bristol, South Dakota, in 1927.

Mr. Horneman was the sole owner of the first creamery operated by the Sugar Creek Creamery Company at Watseka, Ill., and therefore was made president of the business when it was incorporated. He has continued in that capacity to the present time.

In 1908 Mr. Horneman married Miss Florence Coe, the daughter of Seymour and Caroline (Peterson) Coe, natives of Ames, Iowa. They have a son, Kenneth, born in 1910. He attended Pasadena Junior College one year and in 1929 he entered Iowa State College at Ames, Iowa.

Mr. Horneman is identified with the Republican party in politics and has been president of the Board of Education, Danville, for the past five years. He has the following lodge affiliations: Furtherlight Lodge, Ancient, Free

and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Watseka Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; Mary Commandery, Knights Templar, Watseka, Illinois; Ansar Temple; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332. He belongs to the Danville Country Club; Danville Yacht Club; Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity; and Chamber of Commerce. He is president of the Illinois Allied Dairy Interests, and is secretary of the Illinois Guernsey Breeders Association.

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**Rufus Martin Utterback.**—In the development of a career which has been characterized by marked industry and energy, and the achievement of merited success, the younger generation should take interest, for in this way lessons of incalculable value may be learned. Such a career has been that of Rufus Martin Utterback, president of Utterback's Business College at Danville, who, commencing his independent life with little to aid him save faith in himself and a good education, with some experience as a teacher and a large amount of native ability, has steadily advanced in the field of commercial education until now he has three branch schools in addition to the parent school at Mattoon, Illinois, and he is accounted one of the leaders in his field of effort.

Professor Utterback was born May 21, 1878, at Dundas, Richland County, Illinois, and is a son of Martin and Eliza (Burgess) Utterback.

Martin Utterback was born near Elizabethtown, Hardin County, Kentucky, his birthplace being near that of Abraham Lincoln, and he was three years of age when he was brought to Illinois by his parents, the remainder of his life being passed in Richland County, Illinois, where he helped to haul logs for the first court house of the county. He was of German descent, but the family has been

long in this country and his grandfather Snyder was present at the signing of the Declaration of Independence, clad in homespun linen uniform as sergeant-at-arms. At Claremont, Illinois, in 1857, Martin Utterback married Eliza Burgess, of Scotch descent, a daughter of James Burgess, a veteran of the War of 1812, and one of the early pioneers of Ohio.

Rufus Martin Utterback acquired his early education at Dundas, Illinois, where he attended the rural schools, and he followed this by a course at Valparaiso University. Later, he took a course at the Southwestern Business College. He commenced his career as a teacher in the public schools and was engaged from 1896 until 1904. He then spent one and one-half years as a stenographer and in 1905 turned his attention to business college work, with which he has been identified to the present, although it was not until 1909 that he purchased and started operation of what has since been known as Utterback's Business College, of which he has been president since its incorporation. In 1919 Mr. Utterback organized the branch school at Paris, Illinois, and in 1921 the second branch school was located at Olney, Illinois. In 1925 the third branch school was established at Danville. These have all proven decidedly successful under his careful and capable management, and there are already found a number of successful men and women in the business world who received their training at the Utterback schools. Mr. Utterback has given his chief attention to the management and direction of these establishments, but has not overlooked the duties of citizenship, and from 1915 until 1917 served as a member of the city council of Mattoon.

Mr. Utterback was married at Calhoun, Illinois, July 19, 1905, to Miss Leona A. Bartley, a daughter of Edward T. and Elvira Jane Bartley. Edward T. Bartley, who died in May, 1925, was a grandson of Governor Mordecai Bartley, of Ohio, a Union soldier during the Civil War, and a



relative of William Hooper, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. William Hooper was born at Boston, Massachusetts, June 17, 1742, and was graduated from Harvard College in 1760, following which he practiced law in North Carolina and early became interested in the Colonial struggle with Great Britain. He was elected to the Continental Congress in 1774, and became a signer of the famous document of July 4, 1776. He died in Hillsboro, North Carolina, in October, 1790. Mrs. Bartley, who still survives her husband, is a descendant of the old Scotch Covenanters.

To Mr. and Mrs. Utterback there have been born two children: Ethel Elvira, born December 27, 1913, died at birth; and Mary Elizabeth, born March 3, 1917.

Mr. Utterback is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Mattoon Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen of America, and Rotary Club. He is also identified with the United Association of Accredited Private Business Schools.

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**Albert A. Berhalter** is one of the dependable and well known business men of Danville, where he is identified with the Berhalter Funeral Parlors, 106-08 West Main Street. He was born at Kendallville, Indiana, July 4, 1867, the son of Joseph and Frances (Schunder) Berhalter.

Both Joseph Berhalter and his wife were natives of Germany. Their marriage took place at Reading, Pennsylvania, after their arrival in this country about 1850. He was a cabinet maker by trade and was also employed in the car shops of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Reading. Later, he lived at Corona, Indiana, and while a resident of that place became successful as a manufacturer of furniture and coffins. During the Civil War he enlisted in the

Indiana Volunteer Infantry and served throughout the war period. After the close of the war Mr. Berhalter removed with his family to Kendallville, Indiana, where he continued in the manufacturing business until his death, September 4, 1881. His wife died in January, 1884. They are buried in Lakeview Cemetery, Kendallville. There were nine children in the Berhalter family, as follows: John, Joseph, Frank, and Louisa, all deceased; George, who died in March, 1928; Etta, deceased, was the wife of Casper Vetter; Charles, who died in 1926; Minnie, deceased; and Albert A., the subject of this sketch.

The boyhood of Albert A. Berhalter was spent at Kendallville, Indiana, and following his graduation from high school in 1886 he became associated with the manufacturing business there, which had been established by his father. About 1888 he came to Danville and went with N. A. Kimball, mortician, with whom he was identified until 1893. He then purchased Mr. Kimball's interests in partnership with W. C. Olmsted, the firm being known as Berhalter & Olmsted. Mr. Berhalter became sole owner of the business in 1919.

In 1892 Mr. Berhalter was united in marriage with Miss Mary Hurley, the daughter of Cornelius and Mary Ann (Shean) Hurley, the former a native of New York and the latter of Canada. Mr. Hurley is deceased and buried at LaSalle, Illinois. His wife is buried at Danville. Their children were: Anna, lives at Danville; Ella, married M. J. Denny, lives at McAllen, Texas; and Mary Berhalter. Mr. and Mrs. Berhalter have three daughters: Madeline, married Dr. M. J. Monahan, lives at Danville, and they have a daughter, Jane; Mary, lives at home; and Lillian, deceased.

Mr. Berhalter is a member of the Knights of Columbus, Knights of Pythias, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332, Rotary Club, and Danville Yacht Club. He

is also a member of the National Selected Morticians, Illinois Funeral Directors Association, and National Funeral Directors Association.

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**Benjamin Charles English.**—One of the outstanding financiers of Danville is Benjamin Charles English, who is assistant cashier of the First National Bank. He is also a veteran of the World War. Mr. English was born at Danville, February 5, 1885, the son of Charles Lewis and Mary Alice (O'Hara) English.

Charles Lewis English, deceased, was president of the First National Bank of Danville. A complete sketch of him appears elsewhere in this history.

Benjamin Charles English received his early education in the public schools of Danville and was graduated from the University of Chicago in 1907. He has been interested in banking throughout his business career and besides holding the office of assistant cashier of the First National Bank he is vice president of the Taylor English Coal Company, and treasurer of the Vermilion County Building Association, Danville.

Mr. English enlisted in 1908 in Company I, Fifth Infantry, Illinois National Guard, and was later promoted to first lieutenant, serving until 1914. During the World War he was commissioned a captain in the Infantry and served as assistant instructor at the First Officers Training Camp at Chicago, Illinois. He then went to Camp Grant, Rockford, Illinois, where he was attached to the Three Hundred Forty-third Infantry, Eighty-sixth Division. He sailed for France in May, 1918, and was in the Argonne offensive. After the armistice he was assigned to General Headquarters of Quartermaster, Army of Occupation, serving until July, 1919, when he returned to the United States. He was discharged as a Major, and now holds that rank in the

United States Reserve Corps. He is a member of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

On November 10, 1909, Mr. English married Miss Pearl Benjamin, of Danville, the daughter of Frank A. and Louise (Vierson) Benjamin. The former lives at Danville. Mrs. Benjamin is deceased.

Mr. English is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Rockford Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree, and Loyal Order of Moose.

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**Charles Lewis English**, deceased, was one of Danville's foremost citizens and prominently identified with its financial interests for more than half a century. He stood high in banking and business circles in the city and was highly esteemed by all who knew him. Mr. English was born at Perrysville, Indiana, July 15, 1846, the son of Joseph G. and Maria (Hicks) English.

Joseph G. English was a native of Rising Sun, Ohio. He came to Danville in 1854 and became a leading business man and banker of this section, being president of the First National Bank of Danville for many years. He retired from business in 1899. Both he and his wife are deceased.

Charles Lewis English attended the public schools of Danville and was a graduate of DePauw University. Early in his business career he was interested in the lumber business. In April, 1864, he enlisted in Company K, One Hundred Thirty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was honorably discharged in October, 1864. He then went into the lumber business for twelve years, being associated with Col. L. T. Dickason, of Chicago. In 1867 Mr. English became interested in the banking business. He became cashier of the First National Bank of Danville, in 1882, later served as vice president, and in 1899 was elected president.



He held this office until his death, February 22, 1918. He was also identified with the Westville Coal Company and the Reola Coal Company.

In 1883 Mr. English married Miss Mary Alice O'Hara, of Richmond, Indiana. Their children were: Benjamin Charles, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history; and Daniel Joseph, deceased.

Mr. English was always a Republican. He was identified with the Masonic Lodge, Elks, and held membership in the Methodist Church.

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**Albert Marion Earel, M. D.**—A brilliant record of achievement and attainment is contained in the life story of Doctor Albert Marion Earel, one of the most prominent physicians and surgeons of Vermilion County, who is engaged in the practice of his profession at Hoopeston. He was born on a farm near Abingdon, Illinois, June 22, 1866, the son of Hervey Dale and Abigail (Linn) Earel.

Hervey Dale Earel was born on a farm near Parkersburg, Virginia. At the age of four years he came with his parents to Ohio, but later located near Quincy, Illinois, when he was eight years old. Here his father, James Earel, deposited in a bank all his savings, about \$8,000 in gold, and proceeded to hunt for a farm that he could purchase with this money and make for himself and family a comfortable home. Before the purchase could be consummated the bank failed, closed its doors and left him very little money. He then bought and cleared a farm near Columbus, Illinois, but soon after died of typhoid fever, leaving his family with little besides the farm. Hervey Dale Earel, the second son, became the head of the family when only ten years of age. He was married first to Margaret Sammons, and to this union were born two sons and three daughters. He was married the second time to Miss Abi-



*A. M. Zaref M.D.*



gail Linn, who was born near Cedar Grove, Franklin County, Indiana. To this union were born three sons, as follows: Charles Franklin, died in childhood; Albert Marion, the subject of this sketch; and Major John William, M. D., lives at Long Beach, California. By his first marriage Hervey Dale Earel had five children: Mary Elizabeth and Erasmus James, both deceased; Silas R., lives at Galesburg, Illinois; Mary Frances, died in childhood; and Mrs. Florence Jane Nelson, lives at Abingdon, Illinois.

Hervey Dale Earel helped organize a company of men for service during the Civil War for the Union Army, but upon medical examination he was refused and sent back home. He later enlisted again, however, but was refused the second time on account of physical disability. Soon after the close of the Civil War he took his family to Abingdon, Illinois, and for a number of years owned and operated a hotel and livery stable at that place, and was one of three men to organize the first bank in Abingdon, Illinois. He afterward moved to a farm near Abingdon, where he engaged in stock raising and farming. In 1886 he returned to Abingdon, where he lived until his death, February 4, 1898. His wife died September 30, 1917, at the age of eighty-six years and is buried at Abingdon. Politically, Mr. Earel was a Republican. He was a devout Christian, being a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he was for many years a steward or a trustee. He was also for many years a member of the board of trustees of Hedding College, at Abingdon. He served as an alderman for the city of Abingdon. As a boy he had little opportunity to go to school, yet by constant reading and study he became a well educated man. He was a citizen of excellent character, deeply religious, chivalrous as a Virginian is, and taught his sons that their promise should be as inviolate as their bond.

Albert Marion Earel attended the district schools and Knox College, Galesburg, Ill. Later, he studied medicine



under the preceptorship of Dr. Madison Reece, of Abingdon, and received the degree of Doctor of Medicine at Rush Medical College in 1891. He has since practiced his profession at Hoopeston, with the exception of post graduate work in this country and in Europe. He has studied at the Chicago Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat College; Philadelphia Polyclinic; Will's Eye Hospital, Philadelphia; Central Eye & Ear Infirmary of New York City; Polyclinic of New York City; Golden Square Nose & Throat Hospital, of London, England; Royal Ophthalmic Hospital, of London, England; Guy's Hospital, London, England; and Vienna, Austria. He is numbered among the most skillful specialists in Illinois and has an extensive practice.

On December 29, 1892, Doctor Earel was united in marriage with Miss Sadie E. Honeywell, of Hoopeston, Ill., the daughter of Alba and Cornelia Rosetta (Andrews) Honeywell, natives of New York. Mr. Honeywell, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history, died at his home, 509 Honeywell Avenue, Hoopeston, on February 4, 1916. His wife died April 10, 1904. Both are buried in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Doctor and Mrs. Earel have one daughter, Eleanor Claire Earel, who lives at home. Mrs. Earel was graduated from Hoopeston High School and also graduated from Hedding College with the degrees of Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts and later receiving her master's degree.

Doctor Earel is a Republican and has been a member of the school board of Hoopeston for 15 years and a member of the city council for eight years. Both he and his wife are active members of the Universalist Church, of which he has been moderator of the parish for five years. He holds membership in the Masonic Lodge, thirty-second degree, Shrine, Loyal Order of Moose, Modern Woodmen of America, Lions Club, and Commercial Club. Doctor Earel is a member of the Vermilion County Medical Society, Illinois State Medical Society, American Medical

Association, and is a Fellow in the American Academy of Ophthalmology and Oto-Laryngology.

Doctor Earel was one of the members of the Medical Board that examined Company B before they left for patrol duty on the Mexican border; and was one of the medical board during the World War, and examined the eyes, ears, noses and throats of all the men examined at Hoopeston.

A fine citizen, a total abstainer, always standing firmly for what he considers right, a good dependable man in a community and a beloved physician to his patients, Doctor Earel is outstanding in the community. He and his wife have travelled throughout the world and have many interesting souvenirs of their numerous voyages. Among these may be mentioned the motion pictures taken by Doctor Earel during his visits to foreign lands. They have especial appeal and illustrate his familiarity with the most interesting spots in both Europe and America.

The great grandfather of Doctor Earel was James Earel, Sr., of Maryland, who was a Revolutionary soldier. His maternal great grandfather, Robert Given, also served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. His grandfather, James Earel, Jr., was a soldier in the War of 1812 and participated in the Nanvoo (Mormon) War.

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**Benjamin Franklin Davidson** is an enterprising and successful business man of Danville, where he is president of the Interstate Printing Company, 132 North Walnut Street. He was born in this city, March 29, 1887, the son of Henry Morton and Sarah (DeArmond) Davidson.

Henry Morton Davidson, well known in Danville, is a native of Logansport, Indiana, born in 1864. He began his career with the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad as a bridge carpenter and in 1882 came to Danville in that com-

pany's employ. Later, he established a livery business with Will DeArmond under the firm name of Davidson & DeArmond. For a number of years Mr. Davidson conducted a retail coal business at 300 South Street. In 1920 he became interested in the grocery business at Fairchild and Jackson streets. He still conducts this place of business. Mr. Davidson is a Democrat and has served as alderman of the first ward. He is a member of Saint James Methodist Episcopal Church and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. and Mrs. Davidson have three children: Benjamin Franklin, the subject of this sketch; Bessie, twin sister of Benjamin F., married Frank G. Swafford, lives at Hammond, Indiana; and Arthur L., lives at Danville, where he is associated in business with his father.

Henry Morton Davidson is the son of John Davidson, a native of Crawford County, Pennsylvania, and one of the earliest settlers of Logansport, Indiana. He operated a saw mill for many years near Logansport. The latter part of his life was spent at Danville, where he died.

Benjamin Franklin Davidson attended the public schools of Danville and worked as a boy on the Commercial News. He subsequently entered the University of Illinois, and after leaving college went to Spokane, Washington, where he followed his trade as a printer. In 1919 he came to Danville and at that time purchased the Interstate Printing Company, of which he became president. It is among the up-to-date printing plants of the city and carries on a large volume of business, specializing in commercial printing.

In 1927 Mr. Davidson married Rose L. Woods, the daughter of Arthur Woods, of Los Angeles, California. By a former marriage Mr. Davidson has three children: Carl, associated with him in business; Helen and Jane, both students.

Politically, Mr. Davidson is a Republican. He holds membership in Saint James Methodist Episcopal Church;

Olive Branch Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, No. 38; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Mohammed Shrine, Peoria, Illinois; Knights of Pythias; Danville Yacht Club; and Chamber of Commerce.

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**Perl Humrichouse**, proprietor of the Humrichouse Tire Shop, which is located at North and Hazel streets, is well and favorably known in Danville. He was born at Saint Joseph, Illinois, September 5, 1870, the son of James W. and Priscilla (Grace) Humrichouse.

James W. Humrichouse was born at Cayuga, Vermilion County, Indiana, in 1845, and his wife is a native of Cameron, Warren County, Illinois. He spent his boyhood on his father's farm and during the Civil War served with the Union Army, having enlisted in an Illinois outfit. After the close of the war he purchased a farm near Saint Joseph, Illinois, where he lived until his retirement. He also owned farms in Benton County, Illinois, and was widely known as a breeder of pure bred horses and cattle. He died in 1927 and is buried in Frankfort Cemetery, Frankfort, Indiana. Mr. Humrichouse was a member of the Presbyterian Church and Grand Army of the Republic. His widow lives at Frankfort, Indiana. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Humrichouse: George, who died in 1922, was president of the Danville Wholesale Grocery Company; Perl, the subject of this sketch; Estella, married Lan McClurg, lives at Frankfort, Indiana; and Dolly, who died in 1909.

Perl Humrichouse obtained his education in the public and high schools of Homer, Illinois. He remained on his father's farm until 1894, at which time he came to Danville. In partnership with his brother, George, he purchased a grocery store on East Main Street. Later, he was connected with the Danville Wholesale Grocery Company



as a traveling representative until 1916. He then purchased a farm in Vermilion County, which he operated until 1922, at that date selling the farm of two hundred seventy-six acres. He subsequently purchased a tire store across the street from the present location on North Street. Mr. Humrichouse has been agent at Danville for the Firestone Tire Company for several years, and deals in other automobile accessories, including tubes and supplies. He specializes in battery service and does first class work in automobile washing and greasing.

In 1911 Mr. Humrichouse married Miss Ethel Adams, the daughter of William B. and Fanny Adams, of Cutler, Indiana. He died in December, 1927. His widow lives at Albuquerque, New Mexico. Mr. and Mrs. Humrichouse have two children: William Robert, born April 15, 1916; and Dorothy Ann, born February 4, 1923.

Mr. Humrichouse is a Republican, a member of the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, and has the following club affiliations: Anchor Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Ansar Temple; and Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

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**Ralph E. Lauten**, who is secretary and treasurer of the Danville Lumber Company, is a veteran of the World War and one of the progressive young business men of Danville. He was born at Caldwell, Illinois, January 29, 1899, the son of Fred and Emma (Bruns) Lauten.

Fred Lauten is a native of Germany. He was born and reared at Leipzig and early in life came to the United States with his parents, Fred and Caroline Lauten. He lived on a farm for a number of years and in December, 1905, removed to Princeton, Indiana. His wife is a native of Effingham County, Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Lauten the following children were born: Harry, a World War

veteran, the agent for the Standard Oil Company, lives at Princeton, Indiana; Ray, lives at Mobile, Alabama, where is a chief clerk to the vice president and general manager of the Gulf, Mobile & Northern Railroad, is a World War veteran, having served as a second lieutenant; Ralph E., the subject of this sketch; and Carl, who lives at Princeton, Indiana. Mr. Fred Lauten is a member of the German Lutheran Church and Fraternal Order of Eagles.

Ralph E. Lauten obtained his schooling at Princeton, Indiana, and following his graduation from high school in 1916 he attended Lockyear's Business College at Evansville, Indiana. He enlisted in Company M, Second Indiana Infantry, National Guard, which was later mustered into the federal service as Company M, One Hundred Fifty-second Infantry, Thirty-eighth Division. He trained at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, and spent almost a year in active service in France. Following the Armistice he attended the American Expeditionary Force University, located at Beaune, France. He was discharged July 9, 1919, at Camp Sherman, Ohio, as battalion supply sergeant. Upon his release from the service, Mr. Lauten became associated with Morris & Company, packers, and was connected with their Danville offices for six months. Since January, 1920, he has been connected with the Danville Lumber Company. He began as bookkeeper and in January, 1923, was made secretary of the company. Two years later he assumed his present duties as general manager as well as secretary and treasurer. Mr. Lauten is also identified with the Fearheiley-Lauten Service Stations, owners and operators of several gasoline service stations in Danville.

On October 9, 1923, Mr. Lauten was united in marriage with Miss Florence Phillips, the daughter of J. Bert and May (Zorns) Phillips, of Vermilion County, now residents of Danville. Mr. Phillips is secretary and treasurer of the

Campbell Brothers Packing Company. Mr. and Mrs. Lauten have a daughter, Polly Ann, born July 23, 1926.

In politics Mr. Lauten is an independent voter. He is a member of St. James Methodist Episcopal Church; Olive Branch Lodge No. 38, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second Degree; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; American Legion; American Business Club; Chamber of Commerce; and Young Men's Christian Association.

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**Col. Ernest Fecker, Jr.**, deceased, was owner and president of the Fecker Company. He was born on August 2, 1862, in New York City, his parents being Ernest and Pauline (Huber) Fecker, both natives of Germany. His mother died on the 24th of September, 1906, and his father August 17th, 1912. In their family were three children the brother of our subject being Frank Fecker, who is now deceased, and a sister Mrs. Hans Demuth, who makes her home in Hollywood, California.

Reared in Brooklyn, New York, Ernest Fecker, Jr., attended the grammar schools of that city until fourteen years of age and after starting to work continued his studies in an evening high school of New York for a time. He was first employed in a paper box manufactory owned by his father and for about five years devoted his time and attention to that business, but later became interested in the brewing business. He served his apprenticeship in the brewery of Peter Engle of Schenectady, New York, and later attended a brewing academy from 1885 to 1886. It was in 1890 that he embarked in the brewing business on his own account, conducting operations for six years under the name of Fecker Brewing Company, their plant being located on the Dudley and Bloomingdale road, now called Winchester Avenue. At the end of that period he



COL ERNEST FECKER, JR.





sold his interest in the business to a syndicate and took the management of the United States Brewing Company, being in charge of breweries Nos. 3, 4 and 5 for some time, but in 1903 he purchased the present plant which he conducted under the firm style of Fecker Brewing Company and served as president until his death, November 2nd, 1925. He died at Excelsior Springs, Missouri, and is buried in Graceland Cemetery, Chicago, Illinois.

On the 27th of July, 1889, in Chicago, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Fecker and Miss Clara Simon, a daughter of Nicholas and Barbara Simon, residents of Chicago, both of whom are now deceased. The children born of this union are: Clara, Frances, who is now Mrs. A. R. Levis of Alton, Illinois, Pauline, Martha and Ernest III now deceased, Frank, mention of whom is made elsewhere in this volume, Lydia, Herbert and Harold, twins.

Mr. Fecker was an Episcopalian in his religious belief. He was a member of the Germania Masonic Lodge of Chicago and the Further Lights of Danville. He was also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and a member of the Turn Verein of Danville. His political support was always given to the men and measures of the republican party and during his residence in Chicago he was a member of the Bridewell board from 1891 to 1897 inclusive. He took a very active and prominent part in political affairs and was chosen a member of Governor Tanner's Staff on which he served from 1896 to 1900. His genial, pleasant manner made him many friends and he was popular both in business and social circles.

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**Frank J. Fecker**, a well known citizen of Danville, is president of the Fecker Company, malt and food products, 329-341 East North Street. He was born in Chicago, July 6, 1901, the son of Col. Ernest Fecker, Jr., now deceased, and Clara (Simon) Fecker.

Mr. Fecker was two years old when his family located in Danville. He attended the public schools, and was a student at Western Military Academy, Alton, Illinois for three years. He graduated from Danville High School and Brown's Business College. For a few years he was associated with Smiths' the Florist. In 1923 he became identified with the interests of the Fecker Company as a book-keeper. After the death of his father in 1925, Mr. Fecker was elected president of the Company.

Mr. Fecker is a Republican, and is a member of the Holy Trinity Church. He has the following lodge affiliations: Olive Branch Lodge; Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Scottish Rite; Athelstan Commandery, Danville; Gao Grotto; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Loyal Order of Moose and A. B. C. Club.

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**Hon. Thurman F. Shouse**, former mayor of Danville, has been identified with that city for many years. He is a Methodist minister but since leaving the pastorate on account of ill health has had a successful experience in several lines of commercial work. Mr. Shouse was born at Effingham, Illinois, November 9, 1869.

The Shouse family has lived in the United States for a number of generations, coming originally from Germany, and first settling in Pennsylvania. His father, Thurman F. Shouse, Sr., was born near Logansport, Indiana, in 1823. He was reared there and shortly after his marriage moved to Effingham County, Illinois, where he became well known as a substantial farmer. He died at Effingham in 1885. He also taught school in early life, teaching some of the subscription schools in the pioneer days. He served as a school director and in politics was an independent Democrat. He also held membership in the Baptist Church. His wife, Mary Jane (Thomison)

Shouse, was born in Tennessee, in 1826, and died in Effingham County, Illinois, in 1898. They were the parents of the following children: Eliza Jane, married Thomas Garner, both deceased; Margaret A., married Eli R. Renfrow, of Shumway, Illinois; John H., died at Eldorado Springs, Missouri; Columbus S., died in March, 1926; Rev. Joseph D., retired minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, lives at Newton, Illinois; Samantha A., married Estes Garner, lives at Centralia, Illinois; Rhoda A., married John A. Riley, lives near Effingham, Illinois; Docia E., married William Engle, lives near Effingham, Illinois; Thurman F., the subject of this sketch; and Viola, deceased.

Thurman F. Shouse was reared on his father's farm in Effingham County, attending the public schools, and graduating from the high school at Altamont in 1892. For two years he continued his education at Austin College, and after having qualified for the Methodist ministry, he joined the Southern Illinois Conference. As a pastor in that conference he was stationed for two years at Johnsonville, in Wayne County, Illinois; at Moccasin, Illinois, for two years; at Coffeen, Illinois, for three years; at Tower Hill, Illinois, from 1901 until 1904; and in 1904 he came to Danville as pastor of the Lincoln Methodist Episcopal Church, holding that post of responsibility until 1909. He then joined an Oklahoma conference and for two years was pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal Church at Newkirk, Oklahoma. Being threatened with a nervous breakdown, Mr. Shouse resigned from the ministry and returned to Danville, where he became associated with the Eckert Carriage Company, of Auburn, Indiana, as a traveling representative. In 1912 he became superintendent and financial secretary of the Springhill Cemetery Association, Danville, and in this position he has served until the present time and also served the following churches as pastor: Central Park Methodist Church for three



years, Grace Methodist Church five years, and Vermilion Heights Methodist Church one year.

In April, 1923, Mr. Shouse was elected mayor of Danville, beginning his official term on the first day of May. He was elected on a platform pledging himself to a clean, moral city, and economical administration, and he lived up to his platform in a way that brought him high personal credit. Danville, when he became mayor, was encumbered with a heavy debt, the deficit amounting to approximately \$183,000. During his term in office he reduced the debt over \$50,000. In the meantime the essential municipal improvements were not neglected. A total of about ten miles, comprising one-fifth of the entire paving of the city, was either constructed new or resurfaced.

Mr. Shouse is a Republican. He is affiliated with Olive Branch Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, No. 38; Lodge of Perfection, fourteenth degree, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, and in November, 1927, became a Consistory member, now being a thirty-second degree Mason. During the World War he acted as captain of a district in Danville in the promotion of various war drives.

On February 23, 1888, Mr. Shouse married Miss Effie R. DeVore, the daughter of Daniel A. and Margaret (Miller) DeVore, both deceased. Mr. DeVore was a well known cattle dealer of Effingham County, Illinois. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Shouse: Harry E., deceased; and Edna Ruth, married Frank M. Fagan, who is general foreman of Springhill Cemetery Association, Danville. Mr. Fagan served in the World War, having enlisted in the Navy in the spring of 1918. He was stationed at Great Lakes Naval Station as a machinist. He was discharged from the service in March, 1919.

Mr. Shouse has three grandchildren, Harry and Dale Fagan, and Ruth Elnore Shouse. An adopted son, Gerald E. Shouse, was connected with the United States Air Forces at Selfridge Field, Mt. Clemens, Michigan; and now resides in Danville.

**Claude P. Madden.**—Among the prominent men of Danville may be mentioned Claude P. Madden, widely known throughout Vermilion County as an auctioneer for the past twenty years. He was born in Parke County, Indiana, June 24, 1880, the son of Anson G. and Marilda (Pithoud) Madden.

Anson G. Madden was born at Kingman, Indiana, in 1859, the son of Samuel C. and Lydia A. (Marks) Madden. He was born in Parke County, Indiana, and his wife was born near Lafayette, Indiana. His father was George Madden, a native of Clinton County, Ohio, who settled in Parke County, Indiana, in 1816. Anson G. Madden, father of the subject of this sketch, was educated at Kingman, Indiana. He was a farmer in early life and for twenty-five years was well known as a stock shipper. He has been an auctioneer in Indiana for over forty years and lives at Cates, Indiana. He served as circuit court clerk of Fountain County, Indiana. Mr. Madden is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is affiliated with Kingman Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Royal Arch Chapter, Consistory, thirty-second degree, and Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Marilda (Pithoud) Madden, who died at Kingman, Indiana, in 1883, was the daughter of Elisha and Margaret (Ratcliff) Pithoud, both natives of Fountain County, Indiana. To Mr. and Mrs. Madden an only child was born, Claude P., the subject of this sketch.

Claude P. Madden grew up at Kingman, Indiana, where he was educated. He also attended Bloomingdale Academy for two years. He remained on his father's farm until he was twenty-five years of age and in 1905 engaged in auctioneering in Fountain County, Indiana. Four years later he came to Danville, where he has met with marked success in his chosen work. He is also well known as a dealer in horses and cattle. His auctioneering activities extend throughout Illinois and Indiana.

On February 4, 1928, Mr. Madden was united in marriage with Miss Mary Catherine Pemberton, daughter of W. S. and Lucy (Guthrie) Pemberton, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Illinois. Mr. Pemberton resides in Vermilion County, where he is a successful dairyman. His wife is deceased.

Mr. Madden is a Democrat in politics. He was elected mayor of Danville in 1919, re-elected in 1921, and again elected to office in 1925. He is a member of Anchor Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, No. 980, and Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332.

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**H. Wayne Baker.**—One of the representative young business men of Danville is H. Wayne Baker, who is vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and general manager of the Baker Motor Company, Inc., agents in Danville for the Willys-Knight and Whippet automobiles. He was born near LeRoy, McLean County, Illinois, April 26, 1903, the son of Benjamin F. and Celia (Williams) Baker.

Benjamin F. Baker, who is president of the Baker Motor Company, Inc., is a highly esteemed and well known resident of LeRoy, Illinois, where he lives retired. He was born at McLean, Illinois, October 11, 1871, the son of Joseph Baker, a leading agriculturist of McLean County for many years. Benjamin F. Baker grew up in Illinois and was educated in the public schools. He attended Illinois Normal College and spent three years as a student at the Kentucky Medical College. He became interested in the grain business at Glen Avon, Illinois, and owned and operated three elevators there for ten years. In 1906 he purchased the LeRoy Telephone Company, which he later merged with the telephone companies at McLean, Bellflower, Heyworth, Atlanta, Saybrook, Armington, and Downs, Illinois. The new organization was known as the

Cornbelt Telephone Company and Mr. Baker remained as owner and president of this company until his retirement in 1926. He has extensive land holdings throughout Illinois and ranks as a leader in the civic life of the community in which he lives. Mr. Baker is a Republican, a member of the Christian Church and belongs to LeRoy Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. To Mr. and Mrs. Baker one child was born, H. Wayne, the subject of this sketch.

The education of H. Wayne Baker was received in the public schools of LeRoy, Culver Military Academy, and Canton High School. His college work was taken at Illinois Wesleyan College, University of Wisconsin, Wabash College, and Vanderbilt University. He began his business career in Miami, Florida, where he engaged in the real estate business. Upon his return to LeRoy, Illinois, in June, 1926, Mr. Baker was associated with his father's business interests. In July, 1928, he came to Danville, where he purchased the Taylor Motor Company, in partnership with his father, the business thereafter being known as the Baker Motor Company, Inc. They are local dealers for the Willys-Knight and Whippet cars and have the finest display rooms in Danville. About fifteen men are employed by the Baker Motor Company, Inc.

In October, 1925, Mr. Baker married Miss Cornelia Murray, the daughter of Edwin and Cornelia Murray, of Nashville, Tennessee. Mr. Murray is president of the Murray-Durell Shoe Company, of Nashville. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Baker: Betty, born in 1927; and Benjamin, born in 1929.

Mr. Baker is a Republican, a member of the Christian Church, Sigma Chi fraternity, American Business Club, and Chamber of Commerce. He is affiliated with LeRoy Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

Mr. Baker is identified with the Danville Automobile Dealers Association, the Illinois Automobile Dealers Asso-



ciation, and the National Automobile Dealers Association. He is also a member of the Danville Flying Club.

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**Hon. S. Murray Clark**, judge of the Circuit Court of Vermilion County, is prominent among the members of his profession in Danville, and is a highly esteemed member of the community. He was born at Crawfordsville, Indiana, May 15, 1869, the son of Dr. John G. and Mary (Holaday) Clark.

Dr. John G. Clark was born in North Carolina, May 2, 1836. He studied dentistry and for several years engaged in practice at Covington, Indiana, later removing to a farm near Crawfordsville. He retired from his profession, due to ill health, and in 1870 settled on a farm in Elwood Township, Vermilion County, where he lived until 1890. He spent the following five years in Vermilion Grove and then lived at Georgetown, Illinois, where he was president of the First National Bank. Both Doctor and Mrs. Clark are deceased. He was a member of the Society of Friends Church and was one of the founders of the Friends Academy at Vermilion Grove, Illinois. There were three children in the Clark family: Oliver P.; S. Murray, the subject of this sketch; and Emma, married Prof. C. E. Cosand.

S. Murray Clark was educated in the public schools and also attended Vermilion Academy until 1887. He was a student at Earlham College, Richmond, Ind., for two years and in 1893 was graduated from the law department of Illinois Wesleyan University. He was admitted to the Illinois bar in that year and took up his private practice at Ridge Farm Illinois. The following year he came to Danville and became associated in practice with George G. Mabin under the firm name of Mabin & Clark. This partnership continued until 1902, at which time Mr. Clark was appointed county judge of Vermilion County to succeed



S. MURRAY CLARK



Judge Thompson, who was elected at that time to the circuit court. He served three months and then was elected county judge, holding that office until 1906, when he resigned to become assistant district attorney of eastern Illinois. Mr. Clark later formed a partnership with H. E. Hutton under the firm of Clark & Hutton. In June, 1927, he was elected judge of the Circuit Court, in which capacity he is still serving.

On August 6, 1895, Mr. Clark married Miss Myra Mendenhall, who was born at Catlin, Illinois, January 6, 1871, the daughter of Dr. M. C. and Cynthia (Kennedy) Mendenhall, the former a native of North Carolina and the latter of Indiana. Both Doctor and Mrs. Mendenhall are deceased. He was a leading physician for many years at Catlin, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Clark have no children.

Politically, Judge Clark is a Republican. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Loyal Order of Moose, No. 1001; Knights of Pythias; Independent Order of Odd Fellows; and Modern Woodmen of America. He is identified with the Vermilion County Bar Association and Illinois Bar Association.

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**Joseph Fairhall, Jr.**, is numbered among the most successful business men of Danville, where he is connected with Fairhall's Electric Repair and Machine Shop, 6 South Gilbert Street. He was born in London, England, August 24, 1878, the son of Dr. Joseph and Elizabeth S. (King) Fairhall.

Dr. Joseph Fairhall was born at Settingbourne, England, February 5, 1853. He was educated in the public schools of London, England, and is a graduate of the University of London, with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He served for seven years as a volunteer in the Irish Volunteer Regiment, and was an official in the army and



navy store in England until 1887. In that year he came to the United States with his family and settled in Chicago, where he became interested in the coal business as vice president and general manager of the Grape Creek Coal Company, with offices in Chicago. Later, he removed to Grape Creek, Illinois, and conducted his various business interests from that place. He purchased the Grape Creek Clay Works in 1890 and operated the only clay products company in that section of the country for a number of years. Doctor Fairhall began the practice of medicine at Grape Creek in 1894 and three years later settled at Danville, where he has continued in practice to the present time. He has offices in the Baum Building. Doctor Fairhall is a Republican, a member of the Episcopal Church, and holds the highest office in the state as major general and department commander of the Patriarchs Militant branch of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is also vice president of the Sovereign Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Elizabeth S. (King) Fairhall, to whom he was married on November 17, 1877, was born at Ashford, Kent County, England, February 9, 1853, and died March 25, 1928. Mrs. Fairhall was identified since 1901 with the Ladies Auxiliary of the Patriarch Militant and was the organizer of this branch. She was the first president and is known throughout the United States and Canada as "Mother" Fairhall and at her death a monument was erected at Springhill Cemetery, Danville, by the ladies of United States and Canada, belonging to this branch and was dedicated or unveiled on June 2, 1929. She is buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. To Dr. and Mrs. Fairhall were born four children: Joseph, Jr., the subject of this sketch; Leo Victor, M. D., lives at Danville; Lawrence Turner, instructor in chemistry, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, is a World War veteran, having served as a major with the Chemical War-

fare Division; and Lucy Winifred, married Lloyd G. Smith, lives in New York City.

Dr. Joseph Fairhall, Sr., is the son of Joseph and Esther (Barns) Fairhall. He was born at Queensboro, Isle of Sheppy, Kent County, England, August 12, 1813, and died at Milton, England, August 18, 1885. His parents were Joseph and Ellen (Weller) Fairhall. He was born in Linfield, Sussex County, England, in 1782 and died in 1885. His wife was born at Queensboro, Isle of Sheppy, Kent County, England.

The name of Fairhall was originally spelled "Fairehalle," and appears in the records as such in England. One of the heirlooms of the Fairhall family, which has been owned by the family for many generations, is a clock, which is estimated to be three hundred years old.

Joseph Fairhall, Jr., the subject of this sketch, received his schooling in London, England, and Danville. He was an apprentice to William Stewart, who operated the Danville Foundry and Machine Company, in whose employ he remained for four years. He then went with Robert Holmes & Brothers, in charge of electric work in their shop. In 1902 Mr. Fairhall established an electrical repairing and machine shop at 6 South Gilbert Street, where he specialized principally in the maintenance of elevators in office buildings in Danville. Mr. Fairhall is now manufacturers agent and service manager for the Warner Elevator Manufacturing Company, of Cincinnati, Ohio. He was the first amateur wireless operator to be licensed in Danville, and for a number of years was engaged in the work of manufacturing radio sets.

On May 1, 1928, Mr. Fairhall married Miss Evelyn S. Smith, of Danville, the daughter of John M. and Martha J. (Morris) Smith, natives of Indiana. Mr. Smith died in 1906 and is buried near Covington, Indiana. His widow lives at Danville.

Mr. Fairhall is a member of the Episcopal Church, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Danville Lodge, No. 69; Marsh Encampment, Lodge No. 46; Danville Canton, P. M. No. 11, past captain, and was commissioned this year adjutant to Brig. Gen. O. C. Poltorff, commanding the Second Brigade of Illinois with rank of major; and Modern Woodmen of America. He is a Republican. Mr. Fairhall is past president of the Vermilion County Radio Association, and is identified with the American Radio Relay League, and American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

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**Lewis R. French**, who is connected with the French-Caughron Insurance Agency, with offices in the Jacobs Building, is among the prominent young business men of Danville. He was born at Armstrong, Vermilion County, June 22, 1890, the son of Dr. Truman P. and Eugenia (Robinson) French.

Dr. Truman P. French, deceased, was a native of Indiana, born at Terre Haute, in 1851. His wife was born at Princeville, Illinois, and now resides in Chicago. Doctor French removed to Armstrong, Illinois, with his parents when he was a small child. He was educated in the district schools and read medicine with Doctor Messner, of Potomac, Illinois. He later was graduated from Butler Medical College with the degree of Doctor of Medicine and engaged in practice at Ogden, Illinois, later at Armstrong, Illinois, and in 1891 he removed to David City, Nebraska, where he remained until 1910. From that time until shortly before his death he engaged in practice at Danville. He died in 1920 and is buried at Armstrong. Doctor French was a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, and Potomac Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and Knights Templar. He was also

identified with the Vermilion County Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society, and the American Medical Association. He was the son of Ersom French, a native of Bowling Green, Indiana. To Dr. Truman P. and Eugenia (Robinson) French were born four sons: Dr. G. M., born in 1879, died in 1925, was a leading physician of Danville and Springfield, Illinois, served with the rank of captain, Medical Corps, United States Army, during the World War; M. D., president of the Columbia Industrial Machinery Company, Chicago, Illinois; Lewis R., the subject of this sketch; and E. H., who is connected with the engineering department of the Illinois Bell Telephone Company, Chicago.

Lewis R. French was educated in the public schools of David City, Nebraska, and Danville, being graduated from Danville High School in 1907. The following year was spent at Brown's Business College, and later Mr. French attended the School of Law, University of Texas. He then went with the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad and in 1912 went to Chicago, where he accepted a position in the general offices of the Studebaker Automobile Company. The following year he went to LaPorte, Indiana, with the Rumley Company, manufacturers of tractors, and served as assistant Canadian collection manager. Subsequently, Mr. French became associated with the Aetna Insurance Company, Chicago, in charge of the accounting department. He resigned from that position in 1924 and has since been identified with the Springfield Life Insurance Company, as general agent, located at Danville. On April 15, 1929, the French-Caughron Insurance Company was organized.

In 1913 Mr. French married Miss Chloe Eurton, the daughter of Joseph and Ellen Eurton, of Danville.

In politics Mr. French is identified with the Republican party. He is a member of the Methodist Church, Olive Branch Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, No. 38;



Vermilion Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 82; and Gao Grotto. He also belongs to the American Business Club and Chamber of Commerce.

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**Carl H. Twietmeyer**, who is successfully engaged in the real estate business in Danville, with offices at 114 East Main Street, is a native of Missouri. He was born at Saint Louis, November 20, 1881, the son of Fred and Henrietta (Kleintoph) Twietmeyer.

Fred Twietmeyer, deceased, was a veteran of the Civil War. Both he and his wife were natives of Germany. He was born at Hanover, in 1839, and emigrated to the United States in 1859. He settled at Saint Louis, Missouri. During the Civil War he enlisted at Cincinnati, Ohio, and served with the Union Army. He was with General Sherman on his march to the sea and served throughout the entire war period, being honorably discharged at Washington, District of Columbia. After the war Mr. Twietmeyer went to Saint Louis, where he established a wholesale and retail grocery business. He was thus engaged until the time of his retirement. Mr. Twietmeyer ranked among the representative business men of Saint Louis. He died at Vincennes, Indiana, in 1925 and his wife died in 1898. Both are buried at Vincennes. Mr. Twietmeyer was a Republican and an active member of the Lutheran Church. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Twietmeyer: Fred, lives at Vincennes, Indiana; Herman, lives at Vincennes, Indiana; August, lives at Indianapolis, Indiana; Gerhart, lives at Toledo, Ohio; Carl H., the subject of this sketch; Clara, married Otto Yunghans, lives at Cleveland, Ohio; George, lives at Fort Wayne, Indiana; and Edward, lives at Indianapolis, Indiana.

The education of Carl H. Twietmeyer was obtained in the Lutheran parochial schools of Vincennes, Indiana. He

is also a graduate of Vincennes Business College. Mr. Twietmeyer was associated with his father's business for a period of twelve years and then went to Saint Paul, Minnesota, where he became associated with the Lienke & Warner Company, wholesale dry goods merchants. From there he later went to Champaign, Illinois, where he established a branch office of the Milwaukee Sanitary Cleaning Company, in charge of twenty-five salesmen. Mr. Twietmeyer came to Danville in 1917, where he has since been interested in the real estate business. He extends his activities to city and farm property and is widely known as a real estate broker.

In 1905 Mr. Twietmeyer married Miss Catherine Appel. They have a son, Howard Carl, who attends Trinity Lutheran School.

Mr. Twietmeyer is a Republican and a member of Trinity Lutheran Church. He also belongs to the Chamber of Commerce.

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**C. Harvey Pearson** is one of the most progressive young business men of Danville, where he is connected with the Vermilion County Abstract Company as secretary and manager. He was born near Allerton, Champaign County, Illinois, May 31, 1898, the son of John F. and Margaret E. (Hayes) Pearson.

John F. Pearson was born near Stockholm, Sweden, in 1859, and his wife is a native of Illinois. He came to this country about 1877 and settled in Danville, where he was employed for a number of years by the Wabash Railroad and the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad. Upon his removal to Champaign County he farmed until 1906, at which time he retired and settled at Allerton, Illinois. He has lived at Danville since 1923. Mr. Pearson is a Republican and a member of the First Presbyterian Church. There are five children in the Pearson family, as follows:

Debbie L., married Walter Bean, lives at Danville; J. Roy, married Lela Clem, lives at Danville, and he is a World War veteran, having served with the Air Corps; C. Harvey, the subject of this sketch; Edith Florence, deceased; and Florence M., lives at home.

C. Harvey Pearson attended the public schools of Allerton, Illinois, and after his graduation from high school attended Brown's Business College, Danville. He then was identified with the Danville Malleable Iron Company as a stenographer. Later, he was employed as paymaster and assistant superintendent by the Carson-Payson Construction Company and the Arnold Construction Company of Chicago, Illinois, in charge of building railroad shops at Richmond, Virginia. In 1919 Mr. Pearson became associated with the Vermilion County Abstract Company in a stenographic capacity and soon became abstracter. He was appointed secretary and manager in 1927.

In 1918 Mr. Pearson was united in marriage with Miss Goldie B. Musk, the daughter of Ernest and Minnie (Songer) Musk, of Rossville, Illinois. To them have been born five children: William Robert, born in 1919; Beverly Jane, born in 1920; Helen Louise, born in 1922; Marjorie Ellen, born in 1925; and Betty Lou, born in 1928.

Mr. Pearson is a Republican. He is a director of the American Business Club and a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

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**Harold C. Crays** is popular throughout Vermilion County as the vice president and efficient cashier of the First National Bank of Rossville, with which institution he has been officially identified since 1919. He was born at Armstrong, Vermilion County, in 1894, the son of George E. and Lizzie (Collison) Crays.

George E. Crays was born in Macoupin County, Illinois, November 16, 1863. He engaged in teaching school in

early life but afterward turned his attention to commercial pursuits, being employed as clerk in a general store for about a year. Subsequently he was engaged in the merchandising business at Armstrong, in association with E. A. Brown for a period of twelve years, conducting the enterprise under the firm name of Brown & Crays. At the end of that time he became associated with Samuel Collision, and later purchased the Citizens Bank of Rossville, which was later reorganized as the First National Bank of Rossville. George E. Crays served as cashier of the institution until he was succeeded in office by his son, Harold C. Crays, in 1919, since which time he has occupied the presidency thereof.

Harold C. Crays received his early education in the grade and high schools of Rossville and continued his studies in Culver Military Academy, Culver, Indiana. He then entered the banking business, in which he has continued to the present time. He was successfully connected with financial institutions at Willisville, Illinois, Dieterich, Illinois, Cayuga, Indiana, and East Chicago, Indiana, being in the East Chicago State Bank at the latter named place. It was in 1919 that he assumed the present duties as cashier of the First National Bank of Rossville, which he has since represented in that official capacity and in the successful management of which his efforts constitute an important factor. Mr. Crays is also president of the Citizens State Bank, at Williamsport, Indiana.

In 1920 Mr. Crays was united in marriage with Miss Louise Andrews, the daughter of Charles Andrews, a successful banker of Pence, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Crays have a daughter, Alice Louise. Mrs. Crays takes an active part in the social and civic affairs of the community in which she lives.

In his political views Mr. Crays is a stanch Republican, and he is now serving as mayor of Rossville. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church; Benevolent and



Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Rossville Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Mohammed Temple; American Legion; and Hubbard Trail Country Club.

During the World War Mr. Crays volunteered for service in 1917 and was assigned to a machine gun company at Houston, Texas. In May, 1917, he went overseas with the One Hundred Thirtieth Infantry, Thirty-third Division. Subsequently he was transferred to the Fifth Division. He was discharged May 15, 1919, with the rank of first lieutenant.

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**Donald J. McFerren.**—Ranking high among the prominent young men of Hoopeston is Donald J. McFerren, who is vice president of the First National Bank and a veteran of the World War. He was born here January 31, 1891, the son of Jacob S. and Lida (Schultz) McFerren.

A sketch of Jacob S. McFerren appears elsewhere in this history.

Donald J. McFerren received his early education in the public schools of Hoopeston and later attended Hotchkiss School and Philips Exeter Academy. He is a graduate of Yale University, where he received the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1914. Throughout his business career he has been identified with the First National Bank of Hoopeston, having been elected to his present office as vice president in 1916. He is also vice president of the Hoopeston Canning Company.

During the World War Mr. McFerren served in the United States Navy, aviation section, and was stationed at Akron, Ohio, and later at Pensacola, Florida. He was discharged from the service in December, 1918.

In 1915 Mr. McFerren married Miss Marie Stewart, the daughter of Charles P. and Frances (Beech) Stewart, residents of Council Bluffs, Iowa. Mr. Stewart was born in

Iowa and his wife is a native of New York City. There are two children in the McFerren family: Marie Stewart, born in July, 1918, and Frances J., born in December, 1923.

Mr. McFerren is a Republican and has held the office of mayor of Hoopeston, being elected for a four year term in 1925. He is a member of Hoopeston Lodge, No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Mohammed Shrine; American Legion; Lions Club; Hubbard Trail Country Club; Commercial Club; Chamber of Commerce; Cloister Club of Yale; and Yale Alumni Association.

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**Wesley L. Berkey**, a veteran of the World War, is among the substantial men of Hoopeston, where he is superintendent of the Vermilion Malleable Iron Company. He was born at Cassopolis, Michigan, June 22, 1878, the son of Noah and Isabel (Leer) Berkey.

Noah Berkey, deceased, was a veteran of the Civil War. He was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, April 1, 1840. He enlisted in the Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry early in the Civil War and later served with an Indiana outfit. After the close of the war he returned to Elkhart County, Indiana, where he farmed and also engaged in general contracting. He was living retired at the time of his death, April 1, 1906. His wife, born in Elkhart County, Indiana, February 2, 1846, died August 27, 1917. Both are buried at Goshen, Indiana. Mr. Berkey was a Republican, a member of the Dunkard Church and Grand Army of the Republic. There were eight children in the Berkey family, as follows: Jennie, married I. H. Mayer, an engineer on the Twentieth Century Limited, New York Central Railroad, lives at Elkhart, Indiana; Ada, married M. Morgenthau, retired merchant, lives at Miami, Florida; Clara, married Edward G. Walker, assistant purchasing agent,

Sante Fe Railroad, lives in Chicago; William, deceased; Wesley L., the subject of this sketch; Mary; Pearl, deceased; and Grace, married C. M. Stephenson, lives at Elkhart, Indiana.

Wesley L. Berkey received his education in the public schools of Elkhart County, Indiana, and is a graduate of North Manchester College. He was a teacher in the schools of Elkhart County for three years and taught in the same school during 1897 in which his mother had taught in 1865. Mr. Berkey became identified with the New York Central Railroad in 1898 as a timekeeper, later served as brakeman, and in 1907 was promoted to conductor. Ten years later he removed to Kankakee, Illinois, where he served as yard master for the New York Central Railroad until 1915. Due to ill health he went to Kansas in that year but in January, 1916, located in Chicago as an inspector for the P. and M. Company. He enlisted for service in the World War, April 6, 1918, and went to France with the Fifty-second Railway Engineers. He served as a transportation officer at Base Section No. 2, and was discharged with the rank of sergeant of first class, July 18, 1919. He then returned to Chicago and in August, 1919, became an inspector for the Vermilion Iron Company at Hoopeston. He was promoted to superintendent of the plant in 1924.

On June 11, 1921, Mr. Berkey married Miss Leota McCoy, the daughter of Nelson and Mary (Finley) McCoy, of Hoopeston, both now deceased. They have a son, William Wesley, born January 19, 1923.

Mr. Berkey is a Republican, and has served as alderman. He is a member of the American Legion and Commercial Club of Hoopeston. He is also chairman of the Park Committee and was instrumental in obtaining one of the finest swimming pools in the State for the city of Hoopeston.

**Capt. Fred E. Earel, M. D.**, a veteran of the World War, is among the prominent young professional men of Hoopes-ton, where he is also serving as mayor. He was born at Abingdon, Illinois, January 11, 1892, the son of E. J. and May Helen (Elwell) Earel.

E. J. Earel was born at Abingdon, Illinois, where he spent his entire life. He was reared on his father's farm and attended Hedding College. Throughout his life he engaged in general farming and stock raising and retired in 1895. He served as mayor of Abingdon and was prominent in Masonic circles, being Past Master of Abingdon Lodge, and a member of Quincy Consistory. He died January 5, 1920, and his wife died December 15, 1913. Their children were: Harley D., who died in 1898; Ray, lives at Orange, California; and Fred E., the subject of this sketch.

Following his graduation from Abingdon High School in 1910, Fred E. Earel attended Hedding College for two years. He received the degree of Bachelor of Science from the University of Illinois and was graduated from the Medical School of that university in 1916. He served as interne at Henrotin Hospital and Polyclinic Hospital, and began the practice of his profession at Hoopes-ton with his uncle, Dr. A. M. Earel. On June 1, 1917, Doctor Earel received commission in the Sanitary Train of the Illinois National Guard as First Lieutenant, and was transferred to the Federal service as the 108th Sanitary Train, Field Hospital No. 132, Thirty-third Division. He saw active service in France and participated in the Somme, Saint Mihiel, and Meuse-Argonne campaigns, being cited for bravery by his commanding general, Major General George Bell. Doctor Earel was discharged with the rank of Captain, July 7, 1919. He came to Hoopes-ton in October of that year where he has since engaged in practice with Doctor R. G. Kline, with offices at 202½ East Main Street.



On December 30, 1919, Doctor Earel was united in marriage with Miss Lilyan L. Lewis, the daughter of Morris H. and Lillian (Evans) Lewis, the former a native of Oxford, Indiana, and the latter of Hoopeston. Mr. Lewis, a retired paving contractor, lives at Hoopeston. His wife died in February, 1923. Two daughters have been born to Doctor and Mrs. Earel: Cecelia Marion, born May 5, 1923; and Rosalie Jeanne, born March 25, 1926.

Doctor Earel has always been a Republican. He was elected mayor of Hoopeston, April 16, 1929. He has served as a member of the school board since 1926 and as its president during 1928-29. He is a member of the First Methodist Church, and is affiliated with Hoopeston Lodge, No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Hoopeston Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 181; Watseka Commandery, Knights Templar; Quincy Consistory, thirty-second degree; Arabia Shrine; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Loyal Order of Moose; Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Modern Woodmen of America; Ira Owen Kraeger Post, No. 384, American Legion, charter member and Past Commander, 1922; Chef de Gare of "40 and 8 Society"; Chamber of Commerce; Commercial Club; and Hubbard Trail Country Club. He is identified with the Vermilion County Medical Society; Illinois State Medical Society; American Medical Association; and Illinois Industrial Surgeons Society.

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**Ray H. Marvin** is one of the popular men of Hoopeston, where he has served as city clerk continuously since 1917. He is a native of Vermilion County, born at Cheneyville, June 25, 1889, the son of Jesse Elwood and Olive (Smiley) Marvin.

Jesse Elwood Marvin was born in Indiana. He spent his early life on a farm and lived near Benton, Indiana.

As a young man he came to Cheneyville, Illinois, where he served as station agent for the Lake Erie & Western Railroad for eleven years. He then purchased a general store from R. R. Zook and conducted that business for several years. Later, he farmed in Jefferson County, Illinois, and retired in 1897. He died at Hoopeston, May 5, 1899, and is buried in Floral Hill Cemetery. His widow, born in Indiana, lives at Hoopeston. Mr. Marvin was a Republican, a member of the Christian Church, and belonged to Cheneyville Lodge, No. 706, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. There were five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Marvin: Ida, married C. D. Smith, lives at Hoopeston; Lulu, married Frank Lee, lives at Hoopeston; Ray H., the subject of this sketch; Mabel, married F. W. Perigo, lives at Lafayette, Indiana; and William, lives at Detroit, Michigan.

Jesse Elwood Marvin was the son of William Marvin, a native of Indiana, who served as treasurer of Benton County for two terms. He was a prominent and highly esteemed citizen of that section of Indiana.

Ray H. Marvin was educated in the public schools of Hoopeston. He learned the printer's trade in the offices of the Hoopeston Chronicle at the time the newspaper was owned by C. W. Warner. Mr. Marvin has been identified with this paper continuously and with D. Milburn operated the plant from November 1, 1920, until the paper was consolidated with the Herald in April, 1921. He is now advertising compositor for the Chronicle-Herald. Mr. Marvin was elected city clerk of Hoopeston in April, 1917, and has been re-elected to the office each succeeding term, having held this office longer than any other person in the history of the city.

In 1921 Mr. Marvin was united in marriage with Mrs. Florence (Skinner) Robertson, the daughter of Thomas J. and Rose (Hedrick) Skinner, natives of Columbus, Indiana, and now residents of Sloan, Indiana, where Mr. Skinner

engages in general farming and stock raising. Mr. and Mrs. Marvin have no children.

Mr. Marvin has always been a Republican. He is a member of Hoopeston Lodge, No. 498, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; and Star Lodge, No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

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**Hon. E. R. E. Kimbrough**, who lives retired at Danville, has been one of the leading figures in the judicial life of Vermilion County for many years, and is regarded as one of the most influential citizens of this section of the state of Illinois. He was born on a farm in Edgar County, Illinois, March 28, 1851, the son of Dr. Andrew H. and Sarah (Ashmore) Kimbrough.

Dr. Andrew H. Kimbrough was born in Harden County, Kentucky, February 27, 1822, the son of Richard Calvin and Jane (Morrison) Kimbrough. He was a native of North Carolina and his wife was born in Virginia. Both are buried in Edgar County, Illinois. He was a veteran of the War of 1812, and was wounded at the battle of Horseshoe Bend, Alabama, by the Indians. Later, he was wounded at the battle on New Orleans. He was given a soldier's land grant in Edgar County, Illinois, in a section of Stratton Township. He settled there in 1825 but died at the age of 33 years from the effects of wounds suffered during the war, from which he failed to recover. His son, Andrew H., was educated in private schools and was graduated from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. He settled at Georgetown, Illinois, in April, 1858, where he engaged in practice until 1873, at which time he located at Danville. He continued in practice in this city until his eightieth year. He died September 17, 1903, and is buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. Doctor Kimbrough was a Democrat, and a member of the Vermilion County Medical Society, Illinois Medical Society, and



E. R. E. KIMBROUGH





American Medical Association. Sarah (Ashmore) Kimbrough was born in Clark County, Illinois, April 10, 1820, and died August 4, 1904. She was the daughter of Amos and Patience (Maguire) Ashmore, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Tennessee. Both are buried at Yankee Point, Illinois. They settled in Clark County, Illinois, in 1808, where Mr. Ashmore engaged in contract work on the old National Road, now known as Route No. 40. To Dr. Andrew H. and Sarah (Ashmore) Kimbrough were born three children: Laura, who died January 2, 1929; E. R. E., the subject of this sketch; and Dill, who died April 28, 1921.

E. R. E. Kimbrough attended the district schools of Vermilion County. He was graduated from Illinois State Normal School in June, 1873, and then read law in the offices of Judge E. S. Terry, being admitted to the Illinois bar in January, 1876. He then became a partner in practice with W. D. Lindsey, who in 1882 was elected county treasurer of Vermilion County. Mr. Kimbrough then practiced alone until 1889, when he became associated with James Meeks until June, 1903, at which time Mr. Kimbrough was elected circuit judge. He was re-elected to this office in 1909 and again in 1915, but at that time retired. In 1882 he was elected to the thirty-third General Assembly as a State Representative, and re-elected in 1884 to the thirty-fourth General Assembly.

In April, 1907, Mr. Kimbrough was elected mayor of Danville on the Independent ticket. For twenty-five years he was a member of the Illinois State Educational Board, serving from 1893 until the time that the Board was abolished by Governor Lowden. He also served as a member of the Danville School Board for nine years.

In January, 1916, Judge Kimbrough went to Tensas Parish, Louisiana, where he remained until May, 1919. He has since lived retired at Danville.

On September 14, 1876, Judge Kimbrough was united in marriage with Miss Julia C. Tincher, the daughter of John L. and Caroline R. (Hicks) Tincher, natives of Kentucky and Indiana, respectively. Mr. Tincher was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Danville and served for many years as State Representative. He had organized the Tincher & English Bank, Danville, in 1857. Mr. Tincher died December 17, 1871, while serving as Senator from his District. He is buried in Danville. Julia C. (Tincher) Kimbrough died April 20, 1907, and is buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. A son born to Judge and Mrs. Kimbrough, Robert T., is deceased.

Judge Kimbrough is identified with the Vermilion County Bar Association, Illinois State Bar Association, and American Bar Association. He is affiliated with Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332. He is vice president of The First National Bank, Danville.

Judge Kimbrough is one of the interesting pioneers of Danville. Among the incidents of his early life which are of especial appeal to his listeners, who enjoy hearing of his personal experiences during the early days, is the story of his first trip to Danville from Georgetown, which was made in 1858 by ferry boat. He also tells of running away from home when 11 years of age to enlist for service in the Civil War. He attempted to enlist in the Seventy-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry but was rejected on account of his extreme youth.

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**John Brady Wallbridge.**—Not only in Hoopeston, but throughout Vermilion County and the State of Illinois, John Brady Wallbridge, deceased, was known for many years as a leading member of the legal fraternity. He was born at Mayville, Chautauqua County, New York, June 24, 1851, the son of Wing Killey and Hannah Malvina (Brady) Wallbridge.

Wing Killey Wallbridge was born in Canada, April 19, 1808, and his wife was born at Dover, New York, May 30, 1810. He died at Boone, Iowa, October 1, 1869, and his wife died October 31, 1869. Both are buried in Iowa. Mr. Wallbridge came to the United States from Canada early in life and for a number of years operated a hotel at Mayville, New York. He removed to Boone, Iowa, about 1859 and later lived at Fort Dodge, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Wing K. Wallbridge's surviving daughter, Edith, is the wife of Henry James Carr, and lives at Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Hannah Malvina (Brady) Wallbridge was the daughter of John P. and Lydia (Parks) Brady. He was born at Dover, New York, in 1780 and died February 22, 1858. His wife, also born at Dover, New York, in 1789, died November 11, 1858. Their marriage took place in 1806. Lydia (Parks) Brady was the daughter of Jacob and Deborah (Stevens) Parks. He was born in New York, March 6, 1757, and died October 9, 1845. His wife was born December 25, 1761, and died September 19, 1828. Both are buried at Wingdale, New York. In 1775 he enlisted as a sergeant for volunteer service in Capt. P. Woodard's company, and under Colonel Schenck and General Lee, being honorably discharged in 1776. The following year he enlisted in Capt. William Pearce's company and later served with James Martin at Valentine Heights. He re-enlisted again in 1878 as a second sergeant in Captain Pearce's company and served under General Putnam.

Wing Killey Wallbridge was the son of Elijah and Catherine (Killey) Wallbridge. He was born at Norwich, Connecticut, January 7, 1752, and died October 3, 1842. His wife, born January 3, 1766, died December 1, 1848. Both are buried at Quaker Hill, New York. Elijah Wallbridge was the son of Zebulon and Sarah (Forbes) Wallbridge. He was born at Norwich, Connecticut, July 17, 1718, and died April 27, 1809. His wife, born at Preston, Connecticut, September 3, 1717, died March 19, 1795. Both



are buried at Stamford, New York. Zebulon Wallbridge was the son of William and Abigail (Lawrence) Wallbridge. He was born at Preston, Connecticut, March 20, 1690. He was married on June 27, 1713. Both he and his wife are buried at Norwich, Connecticut. William Wallbridge was the son of Henry and Anna (Amos) Wallbridge. He was born in England. He was married at Preston, Connecticut, December 25, 1688. He died July 25, 1729. His wife, born at Boston, Massachusetts, June 28, 1666, died in June, 1751.

John Brady Wallbridge, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the schools of Mayville, New York, and also attended school at Boone, Iowa. He was graduated from Hillsdale (Michigan) College. In 1873 he went to Bismarck, where he studied telegraphy, and in 1880 he came to Hoopeston as agent for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad. Later, he was transferred to Doland, South Dakota, as agent for the same company, and from there went to Frankfort, South Dakota, where he served as postmaster. In the meantime Mr. Wallbridge continued his studies and was admitted to the bar of South Dakota, and subsequently practiced his profession at Frankfort, South Dakota. During the administration of President Harrison he was appointed chief clerk of the Indian agency at Greenwood, South Dakota, and served in that capacity for four years. He returned to Hoopeston in 1894 and was admitted to the Illinois bar. He then engaged in practice with James H. Dyer, under the firm name of Dyer & Wallbridge. This partnership continued until 1906 and Mr. Wallbridge engaged in practice alone thereafter until his death, August 5, 1923.

Mr. Wallbridge was married April 18, 1883, to Miss Jennie Dyer. She died September 21, 1902. A child was born to this union, Edith L., also deceased. On September 7, 1908, Mr. Wallbridge was united in marriage with Miss Grace Eleanor Schwartz, the daughter of Rev. William

Henry and Martha Eleanor (Bales) Schwartz, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history. To this union no children were born.

Politically, Mr. Wallbridge was a Republican. He was identified with the Vermilion County Bar Association, Illinois Bar Association, and American Bar Association. Fraternally, he was affiliated with Star Lodge, No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Hoopeston Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 181; Athlestan Commandery, Knights Templar, No. 35; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Medinah Temple; and Hamilton Club of Chicago.

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**Rev. William H. Schwartz**, deceased, was an outstanding member of the community in which he lived, and a member of one of the first families of Vermilion County. He died at Hoopeston, January 7, 1913. Reverend Schwartz was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, January 11, 1850, the son of John Henry and Catherine (Wyant) Schwartz.

John Henry Schwartz was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, where his ancestors had settled many years before. The family is of German origin and the Wyant family is of English descent, being directly descended from the Oldenbergs, early settlers of Pennsylvania. John Henry Schwartz was born July 17, 1809, and died July 7, 1885. His wife, born October 13, 1806, died April 22, 1876. John Henry Schwartz was the son of Conrad (3rd) and Mary (Pinkerton) Schwartz. He was born December 6, 1784, and died October 9, 1818. His wife was born February 20, 1789, and died June 19, 1833. Conrad (3rd) Schwartz was the son of Conrad (2nd) and Anna Maria (Lossner) Schwartz. He was born March 10, 1744, and died March 10, 1820. She was born November 1, 1748, and died April 7, 1807. They were married on January 18, 1769. He was the first president of the Farmers State

Bank, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He also served as a private in Capt. Jasper Yeates' company, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, under Col. M. Slough. On October 25, 1777, he was commissioned quartermaster of the Fifth Battalion of Lancaster County Militia under Col. Jacob Clotz, and served with distinction throughout the war. Conrad (2nd) Schwartz was the son of Conrad Schwartz, who was born in Germany in 1707. He came to the United States September 3, 1739, from Rotterdam on the ship "Friendship", and was among the first settlers of Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He died in 1790.

William H. Schwartz was educated in the district schools of Butler Township, Vermilion County. His family had come to this county in 1856. They became prosperous farmers of this section and William H. Schwartz early manifested an interest in farming. He rented his father's farm of two hundred acres and engaged in general farming and stock raising for a period of thirty-three years. He then purchased the estate after his father's death. This is the present site of the town of Riley. He also devoted much time to the study of theology and in 1879 was licensed as a local preacher. He entered the ministry in 1883, and spent nine years as a preacher in Champaign County, Illinois. He subsequently located at Danville, Illinois, and spent one year in the Jacksonville district as a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Due to ill health, Reverend Schwartz was obliged to retire from the ministry. He devoted his entire interests thereafter to farming until 1906, at which time he retired and moved to Hoopeston. He then purchased an interest in the Thornton Buggy Company, later known as the Hoopeston Buggy Company, and he served as president of the company for three years. When the company was reorganized he became secretary.

Reverend Schwartz was married on June 30, 1872, to Miss Martha E. Bales, the daughter of Caleb T. Bales, a

native of Tennessee and an early settler of Butler Township, Vermilion County. She died February 10, 1929. To this union the following children were born: Esther Catherine, married Frank H. Sherfy, lives at Sheffield, Alabama; Grace E., the widow of John B. Wallbridge, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history; Elizabeth E., married D. H. Shiveler, lives at Hoopeston; and Leora Zerita, school teacher, lives at Des Plaines, Illinois.

Reverend Schwartz was a member of Star Lodge, No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. He was a Republican and served for three years as collector of Butler Township. He was also trustee of Lakeview Hospital, Danville, and was widely known for his philanthropic and humanitarian work. His death was a distinct loss to the community.

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**M. Ernest Nink** is one of the most popular young men of Hoopeston, where he is city editor of the Chronicle-Herald. He was born at Ottawa, Illinois, April 27, 1905, the son of Martin Ernest and Nellie (Tully) Nink.

Martin Ernest Nink was born at LaSalle, Illinois, and was educated in the public schools there. Early in life he became associated with his father, Valentine Nink, in the wholesale cigar business. Later he was connected with the Milwaukee Railway Company and for many years was associated with E. V. Yockey in the laundry business at Ottawa, Illinois. The business was later sold to Charles E. Beck and was thereafter known as the Illinois Laundry Company. Mr. Nink continued as manager until 1917 at which time he entered the employ of the Chicago Retort and Fire Brick Company as timekeeper and paymaster. In 1922 he became identified with Bradford's Laundry and the following year purchased the business in partnership with Charles Marsh. Mr. Nink is still identified with this enterprise at Ottawa. He is a Democrat, a member of



Saint Columbus Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus, Catholic Order of Forresters, Knights of Maccabees, and German Benevolent Society. Mr. and Mrs. Nink are the parents of the following children: M. Ernest, the subject of this sketch; Anna, Raymond, Catherine, Louise, and John Vincent, all at home.

M. Ernest Nink received his education in the parochial schools of Ottawa and in 1922 was graduated from Ottawa High School. He then entered the employ of the National Fireproofing Corporation at Ottawa as a timekeeper, and in August, 1922, went with the Free Trader-Journal Publishing Company as a member of the editorial staff, and as sports editor. Later he became city editor. February 1, 1926, he came to Hoopeston as city editor of the Chronicle-Herald, in which capacity he now serves. He is also a director of the Aldrich Printing and Publishing Company, Hoopeston.

Mr. Nink is a Democrat, a member of Saint Anthony's Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus, Lions Club and Chamber of Commerce. He is vice president of the Booster Club of Hoopeston. Mr. Nink is unmarried.

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**Isaac Thomas Lukens**, deceased, was one of the most highly esteemed citizens of Hoopeston, and his career in the business and civic life of the community won for him the confidence and trust of all who knew him. He was born at Springboro, Ohio, March 25, 1842, the son of Richard Moore and Caroline S. (Thomas) Lukens.

**Richard Moore Lukens** was born near Philadelphia, August 23, 1812. He was a potter by trade and became well known as a manufacturer of pottery. The family removed to Hoopeston in 1873, where Mr. Lukens lived retired until his death, September 14, 1890. His wife was born near Philadelphia, March 18, 1820, and died Novem-

ber 20, 1899. Both are buried in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston.

Richard Moore Lukens was the son of Perry and Mary (Moore) Lukens. He was born in 1782 and she was born July 11, 1784. Both were born near Philadelphia. Perry Lukens was the son of Renier and Mary Jane (Perry) Lukens. He was born in 1758 and was the son of William and M. (Pennington) Lukens. The geneology of the Lukens family may be found in the New York Public Library. William Lukens was the son of William and Elizabeth (Tyson) Luckens, the name originally having been spelled Luckens. William Luckens was the son of Jan Luckens. Mary (Moore) Lukens, wife of Perry Lukens, was the daughter of Henry and Priscilla (Jackson) Moore. He was born May 29, 1753, in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, and died in 1829. He served in Captain John Taylor's Company of the Seventh Battalion, Cumberland County (Pennsylvania) Militia, commanded by Col. James Purdy, and was honorably discharged on May 5, 1781. (See Page 729, Volume 23, Pennsylvania Archives, Third Series.)

Henry Moore was the son of Mordeci and Elizabeth (Coleman) Moore. He died in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, in 1800. He was a Quaker and spent most of his life as a merchant in Philadelphia. Mordeci Moore was the son of Dr. Richard and Margaret L. (Preston) Moore. He was a councilman in Philadelphia and a leading physician and surgeon of the city. He died in September, 1734. Margaret Lloyd Preston was the daughter of Samuel and Rachael (Lloyd) Preston. In 1711 he was mayor of Philadelphia. He was also provincial treasurer from 1714 until the time of his death in 1743. Rachael Lloyd was the daughter of Thomas and Mary (Jones) Lloyd. He was born in 1640 and she was born in 1665. He died in 1686 and she died in 1680. He was governor of Pennsylvania in 1684, being appointed by William Penn. His grandmother,

Elizabeth Stanley, was the granddaughter of Edward I, of England, which name a line of ancestors to Charlemagne and back through the dark ages.

Isaac Thomas Lukens, the subject of this sketch, was reared and educated at Springboro, Ohio. After his graduation from Springboro Academy he clerked in the general store at Springboro for several years and later established a mercantile business at Pendleton, Indiana, in partnership with his brother, Charles Lukens. This business was finally disposed of and Mr. Lukens removed to Hoopeston in 1872, where he established the first general mercantile business and which was successfully conducted by him for many years. He then became identified with an overall factory in Hoopeston, and was interested in that business until the time of his death, January 19, 1903. His wife died October 20, 1904. Both are buried in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston.

On May 17, 1867, Mr. Lukens was united in marriage with Miss Edith Satterthwaite, the daughter of Joseph M. and Eliza S. (Allen) Satterthwaite, natives of Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Both are deceased and buried in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. They came west and settled at Rossville, Illinois, during the early days and Mr. Satterthwaite became the first postmaster of Rossville. He later lived at Hoopeston and was one of the founders of this city, being one of its leading and most influential citizens for many years.

To Isaac Thomas and Edith (Satterthwaite) Lukens were born three children: Eliza, mention of whom is made below; David, died in infancy; and Hannah, who died in 1907. She was the wife of Marion Alston, of Chicago, Illinois.

Eliza Lukens married James A. Williams, the son of Nathan and Susan (Norman) Williams. Mr. Williams is a government bank receiver and was a leading merchant of Hoopeston for many years. He was chief clerk of the

First District Exemption Board and served for three years without remuneration. Mrs. Williams is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of the Colonists, Colonial Dames of Ohio, and Betsy Ross Society. She takes an active part in the social life of the community and has an extensive acquaintance. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have a daughter, Eleanor Kent Williams, who was born August 5, 1912. She attends Hoopeston High School.

Mr. Lukens was a Republican throughout his life. He was a member of the Society of Friends Church.

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**C. A. Edmond Sheets** is one of the dependable and well known citizens of Hoopeston, where he is serving as assistant postmaster. He was born at Kendallville, Indiana, June 1, 1884, the son of Charles J. and Julia C. (Aichele) Sheets.

Charles J. Sheets was born in Germany. He was a tailor by trade and after coming to this country settled at Fort Wayne, Indiana, with his parents. Later he came to Hoopeston in 1904. He established a tailoring business here and became one of the representative members of the community. Mr. Sheets was living in Seattle, Washington, at the time of his death in 1926. His wife, born in Rome, Georgia, died in 1918. Both are buried at Hoopeston. Mr. Sheets was a Republican and held membership in the Loyal Order of Moose and Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

C. A. Edmond Sheets attended the public schools of Auburn, Indiana, and after completing his schooling he went to Logansport, Indiana, where he became identified with the grocery business. He later returned to Kendallville, Indiana, where he was employed in the store of his uncle, Albert Aichele. In 1906 Mr. Sheets came to Hoopes-



ton and two years later became a clerk in the local post-office under Postmaster Charles W. Warner. He continued in that capacity until March 1, 1918, when he became assistant postmaster under William Finley.

In 1911 Mr. Sheets was united in marriage with Miss Virginia McCormick, the daughter of James and Sarah (Ogden) McCormick, natives of Missouri, now residents of Bismarck, Illinois. They have the following children: Ruth, Dale, Helen, and Mary, all students; and Winifred, deceased.

Politically, Mr. Sheets is a Republican. He holds membership in the Church of Christ, and takes an active part in Sunday School work for young people. He is affiliated with Star Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Modern Woodmen of America, Lions Club, and Chamber of Commerce. For ten years Mr. Sheets served as secretary of the Hoopeston Chautauqua Association.

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**William M. Beggs**, who is superintendent of the American Can Company of Hoopeston, is numbered among the progressive business men and substantial citizens of Vermilion County. He was born near Mercer, Pennsylvania, July 10, 1886, the son of David T. and Alphina (Mounts) Beggs.

David T. Beggs was born in Mercer County, Pennsylvania, as was his wife. They were among the early settlers of Mercer, where Mr. Beggs established a retail shoe business. In October, 1866, the family removed to Lewistown, Illinois, where Mr. Beggs conducted a shoe business until his death in 1884. His wife died in 1899 and they are buried at Lewistown, Illinois. Mr. Beggs was a Democrat and for many years served as treasurer of Mercer County, Pennsylvania. He and his family held membership in the Presbyterian Church. The following children were born

to Mr. and Mrs. Beggs: Lewis A., a Civil War veteran, deceased; Roger W. and Della, both deceased; Ella M., married Eugene Munson, both deceased; Estella and Ada, both deceased; William M., the subject of this sketch; and Charles, deceased.

The education of William M. Beggs was obtained in the schools of Lewistown, Illinois, and following his graduation from high school he entered the employ of the Union Can Company, being made foreman of the plant in 1894. The factory was subsequently removed to Hoopeston and Mr. Beggs came to this city as factory superintendent. In 1901 the American Can Company was organized and at that time the Union Can Company was merged with the new enterprise. Mr. Beggs was retained as manager of the American Can Company and is factory superintendent of the Hoopeston plant. Originally, the plant employed about two hundred people as compared with four hundred and fifty on the company payroll at the present time.

In 1896 Mr. Beggs married Miss Catherine Hunter, the daughter of William and Catherine Hunter, the former a native of England and the latter of Ireland. Both are deceased. Mr. Hunter was a well known brick mason and building contractor of Lewistown, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Beggs have no children.

Politically, Mr. Beggs is a Democrat. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

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**W. R. Lowery.**—Numbered among the prominent educators of Vermilion County is W. R. Lowery, who is superintendent of schools at Hoopeston. He was born at Freeport, Ohio, in 1882, the son of John and Mary (Alexander) Lowery.

John Lowery was born in Ireland. He was a lumberman and contractor and after coming to this country lived

in Ohio. He served with the One Hundred Fifty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War under Lew Wallace. Mr. Lowery died May 8, 1908, and is buried at Londonderry, Ohio. His widow, born at Freeport, Ohio, is still a resident of that place. Their children were: T. J., lives at Freeport, Ohio; J. G., lives at New Concord, Ohio; G. C., lives at Akron, Ohio; Mrs. Margaret McElhattan, lives at Freeport, Ohio; and W. R., the subject of this sketch.

W. R. Lowery received his early education in the rural schools of Ohio. He was graduated from Muskingum College with the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1909 and later took graduate work at the University of Chicago and Illinois University. He began his teaching career in the district schools of Ohio, with which he was identified from 1903 until 1905; he then was a member of the faculty of Muskingum Academy from 1907 until 1909; was a teacher in Hoopeston High School from 1909 until 1913; principal of Hoopeston High School from 1913 until 1916; and became superintendent of city schools in 1916.

In 1913 Mr. Lowery married Miss Minnie Westfall, of Hoopeston, the daughter of Calvin F. and Annie (Robinson) Westfall. They have a daughter, Mary Ann, born May 1, 1918.

Mr. Lowery is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, Masonic Lodge and Consistory, Modern Woodmen of America, and Lions Club.

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**Chester S. Berry**, who is superintendent of schools at Rankin, is one of the prominent figures in education in Vermilion County. He is a native of Pleasant Hill, Pike County, Illinois, born December 6, 1891, the son of James R. and Nancy Margaret (Butler) Berry.

James R. Berry was born near Pleasant Hill, Illinois, February 4, 1847, the son of Willis Franklin Berry, a

native of Kentucky and one of the earliest settlers of Pike County, Illinois. James R. Berry was a farmer throughout his life. He served as justice of the peace and as a member of the school board. He was an active member of the Methodist Church and belonged to the Masonic Lodge and Modern Woodmen of America. Nancy Margaret (Butler) Berry was born near Pleasant Hill, Illinois, November 16, 1850, the daughter of Darius Butler. She died February 11, 1924. Both she and her husband are buried in Wells Cemetery, Pleasant Hill, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Berry were the parents of the following children: Willis Elma, born December 4, 1877, married Dr. John Harold Cromwell, lives at Gooding, Idaho; Clifford Earl, born February 6, 1881, lives at Gooding, Idaho; Lucy Mabel, born March 17, 1882, married Willis E. Rodeniser, lives at Lead, South Dakota; John Neil, born November 16, 1886, lives at Gooding, Idaho; James Halford, born March 4, 1889, a World War veteran, lives at San Jose, California; and Chester S., the subject of this sketch.

Chester S. Berry attended the district schools of Pike County, Illinois, and was graduated from Pittsfield High School in 1910. He attended Illinois College and began his teaching career at Martinsburg, Illinois, in 1911. From 1912 until 1914 he attended college and returned again in 1917, in which year he received his degree, Bachelor of Arts. During 1914-16 he taught at Pleasant Hill High School. His professional career follows: 1919-20 as principal of Pleasant Hill High School; 1922-24 as superintendent of schools at Nebo, Illinois, and 1924-30 as superintendent of schools at Rankin.

On November 24, 1920, Mr. Berry was united in marriage with Miss Helen Clark, the daughter of Horace L. and Alice (Webster) Clark, natives of Pike County, Illinois. Mr. Clark lives at Urbana, Illinois. His wife is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Berry have two children: Marion



Louise, born February 1, 1922; and James Wesley, born March 23, 1926.

Mr. Berry is independent in politics. He is active in the work of the Methodist Church, of which he has served as Sunday School superintendent for five years. He is a member of Rankin Lodge, No. 725, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and belongs to Phi Alpha Literary Society.

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**William James Haskell**, retired, is numbered among the substantial and highly esteemed citizens of Danville. He was born at Des Moines, Iowa, September 21, 1871, the son of William and Hester Ann (Heskett) Haskell.

William Haskell, deceased, was a native of Ohio. He was a farmer and early in life went to Iowa with his parents. He died at Des Moines in 1875, and his widow lives at Pomona, California. She is the daughter of Elizabeth Heskett. To Mr. and Mrs. Haskell one child was born, William James, the subject of this sketch.

William James Haskell began life as a newsboy. He attended the public schools of Iowa, Joliet, Illinois, and was ten years old when he was taken to Chicago where he attended school. He completed his schooling at Crawfordsville, Indiana, and when sixteen years of age was a bell-boy in the Nutt Hotel, now the Ramsey Hotel. He also was employed in the Sherman and Robbins hotels and later learned the printer's trade while in the employ of the "Star." He was subsequently employed on the "Crawfordsville Review" and the "Crawfordsville Argus-News." Later, he was a barber and after locating at Danville operated the shop in the Aetna Hotel for seven years. While thus employed he became interested in the sign and poster business and became successful in this enterprise, later in 1915 purchasing the Danville Bill Posting Company, which he consolidated with the small business, which he



WILLIAM JAMES HASKELL



had established on a small scale. Mr. Haskell became president of the Danville Poster Advertising Company and president of the Haskell Sign System Company. Although he has been retired from business since 1927, Mr. Haskell remains as president of these two companies.

In 1890 Mr. Haskell married Miss Eva Catherine Duddenhoffer, the daughter of George and Elizabeth Duddenhoffer, natives of Germany, and early settlers of Lafayette Indiana. Mr. Duddenhoffer later lived at Alton and finally settled at Danville, where he was well known as a manufacturer of cigars. He is deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Haskell four children were born: Ruth, deceased; William George, who died in 1921, was connected with the American Steel & Wire Company, Cleveland, Ohio, as an accountant, married Dorothy Goff; Esther, married C. D. Steely, lives at Danville, and they have two children, Catherine and William; and Harold, identified with the Roxanna Petroleum Company, Tulsa, Oklahoma. He married Alice Barkman, and they have two children, Philip and Betty.

Mr. Haskell is affiliated with Olive Branch Lodge, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, No. 38; Danville Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 182; Vermilion Council; Athlestan Commandery, Knights Templar No. 35; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Gao Grotto; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Young Men's Christian Association; Roselawn Country Club; and Rotary Club. He is a Republican and a member of the Presbyterian Church.

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**Edward Clarence Griffith**, deceased, was one of the most popular business men and influential citizens of Hoopeston, where he was identified with the First National Bank in an official capacity for more than forty years. He was born at Leesburg, Ohio, August 3, 1850, the son of John and Charlotte (Whaley) Griffith.



John Griffith was a native of Ohio, as was also his wife. He was a shoemaker by trade, and later in life owned and operated the Griffith House at Leesburg, Ohio. He was a Republican and a member of the Universalist Church. Both he and his wife are deceased and are buried at Leesburg. They were the parents of seven children: Richard, deceased; Edward C., the subject of this sketch; Samuel, deceased; Charles, lives at Anaheim, California; Gertrude, Harriet, and Lillian, all deceased.

Edward Clarence Griffith obtained his education in the schools of Leesburg, Ohio, and following his graduation from high school entered the employ of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad as a telegraph operator. Later, he was an operator near Cincinnati, Ohio, and was located there until 1883, at which time he came to Hoopeston and entered the employ of the First National Bank as a bookkeeper. At the death of James McFerren, Mr. Griffith became cashier of the bank, on September 8, 1884, and served in that capacity until 1920 when he was elected vice president and director. He died March 4, 1924.

On September 13, 1877, Mr. Griffith was united in marriage with Miss Elvira B. McFerren, the daughter of William and Eliza (Snyder) McFerren, the former a native of South Carolina and the latter of Montgomery, Ohio. Both are deceased and are buried in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Mr. McFerren was a prosperous merchant and large land owner of Level Station, Ohio, for many years and in later life lived at Hoopeston. There were seven children in the McFerren family, as follows: Amanda, deceased; Mary, the widow of Charles P. Huey, lives at Hoopeston; Elvira B. Griffith; Myrtie and Pingree, both deceased; Jacob S., a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history; and James, deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Griffith a daughter, Mabel Clara, was born. She was the wife of Robert J. Cardiff, of Hoopeston. Mrs. Cardiff died

in 1923, leaving a son, Edward Wesley, who was born in 1920.

Mr. Griffith was a Republican, a member of the Universalist Church, and belonged to the Modern Woodmen of America, and Commercial Club.

At the death of Mr. Griffith the following resolution was passed by the First National Bank of Hoopeston: "Whereas, Edward C. Griffith for more than forty years served as cashier and then as vice president of the First National Bank, Hoopeston, by his extensive friendship and acquainted through the surrounding country was so greatly instrumental in the building up of this bank, died March 4th, in Saint Petersburg, Florida. Whereas, the loss of so prominent and worthy a man who was such a guide and help to this institution through his enduring efforts and extreme faithfulness, is keenly felt by not only the officers and employes of this bank, but by everyone who has ever known him. Be it resolved, by the Board of Directors of the First National Bank of Hoopeston, by unanimous vote at this meeting held the 15th day of March, 1924, we deplore the death of so worthy an officer and hereby have this resolution spread upon the minutes of this meeting upon our records."

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**Merritt Andrew Southwick**, deceased, was numbered among the highly esteemed and widely known citizens of Hoopeston, where he spent practically his entire life. He was born at El Paso, Woodford County, Illinois, October 23, 1859, the son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Joy) Southwick.

Joseph Southwick was born at Hoosac Falls, Rensselaer County, New York, and his wife was also a native of that section. He obtained his education at the Union Village high school, Washington County, New York. After finishing school he took up surveying. He surveyed and platted

the counties of Kennebec and Androscoggin in Maine, as well as Lebanon and Dauphin counties in the State of Pennsylvania. In 1857 he went to Woodford County, Illinois, where he purchased a farm. In 1875 he removed to Vermilion County, where he purchased another farm, and where he lived until his death, October 18, 1894. His wife died June 10, 1895. Both are buried in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Their children were: Merritt Andrew, the subject of this sketch; Henry, who died February 13, 1929; and Arthur W., lives at Vandalia, Missouri.

Merritt Andrew Southwick grew up at El Paso and Hoopeston, Illinois, and attended the public schools in the latter place. He was a graduate of Terre Haute (Indiana) Business School. Throughout his active career Mr. Southwick engaged in general farming and stock raising. He retired in 1902 and moved with his family to Hoopeston, where he lived until his death, May 26, 1911. Mr. Southwick is buried in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston.

On October 27, 1887, Mr. Southwick was united in marriage with Miss Clara Eva Moore, of Loda, Illinois, the daughter of John and Clara Elizabeth (Marr) Moore, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Indiana. Mr. Moore died September 26, 1885, and his wife died December 29, 1923. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Southwick: Lillie E., who is a librarian in the Hoopeston Public Library; Gilbert Merritt, resides in Hoopeston, Illinois; and Walter Moore, resides in Hoopeston, Illinois.

Mr. Southwick was a life long Republican. He attended the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Southwick was a direct descendent of Lawrence and Cassandra Southwick, who came from England and settled at Salem, Massachusetts, in 1630. Jonathan Southwick was a minute man and fought at the battle of Lexington, April 19, 1775.

**Herbert J. Green** is prominent in business circles in Hoopeston, where he is president of Green Brothers, Inc. He was born at Rotchford, Essex County, England, May 1, 1883, the son of John and Hannah (Mann) Green.

John Green was born in Essex County, England. He was a machinist by trade and after coming to the United States in 1891 he settled at Hoopeston, where he was employed for a short time by the American Can Company. Later he established a business of his own, but soon re-entered the employ of the American Can Company, then known as the Union Can Company. Mr. Green, however, soon established his own business again, and became one of the successful business men of the city. The establishment, known as Green Brothers, Inc., is now owned by his son, Herbert J. Green, the subject of this sketch. John Green, who lives retired at Hoopeston, is a Republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church, and Star Lodge, No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. There are sixteen children in the Green family, as follows: Jennie, married Fred Swafford, lives at Springfield, Illinois; Nellie, married Grant Alexander, lives at Cleveland, Ohio; Alice, married Fred Parks, lives at Hoopeston; John, lives at Geneva, Illinois; Catherine, married Clarence Frantz, lives at Hoopeston; Mary, deceased; Herbert J., the subject of this sketch; George, deceased; Harry, lives at Jackson, Michigan; two children died in infancy; Millicent, married Alexander Murphy, lives at Hoopeston; Daisy, deceased; Glenn, a World War veteran, lives at Saint Petersburg, Florida; Stanley, a World War veteran, served in France with the Eighty-sixth Division, lives at Port Washington, Wisconsin; and Fred, a World War veteran, lives in Chicago, Illinois.

Herbert J. Green received his education in the schools of Hoopeston. He then entered the employ of the American Can Company as an apprentice machinist and later was connected with the company's plant in Chicago. He



then went to Simco, Ontario, Canada, for the Dominion Cannery Company, Limited, as production manager. Mr. Green's next business connection was as production manager for the Texas Oil Company at Port Arthur, Texas. Upon his return to Hoopeston in 1921 he became identified with his father's business and in 1928 purchased the interests of his brother, at that time becoming president of the concern. The modern plant was built in 1926.

In 1907 Mr. Green married Miss Grace McConnell, the daughter of William Rankin and Rosetta McConnell, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Illinois. Both are deceased and are buried in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Mr. and Mrs. Green have two daughters, Winifred and Rosetta.

Mr. Green is a member of the First Church of Christ; Star Lodge, No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Lodge of Perfection, fourteenth degree; and Chamber of Commerce. He is identified with the Republican party in politics.

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**Green Brothers, Inc.**—A necessary adjunct to any city is a machine shop that is capable and ready to care for all kinds of machine repairs. Hoopeston is especially fortunate in that its needs are well taken care of by the Green Brothers Machine Shop, which in size and equipment is not excelled in Eastern Illinois.

The business was originally established in 1909 by John Green and his two sons, in a small combination blacksmith and machine shop. In 1926 the business was incorporated as Green Brothers. The Greens knew their trade thoroughly and the quality of work turned out was such that the business grew very rapidly. The need for larger quarters necessitated several moves until in 1925 the present new fire-proof, brick building on West Main Street was constructed. This is a large building of substantial and

pleasing appearance. Its equipment is fully modern and is all powered by electricity. The interior of the shop with its busy and progressive air compares only with similar shops in cities of forty thousand population or more. The equipment includes all standard and special machines necessary for contract manufacturing and machine job work of all kinds. The plant engages in manufacturing to a greater extent than is generally known. At present the more important lines manufactured are undertakers' embalming stretchers, grills and baskets and garage equipment. A large quantity of ornamental iron work for homes, lodges and clubs is manufactured of quite elaborate and pleasing designs, or one may have some special design made on order. Among recent installations of such work is the stair case and two beautiful lamps, which are a part of the new home recently constructed in Hoopeston by A. W. Murray. Besides lines of its own designs and manufacture this shop also contracts for such special manufacturing jobs as are wanted.

The job department of the business makes a specialty of repairing automobile parts, boiler and engine work, although it is equipped to and does do all sorts of machinery rebuilding and repairs. The welding department does any and all kinds of acetylene welding and is equipped to handle any kind of metal that can be welded. This work is done by experienced, high-class workmen, who are specialists in this line and who strive to always do dependable and satisfactory work. For special kinds of job work this shop has recently installed some of the best kind of special equipment for rebuilding and regrinding motor blocks, and regrinding pistons. It has special up-to-date tools and equipment for the rebabbiting of motor blocks and connecting rods. In fact, no pains or expense have been spared to provide this shop with complete up-to-date machinery, tools, and high-class personnel, which enables it to turn out first-class work that is fully guaranteed.

Besides local work this shop is constantly catering to people in need of its services within a radius of sixty miles of Hoopeston.

Recently Mr. Herbert J. Green bought out his brother's interests, and he is now active manager of the shop. "Bert" Green, as he is popularly known, is first of all a thorough mechanic himself and can personally handle any sort of a job that is brought in. Besides this, he is a real executive and business man, and it is largely to his skilful coordination of men and machines that the business has built up its present reputation and growth. He is one of those individuals who, although he is usually very busy, always greets everyone with a smile. He displays the willingness to carefully estimate the smallest job in such a way that it is inevitable that he gain the good will of his customers.

The business motto might well be: "No matter how small the job we will give you a full measure of satisfaction."

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**Robert D. Kimberlin**, owner of Kimberlin's Transfer Company, Hoopeston, is recognized as one of the substantial business men of Vermilion County. He was born at Hoopeston, October 29, 1886, the son of John H. and Mary (Fetters) Kimberlin.

John H. Kimberlin was born in Pennsylvania. He came to Hoopeston in 1883 and in that year established the transfer and livery business, which is now conducted by his son. He died in 1903. Mr. Kimberlin was a Republican, and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He was also a member of the Hoopeston Fire Department. There were six children in the Kimberlin family, as follows: William, lives at Monticello, Indiana; Frank, deceased; Robert D., the subject of this sketch; Fay, married Robert Peak, lives at Arcola, Illinois; George, lives

at Waukegan, Illinois, is a veteran of the World War, having served in France with Company B, One hundred Thirty-third Infantry, Thirty-third Division; and Grace, married Floyd Murphy, lives at Arcola, Illinois.

Robert D. Kimberlin has always lived at Hoopeston. He received his education in the public schools and in 1903 took over his father's well established transfer business. In 1919 the building was converted into a garage and since that time motor trucks have been used exclusively by the company. They are specialists in local and long distance moving. The building also has a capacity for storing sixty automobiles. Mr. Kimberlin is local agent also for the Dodge and Plymouth automobiles and maintains a first class service station, in which five men are employed.

In 1912 Mr. Kimberlin was married to Miss Nettie Whitaker, the daughter of James F. and Ida Whitaker, of Hoopeston. They have a son, Robert F.

Mr. Kimberlin is a Republican, and is affiliated with Star Lodge No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Rose Croix, sixteenth degree; Modern Woodmen of America; and Chamber of Commerce. He served as chief of the Hoopeston Fire Department in 1926.

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**John L. Guingrich**, who is successfully engaged in the real estate and insurance business at Hoopeston, is a man of varied experiences and during his active career has been identified with a number of Illinois committees. He was born near East Lynn, Iroquois County, Illinois, January 4, 1877.

The early education of John L. Guingrich was obtained in the Carey school district, Iroquois County. At an early age he assumed a part of the responsibilities of his father's farm, his mother having been left a widow when Mr. Guingrich was a comparatively young man. When nine-



teen years of age he went to Claytonville, Illinois, where he worked as an apprentice druggist. After four years he attended Grier College, Hoopeston, and completed the course in pharmacy at Scio College. The following year he was employed as a pharmacist in Elliott Brothers Drug Store, Hoopeston, and in 1900 became associated with William P. Oberhauser, druggist, Peoria, Illinois. In 1904 Mr. Guingrich was employed by John Kneer. He later went to Ottawa, Illinois, where he worked for T. E. Gapen & Sons, pharmacists, and in 1906 he was called to work at Alton, Illinois, in the drug store of Sam Wyss, where he remained for three years. Mr. Guingrich then purchased a drug business, which he conducted successfully for four years, also being engaged in the real estate business along with the drug business, until he removed to Cissna Park, Illinois. In 1910 he purchased a farm near Warsaw, Illinois, where he remained for two years. He then became interested in the insurance, loans and real estate business exclusively, and in 1912 became an active broker at Cissna Park, Illinois. In 1920 he located at Hoopeston, where he has met with marked success in his business undertaking. Mr. Guingrich has offices at 207½ East Main Street.

On March 27, 1910, Mr. Guingrich married Miss Rosaline L. Herman, the daughter of John and Mary (Bahlman) Herman. Mr. Herman, who died in December, 1927, was a native of Saint Johns, Indiana. He was a blacksmith by trade and for twenty-two years owned and operated a shop, being an expert in the shoeing of race horses. He was a Democrat and held many township offices. His wife, born at Eagle Lake, Illinois, died in November, 1926. Both are buried in Quaker Cemetery, Cissna Park, Illinois. They had three daughters: Tylla, married William Landes, lives at Cissna Park, Illinois; Lillie, married William Dryden, lives at Cissna Park, Illinois; and Rosaline L., wife of John L. Guingrich, of Hoopeston, Illinois.

Mrs. Guingrich is a graduate of Wellington (Illinois) Township High School and Illinois State Normal College. She was a teacher in the schools of Iroquois County for seventeen years and in 1926 was appointed principal of Cheneyville High School. She is the author of several English handbooks.

Mr. Guingrich is chairman of the Code of Ethics Committee in the Farm Lands Division of the National Association of Real Estate Boards. He is vice president of the Illinois Association of Real Estate Boards, and past president of the Hoopeston Real Estate Board. He is also a member of the National Association of Real Estate Boards.

Mr. Guingrich is independent in politics. He is a member of the Christian Science Church, and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, Tribe of Ben Hur, Eagles Club, and Chamber of Commerce.

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**John Guingrich**, deceased, was a native of Ohio. He was born near Hamilton, August 24, 1832. He attended the district schools and at the age of sixteen years, in 1849, he accompanied his father to California. He became a successful gold digger and remained on the Pacific Coast for eight years. He then returned to the East and settled in Tazewell County, Illinois, where he cleared land for farming. In 1870 he settled on a farm two and one-quarter miles northeast of East Lynn, where he lived until his death in September, 1882. He was a Whig early in life and later became a Republican. Mr. Guingrich was also a Mason.

On May 7, 1867, Mr. Guingrich was united in marriage with Miss Susan Bahr, who was born near Bavaria, Germany, in 1844. To them were born ten children: Anna, married Henry C. Ziegenhorn, of Independence, Missouri; Joseph P., of Gridley, Illinois; Samuel, who died at the

age of twenty-five years; Benjamin F., of Garrison, Iowa; Sadie, married August F. Ziegenhorn, of Claytonville, Illinois; Adena, died at the age of two years; John L., a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history; Ada, married F. D. Frank, lives near Claytonville, Illinois; Emanuel, who died in 1918; and William, lives at Remington, Indiana.

It is interesting to note that to John Guingrich belongs the credit for laying the first drain tile in that section of Illinois and proving the success of sub-drainage. In 1876 while laying tile through a swamp on his farm Mr. Guingrich came across some mammoth bones, which caused considerable comment over that section of the country. Upon investigation by a well known professor of zoology from Yale University the bones were discovered to be the skeleton of a mastodon. It was at that time one of the first to be found.

Mr. Guingrich's father, Joseph Guingrich, was born in Alsace-Lorraine, France. He served in the regular French army during his youth and after coming to the United States engaged in farming in southwestern Ohio, near Hamilton, in Butler County. There he married a Miss Gerber, also a native of Alsace-Lorraine. She died in 1840. To this union were born the following children: John, Anna, Lena, Lydia, Barbara and Kate. Joseph Guingrich was a "forty-niner", who helped blaze the trail to California during the gold rush. He left for the West early in the spring of 1849, taking with him his son, a boy of sixteen years, who was later the father of John L. Guingrich. They made the journey in a covered wagon, driving oxen and enduring all the hardships of that first emigrant procession which started westward. He remained there for a period of four years, during which time he accumulated a fair amount of gold. He left his son there and returned to his home in Ohio for a time. In the spring of 1854 he was again seized with the "gold fever" and returned to California. Both father and son returned to Illinois in

1857 and settled on a farm in Tazewell County. In 1860 he was married to Mrs. Summers, nee Verkler, a native of New York.

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**Glenn Howard Whitham.**—A prominent figure in the business life of Rankin is Glenn Howard Whitham, who is president of the Rankin-Whitham State Bank. He was born at Rankin, October 11, 1882, the son of Eugene Howard and Elizabeth (George) Whitham.

Eugene Howard Whitham's biography may be found elsewhere in this history.

The education of Glenn Howard Whitham was received in the public schools of Rankin. Following his graduation from Rankin High School in 1899 he entered Michigan Military Academy and later was a student at Purdue University. He also attended Metropolitan Business College, Chicago. Mr. Whitham began his business career in his father's bank at Rankin. He was also the manager of the Rankin Grain Company from 1902 until 1907, and from 1907 until 1909 was located at Whitham, Missouri, as general superintendent of the land owned by the Rankin-Whitham Company. From 1909 until 1912 he was in charge of five hundred acres of land at Alva, Oklahoma, and in 1912 returned to Whitham, Missouri, where he became interested in a chain of grain elevators. Mr. Whitham remained there until 1919, at which time he removed to Mendon, Missouri. He sold his interests in 1921 and located at Cleveland, Ohio, where he became associated with Earl D. Stearns in the organization of the Stearns Conveyor Company. This business was located at East 200th Street and St. Clair Avenue, Cleveland. They were manufacturers of elevating and conveying machinery. Mr. Whitham served as secretary and treasurer of the business until October 1, 1926, when it was sold to the Chain Belt Company, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. On March



1, 1927, Mr. Whitham became vice president of the Rankin-Whitham State Bank, at Rankin, and at the death of his father in April, 1928, was elected president. He is also a director of the Rankin Mutual Building and Loan Association, and chairman of the executive committee of the Rankin Chamber of Commerce.

On July 12, 1908, Mr. Whitham was united in marriage with Miss Minnie Silvers, the daughter of Edgar and Adelaide (Dixon) Silvers, the former a native of Streator, Illinois, and the latter of England. He lives in Missouri. His wife died in 1907 and is buried at Streator, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Whitham have no children.

Politically, Mr. Whitham is a Republican. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church and is numbered among the highly esteemed members of the community in which he lives.

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**Eugene Howard Whitham.**—The career of Eugene Howard Whitham was long identified with the business life of Rankin, where he was president of the Rankin-Whitham State Bank. He was born at Canal Fulton, Ohio, November 8, 1847, the son of Rev. John D. and Caroline (Farwell) Whitham.

Rev. John D. Whitham was born near Wheeling, West Virginia, March 22, 1815. He studied in the common schools of Virginia and attended Washington College, now Washington and Jefferson College. He received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Princeton University, and began his career as a minister of the Presbyterian Church at Kean, Ohio. Later, he became a United Presbyterian minister. He had various charges in the East and in 1866 settled at Paxton, Illinois, where he also owned a large farm. Reverend Whitham died January 14, 1897, and his wife, born in New Hampshire, August 13, 1816, died March 18, 1899. Both are buried in Union Cemetery, Rankin.

There were five children born to Reverend and Mrs. Whitham: Eugene Howard, the subject of this sketch; Rosetta, born May 7, 1849, deceased; Robert Farwell, born April 13, 1852, lives at Richmond Highlands, Washington; George Lewis, born October 23, 1853, deceased; and Charles Sumner, born May 18, 1856, died in 1927.

Reverend Whitham was the son of Joseph Rider and Sarah (Dement) Whitham. He was born January 15, 1779, and died in 1841. His wife, born November 30, 1778, died June 28, 1842. Both were natives of West Virginia.

Eugene Howard Whitham received his early education in the district schools. He came to Paxton, Illinois, with his parents in 1866 and later attended Illinois State Normal College. After teaching school for several years he came to Rankin in 1873 and managed the D. & W. A. Rankin Grain Elevator. On May 15, 1875, in partnership with W. A. Rankin and David Rankin, he organized the Rankin-Whitham & Company Bank. Mr. Whitham became cashier of the institution. On March 1, 1919, the bank was incorporated and the name changed to the Rankin-Whitham State Bank. At that time Mr. Whitham was elected president and was holding that office at the time of his death, April 25, 1928. He is buried in Union Cemetery, Rankin. Mr. Whitham served for thirty-five years as secretary of the Rankin Building, Loan and Savings Association and was active in the Rankin Business Men's Association. The town of Whitham, Missouri, is named in honor of Mr. Whitham, who owned large tracts of land in that section of Missouri.

On January 1, 1879, Mr. Whitham was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth George, the daughter of Robert and Jane (Guthrie) George. He was born at Cannonsburg, Pennsylvania, in 1814 and died in 1897. His wife was born in 1812 and died in 1911. Both are buried in Union Cemetery, Rankin. Mrs. Whitham was born near New Concord, Ohio, November 26, 1847, and died June 14,

1924. She is buried with her husband in Union Cemetery. To Eugene Howard and Elizabeth (George) Whitham were born two children: Glenn Howard, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history; and Gladys, married Earl Downing Stearns, lives at Marion, Ohio.

Mr. Whitham was always a Republican. He served as a member of the local school board and city council. He held membership in the Presbyterian Church and throughout his life was active in church work.

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**Chester A. Aldrich**, publisher of the Chronicle-Herald of Hoopeston, went to work in a newspaper and printing plant when a boy and his experience has made him one of the ablest newspaper publishers in Illinois. Mr. Aldrich was born at Wapella, Illinois, October 5, 1874. His grandfather, David Aldrich, was of English ancestry, the Aldrich family having been established in Rhode Island in the latter part of the seventeenth century.

David Aldrich was a native of Pennsylvania and spent most of his life in northern Ohio and northern Indiana. He died at Mishawaka, Ind. His son, David Aldrich, father of Chester A., was born at Mishawaka, Indiana, in 1844, became a farmer at Wapella, Ill., where he married and served as a soldier in the Union Army during the Civil War. From Wapella he removed to DuQuoin, Illinois, where he became a prosperous farmer and where he lived for thirty-five years. He died in December, 1928, and is buried at Cobden, Illinois. He was a Republican, a member of the Baptist Church, and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. While in service during the Civil War he served as a member of the One Hundred and Fifty-seventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry and was wounded in service. David Aldrich married Ann Eliza Burroughs, who was born at New Paris, Indiana, and died at Wapella,





CHESTER A. ALDRICH





Illinois, in 1877. Her father, Chester S. Burroughs, was a native of Northampton, Massachusetts, went to Indiana at an early day, served as a soldier in the Mexican War, and followed the occupation of carpenter and builder. He married Permelia Mills, a native of Ohio, who died at Niles, Michigan. The Mills family came from England and were among the early colonists of Virginia, being related to the Custis family, of which Martha Custis Washington was a member. Chester S. Burroughs was a cousin of the Chicago merchant, Marshall Field.

Chester A. Aldrich was the youngest of three children, the oldest, Nathaniel, dying in infancy. His sister, Amy Permelia, is the wife of Fred Jansen, a cigar manufacturer at Denver, Colorado. Chester A. Aldrich was only three years old when his mother died, and he grew up in the home of his grandparents at Niles, Michigan, attending the public schools there until he was sixteen years of age. He then served a nine month apprenticeship in the office of the Niles (Michigan) Democrat, and for eleven months was a reporter for the Niles Daily Star. He had three months experience as a reporter for the Detroit Evening News, and then returned to Niles, where for one year he was city editor of the Niles Daily Star, following which he became associated with Major L. A. Duncan as editor of the Niles Daily Sun and Niles Republican. After four years he went to Poplar Bluffs, Missouri, and established the Poplar Bluffs Sentinel, which he published two years, selling that paper in 1900. Then for another year Mr. Aldrich was city editor of the Niles Daily Sun, and for a year was city editor of the Mattoon (Illinois) Morning Star. He then became managing editor and publisher of this Mattoon paper and remained in that city until 1911.

In 1911 Mr. Aldrich acquired the Hoopeston Evening Herald. On April 15, 1921, he bought the Republican Daily and Weekly Chronicle, the consolidation of the two papers resulting in the Chronicle-Herald, an evening daily.

The Chronicle is the oldest newspaper of Hoopeston, having been established in 1872 by Mr. Dale Wallace, still a resident of this city. The Chronicle-Herald is independent in politics. The paper is now owned and published by the Aldrich Printing & Publishing Company, Incorporated, which Mr. Aldrich incorporated in 1921 with a capital of \$40,000. He is president and managing editor and general business manager of the corporation. The plant and offices are located at 201 East Main Street. This is a very successful newspaper and few cities of the size of Hoopeston can claim a newspaper so well edited and possessing more of the qualities of a really good newspaper.

Mr. Aldrich is a member of the Illinois Press Association, National Editorial Association, and is vice president of the Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce. He also belongs to the Commercial Club, Hubbard Trail Country Club, and Lions Club. He is independent in his political views.

Mr. Aldrich is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church. He owns an attractive home at 626 East Washington Street and has other valuable real estate holdings in Hoopeston.

On July 16, 1897, Mr. Aldrich was united in marriage with Miss Hattie Hudson, who was born at Rockton, Illinois, in 1878. She died in a Chicago hospital in 1904. By this marriage there were four children: Rita Amy, wife of Clarence W. Murray, of the A. W. Murray Plumbing Company, Hoopeston; Erma Anna, wife of J. Franklin Murphy, who is a pressman in the Chronicle-Herald plant; David R., linotype operator for his father; and Lucretia E., wife of Marvin G. Probst, a resident of River Forest, Ill. He is a member of the firm of Graham, Anderson, Probst & White, Chicago, architects, who have designed and built some of the finest business and public structures in Chicago and the middle west.

On October 1, 1906, Mr. Aldrich was married at Clayton, Missouri, to Miss Georgia Jane Gibler, a native of

Mattoon, Illinois. By this marriage there are two children: Helen Czarine; and Richard Wayne.

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**The Rankin-Whitham State Bank.**—Numbered among the dependable banking institutions of Vermilion County may be mentioned the Rankin-Whitham State Bank, of Rankin. It was organized as a private bank, May 5, 1875, by W. A. Rankin, David Rankin, and Eugene H. Whitham. The original capital stock was increased from \$10,000 to \$15,000.

On April 25, 1885, B. H. Durham purchased the interest of D. Rankin, and in 1878 W. H. Clark was taken in as a partner. The bank was reorganized on September 9, 1885, by W. A. Rankin, E. H. Whitham, and B. H. Durham, with a capital stock of \$35,000, under the firm of Rankin-Whitham & Company. Mr. Whitham was directly responsible for the growth and success of the institution.

On April 1, 1919, the bank was incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois. The officers elected were: E. H. Whitham, president; W. D. Rankin, vice president; and W. M. Cutler, cashier. Directors were: E. H. Whitham, W. D. Rankin, W. M. Cutler, John C. Speck, and P. Henneberry.

The statement as of April 1, 1919, was as follows: Loans and Discounts, \$156,325.22; Overdrafts, \$3,787.40; Bank House and Fixtures, \$11,474.00; Stocks and Bonds, \$65,181.53; Current Expenses, \$418.53; Cash and Specie, \$7,442.20; Due from Banks, \$258,094.37. Total, \$502,723.25. Liabilities: Capital Stock, \$100,000.00; Certificates of Deposit, \$79,742.60; Deposits, \$322,980.65; Total, \$502,723.25.

The statement as of April 5, 1929, was as follows: Resources: Due from Banks, \$33,737.07; Banking House and Fixtures, \$19,250.00; Overdrafts, \$831.40; Loans and Discounts, \$244,378.87; Stocks and Bonds, \$32,462.50; Other



Real Estate, \$4,197.06. Total, \$334,856.90. Liabilities: Capital Stock, \$50,000; Surplus, \$10,000; Undivided Profits, \$3,480.00; Certificate of Deposit, \$100,462.77; Deposits, \$170,913.34. Total, \$334,856.90.

On November 1, 1927, the stockholders and directors voted to reduce the capital stock from \$100,000 to \$50,000. The present officers of the Rankin-Whitham State Bank are: Glenn H. Whitham, president; Kuno Seidel, vice president; W. M. Cutler, cashier; and John C. Speck, assistant cashier. The directors are: G. H. Whitham, Kuno Seidel, W. M. Cutler, John C. Speck, M. S. Whitham.

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**Lauren Davis.**—Perhaps one of the best known of the younger automobile men of Vermilion County is Lauren Davis, who has the agency for the Hudson and Essex automobiles at Rankin. He was born south of Boswell, Warren County, Indiana, January 12, 1894, the son of Joseph H. and Frances (Myers) Davis.

Joseph H. Davis was born at Boswell, Indiana, in 1865. When a young man he became interested in the grocery business at Boswell, and was thus engaged until 1903, at which time he sold his interests and removed to Rankin, where he purchased the Four-C Telephone Company. This business included exchanges at East Lynn, Illinois, Cissna Park, Illinois, and Rankin. In 1910 he purchased the Potomac, Armstrong, and Collison exchanges and served as president of the Four-C Telephone Company. Mr. Davis retired from business in 1914 and died April 30, 1916. He is buried at Boswell, Indiana. His widow, born at Attica, Indiana, resides at Rankin. Mr. Davis was a Republican and held numerous public offices. He held membership in the Rankin Lodge No. 725, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Modern Woodmen of America, and Woodmen of the World. To Mr. and Mrs. Davis were born four chil-

dren: Opal, died in 1928, married Joseph Ryden, who lives at Medaryville, Illinois; Ida, married E. M. Grunsted, lives in Chicago; Earl, merchant, Rankin, married Bess Sloan, and they have two children, Earlene and Bobby; and Lauren, the subject of this sketch.

Lauren Davis attended the public schools of Boswell, Indiana, and Rankin. Following his graduation from high school he became interested in the telephone business with his father. From 1914 until 1927 he served as a rural mail carrier and during that time was also interested in the automobile business. He became agent for the Ford automobile at Rankin in 1918 and continued until 1924, at which time he took over the Hudson-Essex agency. The new garage and service station was built by Mr. Davis in 1929. It has storage space for fifty-five cars. In 1928 Mr. Davis also established an agency at Hoopeston and later in that year opened branch agencies at Rossville and Potomac.

In 1914 Mr. Davis married Miss Grace Sloan, the daughter of George and Marietta (France) Sloan. Mr. Sloan lives retired at Rankin. His wife is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have two children: Lauren Dale, born in 1918; and Martha Maxine, born in 1920.

Mr. Davis is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a Republican in politics.

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**Charles R. Hill.**—A substantial citizen and dependable business man of Rankin is found in Charles R. Hill, who is editor and owner of the "Rankin Independent." He was born at Montgomery, Alabama, February 23, 1877, the son of John William Sterling and Mary (Beyer) Hill.

John William Sterling Hill was born in New York, May 8, 1856. He came west with his parents early in life and

settled in Stark County, Illinois, where he was reared and educated. Subsequently, Mr. Hill went with the Gould Bridge Company and worked for that firm during the building of bridges across the Ohio River, which connected Henderson, Kentucky, and Evansville, Indiana, for the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. Later, he was foreman on the building of the bridge across the Mississippi River at Keithsburg, Illinois. Mr. Hill finally located at Paxton, Illinois, where he established a business of his own as proprietor of a carriage and wagon works. He died in 1912 and his wife, also a native of New York, died in 1928. They are buried at Paxton and Rankin, respectively. Mr. Hill was a Democrat, a member of the Presbyterian Church, Modern Woodmen of America, and Court of Honor. Mr. and Mrs. Hill had only one child, Charles R., the subject of this sketch.

Charles R. Hill received his education in the schools of Paducah, Kentucky, and following his graduation from Paducah High School in 1897 he came to Rankin, where he was employed as a clerk in a local hardware store. In April, 1912, he purchased the "Rankin Independent," a weekly newspaper, which he has published continuously since that date. Mr. Hill learned the printer's trade after the purchase of his newspaper. He handles the entire procedure from editing the paper to its publication. Mr. Hill is also vice president and director of the Rankin Building & Loan Association.

In 1904 Mr. Hill married Miss Lillian Irene Sloan; daughter of James and Matilda (Simson) Sloan, natives of Londonderry, Ireland, both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Hill have a son, Charles Dean, born in August, 1905. He is associated with his father's newspaper business.

Mr. Hill is an independent voter in politics and has served as town clerk for the past twenty years. He was also treasurer for a period of four years and village clerk for one term. He has been a member of the Rankin School

Board for twelve years and served as secretary for eight years. Mr. Hill is an active member of the Methodist Church and is affiliated with Rankin Lodge No. 725, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Past Master, 1929; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Mohammed Shrine, Peoria, Illinois; and Modern Woodmen of America.

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**Patrick Henneberry**, general merchant, ranks high among the dependable business men of Rankin. He was born in LaSalle County, Illinois, June 1, 1866, the son of Dennis and Julia (Tierney) Henneberry.

Dennis Henneberry was a native of Ireland, as was also his wife. He came to this country when a young man and after a short residence in New York came to Illinois and settled in LaSalle County, where he became interested in the coal business. He was a young man at the time of his death in 1867. His wife died in 1897. They were members of the Catholic Church. To Mr. and Mrs. Henneberry were born the following children: Elizabeth, who died in 1926, was the wife of J. B. Johnson, of Joliet, Illinois; Julia, married William Burden, lives in Iroquois County, Illinois; Mary Ellen, the widow of William Haywood, lives at Joliet, Illinois; John, born in 1864, died in 1876; and Patrick, the subject of this sketch.

Patrick Henneberry was educated in the district schools of Iroquois County, Illinois, and also attended school at Rankin. His first employment was on the farm of William A. Rankin, founder of the city which bears his name. Later, Mr. Henneberry operated his mother's farm until her death, when he purchased the place. He continued farming until 1901, at which time he removed to Rankin, where he purchased an interest in the general store of Morrow & McCauley, buying out Mr. McCauley's interests in the business. The firm name became known



as Henneberry & Morrow. In 1917 Mr. Henneberry purchased Mr. Morrow's interests and became sole owner of the store. He was one of the directors of the Rankin-Whitham State Bank at the time of its incorporation, but resigned from the office in 1927.

In 1891 Mr. Henneberry was united in marriage with Miss Marcella Kelly, the daughter of James and Catherine (Gaughen) Kelly, natives of Ireland, both now deceased. They had three children: Marcella, deceased; Catherine Julia, in religious life known as Sister M. Marcella, St. Thomas Academy, Chicago, Illinois; and James Leo, mechanical engineer for the Carbondale Machine Company. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois and during the World War served with the Aviation Section, United States Army. He married Nellie Ruddy, and they have three children, James Patrick, Mark Allen, and Geraldine.

Mr. Henneberry has always been a Democrat. He served as school director for several terms and as president of the Village Board for ten years. He is a member of St. Anthony's Catholic Church, and belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, Chamber of Commerce, and Rankin Business Men's Association. He has a wide acquaintance in the community and is highly esteemed by all who know him.

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**Everett J. Smith**, popular postmaster and business man of Armstrong, is a native of Vermilion County. He was born five miles south of Armstrong, September 6, 1883, the son of John E. and Mary Ellen (Firebaugh) Smith.

John E. Smith was born north of Danville, Illinois, in 1852, the son of George G. and Elizabeth (Fairchilds) Smith, natives of Pennsylvania and Illinois, respectively. He was a farmer and held numerous township offices. Both he and his wife are buried at Potomac, Illinois. Their

son, John E., was educated in the district schools and attended Illinois Normal College. He was a teacher in the district schools of Vermilion County for thirteen years and also owned and operated a farm of two hundred and eighty acres. He was a Democrat, a member of the Christian Church, and Masonic Lodge. Mr. Smith died November 6, 1896, and is buried at Potomac, Illinois. His widow, born at Attica, Indiana, lives at Champaign, Illinois. Their children were: Irvin, professor of mathematics in the Department of Agriculture, University of North Dakota; Edwin R., professor of mathematics at Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa; Alfred G., farmer, lives at Columbia, South Carolina; Everett J., the subject of this sketch; and Leslie, city manager, Atlas Cement Company, New York City.

Everett J. Smith obtained his education in the district schools of Pilot Township, Vermilion County. He remained on his father's farm until he was twenty-eight years of age, and in January, 1911, removed to Armstrong, where he purchased the Armstrong Lumber Company. This was completely destroyed by fire in 1925 and Mr. Smith later purchased the A. G. Maury Hardware Store at Armstrong, which he now conducts. In 1914 he was appointed postmaster during the administration of President Wilson. He has continued in office to the present time.

In 1905 Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Miss Ethel Collison, the daughter of Jesse and Loretta (Harrison) Collison. The former is deceased and the latter lives at Armstrong. Both were natives of England. Mrs. Smith died in November, 1918, and is buried at Armstrong. To this union were born three daughters: Mary, lives in Chicago; Helen and Margaret, both at home. In 1926 Mr. Smith married Miss Inez McArthur, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas McArthur.

In politics Mr. Smith is independent. He is a member of the Christian Church and has the following lodge affiliations: Potomac Lodge, No. 782, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Past Master, 1926; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Ansar Temple, Springfield, Illinois; and Gao Grotto, Danville.

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**Harley O'Neal** is well and favorably known at Rankin, where he is a plumbing and heating contractor. He was born near LeRoy, in McLean County, Illinois, September 6, 1885, the son of Eleasor C. and Rebecca (Reese) O'Neal.

Eleasor C. O'Neal was born in Warren County, Ohio, in 1850, the son of Eleasor O'Neal, a native of Ohio, who came west with his family about 1855 and settled near Bloomington, Illinois. Eleasor C. O'Neal became a farmer. He retired in 1922 and has since resided at Bloomington, Illinois. He is a Democrat and a member of the United Brethren Church. Rebecca (Reese) O'Neal was born in Illinois and died in 1903. She is buried at Saybrook, Illinois. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. O'Neal: Mamie, married Frank Hall, lives at Bloomington, Illinois; Harley, the subject of this sketch; and a daughter died at the age of three years.

Harley O'Neal spent his boyhood at Saybrook, Illinois, and attended the public schools. He came to Rankin in 1905 and spent the next two years as manager of the farm of Henry S. France. He then went with the Lake Erie & Western Railroad as a fireman. Mr. O'Neal learned the plumbing and tinning trade in Brickey's Hardware Store, Rankin, and in May, 1926, purchased the shop from Mr. Brickey. He has the agency for the Lennox Furnace, Premier DeLuxe Furnace and also represents the Koons Furnace Company.

In 1905 Mr. O'Neal married Miss Bertha France, the daughter of Henry S. and Martha France, both deceased. They were natives of Ohio and early settlers of LaSalle County, Illinois. Mrs. O'Neal died June 20, 1907, and is buried at Rankin. Her son, Vernon, was born June 3, 1907. He married Miss Mona Engebrecht, and is proprietor of a garage at Potomac, Illinois. In 1915 Mr. O'Neal was married the second time to Miss Myria Norris, the daughter of Samuel and Lucy Norris, natives of Indiana. He is deceased and his widow lives at Rankin. To Harley and Myria (Norris) O'Neal the following children have been born: Glenn, Frances, Ernest, Ethel, Velma, Earl, and Doris, all at home.

Mr. O'Neal is independent in politics. He has served as a member of the school board and was the first chief of the local fire department.

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**John Frederick**, one of the proprietors of the "Square Deal Garage," is numbered among the progressive and enterprising young business men of Rankin. He was born on a farm in Iroquois County, Illinois, February 8, 1903, the son of John and Emma (Strauss) Frederick.

John Frederick, deceased, was a native of Germany. He was three years old when his parents brought him to this country. They settled at Peoria, Illinois, and in later life Mr. Frederick became interested in farming. He entered the employ of the Nickel Plate Railroad and was employed by that company at Rankin at the time of his death in 1926. His widow, born in Berlin, Germany, resides at Rankin. Mr. and Mrs. Frederick were the parents of the following children: Elizabeth, married Lawrence Fitzgerald, lives at Rankin; Arthur, a World War veteran, lives in Chicago; Samuel, a World War veteran, deceased; Edward, lives at Rankin; Sophia, married



Franklin Lutz, lives at Rankin; John F., and Benjamin, live at Rankin; Harry, lives in Chicago; Cora and Rosella, both at home.

The boyhood of John Frederick was spent at Rankin. He attended the public schools and following his graduation from Rankin High School engaged in farming for six years. He then went to Hoopeston with the Vermilion Malleable Iron Company and in 1925 took charge of the bulk station of the Standard Oil Company at Rankin. He has been interested in the garage business since 1927 and in 1929 became associated with Honas Grecht. They are expert mechanics and operate one of the best equipped garages and service stations in this section of Vermilion County. Their modern garage has a capacity of fifty cars.

In 1928 Mr. Frederick was united in marriage with Miss Helen Seidel, the daughter of Gustave and Bertha Seidel, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Illinois.

Politically, Mr. Frederick is a Republican. He is a member of the Lutheran Church and belongs to the Rankin Business Men's Association.

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**Harvey V. Andrews**, of Andrews & Williams, general merchants, has been a leading business man of Armstrong for many years. He was born at Danville, Illinois, March 31, 1869, the son of John H. and Laura (Earls) Andrews.

John H. Andrews, deceased, was a veteran of the Civil War. He was born in London, England, and came to Canada with his father, who was a member of Her Majesty's "Cold Stream Guards." The family located near Goose Island, Canada, where the father served as an officer in the English Army. Later, John H. Andrews came to New York, where he spent several years. He then came

to Vermilion County and settled at Rossville. He joined the Seventieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and later served with an Indiana outfit of light artillery. He was wounded at the battle of Richmond, Kentucky, and taken prisoner at Hattlet Inlet. He served for eight months in Libby prison, and later escaped to join his regiment. He was honorably discharged from the service in 1865. Mr. Andrews then came to Danville, where he was married to Laura Earls, a native of that city. Six children were born to them, as follows: Frank, deceased; William H., lives at Hoopeston; Anna, married Sherman Williams, lives at Danville; Harvey V., the subject of this sketch; W. A., deceased; and Virginia, married Frank Crocker, lives at Meade, Kansas. Mr. Andrews was a Republican, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He died in 1879 and his wife died in 1877. Both are buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville.

The education of Harvey V. Andrews was received in the public schools of Danville. He was a boy of ten years when he was left an orphan. For a time he lived with C. J. McGee and later with N. A. Kimball. Subsequently he went to Oakwood, Illinois, where he was employed on a farm by Nelson Liggett. At the age of twenty-one years Mr. Andrews attended Brown's Business College, at Valparaiso, Indiana. He began his business career with the Glenburn Coal Company and later was bookkeeper for the St. Charles Coal Company, St. Charles, Illinois. He then came to Armstrong and was employed as a clerk by Mr. Brown for a time, after which he went with R. G. Risser, of Kankakee, Illinois, as manager of his store at Armstrong. After a number of years Mr. Andrews became interested in the general mercantile business as a member of the firm of Mills, Andrews & Goodwine. The firm later became Andrews & Cook and finally Andrews & Williams. They are leading merchants of this section and have an excellent trade.

In 1905 Mr. Andrews married Miss Louise James, of Rochester, Indiana. They have no children.

Mr. Andrews has always been a Republican. He is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and belongs to the Masonic Lodge and Modern Woodmen of America.

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**Arthur S. Bass** is recognized as one of the substantial business men of Armstrong, where he is president of the Farmers State Bank. He was born in Middleport Township, Vermilion County, October 17, 1866, the son of Henry and Harriet (Bennett) Bass.

Henry Bass was born in England. He learned the draper's trade from his father, Thomas Bass, a dry goods merchant. In 1851 Henry Bass came to the United States and settled in Vermilion County, near Potomac. He engaged in general farming and also conducted the first general store at Potomac. In 1879 he removed to another farm of two hundred and thirty acres southeast of Armstrong, where he remained until about 1906. He then retired and came to Armstrong, where he died in 1909. Mr. Bass was a Republican and a member of the Methodist Church. His wife, also born in England, died in 1899. Both are buried at Potomac. To Mr. and Mrs. Bass seven children were born, as follows: Mary, the widow of W. F. Burd, lives at Danville; Fannie, the widow of Samuel Gilbert, lives at Urbana, Illinois; Thomas, Samuel, and Harriet, all deceased; Fred, farmer, lives at Pleasant Hill, Illinois; and Arthur S., the subject of this sketch.

Arthur S. Bass has always lived in Vermilion County. He attended the district schools and was interested in farming at an early age. For a time he farmed on his father's land and later became the owner of one thousand two hundred and fifty acres in Vermilion County, which he owns at the present time. He has also owned large

tracts of land in the West. Mr. Bass has been identified with banking interests since 1902, at which time he and his brother, Fred Bass, purchased the Goodwin Bank, of Armstrong. It was thereafter known as Bass Brothers Bank until its incorporation in 1904 as the Farmers State Bank. Arthur S. Bass then became vice president. Three years later he purchased his brother's interests and became president of the institution.

In 1889 Mr. Bass married Miss Jennie Earl, the daughter of Elijah and Salome (Crouse) Earl, natives of Indiana, both now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Bass were born four children: Florence, deceased; Earl, farmer, lives in Vermilion County, married Pearl Duncan, and they have three children, Mildred, Margaret, and Robert; Fred, vice president of the Commercial Savings & Trust Company, Danville; and Irene, a graduate of the University of Illinois, was a teacher at Vackaville, California, High school. On June 6, 1929, she married Lewis G. Martelle, and they now reside in Vackaville, California.

Mr. Bass is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, and belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

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**The Farmers State Bank**, of Armstrong, is numbered among the dependable and well known banking institutions of Vermilion County. It was organized as a private bank in 1895 by J. P. Fraut, and was originally known as the Bank of Armstrong.

John W. Goodwine became the owner of the Bank of Armstrong after several years and the name was changed to the Goodwine Bank of Armstrong. In 1902 Arthur S. Bass, in partnership with his brother, Fred Bass, became owners of the bank and it then became known as Bass Brothers Bank. In 1904 it was incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois as the Farmers State Bank,



with a capital stock of \$25,000. The first new officers were: Fred Bass, president; A. D. Bass, vice president; and John Anderson, cashier. The directors were: Fred Bass, A. S. Bass, John Anderson, Guy C. Howard, A. C. Maury, D. M. Lane, and Staunton Foster.

In 1907 A. S. Bass purchased the interests of his brother in the bank and at that time was elected president, in which capacity he now serves. Dale Goodwine became cashier at that time.

The present officers (1929) of the Farmers State Bank, of Armstrong, are: Arthur S. Bass, president; Staunton Foster, vice president; and Dale Goodwine, cashier. The directors are: A. S. Bass, S. Foster, A. Gilbert, D. M. Lane, and Earl Bass.

The Farmers State Bank has a capital stock of \$25,000 and a surplus of \$25,000.

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**Morgan Bradford Grimes**, familiarly known as "Col. M. B. Grimes," has been a resident of Vermilion County for twenty years, having moved here from the State of Indiana.

Colonel Grimes has been active in farming and auctioneering, and is widely known as an expert horse salesman. He sold for the leading markets at sale barns in Indianapolis, Terre Haute, St. Louis, Chicago, and Danville.

In an official capacity, Colonel Grimes served as deputy United States marshal, as a member of the police force of Danville, and as deputy sheriff of Vermilion County. He was elected sheriff of the county on November 6, 1926, with the largest majority of any sheriff of Vermilion County. The slogan given him before his election was: "A real man for a real job."

As sheriff of Vermilion County, Colonel Grimes asks the cooperation of the citizens of the county for law enforcement.



MORGAN BRADFORD GRIMES



**Sidney B. Cutright.**—Prominent in business and financial circles in Hoopeston, where he is secretary of the Illinois Canning Company, Sidney B. Cutright was born at Peoria, Illinois, September 29, 1882, the son of James M. and Emma S. (Heckard) Cutright.

James M. Cutright, deceased, was a leading attorney of Peoria for many years. He was born at Chillicothe, Illinois, and was a graduate of Lombard College. He became master of the chancery of Peoria County, and served in that office for a number of years. Mr. Cutright was a Democrat; a member of Illinois Lodge, No. 263, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Past Master; Royal Arch Chapter; Peoria Commandery, No. 3, Knights Templar, Past Captain General; Mohammed Shrine; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; and Knights of Pythias. He was identified with the Peoria County Bar Association, Illinois Bar Association, and American Bar Association. Mr. Cutright died in 1904 and is buried at Peoria, Illinois. His widow, born at Atlanta, Illinois, lives at Peoria. To Mr. and Mrs. Cutright were born three children: Lois Ida, teacher, West Technical High School, Cleveland, Ohio; Sidney B., the subject of this sketch; and Florence, teacher, Peoria High School, Peoria.

Following his graduation from the public schools of Peoria, Sidney B. Cutright attended Bradley Academy and in 1903 was graduated from Bradley Polytechnic Institute. He began his business career with his uncle, N. S. Cutright, lumber dealer, Peoria, Illinois, and Rhinelander, Wisconsin. He was later associated with the Louisiana Lumber Company, of Rochelle, Louisiana, and after his return to Peoria assumed charge of the Cutright & Russell Lumber Company until 1911. He then came to Hoopeston and became identified with the Illinois Canning Company through his uncle, N. S. Cutright, at that time vice president of the company. Sidney B. Cutright later became vice president and when the business was reor-



ganized he became a member of the executive committee. He has served as secretary of the company since 1928. He is also trustee of the Cutright estate.

In 1911 Mr. Cutright was united in marriage with Miss Beatrice Jenkins, the daughter of Frank L. and Adele Jenkins, natives of Peoria. Mr. Jenkins, formerly associated with Hibbard, Spencer, Bartlett & Company, of Chicago, now lives retired at Spring Valley, Illinois. His wife is deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Cutright have been born four children: Mary Stuart, Sidney B., Jr., Beatrice Joanne, and Frances Shirley.

Mr. Cutright is a Democrat, a member of the Universalist Church, and has the following lodge and club affiliations: Star Lodge No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Hoopeston Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 181; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Modern Woodmen of America; Hubbard Trail Country Club; and Commercial Club.

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**The Illinois Canning Company.**—The first business enterprise of any magnitude to be established in Hoopeston was the canning plant by S. S. McCall in the year 1875, two years before Hoopeston was incorporated as a city. From a primitive venture this factory has been brought to one of the greatest concerns of its kind in the country, today canning approximately twenty million cans of beans and corn annually.

Stephen S. McCall was a New York man who came west on a prospecting trip for a site on which to locate a canning factory. Arriving in Hoopeston he became much enthused over the prospect for the establishment of such a factory in this city. The old building that had been used as headquarters for the Snell, Taylor & Mix Construction Company was taken over and converted into a factory and operations started. The venture proved a suc-

cess from the first and grew by leaps and bounds until it was soon commanding attention in its field. In the year 1877, the business venture was incorporated under the name of the Illinois Canning Company, Inc., in the State of Illinois, and this name has remained unchanged to the present day, although the business has passed from the hands of the original founders.

In the period between the year 1878, when the business was incorporated, and the year 1902, William Moore and James A. Cunningham, two of Hoopeston's pioneer citizens who had been interested in the company from its beginning here, acquired the controlling interest. Of later years, the control of the company passed from these citizens to the following officials and directors, who guide its destinies at the present day: Isaac Miller Hamilton, Chicago, president; W. A. Miskimen, vice president and general manager; S. B. Cutright, secretary; and R. M. Zook, treasurer. Executive Committee: W. A. Miskimen, S. B. Cutright, and R. M. Zook.

Much of the product of the Illinois Canning Company that is canned annually, is grown under the direct supervision of its experts. Thousands of acres of land are owned or leased from year to year in the immediate vicinity of this city by the company to insure a fancy grade of corn and beans coming to the factory during the pack season. Although the company has enjoyed a steady and continual growth during the years from the date of its founding to the present day, perhaps the greatest improvement to come at any time took place during the first six months of 1925, when following out a program of building and improvement, decided upon several seasons before, and for which they had been quietly preparing, the company increased their warehouse facilities here by some two hundred thousand cases as well as effecting a much better arrangement of their factory and farm facilities. Included in this improvement was the locating of all farm-

ing equipment at the Brigg's place, a twenty acre tract at Orange Street and South Second Avenue. A storage implement house, 40 x 200 feet; a feed barn 60 x 225 feet; a stock barn 74 x 250 feet were built on this tract, which was surrounded with a seven foot chain link fence, with one main entrance gate on Orange Street. A locker room and bunkhouse, also included in the improvement, were built just inside of the gate. This improvement left available the huge building on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, extending from Washington to Lincoln Street, for storage purposes and as a loading warehouse from which the product of the Illinois Canning Factory can now be loaded direct to waiting freight cars on this railroad, for shipment to the markets of the world.

Purity and quality of the goods canned by the Illinois Canning Company have been maintained with a faithfulness and conscientious fidelity to their reputation that has brought praise from all parts of the nation. The steady growth of the business, one of the most important of this city's industries, is the only testimonial needed to prove that quality.

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**Nathan Dowell**, a veteran of the World War, is well and favorably known at Armstrong, where he is agent for the Illinois Central Railroad. He was born at Breckinridge, Kentucky, February 14, 1889, the son of Ezra and Anna (Wood) Dowell.

Ezra Dowell was a native of Kentucky, as was also his wife. He was a farmer throughout his active career and owned a well improved farm of five hundred acres in Kentucky. He specialized in the raising of tobacco. Mr. Dowell died February 8, 1925, and his wife died in 1891. Both are buried at Freedom, Breckinridge County, Kentucky. Mr. Dowell was a Republican, a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and Masonic Lodge.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Dowell were, as follows: Frank, Charles, and Austin, farmers, Breckinridge County, Kentucky; Seth Thomas, lives at Freemont, Nebraska; Ellen, married S. M. Haynes, lives at Garfield, Kentucky; Cora, married Robert Poole, lives in Breckinridge County, Kentucky; and Nathan, the subject of this sketch.

Nathan Dowell received his education in the public schools of Breckinridge County, Kentucky, and in 1910 was graduated from Harned Normal College. He later was graduated from Bryan & Stratton Business College, and then learned telegraphy at the United Telegraphers School, Cincinnati, Ohio. He also studied at the Illinois Railroad Training School at Chicago, Illinois. He began as station helper at Divernon, Illinois, for the Illinois Central Railroad, later worked as an extra operator between St. Louis, Missouri, and Clinton, Illinois, on the Springfield Division, and then as agent at Alvin, Illinois. In 1918 Mr. Dowell enlisted for service in the World War and was sent to Fort Wright, New York, where he was assigned to the Sixty-eighth Coast Artillery Corps, as a member of Battery E. He saw active service in France and was discharged from the army on March 6, 1919. Mr. Dowell then re-entered the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad as agent at Beason, Illinois, and was later transferred to Armstrong as agent.

On December 24, 1921, Mr. Dowell was united in marriage with Miss Ebba Sigfridson, the daughter of Peter and Joanne Sigfridson, of Geneva, Illinois. They are natives of Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Dowell have a daughter, Joanne.

Mr. Dowell is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Rossville Lodge No. 527, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, American Legion, and Order of Railway Telegraphers. In politics he is a Republican.



**Lem Neville.**—One of the well known and highly esteemed young men of Vermilion County is Lem Neville, who is serving as postmaster of Catlin. He was born at Cayuga, Indiana, May 5, 1898, the son of William and Anna (Clinesmyth) Neville.

William Neville was born at Industry, Pennsylvania, in 1861, and his wife was born near Fithian, Illinois. She was the daughter of George and Elizabeth (Blue) Clinesmyth, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Pennsylvania. Both are buried in Stearns Cemetery, near Muncie, Illinois. They were early settlers of that section and prominent farmers of Fithian. William Neville was a young man when he came to Grape Creek, in Illinois. He was a miner and later lived at Cayuga, Indiana, and Muncie, Illinois. He came to Catlin in 1900 and was employed as a contractor in the mines of the Deering Coal Company. Mr. Neville was a Democrat, a member of the Presbyterian Church, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Loyal Order of Moose. He died January 12, 1918, and his widow lives at Catlin. They were the parents of two children: Lem, the subject of this sketch; and Harvey, who died June 14, 1924.

Lem Neville attended the public schools of Catlin and following his graduation from high school he took a business course at Brown's Business College. He served as time keeper for the Hegeler Zinc Company for a time before entering the employ of the Danville post office as a carrier. In 1919 he went to Decatur, Illinois, and later that year was transferred to the postal department at Denver, Colorado. He returned to Decatur the following year and in 1921 was transferred to Oak Park, Illinois. During this time Mr. Neville took a course in engineering from the International Correspondence Schools, Scranton, Pennsylvania, and later entered the employ of the Public Service Company of Northern Illinois, at Chicago. He served as an electrical engineer and sub-station operator.

He resigned from this position, however, after a short time and entered the general post office in Chicago as a clerk. He became a carrier out of Station C, Chicago, and resigned on May 1, 1923, and came to Catlin to work in the mines. On July 24, 1924, he was appointed postmaster of Catlin, and has continued in that office to the present time.

On October 14, 1928, Mr. Neville was united in marriage with Miss Garnett Watson, the daughter of C. H. and Margaret Jane Watson, natives of Adams County, Illinois. He died in 1918 and is buried at Quincy, Illinois. His widow lives at Rock Island, Illinois. Mr. Watson was an engineer on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad for many years.

Mr. Neville is a Republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church, Catlin Lodge No. 285, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Vermilion Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 82, and Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree.

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**Ross Donaldson**, one of the oldest and best known merchants of Armstrong, is a native of Illinois. He was born near Ogden, Champaign County, April 19, 1878, the son of William Alonzo and Mary Alice (Divan) Donaldson.

William Alonzo Donaldson was born in Fountain County, Indiana, December 25, 1846, and his wife was a native of Ohio. He spent his boyhood on his father's farm and went to Livingston County, Missouri, about 1892. He returned to Illinois in 1899 and settled at Armstrong, where he was living retired at the time of his death in 1915. His wife died in 1899. Both are buried in Stearns Cemetery, near Ogden, Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson the following children were born: Ellsworth and Alfred, both deceased; Ross, the subject of this sketch; Lulu, who died in 1912; Sadie, married James Ridge, lives

at Lansing, Michigan; Clarence, lives at Ligonier, Indiana; and Druzilla, married Harold McGehy, lives at Urbana, Illinois.

Ross Donaldson obtained his education in the public schools of Ogden, Illinois. He assisted on his father's farm for a time and in 1899 located at Armstrong. The following year he went to Janesburg, Illinois, where he clerked in a grocery store for two years. Upon his return to Armstrong in 1902 Mr. Donaldson clerked in the store of J. W. Miller and remained in his employ for ten years. He then managed a store for Joseph Cook and later clerked in the store of W. D. Fortner for two years. In 1920 he purchased the business of Mr. Fortner, which he has successfully conducted to the present time.

In 1903 Mr. Donaldson was united in marriage with Miss Georgiana Bruner, the daughter of George and Anna Bruner, natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. Bruner lives retired at Armstrong. His wife is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson have two adopted children, Robert L. and Leola, both at home.

Mr. Donaldson is a Republican and holds membership in the Methodist Church.

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**James E. Mullins** is the proprietor of one of the best known and well patronized garages in Muncie. He is a native of Vermilion County, born in Pilot Township, May 18, 1889, the son of Caleb and Isabelle (Watson) Mullins.

Caleb Mullins was born in Knox County, Kentucky, in 1844, the son of Jacob Mullins, who brought his family to Vermilion County in 1856 and settled near Oakwood. They became successful farmers. Caleb Mullins died May 13, 1923, and his wife, born in Illinois in 1850, died December 30, 1920. Both are buried in Johnson Hill Cemetery, Vermilion County. They had the following children:

Wilson Hoyston, deceased; Anne, deceased; C. Frank, lives at Danville; William J., lives near Homer, Illinois; Zachariah, deceased; John Wesley, a World War veteran, served in France for twenty-two months with the Thirty-third Division, lives at Danville; James E., the subject of this sketch; and Grover C., lives at Danville.

James E. Mullins attended the public schools of Homer, Illinois, and spent his boyhood on his father's farm. In 1921 he became a dealer in farm implements and the following year came to Muncie, where he established his present garage business. He is an expert automobile mechanic and through hard work is establishing an excellent reputation throughout the community. He also does general trucking.

On December 26, 1923, Mr. Mullins was united in marriage with Miss Iva Payne, the daughter of Samuel and Della (Gillian) Payne, natives of Illinois and Kentucky, respectively. They are residents of Fithian, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Mullins have a son, Ernest Elvin, born March 25, 1925.

Mr. Mullins is independent in politics.

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**Sylvanus J. Wade.**—One of the most popular merchants of Muncie is Mr. Wade, who has also served as postmaster since 1914. He was born in Parke County, Indiana, February 21, 1861, the son of Thomas B. C. and Susan (Vincent) Wade.

Thomas B. C. Wade was born in Butler County, Ohio, March 4, 1821, and his wife was born in Parke County, Indiana, April 20, 1830. He was a farmer in early life and also a stone mason. He was four years old when he came to Parke County, Indiana, with his parents. Later, in 1869, Mr. Wade went to Kansas, where he engaged in farming. He also lived in Iowa and was living retired at



the time of his death, May 19, 1896. His wife died September 21, 1901. Both are buried in Vermilion County in the Stearns Cemetery, which is located near Muncie. Mr. Wade was a lifelong Democrat. There were three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Wade: E. R., lives at Danville; Sylvanus J., the subject of this sketch; and Minerva E., married Grant Diggs, lives at Muncie, Illinois.

The boyhood of Sylvanus J. Wade was spent in Boone County, Indiana, and he attended the district schools. He also lived at Georgia City and Pierce City, Missouri. In 1876 Mr. Wade came to Muncie, where he was employed in the mines until February, 1914. Since that time he has served as postmaster of Muncie and also conducts a general store.

Since 1912 Mr. Wade has been a local representative for the Aetna Insurance Company, of Hartford, Connecticut.

Politically, Mr. Wade is a Democrat. He held the office of police magistrate for the village of Muncie for sixteen years. He is a member of the Baptist Church, and belongs to the Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen of America, and Illinois Postmasters League.

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**Edward Arthur Jones**, who is proprietor of A. Jones' Sons Store, Catlin, is a member of one of the oldest and best known families of Vermilion County. He was born at Catlin, November 24, 1871, the son of Arthur and Emma (Dickison) Jones.

Arthur Jones was born in London, England, and his wife was also a native of that country. He came to this country with his parents and they settled on a farm near Catlin, in Vermilion County. Mr. Jones attended Westfield Business College, and in 1849, in partnership with

his brother, Frederick Jones, established a general mercantile business at Catlin. In 1867 Mr. Jones purchased his brother's interests in the store, which was destroyed by fire in 1905. Mr. Jones was also an extensive lumber dealer of this section. He rebuilt his store in 1906 and continued in business until the time of his death in 1912. Mr. Jones was a Republican and held many township offices, and also served as postmaster for many years. He was a member of the Methodist Church, and belonged to Catlin Lodge No. 285, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Past Master, and Modern Woodmen of America. Emma (Dickison) Jones lives at Catlin. There were five children in the Jones family, as follows: Edward Arthur, the subject of this sketch; W. H., insurance, lives at Catlin; Dora, married Fred Cook, lives at Catlin; and Nettie and Cora, both deceased.

Edward Arthur Jones was educated in the schools of Catlin and attended Gem City Business College, Quincy, Illinois, from which he was graduated in 1895. He clerked in his father's store for a time and in 1900 became a partner in the business with his father and another brother, W. H. Jones. After the death of the elder Mr. Jones the sons continued the business until 1916, at which time Edward A. Jones became owner.

In 1903 Mr. Jones was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Meneley, of Catlin. Their daughter, Melba, married Howard Clark, of Catlin, who is associated in business with Mr. Jones. They have a son, Joseph Clark. Mrs. Clark is a graduate of Catlin High School and later studied music.

Mr. Jones is a member of Catlin Lodge No. 285, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree, and Modern Woodmen of America. He is a Republican in politics and holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

**Ernest M. Dewhirst, M. D.**—Among the most successful of the younger members of the medical profession in Vermilion County is Doctor Dewhirst, of Catlin. He was born in Clay County, Illinois, February 17, 1903, the son of Arthur and Nellie (Runyon) Dewhirst.

Arthur Dewhirst was born in Clay County, Illinois, and his wife is a native of Richland County. They are now residents of Bridgeport, Illinois. Mr. Dewhirst followed general farming throughout his active career and retired in 1923. He has lived at Bridgeport since 1917. Mr. Dewhirst is a Republican and has served as school director and township assessor and collector. He is a member of the Methodist Church and has been superintendent of the Sunday School for fifteen years. To Mr. and Mrs. Dewhirst were born six children, as follows: Gladys, married John Lough, lives at Colorado Springs, Colorado; Lola, married Frank Ping, lives at Bridgeport, Illinois; Ruby, married Rossiter Matson, lives at Los Angeles, California; Ernest M., the subject of this sketch; Leslie, who died in 1926; and Evelyn, at home.

Ernest M. Dewhirst received his early schooling in the public schools of Richland County, Illinois. He was a member of the graduating class of Bridgeport Township High School in 1921 and then entered the University of Illinois, from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1925 and the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1928. His interne work was done at Interne Cottage Hospital, Santa Barbara, California, during 1927-28, and in November, 1928, Doctor Dewhirst came to Catlin, where he took over the practice of Doctor Cloyd. He has an extensive private practice and is also physician and surgeon for the Peabody, Taylor-English, and United Electric Mines.

In 1927 Doctor Dewhirst was united in marriage with Miss Lorraine Van Vleck, the daughter of Charles F. and Anna (Hoover) Van Vleck, of Philo, Illinois.

Doctor Dewhirst is identified with the Vermilion County Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society, and the American Medical Association. He is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, and belongs to Omega Beta Pi and Phi Chi fraternities. Doctor Dewhirst was vice president of the Class of 1927 at the University of Illinois, and was active in the athletic and fraternal life of the university.

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**John W. Newlin**, deceased, was a highly esteemed and well known citizen of Ridge Farm, where he spent many years of his life. He was born at Bloomingdale, Parke County, Indiana, August 14, 1841, the son of Jacob and Sarah (Woody) Newlin.

Jacob Newlin was a native of North Carolina, as was his wife. They were pioneer settlers of Indiana and entered land from the government, which they improved, and upon which they lived for many years. The Newlins became successful farmers. Both Jacob Newlin and his wife are buried in Bloomingdale Cemetery. Their children were, as follows: Sinia, Levi, Exum, Ira, Matilda, and Emily, all deceased; and John W., the subject of this sketch.

John W. Newlin attended the rural schools of Parke County, Indiana, and he was reared on a farm. Early in life he learned the carpenter's trade and spent several years at Bloomingdale, Parke County, Indiana. In 1889 he removed to Ridge Farm, Illinois, where he followed his trade, and he later became a leading building contractor of this section of the county. He was recognized as an expert workman and numerous residences at Ridge Farm stand as testimony of his workmanship. Mr. Newlin retired from business in 1918 and died December 12, 1927. He is buried at Ridge Farm.



On January 1, 1880, Mr. Newlin was united in marriage with Miss Mary Meriweather, the daughter of David and Almira (Harkness) Meriweather. To John W. and Mary (Meriweather) Newlin were born three children: Irvin M., born January 8, 1881, lives at Springfield, Illinois, married Xenie Cunningham, and they have a daughter, Florence Jean; Florence, born April 23, 1883, married on May 29, 1928, to William Rowland Cormack, who was born September 29, 1879. She is librarian of the Carnegie Library at Ridge Farm; and Clayton J., born May 29, 1885, lives at Normal, Illinois. He married Sally Maude Cox, and they have three sons, John Cox, Robert E., and William B.

Mr. Newlin was a Republican and a member of the Society of Friends Church.

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**Ferris H. Jones** is a veteran of the World War and one of the popular young business men of Catlin, where he is proprietor of the F. H. Jones Store. He is a native of Catlin, born March 20, 1894, the son of Henry R. and Anna V. (Champion) Jones.

Henry R. Jones, a highly esteemed citizen of Catlin, is a native of this place. He spent his boyhood on a farm and after his marriage came to Catlin, where he engaged in the meat business with his brother, Walter A. Jones. Mr. Jones also served as postmaster for a period of seventeen years and was town collector for eight years. He later lived in Chicago, Illinois, where he was cashier of one of the J. R. Thompson restaurants. In 1917 he returned to Catlin, and was associated for a time with the Taylor-English Coal Company. He has been identified with his son's general mercantile business since 1925. Mr. Jones is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, and belongs to Catlin Lodge No. 285, Ancient Free and

Accepted Masons, Past Master, Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; and Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. and Mrs. Jones are the parents of five children: Grace V., married Charles H. Hughes, lives in Chicago; Claude R., lives at Lewistown, Pennsylvania; Russell F., lives at Catlin, is a World War veteran, having served in France with the One Hundred Thirty-second Infantry, Thirty-third Division; Ferris H., the subject of this sketch; and Lloyd W., lives at Danville, also a World War veteran.

Following his graduation from Catlin Township High School in 1913, Ferris H. Jones went to Chicago, where he accepted a position with the credit department of the Carson, Pirie, Scott & Company. At the outbreak of the World War he went to Danville and enlisted in the band of the One Hundred Forty-ninth Field Artillery, Forty-second (Rainbow) Division. He went to France with this outfit and served in the following battles and drives: Luneville, Baccarat, Champagne, Marne, St. Mihiel, and Muese-Argonne. He was discharged at Camp Grant, Illinois, May 12, 1919, after having served with the Army of Occupation in Germany from November 17, 1918, until April 4, 1919. After his discharge from the service, Mr. Jones was employed by the American Bridge Company, at Gary, Indiana. In October, 1919, he purchased the general store of Henry Jones, Jr., at Catlin, in partnership with his brother, Russell, and they continued in business together until 1927, when Ferris H. Jones became owner of the entire business, the company thereafter being known as F. H. Jones Store.

On January 1, 1920, Mr. Jones was united in marriage with Miss Hazel M. Stallings, the daughter of LeRoy and Pearl (Burgett) Stallings, of Fairmount, Illinois.

Politically, Mr. Jones is a Republican. He was elected supervisor of Catlin Township in April, 1929, and is also serving as a member of the Board of Education. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has the

following lodge affiliations: Catlin Lodge, No. 285, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Order of the Eastern Star, No. 377, Gao Grotto; Mystice Order of Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm, and belongs to the Danville Consistory; American Legion; Veterans of Foreign Wars; and Republican Veterans League.

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**Richard R. Zook**, who died August 23, 1928, was a leading citizen and representative business man of Hoopes-ton, where he was vice president and general manager of the Illinois Canning Company. He was born at Shep-pardstown, Pennsylvania, November 13, 1862, the son of Jacob and Lavina Zook.

Jacob Zook, a native of Pennsylvania, was a manu-facturer of bricks and was numbered among the prominent men of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania. He was also an ex-tensive real estate owner. He was twice married. To his first marriage two daughters were born, Mrs. Annette Lee, deceased, and Mrs. Lillian Manche, deceased, and to his second union four children were born as follows: Mrs. Florence Beaven, of Hillsboro, Maryland; Mrs. Carrie Bishop, of Wilmington, Delaware; Richard R., the subject of this sketch; and Mrs. Minerva Savage, of Norfolk, Virginia.

Richard R. Zook grew up in Pennsylvania and attended the public schools. He was employed at various occupa-tions early in life and for a time conducted a general mer-cantile business at Cheneyville. Later, he came to Hoopes-ton, where he became a horse buyer, shipping to the mar-kets. He also conducted a livery business on the present site of the Kimberlin Garage. In 1908 he went with the Illinois Canning Company as field manager. He remained with that concern until the time of his death and worked his way up to the office of general superintendent, being



RICHARD R. ZOOK





finally elected vice president and general manager in 1927. Honesty and square dealing were outstanding characteristics of Mr. Zook's business dealings, and throughout his business career he was a friend of the working man. He was always held in the highest esteem by all who knew him.

On July 11, 1895, Mr. Zook married Mrs. Ella (Moore) Trostle, the daughter of William Maxwell and Mahala (Brown) Moore, natives of Indiana. Mr. Moore died in 1913 and his wife died in 1923. Both are buried at Zion City, Illinois. The Moores located in Iroquois County, Illinois, about 1861 and were highly esteemed members of that section for many years. Mr. Moore retired in 1893 and lived in Chicago until 1907, at which time he located at Zion City, Illinois. To Richard R. and Ella (Moore) Zook were born three sons: Maxwell, lives at Hoopeston; Eugene, born in May, 1903, died January 7, 1908; and Paul, who attends the University of Illinois.

By a former marriage to Willis F. Trostle, Mrs. Zook was the mother of one son, Bernal M. Trostle, of Pueblo, Colorado. He married Bertha Sudan, and they have three children: Banetta, Lois Jean, and Betty June. Mrs. Zook's first husband, Willis F. Trostle, died August 1, 1893, and is buried at Milford, Illinois.

Mr. Zook was a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, Commercial Club, and Chamber of Commerce, Hoopeston.

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**William F. Temple** is a leading and well known citizen of Fairmount, where he is serving as postmaster. He was born at Sidney, Illinois, February 11, 1867, the son of George W. and Elizabeth (Biggs) Temple.

George W. Temple was born in Pennsylvania, the son of George and Nancy (Hanks) Temple, natives of Kentucky. He is buried in Kentucky and his wife is buried in Kansas. She was a cousin of Abraham Lincoln. George

W. Temple came to Sidney, Illinois, before the Civil War, and became a prosperous farmer and stockman. He also served as road commissioner of Champaign County for thirty-six years. He was a Republican and a member of the Methodist Church. Mr. Temple died in 1889 and his wife died in 1895. Both are buried at Sidney, Illinois. They were the parents of the following children: Winfield Scott, lives at Danville; Jerry, deceased; Josie, the widow of John Wapples, lives in California; Bergen, deceased; Mary, the widow of James Pate, lives at Fairmount; William F., the subject of this sketch; Laura, married Sheridan Cole, lives at San Francisco, California; and Moses S., lives at Crosswell, Michigan.

William F. Temple obtained his schooling in the public schools of Sidney, Illinois, and is a graduate of Sidney High School. In 1897 he came to Fairmount, where he became interested in the shipping of live stock. He remained in that business until 1910, at which time he was appointed postmaster of Fairmount. He served for five years and then purchased the hardware business of J. S. Crommell, which he successfully conducted until 1928. At that time he again became postmaster. He has also served as town clerk for six years, as supervisor for one year, and as a member of the town board for six years. He is chairman of the Vermilion County Republican Committee.

In 1895 Mr. Temple was united in marriage with Miss Zuma B. Wilson, the daughter of Van and Lucy Wilson, the former a native of Illinois and the latter of Pennsylvania. They are now residents of Sidney, Illinois. Mr. Wilson is a veteran of the Civil War. Mr. and Mrs. Temple have no children.

Mr. Temple has always been a Republican. He is an elder of the Presbyterian Church, and belongs to Fairmount Lodge No. 590, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Ansar Temple, and Modern Woodmen of America.

Before her marriage, Mrs. Temple was a teacher in the schools of Vermilion County for twenty years and served as assistant county superintendent of schools.

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**Herman F. Keeney**, who is principal of Catlin Township High School, is among the representative young men of Vermilion County. He was born at Catlin, January 1, 1902, the son of Walter Scott and Laura (Driscoll) Keeney.

Walter Scott Keeney is a native of Catlin, born in August, 1864. His wife was born in Indiana. Mr. Keeney is numbered among the most successful farmers and stockmen of Vermilion County. He is a Republican, a member of the Knights of Pythias, and Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. and Mrs. Keeney have two children: Inez, married M. B. Stine, lives at Danville, and they have four children, LaVerne, Floyd, Raymond, and Curtis; and Herman F., the subject of this sketch.

Herman F. Keeney attended the public schools of Catlin and entered the University of Illinois after his graduation from Catlin Township High School in 1921. He completed his university work in 1925 and began his teaching career at Reddick, Illinois, where he remained for two years as a teacher of agriculture. During 1927-29 he taught agriculture and science at Catlin Township High School, and in 1929 was appointed principal of the school. In 1929 he took post graduate work in education at the University of Illinois. While a student at the University of Illinois he was a member of the Reserve Officers Training Corps, and received the commission of second lieutenant. In 1928 he was appointed first lieutenant and assigned to the Three Hundred Twenty-fourth Tank Battalion, Eighty-sixth Division.

On June 12, 1926, Mr. Keeney was united in marriage with Miss Jane Squires, the daughter of Brice and Ada



(Hodson) Squires, residents of Catlin. Mr. Squires and his wife now reside in Catlin. Mr. and Mrs. Keeney have a son, John Fletcher, born March 30, 1928.

Mr. Keeney is a member of the Methodist Church and is Sunday School superintendent. He is affiliated with Gardner Lodge No. 573, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Knights of Pythias, and Alpha Tau Alpha fraternity.

An outside interest of Mr. Keeney's is the breeding of fine sheep and he has taken numerous prizes at County and State fairs.

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**Pete Okuly** is a widely known and highly esteemed citizen of Fairmount, where he is manager of the holdings of the Illinois Steel Company. He was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, January 9, 1871, the son of George and Frances (Steiner) Okuly.

Both George Okuly and his wife were natives of Stroudsburg, Germany. Following their marriage they emigrated to the United States and settled at Niagara Falls, New York, where Mr. Okuly followed his trade. Later, they lived at Cincinnati, Ohio, and in February, 1875, the family removed to Oakwood, Illinois, where Mr. Okuly was section foreman on the old Indianapolis, Bloomington & Western Railroad, now a section of the Big Four Railroad. He was thus employed for twenty-six years, after which he removed to Fairmount. He lived there retired until the time of his death, January 19, 1904. His wife died in September, 1925. Both are buried in Greenview Cemetery. Mr. Okuly was a Democrat and a member of the Catholic Church. There were nine children in the Okuly family, as follows: Carrie, married William Moore, both deceased; Adam, lives at Decatur, Illinois; Barbara, the widow of Henry Robbins, lives at Danville; Margaret, lives at Danville; Myrtle, the widow of Thomas Reeves;

George, lives at Niantic, Illinois; Pete, the subject of this sketch; Lena, married M. Crawford, lives at Oakwood, Illinois; and Bertha, married William Long, lives at Hammond, Indiana.

Pete Okuly attended the public schools of Oakwood, Illinois. At an early age he learned telegraphy and was employed as an operator by the Big Four Railroad at Lilly, Illinois, for eight years. He then went to East Saint Louis as an operator for the Chicago, Peoria & Saint Louis Railroad, and later was employed as a brakeman and finally as a conductor on that road. In 1904 he came to Fairmount and was employed as a miner for the Consolidated Coal Company. He subsequently worked for the Shirkey Coal Company, and then entered the First National Bank, of Fairmount, as bookkeeper. He also clerked in the Runyon general store for almost five years and then purchased the Temple Restaurant, which he conducted for a short time. On account of ill health, Mr. Okuly was forced to retire from business for almost two years after which he went with the Casparis Stone Company, of Fairmount, as a shipping clerk. On May 1, 1921, the Illinois Steel Company purchased this quarry and Mr. Okuly remained as shipping clerk. In 1928 the company moved all of its equipment from Fairmount and left Mr. Okuly in charge of the property at this place. Mr. Okuly is the owner of valuable real estate in Danville and Fairmount, and also owns the Shell Service Station, at Fairmount.

On June 24, 1892, Mr. Okuly was united in marriage with Miss Emma Hughes, the daughter of Rev. David Hughes, a native of Muncie, Illinois. He was a minister of the Baptist Church and for a number of years lived at Crawfordsville, Indiana. To Mr. and Mrs. Okuly were born three children: Delmar, who is manager of the Shell Service Station, Fairmount, is a World War veteran, having served in France. He married Reva Gillespie, and they

have four children: Delmar, Jr., Eloise, LeWanda, and Beverly; (2) Gladys, married Arthur Boorde, lives at Danville. They have two children, Garreth and Jack; (3) Helen, assistant postmaster, Fairmount.

Mr. Okuly is a Republican in politics. He has served on the village board for ten years, as a member of the school board for seven years, and as postmaster of Lilly, Illinois, for five years. He is a member of Fairmount Lodge, No. 590, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Independent Order of Odd Fellows, No. 973; Knights of Pythias, No. 268; and Rebekah Lodge. His wife is a member of the Baptist Church. He and his family have an extensive acquaintance throughout Vermilion County and are well liked.

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**George R. Catlett.**—The career of George R. Catlett has long been identified with the business life of Fairmount, where he is president of the First National Bank. He was born in Vermilion County, August 23, 1864, the son of Hiram H. and Lorinda (Roudebush) Catlett.

Hiram H. Catlett was born at Charlottesville, Virginia, October 21, 1823, and his wife was a native of Ohio. He came to Vermilion County when he was twenty-two years of age, and for many years was one of the most successful stockmen in this section of the state. In partnership with his brother, Harold Catlett, he owned and operated one thousand five hundred acres of land. Mr. Catlett died in 1903 and his wife died April 30, 1910. Besides his extensive land holdings in Vermilion County he was the owner of three hundred and twenty acres in Nebraska. He was a Democrat and a member of the Baptist Church. Hiram H. Catlett was the son of Lawrence T. and Sally (Harman) Catlett, natives of Virginia. Lawrence T. Catlett was a well educated man, and for a time engaged in the practice of law. He was also a saddler and from 1835 until 1846

lived at Bloomingburg, Ohio. In October, 1846, he brought his family to Vermilion County, being one of the first settlers of the county. He died July 7, 1861, and his wife died January 10, 1871. Both are buried in Davis Cemetery, Vance Township, Vermilion County.

The boyhood of George R. Catlett was spent in Vermilion County, and he received his early education in the district schools. He spent two years at the University of Mississippi and attended Franklin (Indiana) College. When he was twenty-one years old he was given a farm of one hundred and six acres by his father. At that time he also became associated in the cattle feeding business with his father. Mr. Catlett came to Fairmount in 1906 and since that date has been a resident of that place. In 1905 he had purchased the interests of C. F. Iles in the Bank of Iles & White, which then became known as Catlett & White. In 1912 Mr. Catlett took over the interests of Mr. White and the name of the bank was changed to the Exchange Bank, at which time Mr. Catlett became president. The institution became known as the First National Bank in 1919, and Mr. Catlett continued as president. He is also vice president of the First National Bank, of Homer, Illinois, and is treasurer of the Fairmount Building & Loan Association. He is the owner of one thousand, two hundred acres of fine farm land in Vermilion County and operates two thousand acres of land for the Catlett estate. He also has large land holdings in Indiana and Oklahoma.

In 1890 Mr. Catlett was united in marriage with Miss Bertie Tilton, the daughter of G. Wilse and Elizabeth (Albright) Tilton, natives of Indiana, both now deceased. Mr. Tilton was a pioneer merchant of Catlin and was also well known as a writer on the Commercial News, Danville. To Mr. and Mrs. Catlett were born two children, Shirley T. and Kemp R.

Shirley T. Catlett was born in 1891. He married Effie Werhman, and they live at Fairmount, where he is cashier



of the First National Bank. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois. Mr. Catlett is a member of Fairmount Lodge, No. 285, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; and Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree.

Kemp R. Catlett was born in 1897. He also attended the University of Illinois and is cashier of the First National Bank, of Homer, Illinois. He married Josephine Parrish, and they live at Fairmount. He is also affiliated with Fairmount Lodge No. 285, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Danville Consistory, and Mohammed Shrine.

George R. Catlett is a Democrat and holds membership in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

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**The First National Bank**, of Fairmount, is recognized as a dependable banking institution of Vermilion County. It was organized as a private bank, July 1, 1904, by Charles Iles and Dr. Howard E. White, and was known as the Iles & White Bank.

On September 26, 1905, George R. Catlett purchased an interest in the bank, and the name was changed to the Exchange Bank. On September 1, 1919, it was incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois as the First National Bank, with a capital of thirty thousand dollars. The officers were: G. R. Catlett, president; Dale Craig, vice president; and Shirley Catlett, cashier. The directors were: G. R. Catlett, Dale Craig, Shirley Catlett, Bertie T. Catlett, and Kemp R. Catlett.

The officers of the First National Bank for the year 1929 are as follows: G. R. Catlett, president; Kemp R. Catlett, vice president; Shirley T. Catlett, cashier; and John E. Cast, assistant cashier. The directors are: G. R. Catlett, Kemp R. Catlett, Shirley T. Catlett, Bertie T. Catlett, and Effie Catlett.

The statement of the First National Bank as of March 27, 1929, is as follows. Resources: Loans and discounts,

\$165,851.07; Overdrafts, \$650.96; United States Government securities, \$25,126.56; other bonds, stocks and securities owned, \$6,100.00; Banking House, \$4,250; Furniture and Fixtures, \$3,090.79; Reserve with Federal Reserve Bank, \$12,570.21; Cash and Due from Banks, \$27,163.02; Redemption Fund with United States Treasurer and Due from Treasurer, \$750.00; Total, \$245,552.61. Liabilities: Capital Stock paid in, \$30,000.00; Surplus, \$6,000.00; Undivided Profits, net, \$1,287.24; Reserves for Dividends, Contingencies, etc., \$2,963.97; Circulating Notes Outstanding, \$15,000.00; Demand Deposits, \$140,750.35; Time Deposits, \$49,551.05. Total, \$245,552.61.

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**Don A. Jones** is among the most progressive and successful business men of Ridge Farm, where he is proprietor of Jones Garage, local dealers for the Chevrolet automobile. He was born near Metcalf, Illinois, March 15, 1874, the son of William M. and Charity Elizabeth (Blanchard) Jones.

William M. Jones was born at Springfield, Ohio, and his wife was a native of Chrisman, Illinois. He came to Illinois after the Civil War, in which he had served as a member of an Ohio outfit. He became a successful farmer and owned a well improved farm near Metcalf, Illinois. He died in 1908 and his wife died in 1894. Both are buried at Chrisman. Mr. Jones was a Democrat and served as road commissioner and as a member of the school board. He was a member of the Baptist Church and Grand Army of the Republic. Charity Elizabeth (Blanchard) Jones was the daughter of Horatio Blanchard, who was born in 1804. He was engaged in the building of the first building on the site of Chicago, having driven a team of oxen there. He is buried near Chrisman. To Mr. and Mrs. William M.

Jones only one child was born, Don A., the subject of this sketch.

Don A. Jones was educated in the public schools of Metcalf, Illinois, and in 1893 was graduated from Central Normal College, Danville. He remained on his father's farm until 1908, at which time the elder Mr. Jones died, leaving the land to his son. In 1910 Don A. Jones located on a farm of two hundred and twenty-two acres east of Ridge Farm, where he remained until 1917. He then sold his interests and came to Ridge Farm. He purchased the Bantas Garage in October, 1928, and at that time took over the agency for the Chevrolet automobile. He operates the largest garage in the city and does general repair work.

In 1895 Mr. Jones was united in marriage with Miss Mary Ann Barth, the daughter of Andrew and Catherine (Barth) Barth, both natives of Stroudsburg, Germany, and now deceased. He was an early settler of Columbus, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have no children.

Mr. Jones is a member of the Methodist Church, and he belongs to Ridge Farm Lodge No. 632, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Medinah Temple, Chicago. His wife is active in the Order of the Eastern Star. They are prominent members of the community in which they live.

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**Mrs. Cora M. (Enos) Test**, well known throughout Vermilion County as the efficient postmaster of Indianola, is a native of Illinois. She was born near Arcola, the daughter of Frazier P. and Frances C. (Robertson) Enos.

Frazier P. Enos was born at Oxford, Ohio, and his wife was a native of Greensburg, Indiana. He came to Illinois with his parents and lived at Arcola and Tuscola. In 1900 he removed to Vermilion County and spent eight years on the William Vanneman farm. He retired in 1908 and died

February 24, 1925. His wife died in 1905. Both are buried at Ridge Farm. Mr. Enos was a Republican and a member of the Society of Friends Church. He served about ninety days during the Civil War with an Indiana outfit and was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. To Mr. and Mrs. Enos were born six children, as follows: Cora M., the subject of this sketch; Jessie, married L. E. Woods, lives at Star City, Indiana; John W., lives at Danville; Orpha, lives in Chicago, Illinois; Birney Garfield, who died in June, 1901; and Earl C., postmaster, Vermilion Grove, Illinois.

Cora M. Enos attended the public schools of Arcola, Illinois, and in 1888 was graduated from high school. She lived with her grandparents, John and Margaret (Brannon) Enos, for a number of years, and in 1900 went with her father. She came to Indianola in 1909. She had married Richard J. Test, on January 22, 1908. He is the son of John and Phoebe (Sheets) Test, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of Ohio. Both are deceased and are buried in Conkey Cemetery, Paris, Illinois. He was a veteran of the Civil War. Richard J. Test was born at Paris, Illinois, December 10, 1867. He followed general farming until 1909 and served as deputy sheriff from 1911 until 1915, and as constable from 1908 until the present time. He is also assistant postmaster. Mrs. Test was acting postmaster from March 24, 1922, until August 12, 1922, and was appointed postmaster by President Warren G. Harding on August 12, 1922.

Mrs. Test is a Republican in politics, a member of the Church of Christ, and belongs to the Order of the Eastern Star, Royal Neighbors, Illinois Postmasters League, and American Postmasters Association.

Mr. Test is affiliated with Vermilion Lodge, No. 265, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Gao Grotto, and Modern Woodmen of America.



**Wilbur W. Gibbs**, who is one of the most successful merchants of Indianola, is a native of Illinois. He was born at Riola, April 1, 1886, the son of Albert H. and Mary K. (Dye) Gibbs.

Albert H. Gibbs was born in Iowa. Early in life he came to Illinois, where he followed his trade as a brick mason. He was located at Danville for some time and later worked at Riola, where he was married. He then settled on a farm and after a number of years removed to Georgetown, Illinois. He returned, however, to Riola and in 1909 came to Indianola, where he purchased an interest in James Healy's store. His son, Fred Gibbs, became half owner of the business and later Albert H. Gibbs sold his interests to Wilbur W., the subject of this sketch. Mr. Gibbs has since lived retired at Indianola. He is a Republican. Mary K. (Dye) Gibbs was born at Riola, Illinois, and died in 1913. She is buried at Indianola. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs: Fred, general merchant, Indianola; Wilbur W., the subject of this sketch; Nora, married Chester Baum, lives in Carroll Township, Vermilion County; and Addie, married Vere Ross, lives at Anderson, Indiana.

Wilbur W. Gibbs was educated in the public schools of Indianola, where he has spent practically his entire life. He became a clerk in his father's store after his graduation from Indianola High School, and later purchased his father's share in the business. The store was finally sold to Fred Gibbs and Wilbur W. Gibbs became interested in the breeding of pure bred Poland China hogs on his farm of eighty acres near Indianola. He continued in that work for nine years and then became associated with the Sidell Motor Company, Indianola. Later, he was connected with the International Harvesting Company as a salesman and in 1922 went with the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad at Danville. Four years later he purchased the grocery

and meat business of Blaine Willison, which he has since most successfully conducted.

In 1914 Mr. Gibbs married Miss Susie Matkin, the daughter of Theodore H. and Sarah (Rainey) Matkin, of Indianola. Both Mr. and Mrs. Matkin are deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs a daughter was born, Veneta.

Politically, Mr. Gibbs is a Republican, and he has served as precinct committeeman and road commissioner, and he is affiliated with Vermilion Lodge, No. 265, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Past Master; Gao Grotto; and the Mystic Order Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm.

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**Harry E. Watkins**, of Indianola, is cashier of the First State Bank & Trust Company. He was born at Danville, Illinois, October 15, 1893, the son of Albert F. and Emma J. (Bracewell) Watkins.

Albert F. Watkins, who lives retired at Danville, is a native of Wisconsin. He spent his boyhood there and early in life became a miner. He was employed in the old Kelly Mines of Danville after coming to Illinois and finally became superintendent of the Stansbury and Watkins Coal Mine, at Hungry Hollow, near Danville. He served in that capacity until his retirement in 1920. Mr. Watkins is a Republican, and a member of the First Congregational Church. His wife is a native of Danville. To Mr. and Mrs. Watkins were born four children: Winifred, deceased; Mabel, married Rev. W. C. Reeder, lives at Springfield, Illinois; Byron, a World War veteran, lives at Danville; and Harry E., the subject of this sketch.

Harry E. Watkins grew up in Danville and received his education in the public schools. Following his graduation from high school in 1911 he entered Brown's Business College. After leaving school he entered the employ of the Fidelity Investment & Loan Association as a bookkeeper.

On November 1, 1917, Mr. Watkins enlisted for service in the World War and was sent to Jefferson Barracks, and later was discharged on account of disability. He re-enlisted in August, 1918, and went to Spartansburg, South Carolina, where he was attached to the Fifth Anti-Aircraft Machine Gun Company. He was sent to France and later was transferred to Company D, Three Hundred Fifth Field Artillery, Seventy-seventh Division. He was discharged as a first class private in April, 1919. Mr. Watkins then became associated with the Conron Hardware Company, as a salesman and in 1920 became cashier of the First State Bank & Trust Company.

On November 2, 1922, Mr. Watkins was united in marriage with Miss India Dale McMillian, the daughter of John A. and Elvie D. (Gasper) McMillian, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of New York. Mr. McMillian is president of the First State Bank & Trust Company, Indianola. He is also supervisor of Carroll Township. Mrs. McMillian died in April, 1927, and is buried at Indianola. Mr. and Mrs. Watkins have a son, Ray Allen, born April 6, 1925.

Mr. Watkins is a Republican, a member of the First Congregational Church, and belongs to Vermilion Lodge, No. 265, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Past Master in 1925; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Gao Grotto; Order of Eastern Star; and Knights of Pythias.

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**Joseph R. Atkinson.**—One of the most substantial young men of Sidell is Joseph R. Atkinson, who is serving as postmaster. He is also a veteran of the World War. Mr. Atkinson was born in Champaign County, Illinois, October 8, 1895, the son of Lafayette and Mabel (Rush) Atkinson.

Lafayette Atkinson was born in Virginia in 1855. He came to Illinois with his parents when he was ten years old and they located on a farm in Champaign County. Mr. Atkinson became a successful farmer and was also a carpenter by trade. He was a member of the Christian Church, and belonged to the Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. Atkinson died in 1919 and is buried at Sidell. His widow, born at Ogden, Illinois, lives at Piqua, Ohio. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Atkinson: Joseph R., the subject of this sketch; Gladys, married Paul Harlan, lives at Indianapolis, Indiana; Wilma, deceased; Howard and Gordon, both live at Piqua, Ohio.

The early education of Joseph R. Atkinson was received in the public schools of Sidell. Following his graduation from Sidell High School in 1914 he attended Eastern Illinois State Normal College. He taught school until his enlistment for service in the World War, May 7, 1918. He enlisted in the United States Navy and was sent to Great Lakes Naval Training Station, where he remained until July 26, 1918. He was then sent to Philadelphia and sailed in August for England, where he was active in the Queenstown Naval Yards until the close of the war. He was later transferred to Liverpool and engaged in personnel work. Mr. Atkinson was discharged on June 14, 1919, as a first class seaman. He resumed his teaching at Mount Olive Consolidated School, Edgar County, Illinois, and was located there from 1919 until 1923, when he resigned. He became postmaster of Sidell on August 27, 1923, and was reappointed to office on March 22, 1928.

On December 24, 1919, Mr. Atkinson was united in marriage with Miss Helen Blanchard, the daughter of Henry and Edith (Fritchie) Blanchard. Mrs. Blanchard lives at Sidell. She is the daughter of Amos W. and Mary Jane (Taylor) Fritchie, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Atkinson have



two children: Julia Mae, born July 27, 1924; and Gerald Waldo, born April 30, 1928.

Mr. Atkinson is a Republican in politics. He is an active member of the Christian Church, and belongs to Sidell Lodge No. 798, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Modern Woodmen of America. He is secretary of the Board of Education, Sidell.

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**James H. Dyer**, of the Vermilion County bar, has had a wide and successful practice at Hoopeston for many years and is active in the business and civic affairs of that community. He was born on a farm in Calloway County, Missouri, February 28, 1856. His father, Henry H. Dyer, was born in Rutland County, Vermont, April 9, 1831. He was married to Sarah J. Wescott, who was born in New York City, July 26, 1837. Their marriage took place at Mansfield, Ohio, November 22, 1853, where he had a position as teller in the Bank of Mansfield. In 1854 he moved from there to Missouri and in 1860 to Colorado, crossing the plains by covered wagons. There were then no railroads west of Omaha. In 1867 he returned from the West with his family, again crossing the plains by covered wagons, accompanying a wagon train with one hundred armed men, for protection against the Indians, who were at that time in bitter warfare against the white settlers. The caravan camped at night in the sod forts which had been constructed by the Government, about thirty miles apart along the trail, from Omaha to the West. While enroute they had several skirmishes with the Indians but no serious battles.

Henry H. Dyer located in Chicago and engaged in business there for a time, and later lived in southern Illinois. He moved to Hoopeston with his family in 1875, and there began the practice of law, in which he was actively en-



JAMES H. DYER



gaged up to the time of his death, which occurred November 24, 1881. His wife died March 18, 1925, at Creal Springs, Illinois, and both parents are buried in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. There were born to this marriage, besides the subject of this sketch, three children: Susan U., married Lucien E. Griggs; Jennie P., married John B. Wallbridge; and Edward N., married May Haines. All are now deceased and are buried in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston.

The ancestry of the Dyer family can be traced back in a direct line, to William Dyre or Dyer,—spelled both ways in documents, who was born in Somersetshire, England, in 1587. He emigrated to America at about the age of forty years and the records of the Colonies show that along with eighteen others he founded the town of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, March 7, 1638. He was also one of eight Englishmen who founded Newport, Rhode Island, April 28, 1639, and he was elected clerk of the new colony. He afterwards became first secretary of Rhode Island and later attorney general. He died in 1677. Mary Dyer, his wife, is a noted character in the early history of the Quakers. She adopted that faith and became an active minister of that denomination, and as such incurred the enmity of the Government. She is described as “a person of comely stature and countenance, of a piercing knowledge of many things, and of a wonderful sweet and pleasant discourse.” She was arrested while preaching at Boston and brought to trial before Governor Endicott, and being questioned, owned herself to be a Quaker, and upon her refusal to desist from preaching, she was sentenced to death, and executed June 1, 1660. The “Friends” records at Portsmouth thus note her death: ‘Mary Dyer, the wife of William Dyer, of Newport, Rhode Island, was put to death at the town of Boston with the like cruel hand, as the Martyrs were, in Queen Mary’s time, upon the first day of the 6th month, 1660.’ The occasion of her death aroused so much feeling



in the Colonies that within a year Charles II required the abolishment of the death penalty against Quakers.

James H. Dyer was married October 18, 1877, at Hoopeston, to Miss Lillian C. Furness, born March 29, 1856, at Blackwood, New Jersey. Her father, John D. Furness was born in Westmorland County, England, and emigrated to America, with other members of the family when quite young, residing in Philadelphia. Both parents died in early life and are buried at Pallatin, Illinois. Mrs. Dyer was raised by her aunt, Elizabeth Atkinson, who emigrated from England to America in a sailing vessel over ninety-six years ago. There were born to this marriage three children: Louis H., born December 23, 1879, Hoopeston; Charles F., born February 25, 1887, Hoopeston, captain of Company A, One Hundred and Fourteenth Infantry, Twenty-ninth Division, in the late World War; and Lucien B., born October 17, 1889, Hoopeston, captain of Company D, Three Hundred and Eleventh Motor Supply Train, Eighty-sixth Division, in the late World War. Both served in France.

James H. Dyer has resided in Hoopeston since 1875. After finishing high school he graduated from Bryant & Stratton's Business College, Chicago, and then commenced the study of law in his father's law office, later continuing his law studies in the Law Department of Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Illinois. He was admitted to the Bar in 1881, by the Supreme Court of Illinois, and at the death of his father, in that year, immediately began the active practice of his profession. In 1911, his son, Charles F. Dyer, was graduated from the Northwestern University Law School and was admitted to the bar, and became a member of the law firm of Dyer & Dyer.

Mr. Dyer served as alderman in the city council for eight years, later as mayor, was a member of the school board for several years, and was chairman of the Board of Instruction, during the World War, also a member of

various committees to put over the Liberty Loans, and to raise funds for the Red Cross, and other war activities. He was instrumental in securing the location of the Carnegie Library Building at Hoopeston, and was a member of the committee that supervised its construction, and has been an active member of the Library Board ever since its organization.

Mr. Dyer has also engaged in other lines of business, besides his profession. In 1905, in conjunction with H. C. Finley and M. H. Lewis, he organized the Illinois Lumber, Grain & Coal Company, with a capital stock of \$100,000, and was connected with that company as vice president for twenty years, disposing of his interest in 1925. In 1919, with the late John L. Hamilton and James A. Cunningham, he organized the Hoopeston National Bank, with a capital of \$100,000, and since that time has been vice president of that institution.

Mr. Dyer has helped to permanently improve the business section of the city by constructing several attractive business blocks.

Mr. Dyer is a member of the Commercial Club, Chamber of Commerce, and the Hubbard Trail Country Club. He has a fine law library, and a private library in his home, and devotes much of his leisure time to reading. He has traveled extensively throughout the United States, also has made a tour of the West Indies, and Central America, and has traveled widely throughout Europe.

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**Capt. Lucien B. Dyer**, a veteran of the World War, ranks high among the dependable and highly successful young business men of Hoopeston, and is a member of one of the oldest and best known families of Vermilion County. He was born in this city, August 17, 1889, the son of James H. and Lillian C. (Furness) Dyer.

A complete sketch of James H. Dyer appears elsewhere in this history.

The boyhood of Lucien B. Dyer was spent in Hoopeston, where he attended the public schools. He was graduated from Culver Military Academy in 1908, from Princeton University in 1912, and spent two years in the Law School of Northwestern University, after which he took a course of instruction in engineering at the University of Illinois. In 1916 Mr. Dyer was one of the incorporators of the H. C. Finley Construction Company, Hoopeston, and was put in charge of paving work at Catlin, Illinois. He was thus engaged at the outbreak of the World War. He enlisted April 22, 1917, and returned to Culver Military Academy for special instruction, later being enrolled in the officers training school at Fort Sheridan, Illinois, where he was commissioned a captain of infantry. In September, 1917, he was assigned to the Eighty-sixth Division at Camp Grant, Rockford, Illinois. Later, he became commander of Company M, Three Hundred and Forty-third Infantry, and through his own personal request was transferred to Company D, Three Hundred and Eleventh Motor Supply Train, as commander. He served in various camps throughout the United States and was in charge of ammunition truck trains. His outfit sailed for France October 1, 1918, and he served at Cherbourg, France, where he again joined the 86th Division. Captain Dyer was in charge of numerous ammunition truck trains that motored throughout France. He sailed from France August 6, 1919, and was discharged from the service. Upon his return to Hoopeston Mr. Dyer purchased the interests of the Finley Construction Company, which was reorganized as the L. B. Dyer Construction Company. He is president of this well known business enterprise.

In 1923 Mr. Dyer married Miss Frieda Willett, the daughter of John Willett, formerly of Hoopeston, now living in Missouri.

Politically, Mr. Dyer is an independent voter. He is a charter member of the American Legion, and belongs to the "Forty and Eight" Society, Hubbard Trail Country Club, Elm Club of Princeton, and Chamber of Commerce, Hoopeston.

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**Capt. Charles F. Dyer**, World War veteran, is prominent in legal circles in Hoopeston, where he is a member of the law firm of Dyer & Dyer. He was born at Hoopes-ton, February 25, 1887, the son of James H. and Lillian C. (Furness) Dyer.

A sketch of James H. Dyer appears elsewhere in this history.

Charles F. Dyer received his early education in the public schools of Hoopeston. He is a graduate of Culver Military Academy, University of Illinois, and Law School of Northwestern University. He was admitted to the bar in 1911 and immediately thereafter became identified with his father in general practice at Hoopeston, the firm being known as Dyer & Dyer. They have offices in the Willdon Building. Mr. Dyer served as city attorney from 1913 until 1925 and was reappointed to that office in 1929. He is also president of the Dealers Finance Company, Hoopeston.

In 1911 Mr. Dyer married Miss Irma L. Miller, the daughter of Oscar and Anna C. (Cunningham) Miller. The former is deceased and the latter lives at San Diego, California. Mr. and Mrs. Dyer have two daughters, Doris and Mary.

In the spring of 1917 Mr. Dyer was commissioned a first lieutenant and called into active service May 12, 1917, and was assigned to the first officers training camp at Fort Sheridan, Illinois. From there he was assigned to the Eighty-sixth Division, located at Camp Grant, Ill., where he was assigned to the Second Battalion of the Three Hun-



dred and Forty-second Infantry, as Battalion Adjutant. While there he was appointed special judge advocate to try several of the Government's most important cases against draft deserters. He was later promoted to a captaincy and appointed operations and intelligence officer of said regiment. On September 7, 1918, he sailed for overseas duty with this regiment and upon his arrival in France, was assigned to the Twenty-ninth Division and was given command of Company A, One Hundred and Fourteenth Infantry. He was discharged from service May 15, 1919; retaining a captaincy in the reserve corps, which he still holds.

Mr. Dyer is a Republican, a member of the Universalist Church, Vermilion County Bar Association, Commercial Club, Chamber of Commerce, and Hubbard Trail Country Club. He was one of the organizers of the local post of the American Legion, and is past commander. He also belongs to the "40 and 8" Society.

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**Wade A. Holton.**—One of the representative bankers of Vermilion County is found in Wade A. Holton, who is president of the First National Bank of Sidell. He was born near Sidell, January 24, 1886, the son of Dr. Henry C. and Ura A. (Ames) Holton.

Dr. Henry C. Holton, a prominent physician and surgeon of Sidell, is a native of Indianola, Illinois. He received his early education in the public schools and studied at the University of Illinois for one year. He then taught in the schools of Vermilion County for ten years, after which he read medicine in the office of Doctor Martinie. He was graduated from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in 1883, and began the practice of his profession at Homer, Illinois. He later was located at Archie, Illinois, and since 1887 has engaged in private practice at Sidell.

Doctor Holton is a Republican, and belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having been presented with the fifty-year jewel by the lodge, and he is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and Knights of Pythias. He is a member of the Vermilion County Medical Society, Illinois State Medical Society, and American Medical Association. To Doctor and Mrs. Holton three children were born: Max, born July 14, 1884, who is cashier of the First National Bank, Sidell, married Inez Barton, and they have a son, Earl F.; Wade A., the subject of this sketch; and Caryl Ames, lives at London, Ohio. He married Celia S. Cathcart, and they have two sons, William Cathcart and Richard Henry.

Wade A. Holton attended the public and high schools of Sidell and began his business career with the First National Bank of Welettkka, Oklahoma, as a bookkeeper. He returned to Sidell in 1903 and three years later became assistant cashier of the Lyons-Alexander & Company, a private banking institution. In October, 1920, Mr. Holton was made cashier of the First National Bank of Sidell and the following year became president. He is also a director of the Sidell Building & Loan Association.

In 1913 Mr. Holton was united in marriage with Miss Charlotte Crew, the daughter of W. R. and Laura (McDaniel) Crew, the former a native of England and the latter of Illinois. Mr. Crew is deceased and his widow lives at Carlinville, Illinois. Charlotte (Crew) Holton died in 1919 and is buried at Carlinville. Her son, Kenneth Holton, is a student in the Sidell public schools. Mr. Holton was married the second time in 1922 to Miss Edith Conley, the daughter of Hugh H. and Alice (Saunders) Conley, natives of Newport, Indiana, both now deceased. Mr. Conley was a Civil War veteran and a successful attorney.

Mr. Holton is a Republican in politics and has served as supervisor continuously since April, 1925. He is a mem-

ber of the Baptist Church, and has the following lodge affiliations: Sidell Lodge No. 798, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Past Grand; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; and Knights of Pythias.

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**The First National Bank**, Sidell, is among the oldest and most dependable banking institutions of Vermilion County. It was organized as a private bank in 1887 by William Lyons, William J. Alexander, Joseph Alexander, and William G. Cathcart. It was originally known as Lyons-Alexander & Company. In 1907 Mr. Lyons disposed of his interests and the bank was thereafter known as Alexander & Cathcart. It continued as a private enterprise until 1909, at which time Alexander & Cathcart purchased the charter and holdings of the First National Bank, of Sidell, and following the merger of these two banks the name was changed to the First National Bank of Sidell.

The first officers of the newly organized bank were as follows: William G. Cathcart, president; William J. Alexander, vice president; John A. Cathcart, cashier; and Wade A. Holton, assistant cashier. The directors were: W. G. Cathcart, W. J. Alexander, J. A. Cathcart, Anna Cathcart, and Harvey Sconce. The bank now has a capital stock of twenty-five thousand dollars, and a surplus of twenty-five thousand dollars. The present officers are: Wade A. Holton, president; John A. Cathcart, vice president; Max C. Holton, cashier; and Don C. Lewis, assistant cashier. The directors are: Hetty Alexander, Parker W. Bennett, John A. Cathcart, Wade A. Holton, and Max C. Holton.

The statement as of December 31, 1928, follows: Resources: Loans, \$219,340.78; Overdrafts, \$141.94; United States Bonds, \$25,000.00; Other Bonds, Stocks, etc., \$22,254.24; Bank Building and Equipment, \$6,842.35; Due from

United States Treasurer, \$1,250.00; Cash and Exchange, \$84,291.77. Total, \$359,121.08. Liabilities: Capital Stock, \$25,000.00; Surplus, \$25,000.00; Undivided Profits, \$3,664.94; Reserved for Dividends, \$3,750.00; Circulation, \$25,000.00; Certified Checks, \$925.00; Deposits, \$275,781.14. Total, \$359,121.08.

The First National Bank of Sidell is a member of the Vermilion County Federation of the Illinois Bankers Association and the American Bankers Association.

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**Frank G. Anderson**, mayor of Allerton, is also one of the popular young business men of that place, where he is identified with the Anderson & Allen Lumber Company. He was born at Allerton, March 16, 1898, the son of Gus and Josephine (Brown) Anderson.

Gus Anderson is a prominent citizen of Allerton. He was born in Sweden and was twelve years old when he came to this country with his parents. They settled in New York and later located at Paxton, Illinois. Mr. Anderson became a prosperous farmer of Champaign and Vermilion counties and also engaged extensively in the grain business. He has been active in the civic and social life of Allerton and has lived here retired since 1909. Mr. Anderson is a Democrat and has served as road commissioner and school director. His wife is a native of Indiana. To Mr. and Mrs. Anderson two sons were born: Fred, farmer, lives at Allerton; and Frank G., the subject of this sketch.

Frank G. Anderson has always lived at Allerton. After his graduation from high school in 1919 he attended the University of Illinois. In 1920 he became manager of the Harry Allen Grain Company, Allerton, and four years later formed a partnership with Ralph Allen, the firm being known as the Anderson & Allen Lumber Company.



The company owns a large lumber yard at Allerton and carries on a large volume of business annually.

Mr. Anderson is identified with the Republican party in politics and has served as mayor of Allerton continuously since 1923, having been elected to office on four successive occasions. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and belongs to Broadlands Lodge No. 791, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree, and Mohammed Temple. Mr. Anderson is unmarried.

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**Ross Goodwin**, popular garage owner of Indianola, where he has the agency for the Willys-Knight and Whippet automobiles, is a native of Vermilion County. He was born at Indianola, November 28, 1900, the son of Edward and Isabelle (Jackson) Goodwin.

Edward Goodwin was born at Georgetown, Illinois, and his wife is a native of Indianola. For many years he followed general farming and stock raising. He now holds a township office. Mr. Goodwin is a Republican, a member of the Christian Church, and Modern Woodmen of America. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin: Hallie, married Claude Williams, lives at Indianola; Orpha, married first to Lester Baldwin, and later to Thomas Fitzsimmons, lives at Georgetown, Illinois; Mildred, married Guy Cunningham, lives at Vermilion Grove, Illinois; Ross, the subject of this sketch; Edna, married Lee Henderson, lives at Indianola; and Ferryl, married Rex Bradshaw, lives at Indianola.

The boyhood of Ross Goodwin was spent at Indianola, where he attended the public schools. At an early age he became interested in the automobile business and took a course in automobile mechanics. He also studied at the American School of Aviation, Chicago, and in 1921 established his present business at Indianola. Mr. Goodwin

does general repair work and employs four expert mechanics in his garage. He also deals in automobile accessories and is local dealer for the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company.

On June 16, 1927, Mr. Goodwin was married to Miss Laverne Sheppard.

Politically, Mr. Goodwin is a Republican and he is a member of the village board.

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**Charles B. Cunningham** is among the well known residents of Allerton, where he is interested in the hardware business, and is also serving as a member of the village board and as deputy sheriff of Vermilion County. He is a native of Lafayette, Indiana, born September 6, 1875, the son of A. J. and Sarah E. (Clark) Cunningham.

A. J. Cunningham was born at Americus, Indiana, the son of Isaac Cunningham, a native of Edinburg, Scotland, who was one of the first settlers of Indiana. He was a meat packer and rafted his products down the canal to Saint Louis and New Orleans, Louisiana. His son, A. J. Cunningham, was a graduate of DePauw University, and became a successful farmer and stockman. He was a Democrat and served as justice of the peace. He held membership in the Presbyterian Church. Both Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham are deceased and are buried near Lafayette, Indiana. They were the parents of four children: Charles B., the subject of this sketch; Lawrence Porter, deceased; Joseph D., lives at Westville, Illinois; and Pearl D., the widow of Fairfax Kirkpatrick, lives at Lafayette, Indiana.

The boyhood of Charles B. Cunningham was spent at Lafayette, Indiana, where he attended the public schools. He was graduated from Lafayette High School in 1901 and from Purdue University in 1905. He remained on his father's farm until 1911, when he came to Allerton and

became marshal of the village. Mr. Cunningham has been deputy sheriff of Vermilion County for the past twenty years and since 1915 has been a member of the village board as president of the streets and alleys committee. He is interested in business as assistant manager of the hardware business of Harry Parish, and has been identified with that enterprise since 1911.

Mr. Cunningham is a Republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church, and belongs to Sigma Kappa Phi fraternity.

Throughout his college career Mr. Cunningham was a member of the football squads and for three years was a member of the varsity football team. He was also a member of the baseball teams.

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**William G. Cathcart.**—One of the best known and most highly esteemed men of Vermilion County was William G. Cathcart, prominent business man of Sidell and president of the First National Bank. He was born at Natrona, Mason County, Illinois, February 8, 1869, and died October 14, 1920. Mr. Cathcart was the son of John Marshall and Sarah J. (Alexander) Cathcart.

John Marshall Cathcart was born at Pomeroy, County Tyrone, Ireland, March 11, 1842. He came to Morgan County, Illinois, about 1860 and farmed there for several years. He was married November 15, 1866, to Sarah J. Alexander, and the family later removed to Mason County, Illinois, where Mr. Cathcart became interested in farming and the grain business. He went to Nebraska in 1884 but three years later returned to Illinois, where he engaged in the lumber and grain business. Mr. Cathcart retired in 1900 and died at Pensacola, Florida, February 21, 1910. He was a devout member of the Christian Church through-

out his life. To Mr. and Mrs. Cathcart were born three children: Florence H., who died in May, 1899; William G., the subject of this sketch; and John A., a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history.

The boyhood of William G. Cathcart was spent on his father's farm. He obtained his schooling at Jacksonville, Illinois, and in 1884 became associated with his father in the live stock business in Nebraska. He returned, however, to Illinois in 1887 and became bookkeeper in the First National Bank at Paris, Illinois. After six months he resigned and accepted the position as cashier of the private bank of Lyons, Alexander & Company, Sidell. In 1907 Mr. Cathcart, in partnership with his brother, John A. Cathcart, purchased Mr. Lyons' interests in the bank, which thereafter became known as Alexander & Cathcart. On March 1, 1909, the bank was merged with the First National Bank of Sidell, and incorporated as the First National Bank. Mr. Cathcart became president and held that office until the date of his death. He was also the owner of three thousand acres of land in Ohio and one thousand five hundred acres in Illinois, and ranked among the largest land owners in this section of the State.

On June 12, 1890, Mr. Cathcart was united in marriage with Miss Anna Sconce, the daughter of James S. and Emma (Sowdewsky) Sconce, natives of Indianola, Illinois. Mr. Sconce died in 1888 and his widow lives at Sidell. Mr. and Mrs. Cathcart were the parents of a daughter, Celia. She is the wife of C. A. Holton, of London, Ohio, and they have two sons: William Cathcart, born May 27, 1923; and Richard Henry, born March 17, 1926.

Mr. Cathcart was a life long Republican and held the office of mayor of Sidell for a number of years. He was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and served as Sunday School superintendent for a period of seven years. He was affiliated with Sidell Lodge No. 798,



Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 182; Chicago Consistory, thirty-second degree; and Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332.

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**Forrest A. Dicks.**—One of the outstanding young business men of Allerton is well known as a general merchant. He was born at Broadlands, Illinois, November 11, 1900, the son of Dr. Thomas A. and Mary Harriet (Thompson) Dicks.

Dr. Thomas A. Dicks is a native of Indiana. He is a graduate of the Kansas City Medical College and throughout his professional career has engaged in practice at Broadlands, where he resides. He is a Republican, active in local politics, and holds membership in the United Brethren Church. He is affiliated with Broadlands Lodge No. 791, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Champaign County Medical Society; Illinois State Medical Society; and American Medical Association. Doctor and Mrs. Dicks are the parents of the following children: Arch, who died in 1922, was a veteran of the World War, having served as second lieutenant in the United States Aviation Section; Hazel, deceased; Hilma, married LeRoy I. Hobbs, lives at Danville; Carl, lives at Broadlands, Illinois; Forrest A., the subject of this sketch; and Kenneth, lives at Broadlands.

Forrest A. Dicks grew up at Broadlands, where he received his early education. He was graduated from Indianapolis (Indiana) High School in 1919, spent two years at the University of Illinois, and in 1922 was graduated from Worshams School of Embalming. He then purchased an interest in his brother's hardware business at Broadlands and established an undertaking establishment in connection with it. He has remained as a partner in this business although he has devoted most of his time to his

store at Allerton since 1928, which was purchased from Bert Downey. It is one of the largest stores of its type in the county and carries a complete line of high grade merchandise.

In 1925 Mr. Dicks married Miss Mary Kitchen, the daughter of Harvey and Lou (Fenley) Kitchen, natives of Indiana and Illinois. They are residents of Danville.

Mr. Dicks is a member of the Methodist Church; Broadlands Lodge No. 791, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, 32nd degree; Gao Grotto; Modern Woodmen of America; Delta Sigma Phi and Omega Beta Pi fraternities. Politically, he is a Republican.

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**Chester M. Baum**, of Indianola, ranks as one of the leading and most successful stock feeders of Vermilion County. He was born in Carroll Township, Vermilion County, August 15, 1889, the son of Wimm C. and Fiona (Molt) Baum.

Wimm C. Baum was born in Carroll Township, Vermilion County, and spent his entire life in that section. He became one of the most prosperous farmers and cattle feeders in that section. He died in 1922 and is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Indianola. His widow, born at Fairfield, Illinois, lives at Indianola. Mr. Baum was a Republican. There were three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Baum: Belle, married Samuel Baldwin, lives at Indianola; Nell, lives at Indianola; and Chester M., the subject of this sketch.

Chester M. Baum received his education in the district schools of Carroll Township, Vermilion County. At an early age he became identified with the cattle feeding business and for several years was associated with his father. After the latter's death Mr. Baum took over his father's interests. He is the largest cattle feeder in this section

of the State and also is well known as a general farmer. Mr. Baum ships his stock from Texas and Mexico and also buys there for local cattle feeders.

In 1909 Mr. Baum was united in marriage with Miss Nora Helen Gibbs, the daughter of Albert H. and Mary (Dye) Gibbs, the former a native of Iowa and the latter of Illinois. Mr. Gibbs lives at Indianola. His wife died in 1913 and is buried at Indianola. To Mr. and Mrs. Baum have been born three children: Helen, Catherine, and Wimm C., all students.

Mr. Baum is a Republican. He is a member of Indianola Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Lodge of Perfection, and Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332.

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**Dale Wallace**, retired, is a highly esteemed pioneer citizen of Hoopeston, where he has been a resident for more than half a century. He was born at LaPorte, Indiana, November 5, 1849, the son of Dr. John Porter and Lydia Ann (Winchell) Wallace.

Dr. John Porter Wallace was born in Steuben County, New York, and his wife was a native of Rush County, Indiana. He was a graduate of Bath (New York) Seminary and after leaving school went to LaPorte, Indiana, where he remained for several years before locating at New Salem, Indiana. He became a successful merchant and also served as postmaster. He subsequently read medicine under Doctor Carley and after completing his course practiced at New Salem for a time in connection with his mercantile business. In 1855 Doctor Wallace removed to West Union, Fayette County, Iowa, where he established Round Grove Academy, and he was connected with this institution as president. Later, he lived at Kirksville, Missouri, and was superintendent of schools at that place. He entered the real estate business at Garden City, Kansas,



DALE WALLACE





and was living there at the time of his death. His wife is also deceased. Doctor Wallace was a Republican and a devout member of the Christian Church. To Doctor and Mrs. Wallace were born three children: Dale, the subject of this sketch; Evangeline St. Clair, born in 1855, married William S. Moore, both deceased; and Grant, deceased.

Dale Wallace was educated in the Round Grove Academy at West Union, Iowa. Early in life he learned the printer's trade, later was employed at Cedar Falls and Eldora, Iowa, and in 1869 went to Marysville, California, later locating in San Francisco. In 1870 he went to Portland, Oregon, but the following year returned to Iowa, and in October, 1871, located at Hoopeston, where he established the North Vermilion Chronicle, on January 10, 1872, of which he was publisher and editor. In 1873 the paper became known as the Hoopeston Chronicle. The plant was originally located on North Market Street, across from the park. In 1876 it was removed to the basement of the First National Bank Building. Through the efforts and personality of Mr. Wallace the Hoopeston Chronicle became one of the leading newspapers of Vermilion County. The plant was leased in 1882 to Charles W. Warner and two years later Mr. Wallace retired from the publishing business and entered the real estate, insurance and loan business, which he successfully conducted until his retirement in 1911.

In 1878 Mr. Wallace was united in marriage with Miss Lucy Viola Webb, the daughter of Chamberlain and Betsy Ann (Weber) Webb, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. Both are deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Wallace were born four children: 1. Mac Cloyes, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history. 2. Irma St. Clair, deceased, was the wife of Dr. L. B. Russell, physician, Hoopeston, and they had two daughters, Elizabeth and Irma. 3. Lucy Dale, married J. Mitchell Thorsen, lives at Bronxville, New York, where he is identified with

the insurance business of Thorsen & Thorsen, Incorporated. They have four children: Dale, Elizabeth, J. Wallace, Pollyann, and Patricia. 4. Forrest Webb, general manager of William A. Wise Publishing Company, Scarsdale, New York. He married Mabel Harden, and they have a son, Jerry.

Mr. Wallace is a Republican. He served as postmaster of Hoopeston, being appointed by President Hayes in 1877 and reappointed by President Chester A. Arthur, in 1881. He is affiliated with Star Lodge No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Royal Arch Chapter; Mount Olivet Commandery, Knights Templar; Modern Woodmen of America; and Commercial Club.

In 1905 Mr. Wallace built a beautiful summer home at Waupaca, Wis., on the chain of lakes called the Killarney of Wisconsin. It is there that he spends his summers and delights in his favorite recreation, fishing.

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**Mac Cloyes Wallace.**—One of the enterprising and successful business men of Hoopeston is Mr. Wallace, who is identified with the Mac C. Wallace Insurance Agency. He was born in this city, January 22, 1880, the son of Dale and Lucy Viola (Webb) Wallace.

A complete sketch of Dale Wallace appears elsewhere in this history.

The early education of Mac C. Wallace was obtained in the public schools of Hoopeston. Following his graduation from Michigan Military Academy in 1899 he returned to Hoopeston and entered the First National Bank. He subsequently became assistant cashier but in May, 1905, resigned to enter his father's business. In 1911 Mr. Wallace purchased the interests of his father in the real estate and insurance business and in 1918 purchased the interests of Mr. Catherwood, the firm originally being known as Cath-

erwood & Wallace. Mr. Wallace is recognized as a leading insurance operator of this section. He has offices in the First National Bank Building.

On June 15, 1904, Mr. Wallace married Miss Irene Mildred Wilson, the daughter of Joseph and Mildred (Johnson) Wilson. Mr. Wilson, a native of England, died in 1902. His wife, born in Indiana, died in 1921. Both are buried at Neoga, Illinois. Mr. Wilson was one of the first graduates of Wabash College. To Mr. and Mrs. Wallace were born two children: Natalie, born April 29, 1905, married Theodore I. Merseles, broker, lives at Bronxville, New York; and Dale II, born September 9, 1907, a student at Dartmouth College.

Mr. Wallace is a Republican, a member of Star Lodge No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Royal Arch Chapter; Lions Club; Hubbard Trail Country Club; Commercial Club; and Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Wallace is a director of the First National Bank, Hoopeston, and secretary of the North Vermilion Loan and Saving Association.

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**William C. Hunt**, deceased, was a veteran of the Civil War and one of the most prominent and highly esteemed citizens of Vermilion County. He was born at Mount Vernon, Ohio, February 15, 1839, and died April 4, 1929. Mr. Hunt was the son of Richard and Nancy (Colopy) Hunt, natives of Ohio, where they lived and died.

Richard Hunt was a local politician, and he died in 1854, his wife having preceded him in death in 1846. He was the son of Jonathan Hunt, who was born in New Jersey in 1780, and his wife was a native of West Virginia, born January 9, 1782. Their marriage took place in 1804, and two years later they came to Ohio and settled in Pleasant Township, Knox County. Mr. Hunt was a wagon-maker and gunsmith. He cleared the land in his new home



and became a close friend of the Indians, who still lived in that section of Ohio. During the War of 1812 he served under Major Kratzer. In 1815 he was licensed to keep a tavern in Knox County, Ohio. Both he and his wife are buried in Hunt Cemetery, Hunt's Station, near Mount Vernon, Ohio. The children of Richard Hunt were: Cecilia Carter; Matilda Carter; Emily Warthen; Mary Rhodes; Honor, dying in infancy; William C., the subject of this sketch; George, a sketch of whom appears below; Ira D., and Richard J.

William C. Hunt attended the district schools of Ohio, and after the death of his father, in 1855, he came to Illinois. The trip was made on horesback and Mr. Hunt settled near Donkey's Point, near the present site of Kansas Station. He worked on a farm during the summer months and attended school during the winter session. At the age of twenty-two years he enlisted for service in the Civil War, in April, 1861. He became a private in Company "C", Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was soon promoted to first lieutenant. He took an active part in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Iuka, Atlanta, Jonesboro, and Altoona Pass. He was also with General Sherman on his famous march to the sea and took part in the grand parade in honor of President Lincoln. Mr. Hunt was discharged on July 16, 1865, having served throughout the entire war period with only one week of sick leave. Upon his return to Illinois he resumed his farming activities, and was thus engaged for several years, being a successful and prosperous farmer. He retired from the farm in 1903 and moved to Allerton, Illinois, where he resided until his death.

On February 20, 1872, Mr. Hunt was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Lowther, who died December 30, 1916. Both are buried in Fairfield Cemetery, Newman, Illinois. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hunt: Gertrude, deceased; Harry, lives at Stuttgart, Arkansas;

Jessie H. Anderson, lives at Allerton; and Dolly, deceased.

Mr. Hunt was very active in politics and took an interest in all things for the betterment of the community. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Grand Army of the Republic, and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He was the last surviving Civil War veteran of Allerton, and was familiarly known in the community as "Uncle Bill."

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**George Hunt** served as County Superintendent of Schools in Edgar County, Illinois. He was admitted to practice law in 1869, and in 1875 was elected State Senator. In 1885 he was elected Attorney General, and served three terms in Illinois State Senate.

He conducted the prosecution of Chicago Anarchists when their case was carried through the Illinois and United States Supreme Courts, and eventually secured their conviction. He also was concerned in the injunction proceedings against the Old Harlem race tracks. It was during his term of office that the contest arose with Illinois Central Railroad Company for possession of lake fronts, and it has been frequently said his efforts saved the lake front for the city. In 1893 he moved to Chicago where he confined himself almost exclusively to practice of law.

He died March 17, 1901, and is buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery at Springfield, Illinois. His widow resides at Winnetka, Illinois, with her daughter, Mrs. C. C. Adams.

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**Ralph B. Allen.**—One of the representative young business men of Vermilion County is found in Ralph B. Allen, who is manager of the Harry Allen Grain Company, of Allerton. He was born here, December 23, 1899, the son of Harry and Alice (Brown) Allen.

Harry Allen was born in Staffordshire, England, in 1866 and was fourteen years of age when his family came to this country and settled on a farm in Sidell Township, Vermilion County. He made several trips to England and became widely known as an importer of Shorthorn cattle and Shropshire sheep. He was also engaged in farming, with his brothers and father. In 1896 Mr. Allen became interested in the grain business at Allerton with Gus Anderson. Later, he purchased Mr. Anderson's share in the business and has since been the owner of one of the largest grain businesses in this section. The elevator is located on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad. Mr. Allen also owns an elevator at Broadlands and is the proprietor of the original elevator of Henry Eversole at that place. He is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, and has the following lodge affiliations: Broadlands Lodge No. 791, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Newman Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; Tuscola Council, Royal and Select Masters; Tuscola Commandery, Knights Templar; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Mohammed Temple; and Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. and Mrs. Allen live at Broadlands. They have three children: Cecil, married Norman E. Westfield, lives in Chicago; Harry Kenneth, a graduate of the University of Illinois, and veteran of the World War, married Ione Walkup, and they have a daughter, Mary Ann; and Ralph B., the subject of this sketch.

Ralph B. Allen received his early education in the public schools of Broadlands and after his graduation from high school in 1919 he entered the University of Illinois, from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1923. He served as a member of the Reserve Officers Training Corps at the University for four years and received the commission of second lieutenant of the Infantry Reserve Corps. He is now a first lieutenant of the United States Reserve Corps. Throughout his business career

Mr. Allen has been associated with his father's grain interests and has served as manager of the Harry Allen Grain Company at Allerton since his graduation from college. He became associated with Frank G. Anderson in 1924 and they are leading lumber dealers of this section, their firm being known as the Anderson-Allen Lumber Company.

Mr. Allen is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, and belongs to Broadlands Lodge No. 791, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Master in 1929-30; Newman Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Gao Grotto; Modern Woodmen of America; and Delta Sigma fraternity.

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**Clifford C. Simpson**, who is secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Danville, is a veteran of the World War, and is well and favorably known among the energetic young men of Vermilion County. He was born at Rincon, New Mexico, November 15, 1899, the son of Benjamin V. and Dora E. (Wadhams) Simpson.

Benjamin V. Simpson was born near Glasgow, Scotland. He spent the greater part of his life in Kansas and was a civil engineer on the Santa Fe Railroad. He died in February, 1900, and is buried at Everst, Kansas. His widow has spent her entire life at Sabetha, where she still resides. To Mr. and Mrs. Simpson were born four children: Mrs. George Beyer, lives at Sabetha, Kansas; William, lives at Horton, Kansas; James, lives at Elgin, Illinois; and Clifford C., the subject of this sketch.

Clifford C. Simpson attended the public schools of Sabetha, Kansas, and following his graduation from high school entered Nebraska University. He later attended the University of Illinois. Mr. Simpson began his business career as a salesman but soon became identified with the



Chamber of Commerce at Sycamore, Illinois, and was later associated with the same organization at Sterling, Illinois, before locating at Danville in 1928.

On June 5, 1923, Mr. Simpson was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Beyer, of Morton, Illinois, the daughter of Frank and Lena (Zobrist) Beyer, natives of Illinois and Switzerland, respectively. Mr. Beyer died March 5, 1927, and his widow lives at Morton, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Simpson have two daughters, Dorothy and Elizabeth.

Mr. Simpson is a member of the Methodist Church, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Pi Kappa Phi fraternity, American Legion, and "40 and 8 Society." He is also identified with the National Association of Commercial Organizations Secretaries.

During the World War Mr. Simpson volunteered for service. He enlisted in the army from the University of Nebraska and was assigned to Camp Zachary Taylor, in Kentucky. He was commissioned second lieutenant and was serving as such at Camp Zachary Taylor when the war ended.

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**William J. Alexander**, deceased, was prominently identified with the business, social, and civic life of Sidell, where he was vice president of the First National Bank. He was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, February 11, 1833, the son of James and Letitia (Marshal) Alexander. Both James Alexander and his wife, natives of Ireland, are deceased.

William J. Alexander was educated in the common schools of his native land and in 1854 came to the United States. He settled first at Peoria, Illinois, where he remained for six months, and afterward removed to Jacksonville, Illinois, where he was employed by his uncle on a farm. While there he gained the necessary knowledge of farming and cattle raising and in 1865 purchased a farm

of one hundred and sixty acres in Mason County, Illinois. A few years later he purchased three hundred and twenty acres in Logan County, west of Lincoln, Illinois. While in Mason County, Mr. Alexander, in partnership with his brother-in-law, Mr. Cathcart, purchased large tracts of land, which they successfully operated. In 1872 he purchased a section and a half of land on the Broadland Tract, Champaign County, Illinois, and removed there in 1873. He remained there until 1905. Mr. Alexander had also purchased four hundred and eighty acres while a resident in that section and in 1896 purchased over a section of land in Page and Freemont counties, Iowa. He became one of the founders of the oldest bank in Sidell in 1887 in partnership with William Lyons, Joseph Alexander, and W. G. Cathcart, the institution being known as Lyons-Alexander & Company. In 1907 Mr. Lyons disposed of his interests and the bank was then known as Alexander & Cathcart until 1909, when the First National Bank was merged with the bank of Alexander & Cathcart. At that time Mr. Alexander became vice president and served in that capacity until his death, which occurred February 29, 1924. At the time of his death Mr. Alexander was the owner of a tract of five thousand acres in Alberta, Canada, seven hundred acres near Broadlands, Illinois, and eight hundred acres near Marion, Ohio. He had also purchased a large ranch near High River, Canada, in 1905 but due to ill health had been forced to dispose of it a number of years ago.

In 1905 Mr. Alexander married Miss Hetty Kyle, a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, the daughter of Robert and Hester (Cathcart) Kyle. The Kyle family emigrated to Ontario, Canada, about 1884. Mr. Kyle died in 1912 and his wife died in 1928. Both are buried at Dresden, Ontario, Canada.

Mr. Alexander was a Republican and a member of the Christian Church. He was a man highly esteemed in his

community and always gave in abundance to all worthy causes. His widow continues to carry on the philanthropic spirit that was his and is among the most charming women in the community.

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**Adam P. Eaton**, owner of the A. P. Eaton Grain Company, is a progressive and well known business man of Allerton. He was born in Vance Township, Vermilion County, April 26, 1883, the son of David and Rachael (Reffett) Eaton.

David Eaton, who lives retired at Mentone, Indiana, is a native of Indiana. He spent his early life as a farmer in Vance Township, Vermilion County, and later owned land in Sidell Township. He removed to Mentone, Indiana, in 1911, and purchased two hundred acres of land in that section, which he still owns. Mr. Eaton is a Democrat, a member of the Presbyterian Church, and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Eaton: George, lives at Rileysburg, Indiana; Charles, lives at Mentone, Indiana; Harvey, deceased; Bert, lives at Pence, Indiana; William, lives at Ames, Iowa; Adam P., the subject of this sketch; Clara, deceased, was a twin sister of Adam P.; Florence, married Ralph Green, lives at Alberta, Canada; Nellie, married William Plumber, lives at Elkhart, Indiana; and Daisy, married M. Bender, lives at Elkhart, Indiana.

Adam P. Eaton was reared and educated in Sidell Township, and following his graduation from Allerton High School in 1901 he engaged in farming. He came to Allerton in 1905 and entered the employ of the Allerton Grain Company as manager. In 1917 he purchased a farm near Tuscola, Illinois, where he spent one year. He then returned to Allerton and in October, 1918, went to Jamaica, Illinois, as manager of the Farmers Elevator until 1926, when he returned to Allerton and purchased the Allerton

Grain Company. The business has since been known as the A. R. Eaton Grain Company. Mr. Eaton is also vice president of the Daines Sales & Manufacturing Company.

Mr. Eaton was married in 1912 to Miss May Pugh, the daughter of E. K. and Lilly (Thompson) Pugh, of Allerton. They have a daughter, Vivian, born in 1918.

Politically, Mr. Eaton is a Republican. He was elected supervisor in 1922 and served for two years and has also been school director and judge of elections. He is affiliated with Fairmount Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Mohammed Temple. He is also a member of the Farm Bureau of Vermilion County.

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**Dr. Arthur Ernest Dale**, of Danville, is outstanding as one of the leading surgeons of Vermilion County. He is a native of Illinois, born at McLeansboro, December 20, 1881, the son of Dr. M. C. and Amanda M. (Eddington) Dale.

Dr. M. C. Dale, deceased, was prominent for more than half a century as a successful physician and surgeon of McLeansboro, Illinois. He was born on a farm near that place in 1850 and received his early schooling in the district schools. He was graduated from Northwestern University Medical School with the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1874 and immediately took up his practice at McLeansboro, where he continued for a period of fifty-four years. He died in October, 1928, and his wife died in 1925. Both are buried at McLeansboro. Doctor Dale was a Republican and a member of the Baptist Church. He held membership in the Hamilton County Medical Society, Illinois State Medical Society, and American Medical Association. He served as surgeon for the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. To Doctor and Mrs. Dale were born four chil-



dren: Dr. Omar E., physician and surgeon, Connersville, Indiana, graduate of Barnes Medical College, served as a first lieutenant in the Spanish-American War; Dr. Harry W., eye, ear, nose and throat specialist, Chicago Heights, Illinois, a graduate of Northwestern University, served as a captain in the United States Medical Corps during the World War; Arthur Ernest, the subject of this sketch; and Ada, married Frank Weltner, who is identified with the Weltner Conservatory of Music, Saint Louis, Missouri.

Arthur Ernest Dale spent his boyhood at McLeansboro, Illinois, and after his graduation from high school in 1900 he entered the University of Illinois, where he took pre-medic work. He received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1907 from Northwestern University, and served as interne in the Baptist Hospital, Chicago, in 1907-08, and in Saint Elizabeth Hospital, Danville, from April, 1908, until 1909. He then established offices in this city in the Temple Building, where he has met with marked success as a specialist and surgeon. Doctor Dale has taken graduate work in England, France and Germany, and has attended clinics throughout the United States. He is a member of the surgical staffs of Lakeview and Saint Elizabeth hospitals, Danville, and is surgeon for the Wabash Railroad, Vermilion County Telephone Company, and Danville Brick Company.

In 1912 Doctor Dale was united in marriage with Miss Edna B. Johnson, the daughter of George and Dessie Johnson, natives of Illinois, both now deceased. They have no children.

Doctor Dale is a Republican, a member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, and has the following club affiliations: Olive Branch Lodge, No. 38, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Ansar Temple; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Rotary Club; Modern Woodmen of America; Danville Country Club; Chamber of Commerce; and

Omega Epsilon Phi fraternity. He served as president of the Vermilion County Medical Society in 1918, and is a member of the Illinois Medical Society, American Medical Association, Aesculapian Medical Society, and is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

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**Melvin Leo Hole, M. D.**, who is among the most successful of the younger physicians and surgeons of Danville, is a veteran of the World War. He was born at Hutchinson, Kansas, August 5, 1888, the son of Dr. Oliver C. and Lucy (Castle) Hole.

Dr. Oliver C. Hole was born at Ridge Farm, Illinois, July 28, 1859, the son of Dr. Jonah and Margaret (Rice) Hole. Jonah Hole was a leading dentist at Ridge Farm and Metcalf, Illinois. Both he and his wife are deceased and are buried at Ridge Farm. Their son, Oliver C., was reared and educated at Ridge Farm. He was a telegrapher early in life and was employed in Indiana and later became express messenger at Hutchinson, Kansas. Subsequently, he attended the University of Iowa and was later graduated from Temple University, Philadelphia, with the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery. He practiced at Danville for many years and retired in 1922. His death occurred January 22, 1925, and he is buried at Ridge Farm. His widow lives in this city. Doctor Hole was a Republican and a member of the Methodist Church. The three children born to Doctor and Mrs. Hole were: Melvin Leo, the subject of this sketch; Mary Laverne, married Harold Sheffield, lives at Florida City, Florida; and Margaret Louise, married Robert Hartman, lives in Chicago.

Melvin Leo Hole attended the public schools of Danville and was graduated from Danville High School in 1907. He then entered Northwestern University, from which he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in

1911. He served as interne in the Metropolitan Hospital, New York City, in 1911-13, and spent five months as ship's surgeon in New York for the Quebec Steamship Company, running from New York to British Guinea. In September, 1913, Doctor Hole came to Danville, where he engaged in practice with Dr. Stephen C. Glidden until 1916. He then established a private practice. In December, 1917, he volunteered for service in the World War and was sent to Fort Riley, Kansas, with the rank of first lieutenant. In June, 1918, he was transferred to Camp Dodge, Iowa, and in September of that year sailed for France with Base Hospital No. 88 as detachment commander. He was located at Langres, France. He was discharged in August, 1919, with the rank of captain. Upon his return to Danville, Doctor Hole resumed his practice with offices in the Temple Building. He is a member of the staffs of Lakeview and Saint Elizabeth's hospitals, and is surgeon for the Illinois Terminal Railway System, and medical examiner for the Aeronautics Branch of the Department of Commerce.

In 1916 Doctor Hole was united in marriage with Miss Inez Gass, the daughter of Levin W. and Eva (Hulce) Gass, natives of Illinois. He is deceased and his widow lives at Danville. To Doctor and Mrs. Hole have been born three children: Inez Marie, John Levin, and Mary Louise.

Politically, Doctor Hole is a Republican. He is a member of St. James Methodist Episcopal Church; Anchor Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Ansar Temple; Gao Grotto; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; and American Legion.

Doctor Hole is identified with the Vermilion County Medical Society, Illinois State Medical Society, American Medical Association, Illinois Industrial Medical and Sur-

gery Society, and American Railway Surgeons Association. He is also a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

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**Thurman D. Allen** is a leading figure in the business and commercial life of Danville, where he is president of the Allen Electric Company, 23 West North Street. He was born at Greencastle, Indiana, March 13, 1870, the son of William D. and Jennie (Hoar) Allen.

William D. Allen, who died in 1876, was a native of Kentucky. His wife was born at Providence, Rhode Island. She died in 1891. Mr. Allen was an early settler of Greencastle, Indiana, where he was interested in the banking business. He also served as mayor of that city. He was a Democrat. During the Civil War Mr. Allen invested his entire fortune in gold and eventually lost everything he possessed. There were three children in the Allen family: William T. Fletcher, who died in Indianapolis, Indiana, in February, 1929; Mary F., the widow of O. A. McFarland, who died in 1916, and she lives at Danville; and Thurman D., the subject of this sketch.

Thurman D. Allen grew up in Greencastle, Indiana, where he was educated. He was graduated from DePauw University in 1891 and spent the following two years at Cornell University, where he studied electrical engineering. He then located in Chicago, where he was employed by the Chicago Edison Company, now the Commonwealth Edison Company. After a year he came to Danville and was connected with the Danville Street Railway & Light Company in construction work. The next year he became a partner in the firm of Aylesworth & Allen, electrical contractors, located at 4 East North Street. This firm continued in business for about ten years, when Mr. Allen purchased the interests of Mr. Aylesworth in 1907. He then organized the Allen Electric Company at 14 East



North Street. Three years later the business was moved to 23 West North Street, which is the present location. The company are general contractors and carry a complete line of electrical supplies. They are also dealers in radios.

In April, 1897, Mr. Allen married Miss Viola Beck, of Danville, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Beck, natives of Indiana, both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Allen have no children.

Mr. Allen is a Republican, attends the Presbyterian Church, and is affiliated with Olive Branch Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Gao Grotto; Mohamet Temple Shrine, Peoria, Illinois; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is also a member of the Danville Country Club and Kiwanis Club, having served as president of both of these organizations.

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**Capt. Alba Cornelius Honeywell Cromer**, who is a veteran of the World War, is one of the most prominent and influential citizens of Hoopeston, being a member of one of the oldest and best known families of this section. He was born at Hoopeston, October 5, 1884, the son of John Calvin and Estella (Honeywell) Cromer.

A complete sketch of the Honeywell family appears elsewhere in this history with the biography of Alba Honeywell.

Alba C. Honeywell Cromer received his early schooling in the public schools of Hoopeston, from which he was graduated in 1900. He spent four years at the University of Illinois. In 1903 he assumed charge of the vast estate of Alba Honeywell, his grandfather, who was failing in health. At the death of Mr. Honeywell in 1916 Mr. Cromer assumed complete charge of the estate as executor.



CAPT. ALBA C. H. CROMER



At the outbreak of the World War Mr. Cromer received a commission as first lieutenant and was sent to Rockford, Illinois, as an instructor. He was later assigned to a supply train and went to the east coast. Later, however, he was sent to France with the Three Hundred and Eleventh Supply Train, Black Hawk, or Eighty-sixth Division. He was promoted to the rank of captain and after the close of the war made an extensive tour of Europe. He was discharged in October, 1919, from Fort Dodge, Iowa. Mr. Cromer then became interested in the Automobile Finance Company, of Indianapolis, Indiana, as secretary and treasurer, later becoming president. Subsequently he went to Chicago and purchased a seat on the Chicago Board of Trade. His next business connection was with the Hardinge Oil Burner Company.

Mr. Cromer is a Republican, a member of the Universalist Church, American Legion, and Sigma Upsilon fraternity. He is also affiliated with Star Lodge No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

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**Robert H. Swift**, able chief of police in Danville, is widely known throughout Vermilion County. He was born at North Vernon, Indiana, June 24, 1867, the son of Samuel C. and Olive (Starling) Swift.

Samuel C. Swift, deceased, was a veteran of the Civil War. He was born in Pennsylvania and as a boy learned the carpenter trade. He enlisted in the army during the Civil War when he was eighteen years old and served throughout the entire war as a member of the Sixty-sixth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was wounded in battle but continued in active service nevertheless. After the close of the war, Mr. Swift removed to North Vernon, Indiana, where he engaged in the building and contracting business. He was among the early settlers of Danville and



for many years was identified with the building interests of Elden T. and Charles J. Palmer, as well as with Captain Frazier. He served as a member of the first volunteer fire department, which was located on North Vermilion Street. Mr. Swift was connected with the building of the coal mining housing section at Grape Creek, Illinois, until about 1913, when he retired and lived at 510 North Washington Street, Danville. He died in 1924 at the age of eighty-one years and is buried in Atherton Cemetery, Danville. His wife, born at Cincinnati, Ohio, died in 1925. Mr. and Mrs. Swift were the parents of five children: George, died in infancy; Robert H., the subject of this sketch; Clyde E., lives at Danville; Clara, the widow of David Komyathy, lives at Danville; and Albert H., who met with an accidental death in 1912.

Robert H. Swift attended the public schools of Danville. He worked as a boy in the grocery store of Fred C. Hacker, and later was connected with the Wabash Railroad at Tilton, Illinois, as a call boy. He subsequently became a locomotive fireman and in 1890 entered the employ of the Chicago & West Michigan Railroad at Muskegon, Michigan, as roundhouse foreman. He served in that capacity for about five years and then returned to Tilton, Illinois, as roundhouse foreman. In 1903 Mr. Swift became a member of the local police force under John Beard, mayor of Danville. He later became sergeant under Mayor Platt and as captain under Mayor Madden. In 1922 he resigned and returned to the employ of the Wabash Railroad again as night roundhouse foreman. Due to an accident which he suffered in the shops, Mr. Swift was forced to retire from that work and in May, 1927, he was appointed chief of police of Danville, which office he has since filled with exceptional merit.

On September 28, 1892, Mr. Swift married Miss Mary C. Klage, of Danville, the daughter of William and Frederica (Radcliff) Klage, natives of Germany, both now

deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Swift were born three children: Otto H., who is identified with the K. & S. Stores, Danville; Hilda A., married Leslie Taylor, who died in 1921, and she is now the wife of Paul Peeler, of Clinton, Indiana; and Lillian M., lives at home, is employed as book-keeper by the Danville Motor Company.

Mr. Swift has always been a Republican. He attends the Methodist Church, and his wife was reared as a member of the German Lutheran Church. Mr. Swift is also identified with the Loyal Order of Moose, charter member, and he belongs to the Railwaymen's Relief Association, and Court of Honor.

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**Edgar N. Osborn**, deceased, was well and favorably known in Danville, where he successfully conducted a floral business for many years. He was born at Mahomet, Illinois, September 26, 1870, the son of Jonathan and Fil-lota (Ross) Osborn.

Jonathan Osborn was a direct descendent of Daniel Boone. He was a native of Kentucky and died in 1916. His wife, born in Ohio, died in 1910. Both are buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Danville. Their children numbered ten, of whom Edgar N., the subject of this sketch, was the third in order of birth.

Edgar N. Osborn spent his boyhood on a farm in Champaign County, Illinois, and obtained his education in the district schools. He was eleven years old when his parents moved to a farm near Danville. He was employed as a boy in the greenhouse of Frank Smith, of Danville, and after several years engaged in business for himself at 2200 North Vermilion Street. In 1906 he purchased the property at 101 East English Street, where he continued in business until the time of his death, which occurred May 2, 1928. His widow, Retta Osborn, has continued to

manage the business and has met with deserved success in her undertaking. Early in life she was a school teacher. She spent several years in the county recorder's office and was also employed as a clerk by Mr. Wolford in the building and loan business. In 1891 when the Palmer National Bank was organized Mrs. Osborn also served in the bank as clerk, making a total of fourteen years in the employ of C. J. Palmer and Mr. Wolford. In the year of 1905 she was employed by Harvey Adams, as a clerk in the Vermilion County Building Association. She maintained an office in the Baum Building, where she was employed by the various fire insurance companies of Danville, being stamping secretary. Mrs. Osborn's wide business experience has served to aid her greatly in the management of the business with which she is now connected.

To Edgar N. and Retta (Sheffer) Osborn, whose marriage took place in 1894, the following children were born: Dorothy Myra, married Wallace Eslinger, lives at Danville, and they have a son, Wallace Osborn Eslinger, born in 1927; Sarah L., married Harry L. Beane, lives at Danville, and they have a daughter, Dorothy Jane, born in 1924; and Laura Marian, lives at home.

Retta (Sheffer) Osborn was born in Danville, the daughter of William B. and Myra (Walker) Sheffer. The former was born at Williamsport, Indiana. He was a Civil War veteran and died October 22, 1912. His widow, born at West Lebanon, Indiana, now lives at Danville. She is eighty years of age.

Politically, Mr. Osborn was a Republican. He served as a member of the election board in the Seventh Ward, Fifth Precinct, Danville, for a number of years. He was a member of the Immanuel Presbyterian Church, and Modern Woodmen.

Mrs. Retta Osborn is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and Daughters of the Civil War Veterans. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

**H. H. Howard.**—Numbered among the progressive young business men of Danville is H. H. Howard, who is president of the Howard-Martin Tire Company, Inc. He is also a veteran of the World War. Mr. Howard was born at Volo, Illinois, October 21, 1886, the son of O. A. and Nellie (Rogers) Howard.

O. A. Howard, retired, is a native of Pennsylvania. He was reared and educated there and followed general farming and stock raising until 1914, at which time he came to Illinois and settled at Round Lake. He is now a resident of that place. Mr. and Mrs. Howard have the following children: H. H., the subject of this sketch; Vera, who died in 1923, was the wife of Joseph Davis, lives at Round Lake, Illinois; Bessie, married William Molitor, farmer, lives at Round Lake, Illinois; and Sarah, married Raymond Ripburger, lives at Round Lake, Illinois.

H. H. Howard grew upon a farm near Volo, Illinois, and received his schooling in the district schools. He also attended the schools of Waukegan, Illinois, having gone there in 1899. Mr. Howard worked tirelessly in his efforts to support himself and at the same time acquire an education, and in so doing worked evenings in a grocery store as a clerk while attending day classes. In 1907 he became a traveling salesman for Bremner Brothers out of Chicago. Three years later he became a representative for the Steel-Wedeles Company of Chicago, and in 1916 established the International Maccaroni Company, at Joliet, Illinois. This business was sold by Mr. Howard in February, 1918, and at that time he enlisted in the United States Army, Engineering Corps, for service in the World War. He was sent to Camp Dodge, Iowa, and in June of that year sailed for France, where he saw active service until July, 1919. He participated in the drives of St. Mihiel and the Argonne. Following his discharge from the service Mr. Howard came to Danville and organized and incorporated the Howard-Martin Tire Company, Inc., on Febru-



ary 5, 1920. He has continued as its president. The business was originally located at 111 East North Street, later being moved to 114 North Hazel Street, in September, 1924. They handle automobile tires and a general line of replacement parts.

In 1921 Mr. Howard married Miss Ruth Burchans, of Danville, the daughter of James H. and Josie (Phillips) Burchans. Mr. Burchans is chief electrician for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, Danville.

Mr. Howard is a Republican and a member of the Methodist Church. He is identified with Rising Sun Lodge No. 115, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Chapter No. 41, Waukegan, Illinois; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Shrine, Springfield, Illinois; Gao Grotto, Danville; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; and Woodmen of the World.

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**Philip Barton Voorhees**, deceased, was an important figure in the business and social life of Danville, where he always manifested a keen interest in civic affairs. He was born on a farm in Newell Township, near Danville, January 8, 1875, the son of Peter and Mary (Button) Voorhees.

Peter Voorhees spent practically his entire life on a farm in Newell Township, Vermilion County. He died in 1903 and his wife died in 1902. Both are buried in Springhill Cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Voorhees had five children, as follows: Arthur, died in 1920; Rose, died in 1910, was the wife of Gen. A. G. P. Dodge, who died in Chicago, Illinois, in 1918; Julia, died in 1901, was the wife of Ben Crawford, deceased; Daniel W., who died in 1923; and Philip Barton, the subject of this sketch.

Philip Barton Voorhees spent his boyhood on his father's farm and received his early education in the schools of Danville. He was graduated from Vanderbilt

University, at Nashville, Tennessee, and attended Columbia University, New York City, from which he was graduated in law. He then went to Los Angeles, California, where he was a professor in law until 1902. Upon his return to Danville Mr. Voorhees became interested in the real estate business. He managed the properties of the Dodge estate, as well as the estate of his own family. Although Mr. Voorhees was admitted to the bar of Illinois he never practiced that profession. He died May 25, 1918, and is buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville.

In 1897 Mr. Voorhees was united in marriage with Miss Esther Palmer, the daughter of Charles J. and Mary (Davis) Palmer. Mr. Palmer died in 1921 and his wife died in 1917. Both were natives of Danville, where they spent their entire lives. Mr. Voorhees was married the second time in Danville, September 14, 1910, to Miss Kate Abdill, of Danville, the daughter of Edward C. and Anna B. (Peters) Abdill. Mr. Abdill, born at Perrysville, Indiana, died in 1901, and his wife, a native of Salem, Illinois, born in 1843, died in 1922. Both are buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. They had the following children: (1) Charles Peters, married Florence Foster, of Covington, Indiana, lives at Danville, and they have a son, Russell Foster Abdill; (2) Bertha W., married Ernest English, lives at Danville, and they have three children: Kathleen, married J. E. McMillan; Connell Abdill English, lives at Saint Louis, Missouri; and Anne L. English, lives at Danville; (3) Kate, the widow of Philip Barton Voorhees, the subject of this sketch; and (4) Harry B., who died in 1919.

Mr. Voorhees was always a Democrat. He attended the Episcopal Church, and held membership in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and Danville Country Club. He was an ardent worker in support of Lakeview Hospital, Danville, and served as a member of the Board of Directors.

**Charles W. Collings**, assistant postmaster of Danville, is a prominent citizen of Vermilion County, where he has spent practically his entire life. He was born at Muncie, Illinois, May 24, 1888, the son of John Quincy and Emma Frances (Wise) Collings.

Charles W. Collings received his education in the public schools of Muncie, Illinois, and was twelve years of age when his family came to Danville, where he completed his schooling, being a graduate of Danville High School in the class of 1906. The following year was spent as a clerk in the grocery store of Charles Thornton, and later Mr. Collings was employed by W. M. Jeremy. On June 15, 1907, he entered the local post office as a carrier, but served in that capacity only fifteen days, at that time being made clerk. On October 1, 1917, he was appointed assistant postmaster, in which capacity he has continued to serve until the present time.

In 1912 Mr. Collings was united in marriage with Miss Enos Young, of Danville. Mr. and Mrs. Collings have two daughters: Thelma, and Martha, and one son, Marion.

Mr. Collings is a member of the First Christian Church, Danville, and is affiliated with Olive Branch Lodge No. 38, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

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**William M. Cannady**, who is successfully engaged in the real estate and insurance business in Danville, is a member of one of the oldest and best known families of Vermilion County. He was born in Danville Township, November 30, 1865, the son of William M. and Hannah (Deamude) Cannady.

William M. Cannady was born in Indiana and was a small boy when his family removed to Vermilion County. He engaged in general farming and stock raising throughout his life. He died in 1877 and his wife, born in Lick-

ing County, Ohio, died in January, 1866. Both are buried in Snyder Cemetery, near Danville. Their children were: George Clark, who lives at Danville; Ella M., the widow of John C. Burroughs, who was accidentally killed, and she lives at Portland, Oregon; and William M., the subject of this sketch.

William M. Cannady was reared and educated at Danville. He was cared for by his uncle, Silas W. Deamude, his parents both having died when he was very young. Mr. Cannady was employed first by the Danville Buggy Company, now the Henry Hulce Company, for about six years, and he then entered the shops of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad as a painter. Two years later, due to ill health, he entered business college and in 1900 he became chief clerk in the office of the assessor and collector, later holding the same offices himself. In 1909 Mr. Cannady became interested in the real estate and insurance business and opened offices at 18 West North Street. Eight years later he moved to 12 West North Street, where he maintained offices for eight years, after which he located at 10 South Vermilion Street. On January 1, 1929, Mr. Cannady moved his offices to the Jacobs Building, 128½ North Vermilion Street, where he is now located. He ranks among the leading realtors of the city and is also extensively engaged in the insurance business.

Mr. Cannady was married the first time in 1886 to Miss Lizzie Atkins, of Danville, who died in 1891. She was the daughter of William B. and Frances Atkins. The former was born in Ohio and died in 1910. His wife died in 1912. Both are buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. By his first marriage Mr. Cannady had a daughter, Elizabeth Atkins Cannady, who died in infancy. He was married in 1895 to Miss Eva F. Turner, of Urbana, Illinois, who died in 1904. She was the daughter of William and Elizabeth Turner. He was born in New York and died in 1871. His wife, a native of Pennsylvania, died in



1914. Both are buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Urbana, Illinois. Four children were born to William M. and Eva F. (Turner) Cannady: John, born in 1896, lives at Danville; Eva, born in January, 1898, died in infancy; Helen, born in June, 1899, married Howard L. Lawrence, teller at the First National Bank, Danville; and Edwin Clark, born in 1902, lives at Danville.

Mr. Cannady was married the third time in June, 1927, to Miss Myrtle M. Hornady, of West Lebanon, Indiana, the daughter of John H. and Armatha (Skillman) Hornady. Mr. Hornady died in 1917 and his wife died in 1922.

Mr. Cannady has always been a Republican. He holds membership in St. James Methodist Episcopal Church, and is affiliated with Olive Branch Lodge No. 38, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and Tribe of Ben Hur, of which he has been Chief for the past nine years. He is past president and at present secretary and treasurer of the Danville Real Estate Board. Mr. Cannady has a wide acquaintance in the community where he has spent his entire life and is well liked by all who know him.

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**Charles G. Jump**, who is well known in Danville as ticket agent and station master for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, takes an active part in the affairs of his community. He was born at Lincoln, Indiana, October 20, 1876, the son of William H. and Anna Ladica (Trapp) Jump.

William H. Jamp, retired, is a native of Indiana, as is also his wife. They have spent their entire lives at Lincoln, where Mr. Jump was prominent as a successful farmer. Their children were, as follows: Emma, died March 13, 1907, was the wife of Walter Burke; Charles G., the subject of this sketch; Laura V., died November

1, 1881; Madge, married Dr. P. G. Puterbaugh, dentist, Chicago, Illinois; Anna B., lives at home; Morton, died June 24, 1912; and Frank L., farmer, lives near Lincoln, Indiana.

The boyhood of Charles G. Jump was spent on his father's farm and he received his education in the schools of Lincoln, Indiana, and in 1893 he went to Topeka, Kansas, where he learned telegraphy. In 1896 he went to Farmer City, Illinois, where he was employed by the Big Four Railroad as telegraph operator. After a year he came to Danville and spent eighteen months as an operator here for the Big Four Railroad, after which he was sent to Urbana, Illinois, for six months. He then accepted a position as operator with the Illinois Central Railroad at Champaign, Illinois, but soon after went to Tolona, Illinois, and from there to Indianapolis, Indiana, where he was employed by the Western Union Company for a short time. From there he went to Tuscola, Illinois, as an operator for the I. B. & W. Railroad, and later to Odin, Illinois, in the employ of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. The following year was spent at Terre Haute, Indiana, with the Vandalia Railway, and from there Mr. Jump went to Hillsdale, Indiana, with the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad. After a year he was employed by the Wabash Railroad as an operator at Peru, Indiana, under Supt. E. A. Gould. He served in that capacity for five years and then, in June, 1905, came to Danville and accepted a position with the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad as ticket agent in the old Collet Street Station for four months. From there he was sent to Chicago Heights as ticket agent and six years later was promoted to traveling passenger agent, in which capacity he served for three years. In May, 1914, he returned to Danville as ticket agent for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad at the old Collet Street Station. He sold the last ticket in the old sta-

tion and the first ticket in the new station. At the present time Mr. Jump is ticket agent and station master.

On June 26, 1900, Mr. Jump married Miss Lucille M. Reeves, of Chicago, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Reeves. Mr. Reeves, a native of Indiana, died in 1883, and his wife died in 1881. To Mr. and Mrs. Jump were born two sons: R. St. Clair, who is assistant sales manager for the Atlantic & Pacific Stores, Indianapolis, Indiana; and Herbert L., who is identified with the Colby Furniture Company, Chicago, Illinois.

Politically, Mr. Jump is a Republican. He is a member of the First Presbyterian Church, and is prominent in lodge circles in Danville, being past Master and present Grand Lecturer of Anchor Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; and past Thrice Potent Master and Most Wise Master of Rose Croix, Danville Consistory. He is also a member of Eastern Star, Iris Chapter, of which he is Worthy Patron at present. Mr. Jump is a member of the Rotary Club, Danville.

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**G. T. Cass, M. D.**—A member of the medical profession distinguished by more than eighteen years of service in Danville, is Doctor Cass, a native of this city, and a member of one of the old and substantial families of Vermilion County. He was born November 3, 1871, the son of John O. and Mary B. (Thayer) Cass.

John O. Cass was born on a farm near Danville, where he now lives retired. He is eighty-two years of age and his wife, born at Hillsboro, Ohio, is eighty years old. He attended the rural schools of Vermilion County and was enrolled in the college at State Line, Illinois. He taught school for a few years, but spent the greater part of his life as a farmer. For a time he lived at Crescent, Illinois, and later at Rankin, Illinois. He also farmed near Van

Buren, Arkansas, and was the owner of a newspaper, the "Van Buren Argus," at that place for several years. In 1879 he returned to his farm near Danville, where he remained until 1894. He then went back to Arkansas for five years, after which he again returned to Danville. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Cass: G. T., the subject of this sketch; and Carrie, born in 1874, died in 1911, was the wife of Zill Samson, and they had a daughter, Maida, born in 1895.

The boyhood of G. T. Cass was spent on his father's farm near Danville and he received his early schooling in the rural schools of this section. He was graduated from Valparaiso University in 1891 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and then taught in the schools of Vermilion County for seven years. He subsequently went to Charleston, Arkansas, where he was principal of the high school for two years. Upon his return to Danville he worked on his father's farm for four years and in 1903 went to Valparaiso University, entering the Chicago College of Medicine & Surgery. He received his degree in 1907 and established his practice at Dodge, Nebraska, where he remained for one year. In the fall of 1911 he located at Danville, with offices at 107½ North Vermilion Street. Five years later he removed to the Colonial Theater Building and after three years in that location moved to the First National Bank Building, where he now has offices.

In 1907 Doctor Cass was united in marriage with Miss Bennis Gordon, of Jacksonville, Illinois, the daughter of Benton and Charolette (Gibbs) Gordon. He died in 1900 and his wife died in 1915. Doctor and Mrs. Cass have two children: Gordon, born February 1, 1909, attends Jacksonville (Illinois) College; and Georgia, born August 1, 1912, attends Danville High School.

Doctor Cass is identified with the Vermilion County Medical Society, Illinois State Medical Society, American Medical Association, and Aesculapian Medical Society.



He served as health commissioner under Mayor Rearick in 1917-18. Doctor Cass is a Democrat in politics, and is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Modern Woodmen of America; Royal Neighbors; and Independent Order of Odd Fellows, No. 69.

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**Charles E. Swisher** is among the enterprising business men of Danville, where he has been a leader in business and civic affairs for more than a quarter of a century as proprietor of Charles Swisher & Sons, wholesale dealers in flour and feed. He was born near this city, January 31, 1870, the son of E. F. and Maude (Hughes) Swisher.

E. F. Swisher was born near Danville, and was a member of one of the first families of Vermilion County. He spent his boyhood on a farm and attended the district schools. He also attended college at State Line, Indiana, after which he taught school for a while. In 1887 he came to Danville and established a grocery business at 107 North Vermilion Street, which at that time was the most northerly store on Vermilion Street. He successfully conducted this business until the time of his retirement in 1910. Mr. Swisher died in 1920 and his wife, a native of Ohio, died in 1925. Both are buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. E. F. Swisher was a son of Lewis Swisher, being one of the first settlers of Danville, and he erected a log house on what is now known as Winter Avenue, a short distance west of Vermilion Street. This old landmark stood until recent years. There were two children born to Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Swisher: Charles E., the subject of this sketch; and Grace, married George Barnes, lives at Effingham, Illinois.

Charles E. Swisher grew up on a farm near Danville and obtained his education in the district schools. He also

was a student at Danville Seminary. He was employed in his father's store until 1895, at which time he engaged in business for himself on Vermilion Street at the present site of the Adams Building. He manufactured and repaired bicycles, and also operated a rental service, having as many as thirty-five bicycles for rent. About 1907 Mr. Swisher sold his shop to Force & Foul, and then organized the Danville Transfer Company in partnership with Edward Shutts and R. C. Spandau. At this time Mr. Swisher also became interested in the flour and feed business as a side line. In 1911 he devoted his entire interests and energies to this business and located on College Street, adjoining the present location of Swisher & Sons. He disposed of his interest in the transfer business. In 1924 Mr. Swisher removed to the modern brick and concrete building, where the business is now located. He has grown with the business and has seen the various stages in the flour and feed business change with the times. He handles everything in the manufactured feed line and supplies farmers within a radius of many miles of Danville. The company's up-to-date warehouse is located on the Wabash Railroad and has a storage capacity of approximately thirty cars. The sons of Mr. Swisher, Paul and Karl, have been associated with him for fifteen and eleven years, respectively.

In 1892 Mr. Swisher was married to Miss Nettie Gammel, of Danville, the daughter of Johnson and Mary (Liggett) Gammel. The former, a native of New York, died in 1928. His wife died in 1918. Both are buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Swisher: Paul E. and Karl H., associated in business with their father; Madeline, who has held the golf championship of Danville for the past three years; Louis, a graduate of the School of Fine Arts, Chicago, now an interior decorator, Danville; and Marian, a gradu-

ate of Danville High School in 1928, attends DePauw University.

Politically, Mr. Swisher is a Republican. He holds membership in the Presbyterian Church; Masonic Lodge; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Gao Grotto; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; Danville Country Club; Danville Yacht Club; and Roselawn Golf Club.

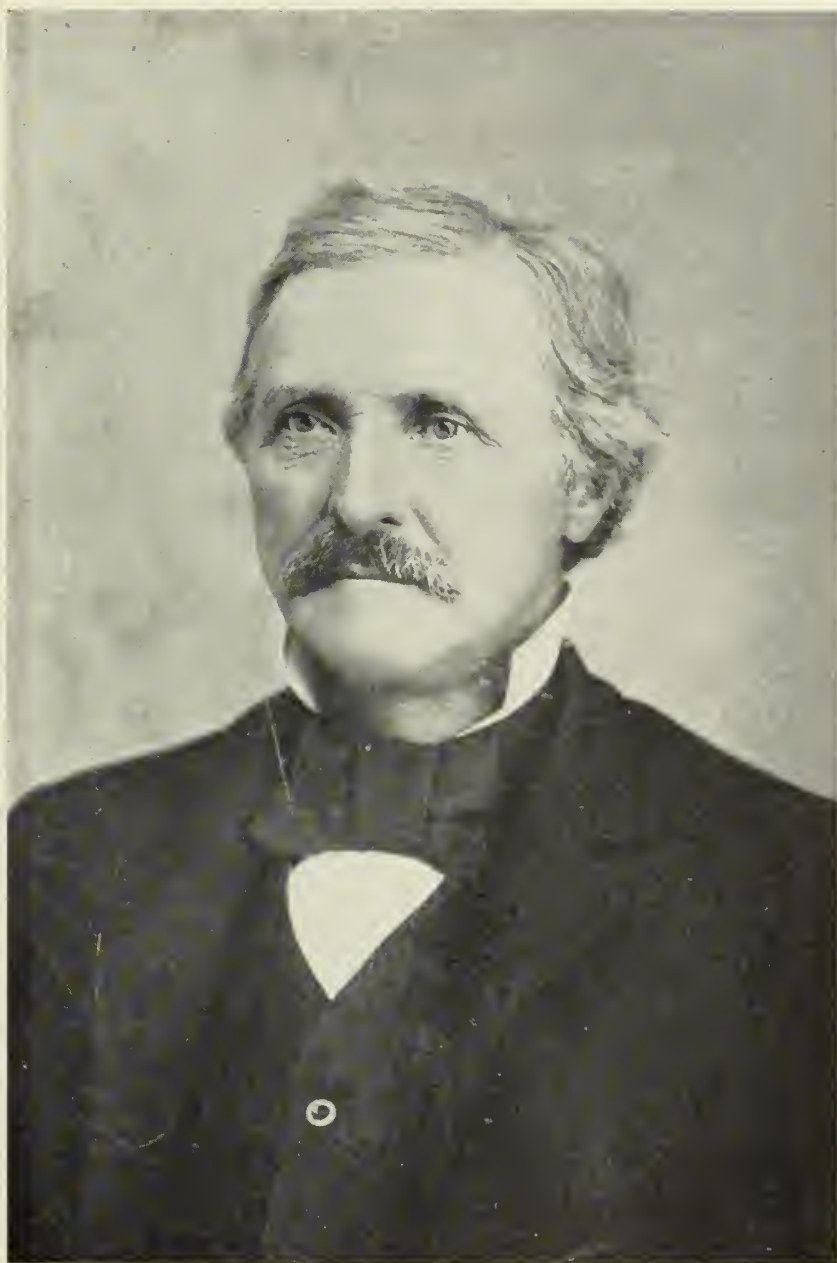
Mr. Swisher spends much of his spare time in hunting and is a frequent visitor in southern Texas and Arkansas. He also enjoys duck hunting on the Illinois River.

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**Alba Honeywell.**—In the death of Alba Honeywell, of Hoopeston, the community and the State of Illinois itself lost one of its most distinguished and eminent citizens. He was born at Sherwoods Corners, New York, December 15, 1821, and died February 4, 1916, ninety-four years of age. Mr. Honeywell is buried in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston.

Alba Honeywell was the son of Enoch and Eliza (Dye) Honeywell. He was born in Bedford, Westchester County, New York, in 1788, and died January 13, 1887. His wife was born in Rhode Island, March 16, 1795, and died May 4, 1868. Both are buried at Altay, New York. In his youth Enoch Honeywell learned the wheelwright's trade and he later became a farmer. He was a writer of great ability and wrote for many leading newspapers. He was a strong opponent of slavery and an ardent prohibitionist. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Enoch Honeywell: Alba, the subject of this sketch; Gilbert; and Thankful Emeline, married Willard Fenno.

Enoch Honeywell was the son of William and Elizabeth (Crawford) Honeywell. William Honeywell was born at Bedford, New York., in 1757 and died October 17, 1831. His wife, also a native of New York, was born in 1764,



ALBA HONEYWELL





and died in March, 1811. She lived just across the Croton River, Westchester County, New York, before her marriage to Mr. Honeywell. William Honeywell was the son of Enoch and Elethea (Searls) Honeywell. He was born April 9, 1725, and died in 1813. His wife was born in 1734 and died in 1816. Enoch Honeywell was the son of Samuel and Mercy Honeywell. He was born January 8, 1695, and died in 1785. Samuel Honeywell was the son of Israel and Mary Honeywell. He came from England in 1670 and settled in Westchester County, New York. He was born in 1660 and died in 1722. Israel Honeywell was the son of Roger Honeywell, who was born in North Devon, County Devonshire, England. He came to the United States and settled at Bedford, Westchester County, New York.

Alba Honeywell, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the grade schools of Cayuga and Steuben counties, New York. He was also graduated from Oneida Institute, near Utica, New York, and while a student there was a student of Rev. Uriah Green, a noted prohibitionist and anti-slavery lecturer. He later studied medicine and became a doctor, but never practiced that profession. Mr. Honeywell also studied law and was admitted to the bar, but never practiced. He began his early life as a teacher in the common schools and academies of New York and from the beginning was opposed to slavery, being among the first to become actively engaged in the organization of a political party for the abolition of slavery. He was so prominent that he was chosen as a delegate to the Buffalo convention that nominated James G. Birney for the presidency on the Abolitionist ticket. He was one who helped to smuggle the slaves through to the north on the underground railroad. Mr. Honeywell lived at Rochester, New York, for some time and then removed to New York City, where he became editor of the New York Eagle. He was also associated there with the American Anti-Slavery So-

ciety and for four years was associate editor of the New York Standard. Owing to ill health, however, Mr. Honeywell was forced to retire from newspaper work. He had become interested in literature at an early date and became well known as an author. He was the writer of several plays, which were dramatized. Mr. Honeywell was also greatly interested in the Pittman system of phonetic spelling and was the author of a dictionary.

In 1848 Mr. Honeywell became associated with Andrews & Boyle in the publication of the Anglo-Saxon, a paper devoted entirely to phonetic reform in spelling. He wrote and edited an exhaustive treatise of eleven volumes of language, embracing all its departments for elementary phonetics to rhetoric and logic. On April 14, 1853, he left New York and arrived at Lafayette, Indiana, by packet boat. He subsequently made his way to Iroquois County, Illinois, where he purchased one thousand acres of land, which is now Stockland Township. He spent three years in that section and made substantial improvements. In the spring of 1856 he started for Minnesota with his family but stopped at Chicago, Illinois, where he became identified with the Chicago News. The following year he removed to Logansport, Ind., where he became successful as a manufacturer of lumber. He also was a teacher there. At the outbreak of the Civil War he was offered a commission in an Indiana regiment but circumstances prevented him from accepting. In 1863 Mr. Honeywell removed to Iroquois County, Ill., where he managed his vast agricultural interests. He also served as township assessor for six years and as county clerk for four years, at that time maintaining his residence at Watseka, Illinois. The family located at Hoopeston in 1873. During his term as county clerk Mr. Honeywell invested largely in Vermilion County property, which is now part of the incorporated limits of Hoopeston. He helped in the laying out of the city of Hoopeston and added to additions and subdivisions

in the city plat, always taking an active part in the development of Hoopeston. In 1879 he became mayor and assisted largely in creating and fostering the sentiment that has made Hoopeston a saloon-less town.

Mr. Honeywell also took an active part in the organization of the canning and sugar industries here, having lost considerable money in the failure of the sugar business, but the canning business continued as the major industry in this section. He was also one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Watseka, Illinois, of which he served as a director for thirty years. He became the owner of over three thousand acres of land in Vermilion and Iroquois counties and also had real estate holdings in Cook, Lake and Scott counties, Illinois, as well as in Florida. He was the owner of Hygiana Springs, near Boswell, Indiana, and improved that summer resort extensively. Mr. Honeywell was the owner of the Ludington Canning Company at Ludington, Mich. He built a fine summer home at Lake Bluff, Illinois, which is now owned and occupied by his daughter, Mrs. Beall.

On April 3, 1851, Mr. Honeywell was united in marriage with Miss Cornelia Rosetta Andrews, the daughter of Dr. Anson and Sarah (Randall) Andrews, natives of New York, both now deceased. He was a leading physician and surgeon of Reading, New York. Mrs. Honeywell was a woman of fine mind and heart and devoted to her family. Four daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. Honeywell: 1. Estella, married John Calvin Cromer, deceased. She lives at Hoopeston. They had a son, Alba C. H., a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history; 2. Florence Andrews, married Major A. H. Trego, who died in 1916. She lives at Hoopeston; 3. Lillian Amelia, married Rev. Thomas A. Beall, deceased. She lives at Lake Bluff, Illinois. They had three children: Homer Honeywell, Florence Yolanda, and Cornelius Allene; 4. Sadie



Eliza, married Dr. Albert Marion Earel, lives at Hoopeston. They have a daughter, Eleanor Claire.

Mr. Honeywell was a member of the Universalist Church. He was very liberal in his gifts to his church and city. Among the outstanding gifts to Hoopeston may be mentioned the ground which is the site of the Carnegie Public Library, and two parks in the city of Hoopeston.

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**O. H. Crist, M. D.**, is numbered among the prominent physicians and surgeons of Danville, where he has engaged in practice with unusual success for the past twenty-two years. He is a native of Indiana, born at Lewis, October 22, 1878, the son of Marcus D. and Laura J. (Mahan) Crist.

Marcus D. Crist and his wife were natives of Indiana. He was a farmer throughout his life. He died in 1893 at the age of forty-five years and is buried in Friendly Grove Cemetery, Lewis, Indiana. Mr. Crist was a life long member of the Baptist Church. His wife died in 1912. They were the parents of four children: C. C., lives at Sheldon, <sup>burn</sup> Indiana; D. D., lives at Sheldon, <sup>burn</sup> Indiana; A. R., chemist with the Cornstalk Products Company, lives at Danville, is a World War veteran, having served in France; and O. H., the subject of this sketch.

The boyhood of O. H. Crist was spent in Lewis, Indiana, where he attended the public schools. He subsequently attended Indiana State Normal School for two years, and later entered the Medical School of Northwestern University, from which he was graduated in 1906. He then came to Danville and served as interne in St. Elizabeth's Hospital for one year, after which he established offices at 2009 East Main Street. Eight years later he removed to his present location, 206 Adams Building. Doctor Crist is widely known as a specialist in women's diseases and is a leading surgeon of this section.

In 1913 Doctor Crist was united in marriage with Miss Edna Starkey, of Pesotum, Illinois, the daughter of Eli W. and Fannie (Davis) Starkey. Mr. Starkey lives retired at Shawnee, Oklahoma. His wife died in 1892 and is buried at Pesotum, Illinois. Doctor and Mrs. Crist have two children: Jack Wesley, born September 12, 1917; and Joan, born February 11, 1923.

Doctor Crist is a Republican, a member of McKinley Methodist Episcopal Church, Masonic Lodge, thirty-second degree, Danville Country Club, and he is identified with the Vermilion County Medical Society, Illinois State Medical Society, and American Medical Association. He is a member of the staffs of St. Elizabeth's and Lakeview hospitals, and is district surgeon for the Milwaukee Railway and assistant district surgeon for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, Danville.

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**Ira C. Keefer**, successful building contractor of Danville, is a native of Indiana. He was born at Rob Roy, August 20, 1881, the son of Robert D. and Ida A. (Clawson) Keefer.

Robert D. Keefer, deceased, was a native of Indiana. He became identified with his father's general contracting business at Rob Roy early in life and from 1895 until 1899 conducted a general mercantile business at that place, and at the same time served as postmaster. Mr. Keefer died June 9, 1899, at the age of forty-six years and is buried in Beulah Cemetery, Rob Roy. His widow lives at Danville. They had the following children: Ira C., the subject of this sketch; Effie M., married Charles E. Hughes, lives at Danville; Ora L., died November 9, 1918, had a son, Robert D., who lives at Marion, Indiana; Ruby D., married L. W. King, lives at Danville; and Robert L., World War veteran, lives at Danville, Illinois.

Ira C. Keefer grew up at Rob Roy, Indiana, and was educated in the public schools. As a boy he was interested in carpentry work in his father's shop and he also was identified with his father's business at Rob Roy. In 1905 he sold the store and came to Danville, where he was employed as a carpenter by Charles Gillespie for two years. The following six years were spent in the employ of Joseph Schingel. In 1913 Mr. Keefer engaged in the contracting business for himself. He moved his place of business to 651 East Fairchild Street ten years later, where he is now located. While Mr. Keefer carries on a general contracting business he has specialized in residential work. Among some of the fine homes built by him are the George Fox residence at 1202 Sherman Street, the William Current residence at 1304 Franklin Street, and the Everett Dalbey residence on East Raymond Street. He also erected the parsonage of St. Paul's Church. Mr. Keefer also makes a specialty of surfacing and finishing hardwood floors.

Mr. Keefer is unmarried. He is a Republican in politics and holds membership in St. James Methodist Episcopal Church.

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**J. F. Clem**, who is manager of the Lincoln Tire Company, Danville, is a veteran of the World War, and is recognized as one of the successful young business men of the community. He is a native of Labette County, Kansas, born January 8, 1891, the son of John David and Sarah Jane (Cooper) Clem.

John David Clem, retired, has spent practically his entire life in Vermilion County. He was born in Warren County, Indiana, and was a small child when his parents removed to this county. He was reared and educated near Danville, and in 1876 went to Kansas, where he farmed until 1892. He then returned to Vermilion County and

located on a farm four miles west of Danville. He was the founder of the telephone system at Bismark, Illinois, where he was located until 1916. In that year he came to Danville and worked as an engineer in Lakeview Hospital until his retirement in 1922. His wife is a native of Springfield, Missouri. Their children were: W. A., lives at Corinth, North Dakota; James Louis, lives near Armstrong, Illinois; Ada E., died at the age of eight years; Leona Myrtle, married H. M. Ballard, lives at Danville; J. F., the subject of this sketch; Ross A., lives at Danville; and Harold D., a World War veteran, lives at Newburg, New York.

J. F. Clem was educated in the public schools of Bismarck. He learned the plasterer's trade, which he followed until April 5, 1917, at which time he volunteered for service in the World War. He enlisted in Battery A, One Hundred Forty-ninth Field Artillery, Rainbow Division, and was sent to Fort Sheridan, Illinois, and later to Camp Mills, New York. He sailed for France on September 1, 1917, and went to the front lines immediately, participating in the battles of Chateau Thierry, Compiègne, Argonne, and Belleau Wood. He spent nine months in the trenches and on December 3, 1918, was sent to the hospital, due to shell shock. He was discharged from the service on March 30, 1919, and returned to Danville. Due to poor health after the war, Mr. Clem was unable to follow his trade and sought outside employment with the American Railway Express Company. In May, 1923, he became manager of a branch store for the Kokomo Rubber Company, which was later sold to W. T. Flynn, and Mr. Clem remained as manager for the company until 1927, at which time he opened a tire store of his own on West Main Street, known as the Lincoln Tire Company. Mr. Clem is distributor for Dunlap automobile tires and handles Texaco and Kendall products in gasoline and oils.



On September 28, 1919, Mr. Clem married Miss Grace May Allen, of Cates, Indiana, the daughter of George and Rose (McGee) Allen, both of whom were killed in an automobile accident on April 18, 1923. They are buried at Cooper's Chapel, Cates, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Clem had two children, Curtis G. and Lola Ruth, both of whom died in infancy. An adopted daughter, Frances Opal Clem, was born in 1922.

Politically, Mr. Clem is a Democrat. He is a member of the Methodist Church; Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Olive Branch; Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Modern Woodmen of America; and Veterans of Foreign Wars, Jewel White Post No. 728; and he is also president of Battery A Club.

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**J. W. Sink.**—Active and progressive in business, J. W. Sink is prominent in Danville, where he is identified with J. W. Sink & Son, Hotel Wolford Garage and Service Station. He was born in Franklin County, Virginia, October 27, 1874, the son of David and Martha (Frantz) Sink.

David Sink, retired, is a native of Virginia. He spent his boyhood on a farm in Franklin County and received his education in the district schools. Mr. Sink was a resident of that section until 1906, at which time he located at Flora, Indiana, where he now lives retired. He is now eighty years of age. His father died at the age of ninety-three years. Martha (Frantz) Sink, who died February 13, 1926, is buried at Flora, Indiana. Her death was the first to occur in the immediate family during a period of seventy-five years. Twelve children were born to Mr. and Mrs. David Sink, all of whom are living, as follows: Charles F., lives at Flora, Indiana; J. W., the subject of this sketch; Oscar K., lives at South Whitley, Indiana; Joseph C., lives at Camden, Indiana; Edna, married Albert

Huber, lives at Glendora, California; May, married Thomas Frantz, lives at Camden, Indiana; Berkley D., lives at Flora; Samuel S., lives at Camden; Rev. Robert L., minister of the Brethren Church, lives at Des Moines, Iowa; Clyde Ray, lives at Flora; Ernest, lives at Bringhurst, Indiana; and Pearl, married Ora Shirar, lives at Bringhurst.

J. W. Sink remained on his father's farm in Franklin County, Virginia, until 1895. He was educated in the public schools and engaged in farming near Flora, Indiana, from 1895 until 1901, at which time he became interested in the carriage and implement business at Bringhurst, Indiana. Four years later he sold his business there but established another business of the same type at Flora, under the firm name of Sink & Ikenburry. Mr. Sink disposed of this business in 1907 and spent the following two years as a traveling representative for the Ligonier Carriage Company. In 1909 he became associated with the International Harvester Company, with whom he was employed until 1914. He spent the following year at Joliet, Illinois, with the Moline Plow Company, and in 1915 went to Rensselaer, Indiana, with the International Harvester Company. He was transferred to Kankakee, Illinois, in 1918, and the following year came to Danville. In 1921 Mr. Sink incorporated the Vermilion County Motor Bus Company with headquarters at 24 North Hazel Street. He became agent for the Reo automobile in this city in 1925, but in January, 1926, disposed of the latter and continued in the bus business. In August, 1928, J. W. Sink & Son leased the property at the corner of Harrison and North Hazel streets where on was erected a large brick storage garage. The building has a capacity of one hundred cars and provides ample room for repairs and service. In September, 1929, the company leased a section of the building to the Morris Motor Company, who are agents for the Cadillac and LaSalle automobiles.

On September 2, 1905, Mr. Sink was married at Winona Lake, Indiana, to Miss Lottie Myer, of Flora, Indiana, the daughter of Amos and Serener (Brim) Myer. Mr. Myer died in 1913 and his wife died April 20, 1929. Both are buried at Flora. Mr. and Mrs. Sink's son, Donald M., is a partner in the business with his father. He was born in 1906 and was educated in the public schools of Joliet, Kankakee, and Danville. He has been associated in business with his father since 1921. Previous to that time he was interested in the real estate business in Florida, being identified with the Haven Villa Corporation. He also spent some time in California with the C. R. May Company, Buick distributors. Throughout his high school career he took a prominent part in athletics and had the distinction of being a member of the all county football team for three years, and the State team for one year. He was also interested in basketball and baseball. He has remained an ardent follower of the Danville High School teams and with his parents is a firm supporter of the local teams. He was married in 1924 to Miss Maxine Elliot Cook, of Catlin, Illinois. They have a son, John Frederick, born September 1, 1927.

J. W. Sink is a member of the Brethren Church. He belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Loyal Order of Moose, and the Rotary Club. He is president of the Rose Lawn Club and is an ardent golfer. Politically, Mr. Sink is a Republican.

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**Solomon Jones, M. D.**—One of the physicians and surgeons of Vermilion County is Doctor Jones, specialist in diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, who has been engaged in practice at Danville for twenty-five years. He was born near Perrysville, Indiana, June 2, 1872, the son of James Madison and Ellen (Skelton) Jones.

James Madison Jones was born near Perrysville, Indiana. He was a farmer and stock raiser and spent his entire life in that section of Indiana. He died on December 22, 1926, and is buried in Atherton Cemetery, near Danville. His widow, born in Eugene, Indiana, resides on the old homestead near Perrysville. Their children were: Ella May Randall, lives at Danville, R. F. D. No. 6; Solomon, the subject of this sketch; V. M., garage owner, lives at Danville; Leah Houser, lives at Danville, R. F. D. No. 8; Cortz, farmer, lives five miles west of Perrysville; and Victor H., farmer, lives six miles west of Perrysville.

Solomon Jones was educated in the grade schools of Highland Township, Vermillion County, Indiana, and following his graduation from high school entered Indiana State Normal School. He was subsequently graduated from Illinois Medical College, Chicago, with the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1902. While a medical student Doctor Jones taught school in Highland Township from 1895 until 1902, and during the spring and summer seasons studied medicine. In January, 1903, he opened an office at 11 South Hazel Street, Danville, and began the practice of general medicine and surgery. He located in the Temple Building in 1906. In September, 1915, he entered the New York Post Graduate School for one year, and upon his return to Danville his practice was limited to the eye, ear, nose and throat, with offices at 611-13 Temple Building. During 1927 Doctor Jones studied at the University of Vienna, Austria.

On November 18, 1902, Doctor Jones married Miss Ella A. Van Meter, who was born near Kankakee, Illinois, the daughter of Jesse B. and Isabella (Bickle) Van Meter, natives of Iroquois and Kankakee counties, respectively. Mr. Van Meter, now eighty-three years of age, lives on a small farm near Danville. His wife died January 9, 1921, and is buried in Atherton Cemetery. Doctor and Mrs. Jones have a son, Jerome V. He attended the grade



schools of Danville, was graduated from Miami Military Institute, Germantown, Ohio, English Course, in 1924, and Latin Scientific Course in 1925, attaining the rank of major, with honors. At the present time he attends the University of Illinois.

Doctor Jones has been a member of the Vermilion County Medical Society for the past twenty-six years, served as secretary for seven years, and as president in 1915. He is a member of the American Medical Association; American Medical Association of Vienna, Austria; Tri-State Medical Association and Post Graduate; American College of Surgeons; and president of Aesculapian Society of Wabash Valley in 1929. He is a member of Lakeview Hospital staff and served as a member of the school board of Danville from 1912 until 1918.

Doctor Jones is a Democrat, a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Danville, and is affiliated with Unity Lodge No. 344, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Perrysville, Indiana; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree. His wife is a member of Eastern Star, Milford, Illinois; Womans Club, Danville; National Congress of Parents and Teachers; and Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers.

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**Herbert Frederick Wolter** is perhaps one of the best known and most successful of the younger business men of Danville, where he is proprietor of the Danville Baby Chick Company. He was born at Danville, September 19, 1896, the son of William Frederick and Caroline Louisa (Housewaldt) Wolter.

William Frederick Wolter, retired, is a native of Cleveland, Ohio. He followed farming throughout his active career and was widely known as a dairyman. He purchased his first farm in 1885 and lived there until 1895, at which time he removed to Danville. Mr. Wolter, how-

ever, continued to operate his farms until his retirement in 1918. He lives at Danville. His wife is a native of Eugene, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Wolter have the following children: Frank Christopher, lives at Perrysville, Indiana; William Wolter and Nellie Elizabeth, both deceased; and Herbert Frederick, the subject of this sketch.

Herbert Frederick Wolter attended the public schools of Danville and was graduated from the College of Agriculture, University of Illinois, in 1918. He was a teacher of agriculture and athletic coach at Mt. Carroll (Illinois) High School for one year, after which he accepted a position as state leader in boys' and girls' club work in the Extension Service of the University of Illinois. Mr. Wolter continued in this work for a period of four years, and in August, 1923, became interested in the feed milling business in Danville, associating himself with the Fecker Milling Company as manager of the mill. On January 1, 1925, he engaged in his present business of hatching chicks. He began the first strictly commercial hatchery in this section of the State, using a ten thousand egg Buckeye incubator. The hatchery operates under the name of the Danville Baby Chick Company. Its first location was at 108 South Street, Danville. The second year the hatchery was moved to 511 East Main Street, its present location. The capacity of the incubators was increased by the addition of a Smith forty-seven thousand egg incubator, and the following year another Smith incubator of the same capacity was added to the equipment, making this the largest hatchery in this section of the State.

The Danville Baby Chick Company hatches and sells a quarter of a million chicks annually. Most of them are sold locally. It purchases its supply of eggs from more than 100 specially selected and mated farm flocks that are under the direction and supervision of Mr. Wolter himself. The patronage of this company has been built up

through high quality chicks, honest and fair dealing, and service to the customer.

On June 12, 1924, Mr. Wolter was united in marriage with Miss Harriet Muriel Phillips, who was born at Chicago, Illinois, March 4, 1893, the daughter of James Hamilton and Evalena May (Edridge) Phillips. Mr. Phillips was born at Coldwater, Michigan, and his wife is a native of Allegan, Michigan. They are residents of Saugatuck, Michigan. To Mr. and Mrs. Wolter a son has been born, James Herbert.

Mr. Wolter is a Republican, a member of the First Presbyterian Church, and is affiliated with Further Light Lodge, No. 1130, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Gao Grotto; and Curtis Redden Post, American Legion, Danville.

During the World War Mr. Wolter entered the officers' training camp at Fort Sheridan and was commissioned second lieutenant, Field Artillery. He served until December 15th and was attached to the Thirty-seventh Training Battery at Camp Zachary Taylor, Louisville, Kentucky.

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**John Olson**, president of the Olson Cut Stone Company, Danville, is a reliable and highly successful business man of Vermilion County. He is a native of Sweden, born February 16, 1858, the son of Olaf and Annie (Nord) Olson.

Olaf Olson spent his entire life in Sweden and died in 1876. His wife died in Danville in 1909 and is buried in Springhill Cemetery. Mr. Olson had a common school education and learned the trade of stone cutter, which he followed throughout his life. He was fifty-nine years of age at the time of his death. To Mr. and Mrs. Olson were born the following children: Lars, who died in 1926;

Mons, who died in 1922; Olaf, who died in 1917; Neal, who died in 1909; and John, the subject of this sketch.

John Olson grew up in his native land and was twenty-one years old when he came to the United States. He had learned the granite cutting trade and after his arrival in this country he settled at Johnsonville, near Danville. He entered the employ of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad and engaged in construction work for a few months, after which he worked in the Grape Creek Coal Mine. Later, he began as a clerk for the Grape Creek Coal Company Store, in the mining section near Danville. In 1890 he became a stone contractor and engaged in building concrete and stone bridges and abutments. In 1904 Mr. Olson opened a stone yard on the Big Four Railroad. The business was finally removed in 1926 to its present location at 1505 Factory Street. Mr. Olson is now associated in the business with his two sons, Fred W. and David A. Olson. The former is office manager and the latter serves as superintendent. The most modern appliances and machinery are in use in the company's plant, including electric stone cutting saws, etc. Among the numerous large contracts handled by the Olson Cut Stone Company are the following: St. James Methodist Episcopal Church; Lincoln Methodist Episcopal Church; and Young Women's Christian Association.

In 1881 Mr. Olson was united in marriage with Miss Hattie Johnson, of Sweden, the daughter of Orh and Petronella Johnson. The former died in 1888 and the latter in 1896. To Mr. and Mrs. Olson nine children were born, as follows: (1) Annie, married Robert Muirhead, lives at Danville; (2) Bessie, who died in 1922, was the wife of Jesse Shaffer; (3) Fred W., a graduate of Danville High School and Success Shorthand School, Chicago, is a veteran of the World War, having served in France, and as clerk to the American Council in Odessa, Russia, now associated in business with his father in Danville;



(4) Nellie, who died in 1922, was the wife of Albert Schultz; (5) Sadie, who died in 1911, was the wife of Charles Muirhead, of Danville; (6) Oscar E., who is identified with his father's business in Danville; (7) David A., also identified with the Olson Cut Stone Company; (8) Esther, married Jack Foster, lives at Danville; and (9) Donald P., lives in Danville.

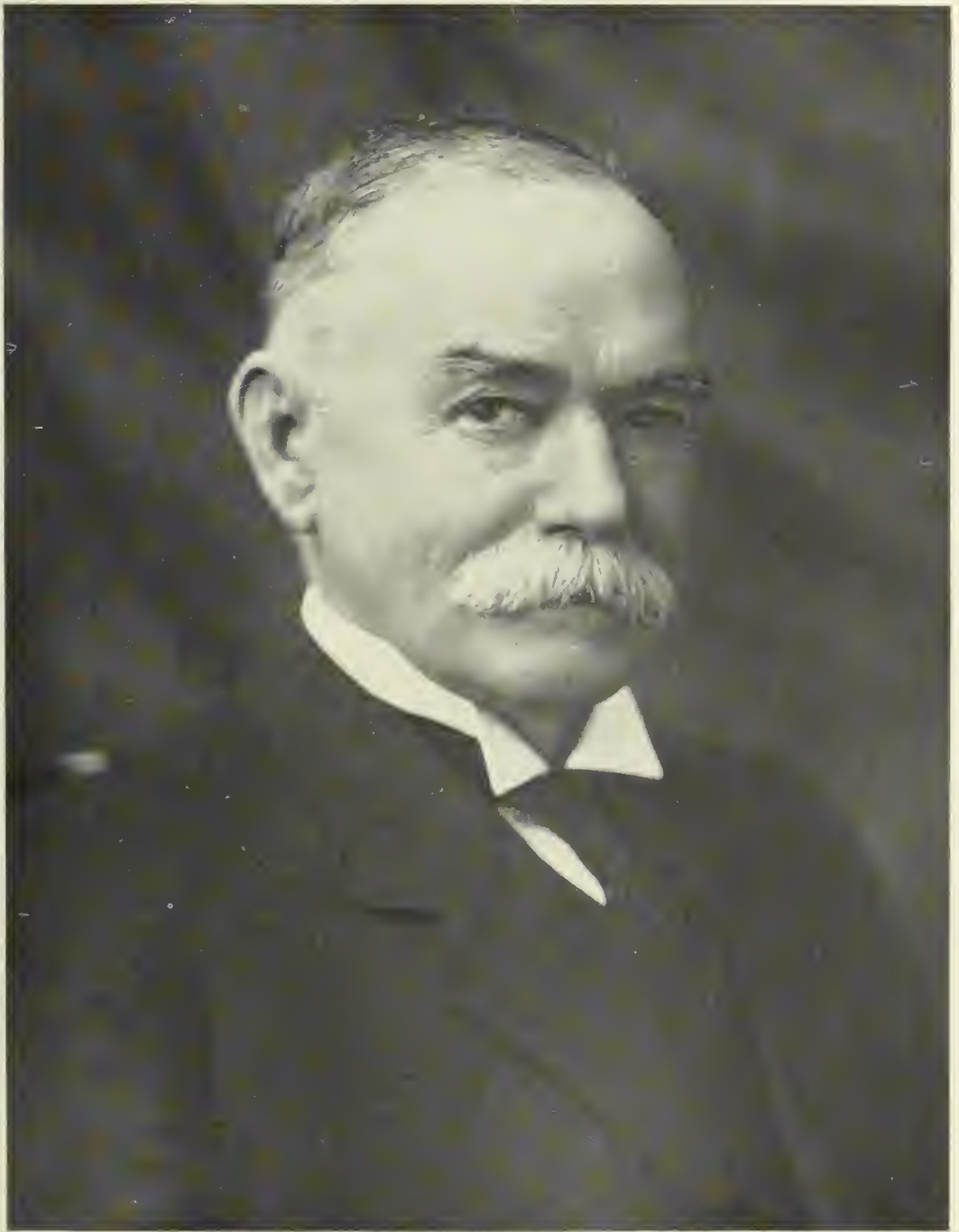
Mr. Olson is a Republican and holds membership in the Gospel Tabernacle Church. He and his family are prominent members of the community in which they have spent so many years.

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**Jacob S. McFerren.**—A man of natural forces so constituted that from his earliest boyhood to the end of his life he utilized time as if each moment was of golden value, Jacob S. McFerren, commercial, industrial, and financial leader of Hoopeston, rose to his commanding position in the affairs of men through strong native ability, controlled and directed by a far reaching foresight and a keen judgment which he possessed in an exceptional degree. The following paragraphs indicate in outline the nature of his notable service to his time and record the estimate placed by his contemporaries upon his worth as a man of affairs and as a citizen.

Jacob S. McFerren was born in Warren County, Ohio, October 1, 1845, the son of William M. and Eliza (Snyder) McFerren, the father being a merchant who was born in South Carolina and who died in 1894. There was another son, Pingree, and two daughters, Alvira B., who married Edward C. Griffith, and Mrs. Mary Huey, of Hoopeston.

Jacob S. McFerren received his early education in the public schools of his native county and later in Bartlett Commercial College in Cincinnati, Ohio. He obtained his first business experience under the direction of his father,



JACOB S. McFERRIN



whom he assisted during vacation period, and when fifteen years of age he left school and became an equal partner in a business at Level, Ohio, with his uncle who supplied the capital while he managed the enterprise and shared equally in the profits. His store was conducted under the firm name of J. S. McFerren and Company, his uncle two years later entering into other business connections and becoming a member of a grain firm. In the meantime Mr. McFerren had built up an extensive trade, but a heavy decline in the grain market and other disastrous speculations causing his uncle's firm to suspend business with heavy liabilities, the firm of J. S. McFerren and Company was naturally involved, and so it was closed out and all debts paid in full, leaving an untarnished name as asset. This and about \$300 was all that Mr. McFerren had left of the \$3,000 clear profit he had made in this, his first mercantile venture. He then sought employment and remained in Ohio until 1865 when, believing that better opportunities awaited an energetic young man somewhere further west, he made his way to Paxton, Illinois. He was then about twenty years of age and his first position in this new environment was taking charge of the books for J. W. Scott, but he soon secured a more lucrative position with R. Clark, one of the oldest merchants of Paxton, whom he served as bookkeeper until the end of the year. At that time, owing to failing health, Mr. Clark offered to turn over his stock and business to his nephew, A. L. Clark, and to Mr. McFerren, loaning them all the needed capital. This proposition was accepted and the firm of Clark and McFerren started its career. Success attended the venture from the beginning and establishing the business upon a substantial basis their capital steadily and rapidly increased. They enlarged their stock to meet the growing demands of their trade, which they fostered with integrity, activity and honesty. Mr. McFerren's initiative spirit, his daring and fearlessness in following wherever opportunity beckoned soon led him to engage in banking and in the real



estate business, and associating himself with T. W. Chamberlain in these ventures, they opened a bank at Hoopes-ton on August 1, 1872, under the name of McFerren and Chamberlain. Although but a new firm, they successfully weathered the financial panic of 1873, keeping their doors open during that trying period and winning public confidence by the safe and conservative methods which they followed. In 1874, owing to ill health, Mr. Chamberlain retired, and Mr. McFerren assuming complete control became president and brought this business to a point of development that marks it today as one of the strong national banks of the State. He was also interested in banking circles in Danville.

Mr. McFerren's natural energy was so great that he filled every moment of his life with intense activity, never wasting any time, and his thrift of this tremendous asset, time, supported by faithfulness of purpose and never ending effort led him into broad channels. With his genius for organization he marshalled and coordinated forces so that his plans, always subjected to the test of his sound judgment, rarely miscarried, but moved on to substantial success. His investments, made judiciously and with discrimination, resulted in making him owner of several thousand acres of land in and near Hoopes-ton, while in his association with the firm of Moore, McFerren and Seavey, from which Mr. Seavey withdrew later, they possessed large land interests in the South, throughout the State of Mississippi, Arkansas and Tennessee. Their operations in these sections were of great public benefit for they not only bought and sold land but greatly improved property, established industries thereon, and secured transportation facilities through railroad building that have been of inestimable value to the various communities involved. They were the builders of twenty miles of railroad from Luxora, Arkansas, to Big Lake, called the Mississippi, Big Lake and Western Railroad, and had holdings along that line

amounting to 30,000 acres of land, for which the railroad furnished an outlet for their lumber and also constituted a part of the trunk line from the Mississippi River to Joplin, Missouri. They had extensive saw mills at Luxora, Pitman's Island, and at Woodstock, Mississippi, besides others, all with a capacity of from twenty thousand to twenty-five thousand feet per day, their most extensive lumber industry, however, being located at Memphis, Tennessee, where they had a double band saw mill with a capacity of fifty thousand feet per day, the plant there having been erected at a cost of \$75,000. Their interests likewise included a box factory at Memphis.

Hoopeston has profited largely by the efforts of Mr. McFerren, not only in its industrial upbuilding but also in its civic and moral welfare. He was, on the industrial side, one of the founders of the Union Tin Can Company and when it merged into the American Tin Can Company he became a stockholder in that. He was a joint owner with A. H. Trego of the Hoopeston Canning Company, devoted exclusively to the canning of corn, an enterprise that stands foremost in its class in the country, garnering as it does the corn from the great belt of the district. His real estate holdings in Hoopeston included the bank building, office building, and opera house building, besides many business and residential structures.

Mr. McFerren was chosen Hoopeston's first mayor and he was reelected to that honored office on several different occasions thereafter. During his first term he succeeded in suppressing all the saloons in town and there has never been an established liquor business in Hoopeston since that time. He also did much for the improvement of streets, including the paving, and wherever there was need of reform in the upbuilding and progress of the town he labored effectively. He was treasurer and director of the district agricultural society, school treasurer of township No. 23, range No. 12, and one of the original projectors of the

Ford County Agricultural Society. He supported liberally church and benevolent enterprises and all undertakings that were for the public benefit and general good. He gave generously to the Hoopeston Public Library and presented to the city a public park, having purchased for this the old fair grounds, comprising thirty acres of land. His public activities brought him in touch with many of the political leaders of his early day, among whom was Joseph G. Cannon, who was his close friend, as well as being Illinois' well known statesman.

Mr. McFerren married (first) April 4, 1871, Susie P. Clark, daughter of R. Clark. Her death occurred the same year, on July 28th. He married (second) Lida A. Schultz, who died in 1894, leaving two sons, William and Donald, whose sketches appear in this volume. In 1897 Mr. McFerren married (third) Lottie L. Schultz, a sister of his former wife, and their residence was one of the homes in Hoopeston noted for its warm hearted hospitality.

A life of vigorous energy spent in the promotion and extension of a number of important productive industries of the country, given in the civic service of the city of his adoption, Jacob S. McFerren made it a study to subserve his natural inclinations to the demands which modern conditions of society impose upon a man in public eye, and so well and ably did he use his forces that at his passing he left vacant a commanding position in the social civic and representative business life of his community that will long be left unfilled. His home and family life was beautiful in its marked simplicity and in spite of the many demands that his active career made upon him he found time for forming and cementing those bonds of affection and friendship that are life's finest reward.

Mr. McFerren died at Chandler, Arizona, January 7, 1923, and is buried in Hoopeston.

**William McFerren**, president of the First National Bank, is a prominent citizen of Hoopeston, active in its social, fraternal and community affairs. He was born in this city, December 27, 1886, the son of Jacob S. and Lida (Schultz) McFerren.

A complete sketch of Jacob S. McFerren appears elsewhere in this edition.

William McFerren was educated in the public and high schools of Hoopeston, from which he was graduated. He then attended Hotchkiss Preparatory School and upon completing his schooling returned to Hoopeston, where he entered business as local agent for the Overland automobile. In 1912 he became identified with the First National Bank as vice president and director, and upon the death of his father in 1923 was elected president of the institution.

During the World War Mr. McFerren enlisted at Washington, District of Columbia, in the United States navy, aviation section. He took ground school work at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, and was later qualified as a balloon pilot at Akron, Ohio, finally becoming a student officer. He was discharged from the service December 2, 1919.

Mr. McFerren married Miss Marjorie Welles, the daughter of Edward M. and Marietta (Smith) Welles, natives of Addison, New York, now residents of Norwalk, Connecticut. Mr. Welles is a retired paper manufacturer. Mr. and Mrs. McFerren are the parents of three children: William, Jr., born March 7, 1915; Marjorie, born in 1917; and Patricia, born in June, 1923.

Mr. McFerren holds membership in the Universalist Church and has the following club and lodge affiliations: Star Lodge, No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Mohammed Shrine Temple; Loyal Order of Moose; Lions Club; American Legion; Hubbard Trail Country Club; Commercial Club; and Chamber of Commerce. He is also identified



with the Vermilion County, Illinois, and American Bankers Associations. He is interested in the Hoopeston Canning Company, which was founded by his father.

Politically Mr. McFerren is a Republican. He is president of the Hoopeston School Board.

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**Donald C. Good, M. D.**, is perhaps one of the most prominent and successful of the younger physicians and surgeons of Danville, with offices in the First National Bank Building. He was born at Mankato, Kansas, December 22, 1895, the son of C. W. and Zillah (Davidson) Good.

C. W. Good, who lives retired at Hiawatha, Kansas, is a native of Montrose, Illinois. He spent his boyhood in Illinois but due to ill health went West soon after completing his schooling. He made the trip in a covered wagon and traveled approximately seven thousand miles throughout Kansas, Missouri, and Iowa, before he located in Kansas, where he attended a normal school. He then became a teacher and for thirty years was identified with the schools of Kansas as county superintendent. He also farmed and at one time was connected with the Chautauqua and Lyceum Bureau of Chicago in Nebraska. Mr. Good also studied law and was admitted to the Kansas bar to practice, although he never followed this profession. He has been a resident of Hiawatha, Kansas, since 1904, and is now serving as city clerk. His wife is a native of Fairview, Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. Good's only child was Donald C., the subject of this sketch.

Donald C. Good attended the public schools of Fairview, Kansas, and Hiawatha, his family having removed to the latter place when he was a young child. Following his graduation from high school in 1914 he entered the University of Kansas, where he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1918. In 1922 he was graduated from

the Medical School of Northwestern University and spent the following two years as an interne in Western Memorial Hospital, Chicago. In October, 1924, Doctor Good went to Kansas, but soon returned to Danville and opened an office in the Baum Building. In October, 1926, he removed to his present location, where he carries on a general practice.

On April 15, 1922, Doctor Good married Miss Thelma Winkler, of Hiawatha, Kansas, the daughter of J. B. and Melvina (Atkins) Winkler. Mr. Winkler died in 1919 and his widow lives at Hiawatha. Doctor and Mrs. Good have no children.

Politically, Doctor Good is a Republican. He is a member of St. James Methodist Church, and is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge and Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree. He is also a member of the Roselawn Country Club, Kappa Sigma and Phi Chi fraternities.

Doctor Good is well known in Danville as a musician. Throughout his college life he was especially interested in band and glee club activities.

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**Arthur H. Smith**, one of Danville's most progressive young business men, is a veteran of the World War. He is well known in this city as secretary and treasurer of the Danville Coca Cola Bottling Company. Mr. Smith was born at Louisville, Kentucky, December 23, 1887, the son of Jacob J. and Mary (Mather) Smith.

Jacob J. Smith was born in Louisville, Kentucky, and his wife is a native of Alsace-Lorraine. He was reared and educated at Louisville and was identified with the wholesale meat business, which had been established by his father. Mr. Smith also was live stock inspector in that city. He died in 1892 at the age of thirty-three years.

His widow lives at Louisville. Their children were: Ella E., lives at home; and Arthur H., the subject of this sketch.

Arthur H. Smith received his education in the public schools of Louisville, Kentucky. He began life as a news-boy and later clerked in the offices of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, having entered the railroad's employ as an office boy. He later became a fireman on the road and finally engineer. In 1914 Mr. Smith accepted a position with the Coca Cola Company as a junior salesman in Louisville. After a year he went to West Virginia, where he remained with the company until 1917. In January, 1918, he volunteered for service in the World War and served with the Thirty-ninth Engineers. He served in France as a member of a railroad transportation corps and was discharged July 8, 1919, with the rank of sergeant. He then re-entered the employ of the Coca Cola Company. at Atlanta, Georgia, and spent the following year as a salesman in Indiana. He returned to Louisville, Kentucky, in 1920 in charge of the sales department in that city and in 1924 was promoted to district manager, in charge of sales in Kentucky and Indiana. In September, 1928, Mr. Smith was transferred to Danville in charge of the business in this city. He purchased the Hudenhoffer Coca Cola Bottling Company, which he completely reorganized. The plant was remodeled and its output has practically doubled since Mr. Smith has been owner of the business. A daily output of nine hundred and sixty cases is the record volume of business handled by this modern plant. Five motor trucks are in operation.

On October 5, 1929, Mr. Smith married Miss Helen Goff, of Danville, Illinois.

Mr. Smith is affiliated with Willis Stewart Lodge, No. 224, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; and is a member of the Commandery, and the Shrine at Louisville, Kentucky; American Legion; and Kiwanis Club. He is a Republican and a member of the Lutheran Church.

**Frank W. Mason, M. D.**, is a representative member of the medical profession in Vermilion County and one of the leading citizens of Danville, where he has engaged in practice since 1920. He was born at Newark, Ohio, February 10, 1866, the son of Jacob W. and Elizabeth Ann (Smith) Mason.

Jacob W. Mason was a farmer all his life and lived in Licking County, Ohio, until 1881, at which time he moved with his family to Vermilion County, where he resided until his death in 1918. His wife died in 1926. Both are buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Mason were the parents of six children: J. Smith, lives at Oakwood, Illinois; Dr. James S., lives at Urbana, Illinois; Leora P., Archibald R., and Etta F., all live at Fithian, Illinois; and Frank M., the subject of this sketch.

Frank M. Mason attended the public schools of Newark, Ohio, and was fifteen years old when his family settled in Vermilion County. He was a student of Wabash College at Crawfordsville, Indiana, and graduated from the Medical School of Northwestern University in 1894 and engaged in practice at Rossville, Illinois, with Dr. Michael T. Livingood until 1920 before locating in Danville. He has offices in the Temple Building.

Doctor Mason was married June 26, 1894, at Rossville, to Miss Katherine E. Livingood, Rossville, Illinois, the daughter of Dr. Michael Tryon and Hannah E. (Ruth) Livingood, natives of Pennsylvania. Doctor Livingood, deceased, was a leading physician and surgeon of Eastern Pennsylvania and Vermilion County. There were five children in the Livingood family: Dr. John R., a noted physician and surgeon of Vermilion County, who died at Memphis, Tennessee, December 12, 1893; Ellen R., deceased; Katherine E. Mason; Anna R., lives at Danville; and Elizabeth, married Thomas Dies, of Memphis, Tennessee. To Doctor and Mrs. Mason have been born three children: Michael Livingood, physician and surgeon, 54



Erie Street, Chicago; Frank M., Jr., electrical engineer with Fairbanks, Morse & Company, Chicago, lives at Evanston, Illinois; and Katherine Livingood, married Eugene S. Lamm, of the E. C. Lamm Lumber Company, Danville. Both sons of Doctor and Mrs. Mason served in the World War, having seen active service with Base Hospital No. 12 for a period of twenty-three months, or until the signing of the Armistice.

Doctor Mason is a member of the Vermilion County Medical Society; Illinois State Medical Society; American Medical Association; and is also a Fellow in the American College of Surgeons.

Doctor Mason is a Democrat of Jeffersonian principles. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Masonic Lodge, thirty-second degree, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen of America, Ben Hur, and Kiwanis Club.

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**Merle J. Watt.**—One of Danville's prominent young men is Merle J. Watt, who is president of the Piggly Wiggly Vermilion County Corporation. He is a native of Illinois, born at Newton, October 14, 1899, the son of Wilbert and Luta (Phillips) Watt.

Wilbert Watt, who died in 1902, was a well known resident of Newton, Illinois, for many years. He was born there and followed farming early in life. Later he learned the carpenter trade and was thus engaged at the time of his death in Deloris, Colorado, where he was forced to go a number of years earlier due to ill health. His wife died in 1906 and is buried at Newton, Illinois. They were the parents of five children: Russel E., lives at Danville; Dale L., a World War veteran, engaged in the lumber business at Neosho, Missouri; Virgil F., interior decorator, lives at Clinton, Indiana; Merle J., the subject of this sketch; and

Juanita, married Oliver Smith, a console artist engaged in radio work in New York City.

Merle J. Watt was six years old when his family located in Danville. He attended Oaklawn and Elmwood schools and was a newsboy on the streets of Danville for eight years as a carrier of the Commercial News. He began his business career in the grocery store of George Rund, later was employed by Charles Koch, and the Danville Co-Operative Society. In 1919 he formed a partnership with his uncle, L. W. Phillips, and opened a grocery and meat business at 2215 Henderson Street, Danville. After a few months the business was moved to 1901 East Main Street, and two years later Mr. Watt purchased the interests of his uncle and continued the business, also acquiring another store at 942 Harmon Avenue. In February, 1928, Mr. Watt sold out and took over the Wide Awake Grocery Store at 19 West Main Street, which was one of the oldest and best established groceries in the city. He is still the proprietor and owner of this establishment. In July, 1928, he formed the Piggly Wiggly Vermilion County Corporation, and became its president. This concern owns and operates seven stores in Danville and employs approximately thirty-five people.

In 1921 Mr. Watt was united in marriage with Miss Edith Fay Myers, of Danville, the daughter of Charles and Mollie (Sisk) Myers, the former a native of Kansas and the latter a native of Indiana. Mr. Myers lives in Danville and his wife lives in Detroit, Michigan. To Mr. and Mrs. Watt a son was born, Wilbert Charles Watt, born October 26, 1925.

Mr. Watt is a member of the Third Church of Christ and his wife holds membership in the Presbyterian Church. He is affiliated with Olive Branch Lodge No. 38, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Gao Grotto; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Isaac Walton League; A. B. C.

Club; and Walnut Hill Boat Club. He has always been a Republican in politics and served on the city council of Danville for two terms.

Mr. Watt has a reputation throughout Vermilion County as a breeder of thoroughbred German police dogs and devotes much of his leisure time to this particular hobby.

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**Melville R. Walker.**—Among the well known and highly respected citizens of Danville is Melville R. Walker, who is identified with the Danville Lime & Cement Company. He was born at Rossville, Illinois, December 27, 1870, the son of Melville R. and Elizabeth (Weir) Walker.

Melville R. Walker was born in London, England. In early life he was a farmer and later a general merchant. The last seventeen years of his business career were spent as a building contractor. He died at Rossville, Illinois, May 28, 1888, and his wife, born at York, Ontario, Canada, died October 21, 1916. Both are buried at Rossville. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Walker were: Minnie C., born April 20, 1866, died April 17, 1921; Clara M., born March 24, 1869, died July 12, 1913; Melville R., the subject of this sketch; and Irvy, born January 28, 1874, died in August, 1898.

Melville R. Walker obtained his education in the public schools of Rossville. At twenty-two years of age he became interested in general contracting and followed that until 1903. He then engaged in the building material business in Danville, his business being known as the Danville Lime & Cement Company. It is located at 511 Oak Street. The firm does a large volume of business annually and Mr. Walker ranks among the city's representative business men. While a building contractor he erected Potomac High School, Rossville High School, and the Presbyterian Church at Rossville.

On January 22, 1876, Mr. Walker was united in marriage with Miss Grace C. Barnett, of Crawfordsville, Indiana, the daughter of Lewis W. and Mary Elizabeth (McIntire) Barnett. The former died August 23, 1922, and the latter died August 4, 1919. Mr. and Mrs. Walker have five children, as follows: Mrs. Ralph Rouse, lives at Danville; Melville R., Jr., manager of the Danville Lime & Cement Company, Danville; L. C., secretary-treasurer of the Danville Lime & Cement Company, Danville; E. M., general contractor, lives at Tulsa, Oklahoma; and C. W., connected with the engineering department of the Illinois Bell Telephone Company, Chicago, Illinois.

Politically, Mr. Walker is a Republican. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church and Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

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**James Culbert** is numbered among the most successful pioneer business men of Rossville, where he has owned and managed greenhouses for the past thirty-three years. He was born in Scotland in August, 1844, the son of Peter Culbert. Both Peter Culbert and his wife were natives of Scotland, where they spent their entire lives. They are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Culbert were the parents of seven children, only three of whom survive: James, the subject of this sketch; Mary Marchmand, twin sister of James, lives at Saint Joseph, Missouri; and Mrs. Anna Kidd, lives at Green Ridge, Missouri.

The boyhood of James Culbert was spent in Scotland, where he was educated. He also attended the public schools of Canada and was nineteen years of age when he came to the United States. He became interested in gardening with his brother in Saint Louis, where he owned and operated a greenhouse until 1892. He then located at Danville, where he was employed by Al Giddings. In 1896 Mr. Culbert came to Rossville, where he has since



ranked among the city's representative citizens. Although now eighty-five years of age he is still active in business affairs and is perhaps the oldest florist in the county.

In 1880 Mr. Culbert married Miss Antoinette Johnson, of Saint Louis, Missouri. To them were born two children: Nettie, married William Strathman, lives at Danville; and John, lives at Rossville.

John Culbert was born at Saint Louis, Missouri, September 9, 1884, and was six years old when his family came to Vermilion County and settled in Danville. He attended the public schools of Danville and Rossville and since completing his schooling has been interested in greenhouse work with his father. He was married December 25, 1913, to Miss Mabel Case, of Rossville, and they have two children: Robert Culbert, born in 1915; and James Culbert, born in 1922. Mr. Culbert is a Republican and has served as a member of the local school board. He is at present serving as a member of the Village Board. He holds membership in the Methodist Church and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Politically, Mr. Culbert has always been a Republican.

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**L. H. Schlecht.**—One of the best known business men of Vermilion County is L. H. Schlecht, who is secretary and treasurer of the Rossville Packing Company. He was born in Jefferson County, Missouri, February 26, 1885, the son of Louis and Louise (Schneider) Schlecht.

Louis Schlecht was born in Jefferson County, Missouri, where he now lives retired. He was educated in Saint Louis and throughout his active career followed farming. He still lives on the farm where he spent his boyhood. His wife, born in Jefferson County, Missouri, died in 1887 and is buried at Maxville, Missouri. To Louis and Louise (Schneider) Schlecht were born four children: Pauline,

married Louis Chartrau, lives at Saint Louis, Missouri; Cecelia, married Fred Hof, lives at Saint Louis, Missouri; Elizabeth, married Antone Broz, lives at Saint Louis, Missouri; and L. H., the subject of this sketch. By his second marriage Louis Schlecht had three children: Antone, who died in 1923; Charles; and Hubert, lives at Fenton, Missouri.

L. H. Schlecht grew up on a farm in Jefferson County, Missouri, and attended the rural schools. He studied also at Bryant-Stratton Business College, Saint Louis, Missouri, and began his business career as a clerk in the employ of the Inland Type Foundry Company, Saint Louis. In March, 1904, he became associated with the Cudahy Packing Company as a stock clerk and resigned as assistant cashier in September, 1906. Mr. Schlecht's next business connection was with the Saint Louis Brewing Company as assistant bookkeeper and cashier until October 3, 1908, at which time he came to Hoopeston, Illinois, with the Hoopeston Malleable Iron Works. In March, 1910, Mr. Schlecht became identified with the city offices of Hoopeston and for a year was employed in the auditing of the records of Floral Hill Cemetery. On July 1, 1910, he became bookkeeper and cashier for the Hoopeston Canning Company and served in that capacity until February 1, 1925, when he came to Rossville and purchased an interest in the Rossville Packing Company. The company has approximately seven hundred and fifty acres under cultivation and specializes in the raising of sweet corn, beans, beets, and asparagus. They employ two hundred and seventy-five men and women and have an output of five thousand cases per day.

In 1910 Mr. Schlecht married Miss Mary Ernst, of Hoopeston, the daughter of John and Lena (Webler) Ernst. The former is deceased and the latter lives at Rossville. Mr. and Mrs. Schlecht have four children: Eugene,

attends the University of Illinois; Mary Louise, Richard Ernest, and Eleanor Jane, all students.

Mr. Schlecht is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, Masonic Lodge, and Hubbard Trail Country Club.

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**Mrs. Rose C. Auth.**—One of the best known women of Vermilion County is Mrs. Rose C. Auth, who is the efficient postmaster of Rankin. She was born near Rankin, in Iroquois County, the daughter of Thomas and Bridget (Carlon) Ruddy.

Both Mr. Ruddy and his wife were born in Illinois. He followed general farming throughout his life and owned a large farm in Iroquois County. He removed to Rankin in 1904 and has since lived retired. His wife died in 1916 and is buried in Union Cemetery, Rankin. Their children were as follows: Hugh, lives at Rankin; Ethel, at home; Catherine, married Frank Dorman, lives at Rankin; Rose C., the subject of this sketch; and Nellie, married James Henneberry, lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Rose C. Ruddy was a young girl when her parents settled at Rankin. She attended the public schools of Rankin and in 1911 was graduated from the Rankin High School. She also attended Illinois State Normal College and was a teacher in the schools near Rankin for four years before her marriage. She was married June 11, 1917, to William S. Auth, the son of Christopher and Mary (McGrath) Auth, the former a native of Illinois and the latter of Ireland. Mr. Auth lives retired at Sioux Falls, South Dakota. His wife is deceased. There were six children in the Auth family, as follows: John, a World War veteran, lives in Montana; Joseph, lives at Mitchell, South Dakota; Sister Bernadetta, lives at Bridgewater, South Dakota; Sister Sylvester, lives at Jefferson, South Dakota;



WILLIAM S. AUTH





Sister Boniface, lives at Aberdeen, South Dakota; and William S.

William S. Auth enlisted for service in the World War and served in France with the Headquarters Company of the Second Division Regiment. He was taken ill while in service and died in France, February 10, 1919. He is buried in the American Cemetery, France. Mr. Auth was a prominent young man of Rankin and was serving as assistant postmaster under George A. Griffith at the time of his enlistment. He was educated at Normal, Illinois, and taught in the district schools of Vermilion County for several years. To Mr. and Mrs. Auth a son was born, William, who died in infancy, December 5, 1918.

Mrs. Auth was appointed postmaster of Rankin in 1919 during the administration of President Woodrow Wilson. She was later reappointed to office during the Coolidge administration.

Mrs. Auth is a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church and Royal Neighbors.

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**C. S. Wilson** is one of the dependable and well known citizens of Rossville. He was born at Centerville, Pennsylvania, October 12, 1872, the son of Samuel and Martha (Shupe) Wilson.

Samuel Wilson was a native of County Cork, Ireland, and his wife was a native of Pennsylvania. He attended the common schools of his native land and was sixteen years old when he came to America, accompanied by his sister, who was fourteen years of age. The voyage required thirteen weeks and after their arrival in the United States they settled at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where Mr. Wilson was employed in the building of Fort Pitt. He later became a general merchant and conducted a business at Sutterville, Pennsylvania, for a number of years. He

retired in 1896 and removed to Pittsburgh, and later to Sutterville, Pennsylvania, where he died at the age of eighty-nine years. He was a Republican. Mr. Wilson's death occurred December 18, 1902, and his wife died October 4, 1923. To Mr. and Mrs. Wilson were born four children: William, lives at Burgettstown, Pennsylvania; C. S., the subject of this sketch; George Emerson, who met with an accidental death in 1919; and Margaret Olive, who died in infancy.

C. S. Wilson received his education in the public schools of Centerville, Pennsylvania. He was employed in his father's store for a time and also was a newsboy. He became identified with the transportation department of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad about 1889 and followed the machinist's trade until 1912, at which time he came to Rossville as a machinist for the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railroad. About 1920 he was promoted to night roundhouse foreman and seven years later was appointed machinist inspector, in which capacity he now serves.

February 26, 1901, Mr. Wilson was united in marriage at Mattoon, Illinois, with Miss Lenora Farris, born in Coles County, Illinois, March 14, 1883, the daughter of John and Laura (Byers) Farris. Mr. Farris was born in Clark County, Illinois, and died in 1910. His wife, born in Lawrence County, Indiana, lives at Bloomington, Illinois. Her father, George Byers, served in the Civil War. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Wilson: John Samuel, who is manager of the W. F. Hall Printing Company, Chicago, Illinois, married Marie Fisher, of Chicago; and Mabel Olive, married Raymond Marth, lives in Chicago. She is a graduate of Rossville High School, German Deaconess Hospital, Chicago, and the Childrens Memorial Hospital, Chicago. She is a registered nurse.

Mr. Wilson was elected town trustee of Rossville in April, 1927, and re-elected in May, 1929. He and his wife are leading members of the Christian Church, and he is

affiliated with Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Rossville Lodge, No. 527; Danville Consistory; and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mrs. Wilson is a member of Eastern Star, Past Matron in 1923, and belongs to the Nomad Club, of Rossville.

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**E. C. Smith** is perhaps one of the best known young business men of Rossville, where he is identified with the Rossville Motor Company. He was born here, December 23, 1890, the son of George S. and Minnie (Smith) Smith.

George S. Smith, deceased, was a native of Rossville, where he spent his entire life. He was a farmer and was numbered among the successful stockmen of Vermilion County. He died in 1904 and is buried at Rossville. His widow lives at Rossville. Mr. Smith was a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, and Masonic Lodge. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith were: E. C., the subject of this sketch; and Josephine, who died at the age of three years.

E. C. Smith was reared and educated at Rossville and later attended Culver Military Academy during 1908-09-10 and upon his return to Rossville he entered the Farmers National Bank as a clerk. He became cashier in 1916 and was elected president of that institution in 1919. However, when the Farmers National Bank was merged with the First National Bank in June, 1924, Mr. Smith left the financial field and at that time acquired an interest in the Rossville Motor Company as manager. Since April, 1929, the company has also carried farm implements. They are local agents for the Buick automobile.

On September 11, 1912, Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Miss Emma Louise Burhenn, of Dixon, Illinois, the daughter of J. P. and Emma Burhenn. Mr. Burhenn lives retired at Rossville. His wife died in December, 1928,



and is buried at Dixon. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have no children.

Mr. Smith is a member of the Presbyterian Church and his wife is identified with the Lutheran Church. He is affiliated with Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Lodge No. 527, Rossville; Morris Chapter, No. 216, Rossville; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Ansar Shrine, Springfield, Illinois; and Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332. He is also a member of the Hoopeston and Rossville Country Clubs. Politically, he is a Republican.

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**Fred S. Austin**, owner and editor of the Rossville Press, is recognized as one of the able newspaper men of Vermilion County. He was born at Round Grove, Whiteside County, Illinois, May 12, 1885, the son of Wellington J. and Cora Belle (Simonson) Austin.

Wellington J. Austin was a native of Pennsylvania, born November 21, 1855. His wife was born at Round Grove, Illinois, April 22, 1859. He was a graduate of Northwestern University, and for a number of years was a merchant at Clark, South Dakota. He later entered the government service in Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Austin died December 29, 1918, and his wife died March 24, 1901. Both are buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, Chicago. Their children were: Fred S., the subject of this sketch; John W., lives in Chicago; Alice M., married Claude Thatcher, lives in Chicago; and Harold E., lives at Louisville, Kentucky.

Fred S. Austin attended the public schools of Round Grove, Illinois, and Chicago. He was graduated from Englewood High School and began his business career as a stenographer. He later became interested in the newspaper business and in 1907 went to Saint Paul, Minnesota, and subsequently to Montana and Oregon. He became the owner of a newspaper at Havre, Montana, in 1915, and

later owned and edited numerous other publications in the West. He founded the Devil's Lake (North Dakota) World in 1916 and after three years went to Canton, Illinois, where he became editor of the Canton Daily Ledger. In 1922 he took over the management of the Pekin (Illinois) Daily Times, and the following year came to Hoopeston as advertising manager of the Hoopeston Daily Times. Since July 3, 1925, Mr. Austin has been owner and editor of the Rossville Press.

On May 12, 1917, Mr. Austin was united in marriage with Miss Gena Andrea Tovsrud, of Mayville, North Dakota, the daughter of Jens R. and Anne (Endreud) Tovsrud, natives of Norway and residents of Harlow, North Dakota.

Mr. Austin is independent in politics but usually votes the Republican ticket. He is a member of the Church of Christ and his wife holds membership in Saint Olaf's Lutheran Church. He is affiliated with Rossville Lodge No. 527, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Morris Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 216; Irin Grotto; and Independent Order of Odd Fellows Cook County, No. 240. He is also a member of the Illinois Press Association and National Editorial Association.

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**Cicero Alison.**—One of the leading citizens of Vermilion County is Cicero Alison, who lives retired at Alvin. He was born in Vinton County, Ohio, January 12, 1854, the son of Mark M. and Sarah (Salmans) Alison.

Mark M. Alison was born in Jefferson County, Ohio, and his wife was a native of Guernsey County, Ohio. He became a teacher in the schools of Jackson and Vinton counties, and after his marriage, March 8, 1849, he became interested in farming. He became the owner of large tracts of land and in 1864 came to Illinois, making the trip by horse and wagon. He located on land near Alvin,

and operated one hundred and sixty acres. He also became a minister of the Methodist Church and organized the old Methodist Church at Alvin. He died in 1907 at the age of eighty-three years and is buried at Manns Chapel, Rossville. His wife died in 1904. He was a Republican. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Alison: Sarah Margaret, married first to H. J. Stewart, later to Rev. A. G. Copeland, and she died April 17, 1895, in Oklahoma; Rachael Frances, died in December, 1894, was the wife of J. W. Salmans, of Danville, Illinois; Cicero, the subject of this sketch; and Almira E., died March, 1917.

Cicero Alison grew up in Ohio and received his education in the district schools. At an early age he came to Illinois and settled on a farm near Alvin, where he remained until 1899. He then built a grain elevator at Alvin, which he successfully managed until 1912, when the business was sold to the Farmers Elevator Company, of Alvin. Mr. Alison then devoted his entire time to farming and at the present time is still owner of a fine farm of seventy acres near Alvin, as well as two hundred and forty acres farther east of the city.

On February 23, 1879, Mr. Alison was united in marriage with Miss Barbara L. Allison, of Alvin, the daughter of Alfred and Cornelia Anne Allison. He died in 1922 and his wife died February 13, 1900. They were natives of Kentucky and North Carolina, respectively. To Mr. and Mrs. Allison were born nine children, as follows: 1. John R., married Bessie Keefe, lives in Alvin. 2. Sarah Cornelia, married Elbert Roberts, lives at Alvin. 3. Daniel William, married Maude Cavin, lives at State Line. 4. Almira May, married W. W. Young, lives at Danville. 5. Emma Frances, married Dr. E. E. Howard, lives at Peoria, Illinois. 6. Cordelia Harriet, married H. A. Cunningham, who met with an accidental death in 1928. 7. Addie Howard, married John O. Ingram, lives at Danville. 8. Mary Ethel, married Clarence Carter, lives near Alvin. 9. L.

C. W., a graduate of the University of Illinois in the class of 1922. He married Helen Anderson, and they live at Westville, Illinois.

Mr. Alison is identified with the Republican party in politics. He is a trustee of the Methodist Church and has served as a member of the local school board.

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**Russell Young**, who is serving as the efficient postmaster of Rossville, is a veteran of the World War and one of the best liked young men of Vermilion County. He was born at Rossville, August 23, 1897, the son of Charles and Hettie (Maury) Young.

Charles Young is well known at Rossville, where he is engaged in business. He was born at Bismarck, Illinois, and his wife is a native of Pennsylvania. He was reared at Rossville, and early in life became interested in the building business. He is also a plaster contractor. For a number of years Mr. Young was associated in business with his brother, Jim Young. The partnership was dissolved in 1925. Mr. Young is a Republican. To Mr. and Mrs. Young were born the following children: Bess, a graduate of Rossville High School in 1910, now a teacher at Portland, Oregon; Russell, the subject of this sketch; Leslie, who died in 1911; and Inez, a graduate of Rossville High School in 1926, attends the University of Illinois.

Russell Young attended the public schools of Rossville and after his graduation from high school in 1917 he enlisted for service in the World War, April 22, 1917. He was sent to Fort Sheridan, Illinois, and in September, 1917, was transferred to Camp Mills, Long Island. He saw active service in France and was later with the Army of Occupation in Germany. He was discharged from the service on May 13, 1919, and upon his return to Rossville entered the University of Illinois. He spent two years at



that institution and in 1921 returned to Rossville. In 1923 Mr. Young was appointed postmaster.

On August 30, 1923, Mr. Young was united in marriage with Miss Marjorie Brown, of Danville, the daughter of Charles and Ella (Galloway) Brown. Mr. Brown lives at Indiana Harbor, Indiana. His wife died in 1922 and is buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. Mr. and Mrs. Young have two sons: Charles Russell, born June 28, 1924; and John Richard, born February 7, 1928.

Mr. Young is identified with the Republican party in politics. He is a member of Trinity Episcopal Church, and is affiliated with Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Lodge No. 527, Rossville; and the American Legion, Lloyd K. Spears Post, No. 733. He is among the most popular young men of the community in which he has spent his entire life.

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**Ernest J. Felgenhauer** is among the popular and successful business men of Alvin, where he conducts a garage. He was born at Danville, Illinois, May 13, 1888, the son of Christ and Minnie (Stiebble) Felgenhauer.

Christ Felgenhauer, a native of Germany, lives retired at Danville. He was eight years old when he emigrated to the United States with his parents and settled in Danville. He was employed in the coal mines near Danville and about 1892 purchased a farm of eighty acres three miles northeast of Alvin. He remained there until 1923, when he sold the land and retired to Danville, where he resides at the present time. Mr. Felgenhauer is a Republican and a member of the German Lutheran Church. He also belongs to the Knights of Pythias. His wife, born in Germany, died in March, 1925, and is buried in Oaklawn Cemetery, Danville. To Mr. and Mrs. Felgenhauer were born three children: Lewis, farmer, lives near Henning;

Ernest J., the subject of this sketch; and Esther, married Fred Witte, lives at Hammond, Indiana.

Ernest J. Felgenhauer attended the district schools and is a graduate of Brown's Business College, Danville. He remained on his father's farm for several years, and began his business career with his father-in-law, F. M. Ogdon, grocer, with whom he was identified from 1913 until 1923. He then became interested in the garage business and on November 1, 1925, removed to Main Street, where he had purchased the building of the Brown Brothers, of Bismark. Mr. Felgenhauer handles a complete line of automobile accessories and renders battery and tire service. He also handles radios.

In 1913 Mr. Felgenhauer was married at Danville to Miss Nellie Ogdon, of Alvin, the daughter of Frank and Anna Ogdon.

Politically, Mr. Felgenhauer is a Republican. He attends the Christian Church. He is an ardent baseball fan and takes an active interest in local sporting activities.

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**Frank E. Yeazel.**—Perhaps one of the best known and most successful business men of Alvin is Frank E. Yeazel, who is president of the Village Board. He was born at Alvin, October 29, 1887, the son of William A. and Ellen (Green) Yeazel.

William A. Yeazel was born near Homer, Illinois. He lived in Ohio for a number of years and later came to Illinois, where he engaged in general farming near Rossville. Subsequently, he settled on land near Alvin, where he lived for more than half a century. He died in 1923 at the age of seventy-three years and is buried at Manns Chapel, Rossville. His widow resides at Alvin. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Yeazel: Clark, lives at Danville; May, married Clarence Teagarden, lives at

Newport, Kentucky; George, who died in 1918; Earl, who died at the age of twenty years; Fannie, married E. A. Peterson, lives at Alvin; Ethel, married Charles Mathews, lives near Alvin; Frank E., the subject of this sketch; Abbie, died in March, 1929, was the wife of Harold Crayton, who died in 1920; and Ralph A., lives at Danville.

Frank E. Yeazel was reared on a farm just west of Alvin and obtained his education in the district schools. For a few years he was interested in farming and later entered the railway mail service. In 1914 he became manager of the Farmers Grain Company and two years later organized the Alvin Grain & Electric Company, Inc. He had complete charge of the installation of electric service in Alvin and in 1918 the service was extended to Bismarck, Illinois, and State Line, Indiana. Two years later Mr. Yeazel sold his interests in the grain business which he had established and devoted his entire time to the Alvin Light & Power Company. The business has expanded during the past few years and now has lines to Hedrick, West Newell, Illinois, and Rence, Indiana. Service was extended to Armstrong and Henning in 1925 when the R. C. Wilson Light Company was purchased. Mr. Yeazel, however, sold these properties, and is now interested in the coal, tile and cement business.

On October 15, 1910, Mr. Yeazel married Miss Grace Swisher, of Rossville, Illinois, the daughter of Chester and Ella (Maury) Swisher, natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. Swisher died in 1914 and his widow lives at Rossville. Mr. and Mrs. Yeazel have no children.

Mr. Yeazel is a Republican and served as president of the Alvin School Board in 1928. He was elected president of the Village Board on April 16, 1929. He and his wife hold membership in the Christian Church, and he also belongs to the Isaac Walton League.

In 1926 Mr. Yeazel built one of the finest homes in this section of the county. It is of brick structure and is at-

tractively located on ten acres of land in the west end of the town. Attractive landscaping and extensive gardens make it outstanding as one of the beauty spots in the community.

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**Oscar Thomas.**—Numbered among the most enterprising and successful farmers of Vermilion County is Oscar Thomas, who is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres on the Attica Road near Rossville. He has spent his entire life in this section of Illinois, born at Rossville, September 18, 1867, the son of Samuel and Clara (Bicknell) Thomas.

Samuel Thomas, deceased, was a native of Pennsylvania, born near Philadelphia. He came to Rossville when a young man and settled on land, which he farmed for many years. He died at the age of sixty-one years in 1895 and is buried at Rossville. His wife, a native of Rossville, died in 1909. To Mr. and Mrs. Thomas were born the following children: Oscar, the subject of this sketch; William, who died at the age of six years; Amelia, died at the age of twenty-four years; Charles, farmer, lives on the old homestead; Edward, died at the age of twenty-two years; George, farmer, lives in Vermilion County; Mary, married Ross Fetters, lives near Rossville; and Frank, who lives in Wyoming.

Oscar Thomas grew up on his father's farm and received his education in the district schools. At the age of twenty-two years he rented the Byron Cronhite farm, in partnership with his two brothers. They operated that land for thirteen years, after which Mr. Thomas purchased the old Sulle farm on the Attica Road about one-half a mile from Rossville. He has continued to operate this farm and ranks among the able stockmen of the township.

In 1889 Mr. Thomas was united in marriage with Miss Emma Hackman, of Rossville, the daughter of Ezra and



Amelia Hackman, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Indiana. Mr. Hackman died in 1923 and his wife died in 1919. Both are buried at Rossville. To Mr. and Mrs. Thomas were born three children: Cecil, a graduate of Rossville High School, married Verda Robeling, and they live near Rossville; Hazel, lives at home; and Flossie, married Henry Wood, farmer, lives east of Bismarck, Illinois.

Mr. Thomas has always been a Republican. He and his family hold membership in the Methodist Church and have a wide acquaintance in the community.

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**H. M. Daniels**, who is identified with the H. M. Daniels Lumber Company, of Henning, is among the enterprising and progressive business men of Vermilion County. He was born in Douglas County, Illinois, November 7, 1875, the son of S. W. and Mary E. (Baker) Daniels.

S. W. Daniels, retired, is a native of Illinois. He was born in Douglas County and lived there until 1915, at which time he went to Foster, Missouri, where he engaged in farming until his recent retirement. He is a Republican and a member of the Methodist Church. Mary E. (Baker) Daniels was born in Kentucky and died in 1916. She is buried at Foster, Missouri. There were five children in the Daniels family: H. M., the subject of this sketch; Forest Elmer, lives at New Iberia, Louisiana; Viola, married Alonzo Fields, lives at Connersville, Indiana; T. O., lives at Rich Hill, Missouri; and Fay, married A. O. Schaede, lives at Urbana, Illinois.

H. M. Daniels obtained his education in the district schools of Douglas County, Illinois, and grew up on his father's farm. He took a business course after his graduation from high school and then entered the offices of the F. H. Jones Lumber Company, at Tuscola, Illinois. He

spent six years in that company's employ and then became manager of the lumber yards of Potter & Phelps. Later, he associated with the S. E. Huff Lumber Company, Urbana, Illinois, and in March, 1927, purchased his present business at Henning. The H. M. Daniels Lumber Company has an extensive trade throughout this section of Illinois and in Indiana and are dealers in all types of building materials, roofings, wire fencings, tile and cement.

On June 14, 1899, Mr. Daniels was united in marriage with Miss Ola Smith, of Tuscola, Illinois, who died December 13, 1908. She was the daughter of Ezra and Catherine (Porter) Smith. The former died in 1906 and the latter in 1923. To H. M. and Ola (Smith) Daniels a daughter was born, Mildred Catherine. She is the wife of Washington Jenner, of Riverside, California. Mr. Daniels was married the second time on July 19, 1911, at Huntington, Indiana, to Esther Reed, the daughter of William and Nancy (Walker) Reed. He died in 1910 and his wife died in 1923. To Mr. and Mrs. Daniels a son has been born, George M., born July 16, 1916.

Mr. Daniels is a Republican and is serving the third term as alderman. He and his wife hold membership in the Baptist Church and he is a member of Ben Hur Lodge, Urbana, Illinois.

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**John Vinton Lane.**—Honored, respected and esteemed in Henning, John Vinton Lane, deceased, was one of the borough's most prominent men. He was born in Vinton County, Ohio, March 3, 1858, the son of Royal Hasting and Mary (Brewer) Lane.

Royal Hasting Lane was born in Ohio. He came to Illinois in 1865 and purchased a farm east of Higginsville, where he remained until 1904. He then removed to Henning, where he lived retired until his death in 1905. His wife, also born in Ohio, died in 1894. Both are buried at

Potomac, Illinois. Their children were: Laura E., who died in 1907; Lidora Alice, died in 1918, was the wife of John Goodwine, of Potomac, who died in 1924; Douglas M., farmer, lives near Armstrong, Illinois; and John Vinton, the subject of this sketch.

John Vinton Lane was six years old when he came to Illinois with his parents. He attended the district schools of Higginsville and remained on the home place until his marriage in 1886. He then settled on the Rickart farm, southwest of Henning, which is among the oldest homesteads in this section of Vermilion County. It is the paternal home of Mrs. Lane. Mr. Lane became a successful farmer and stockman and became the owner of eight hundred acres of land. He died in 1923 at the age of sixty-five years.

In 1886 Mr. Lane married Miss Hettie J. Rickart, of Henning, the daughter of Wilson V. and Hester A. (Crawford) Rickart. He was born in Butler County, Ohio, and died in 1911. She was a native of Athens County, Ohio, and died in 1895. Both are buried in Bethel Cemetery, near Danville, Illinois. Three sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Lane: Wilson Vivian, married Lillian M. Dodson, lives near Henning, and they have three children, Ralph E., Beryl K., and Vivienne M.; Victor Royal, married Minnie R. Niswonger, lives near Henning, and they have two daughters, Martha L. and Marian E.; and Carroll John, lives near Henning, married Emma Corbett, and they have three children, John R., Willa F. and Phillip E. All are engaged in farming.

Mr. Lane was a Democrat in early life and later in life became identified with the Prohibition movement. He held membership in the United Brethren Church. Mrs. Lane is a member of the Free Methodist Church, Missionary Society, and Women's Christian Temperance Union. She has been a resident of Henning since 1925.

**Elmer McNeal.**—One of the substantial business men and well known citizens of Henning is Elmer McNeal, who is identified with the Henning Grain Company. He was born at Chestnut, Illinois, September 9, 1886, the son of Frank and Olla (McCurdy) McNeal.

Frank McNeal was a native of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and his wife was born in Macon County, Illinois. He was ten years old when he came to Illinois with his parents and settled near Maroa, Illinois. He followed general farming and stock raising throughout his life and later lived retired at Chestnut. He died in 1919 at the age of sixty-six years. His wife died in 1924. Both are buried at Mount Pulaski, Illinois. Mr. McNeal was a Democrat and a member of the Methodist Church. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. McNeal: Elmer, the subject of this sketch; and Pearl, married H. D. Lukenbill, lives at Springfield, Illinois.

Elmer McNeal spent his boyhood on a farm near Chestnut, Illinois, and received his education in the district schools. He also attended a business college at Decatur, Illinois, and began his business career as a bookkeeper with the Standard Oil Company at Decatur. Two years later he became interested in farming, but in 1912 engaged in business at Chestnut Hill, Illinois, as manager of a grain company. In 1916 he disposed of his interests there and in March, 1917, came to Henning, where he purchased an interest in the grain business of Mr. Prillman, of Rossville. He became manager of the local elevator and in 1923 this business was consolidated with the grain business of A. E. Betts. The old elevators were torn down and new elevators built, the firm being incorporated as the Henning Grain Company. Mr. McNeal became secretary and treasurer. Mr. Prillman is the president of the company and Ura Seeger, of West Lebanon, Indiana, is vice president. This well established firm also are dealers in coal.



In December, 1909, Mr. McNeal was united in marriage with Miss Bessie Keagle, of Mt. Pulaski, Ill., the daughter of Page and Anna (Barr) Keagle. Mr. Keagle died in 1923 and his wife died in 1912. Both are buried at Mount Pulaski. Mr. and Mrs. McNeal have no children.

Mr. McNeal has always been a Democrat and has served as mayor of Henning, being elected to that office in 1922. He is a member of the Henning Methodist Church, and is affiliated with the Mount Pulaski Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory; Mohammed Temple Shrine, Peoria, Illinois; and Knights of Pythias, of Henning, Illinois.

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**Thomas George Luxton**, who is president of the East Lynn State Bank, is representative of the successful business men of Vermilion County. He was born at Hatherleigh, Devonshire, England, September 4, 1844, the son of George and Mary (Pedrick) Luxton.

George Luxton and his wife were born in Devonshire County, England. He was highly educated and prepared for the ministry, although he never entered that profession. He became a prosperous farmer. Both he and his wife are deceased. They had the following children: Elizabeth, William, Bartholomew, Amy, Walter, Anne, Mary, Catherine, Thomas George, George, Richard, and John, who died in 1919. All are deceased except Thomas George, the subject of this sketch.

Thomas George Luxton received his education in the schools of England and Canada. He came to the United States in 1867 and located at Portland, Maine. Early in life he followed the blacksmith's trade and in 1875 removed from Canada to East Lynn, where he conducted a shop for a time. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Butler Township, Vermilion County. In 1878 Mr.



MR. AND MRS. THOMAS GEORGE LUXTON



Luxton returned to England and was married. Upon his return to East Lynn in that year he again conducted his shop and engaged in general farming and stock raising. In 1909 he retired and has since lived at East Lynn. Mr. Luxton is the owner of 1900 acres of fine farm land and has extensive real estate holdings.

At the organization of the East Lynn Bank Mr. Luxton was elected president. He retained that office after the incorporation of the bank in 1921.

On June 5, 1878, Mr. Luxton married Miss Johanna Martin, daughter of Samuel Martin, a native of Cornwall, England. Mrs. Luxton died in 1920 and is buried at East Lynn. To this union were born four children: Mary, married Edward Mutton, lives in Vermilion County; George T., farmer, lives at East Lynn; Mabel, married Frank McCord, cashier of the East Lynn State Bank; and Walter, lives at East Lynn. Mr. Luxton was married the second time to Ida Hutton, the daughter of John Hutton, of Lockport. She died in 1922 and is buried at East Lynn. Mr. Luxton's third marriage was to Mrs. Alta Staley, a native of Lafayette, Indiana, and a daughter of John and Phoebe (Minard) Roberts. Mrs. Luxton was educated in Lafayette High School and Terre Haute Normal, and for twenty-three years was a school teacher. She taught one term in Porto Rico, and two terms at East Lynn. Mrs. Luxton was first married in 1897 to J. Clifford Staley and two children were born to this union, Mrs. Lucille Montross and John R. Staley.

Mr. Luxton is a Republican and is the oldest living Republican Central Committeeman of Vermilion County, having served for nearly a half century, a member of the Methodist Church, Knights of Pythias, and has other club affiliations. He has always manifested a keen interest in church and school work and it was largely through his efforts that the new Methodist Church and East Lynn High



School were erected. He is widely known for his philanthropic work and has been an important factor in the business, civic and social life of his community.

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**Edwin G. Harden** is one of the young business men of Fithian who has achieved success in the automobile business. He was born at Covington, Indiana, December 16, 1889, the son of Eugene and Dora (Kistler) Harden.

Eugene Harden was born at Homer, Illinois, in 1858. He spent most of his life at Covington, Indiana, and for a number of years served as superintendent of the Covington Power & Light Company. He met with an accidental death in 1915, and is buried at Covington. His widow lives at Covington, where she was born. Mr. and Mrs. Harden were the parents of four sons: O. C., lives at Tulona, Illinois; F. R., lives at Covington, Indiana; Edwin G., the subject of this sketch; and O. J., lives at Long View, Illinois. It is interesting to note that these four sons have the agency for the Ford automobile in their respective communities.

Edwin G. Harden received his education in the public schools of Covington and following his graduation from high school in 1911 entered a garage at Covington as an apprentice mechanic. He came to Fithian in 1913 as a salesman for C. B. DeLong, Ford agent, and served in that capacity for ten years. In December, 1924, he purchased the interests of Mr. DeLong and assumed entire control of the business. The territory embraces Vance, Ogden, Pilot, and Oakwood townships. Approximately four hundred cars are sold by the company annually and Mr. Harden employs six men besides his office force. In 1927 he purchased a half interest in the Ford agency at Villa Grove, and he is now establishing a new Ford agency

at Homer, Illinois, in partnership with his brother, O. C. Harden.

In 1912 Mr. Harden was united in marriage with Miss Ruth M. Wuthrick, of Covington, Indiana, the daughter of Leo and Cora (Russell) Wuthrick. To Mr. and Mrs. Harden have been born ten children, as follows: Marjorie May, Nadine, Freida, Halma Marie, Edwin G., Jr., Gene, Mary Jane, Virginia, Martha Anne, and Vera Louise, all at home.

Mr. Harden is a Republican and is serving as a member of the Village Board. He is a member of the Methodist Church, and belongs to the Masonic Lodge.

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**Jesse Stone.**—One of the outstanding citizens of Potomac, well known through all the surrounding country, is Jesse Stone, proprietor of the Jesse Stone Store. He was born at Dewitt, Illinois, September 17, 1871, the son of W. E. and Caroline (Day) Stone.

W. E. Stone was born at Harrodsburg, Kentucky. He was reared on a plantation in Kentucky and was seventeen years old when he came to Illinois and settled at Dewitt. He made the trip from Kentucky on horseback and after his arrival here he became interested in farming and cattle feeding. When twenty-one years of age, however, he engaged in the general mercantile business at Dewitt. He met with financial reverses and in 1879 went to Seymour, Illinois, but in 1882 purchased eighty acres of the John Hanson farm near Armstrong, Illinois, at thirty dollars per acre. He remained there for nine years and in 1891 settled at Potomac, where he conducted a livery business. He also became interested in the lumber and coal business and was thus engaged at the time of his retirement in January, 1899. He then turned over his business to his sons, Charles M. and Jesse Stone. Mr. Stone died September 17,

1924, and his wife, a native of Dewitt, Illinois, died December 14, 1908. Both are buried at Potomac. Mr. Stone was a Democrat and served as a member of the village board for twenty-six years and as supervisor for one term. He was also a member of the school board. He held membership in the Methodist Church, and was a very popular, energetic, and well liked man. To W. E. and Caroline (Day) Stone were born five children: Jesse, the subject of this sketch; E. C., lives at Montgomery, Alabama, where he is interested in hog raising; Charles M., former partner of Jesse, now connected with the International Harvester Company, Danville; William G., lives at Sacramento, California; and Cecil, married Homer Wilson, lives at Saint Joseph, Illinois.

Jesse Stone lived at Dewitt, Illinois, until he was eight years old. He then went to Seymour, Illinois, with his parents and in 1892, after completing his early schooling, entered Illinois State Normal School. He taught for six years in the district schools at seventy-five dollars per month, and in June, 1898, entered into business with his father. After a year the business was taken over by the two sons and they also added a lumber and coal business at Armstrong, Illinois, which was managed by Charles Stone until January 1, 1909, at which time the partnership was dissolved and Charles Stone took over the Armstrong business. Jesse Stone remained in charge and as owner of the Potomac business house. In 1911 he erected a new brick and concrete store and warehouse, which is probably among the largest stores of its kind in Vermilion County, outside of the city of Danville. He handles a complete line of hardware, builders' supplies, lumber, coal, farm machinery, tile, sewer pipe, sand, and gravel, and also contracts for building.

On December 25, 1894, Mr. Stone was united in marriage with Miss Josie Smith, of Henning, Illinois, the daughter of George G. and Eliza (Fairchild) Smith. Mr.

Smith was born south of Henning, Illinois, and died in 1911. His wife, born on the Fairchild homestead near Fairchild Chapel, died in 1913. Both are buried at Potomac. Mr. and Mrs. Stone have two children, George W. and Helen A., mention of whom is made below.

George W. Stone was born March 21, 1896. He is a graduate of Urbana High School and the University of Illinois. He enlisted for service in the World War, April 3, 1917, as a member of the United States Naval Aviation Corps, being the first boy from Potomac to enlist. He was sent to Pensacola, Florida, where he was among the first one hundred men to enlist in that school of aviation. He served throughout the entire war period and was discharged with the rank of lieutenant in August, 1919, with one thousand hours in the air to his credit. He married Miss Nellie Duval, of Urbana, Illinois, and they have three children. Mr. Stone is associated with the Milford Canning Company, at Milford, Illinois, as an expert production man. This is the largest sweet corn canning company in the world.

Helen A. Stone is a graduate of Potomac High School, Ward-Belmont College, Nashville, Tennessee, and the University of Illinois. She was a teacher in Colorado for four years before her marriage. She is the wife of Norval Burke, and they have a son. They live at Potomac.

Mr. Stone is a member of the Methodist Church and his wife is president of the Ladies' Aid Society and secretary of the Foreign Missionary Society. He is affiliated with Potomac Lodge, No. 782, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory; and Modern Woodmen of America.

In 1916 Mr. Stone helped organize the Potomac Township High School and has served on the old Potomac School Board for a number of years. He was president of the old School Board and secretary of the High School.



**J. F. Friend**, who is station agent for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad at Jamesburg, is one of the substantial men of Vermilion County. He was born at Xenia, Illinois, February 16, 1882, the son of Albert and Sarah (Rheor) Friend.

Albert Friend, who died in 1913, was a native of West Virginia. His widow, born in West Virginia, lives at Xenia, Illinois. Mr. Friend was a farmer in early life but later conducted and owned a barber shop at Xenia. He died at the age of sixty-one years. He was a Democrat. To Mr. and Mrs. Friend were born five children: Bertha, married Christ Henderson, lives at Xenia, Illinois; Gus, lives at Flora, Illinois; J. F., the subject of this sketch; A. W., lives at Springfield, Missouri; and Ollie, married Earl Amerine, lives at Detroit, Michigan.

J. F. Friend was educated in the public schools of Xenia, Illinois, and when a very young man entered the employ of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad at Xenia, Illinois, where he learned telegraphy. He became an operator at the age of twenty years and after two years was transferred from Xenia to Missouri as an operator for the Rock Island Railroad. After several years he returned to Illinois and entered the service of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad at Salem, Illinois. In January, 1916, he came to Jamesburg, where he has since been in charge of the local station. Mr. Friend also operates a fine farm of four hundred and fifty acres just east of Jamesburg. He is recognized as a highly successful farmer and specializes in the raising of wheat, oats and corn. He employs two men on his farm. Mr. Friend maintains his home in Danville, located on North Grant Street. He also owns business property in Danville and for a number of years owned two barber shops there, one of which was sold by him in 1928.

Mr. Friend was married first on November 4, 1903, to Miss Ethel Wooldridge, who died March 25, 1923. She is

buried at Potomac. She was the daughter of W. M. and Alice (Edgington) Wooldridge, natives of Virginia. He died in 1911 and she died in 1929. Both are buried at Xenia, Illinois. To J. F. and Ethel (Wooldridge) Friend were born four children: William L., a graduate of Henning High School, lives at Detroit, Michigan; Kenneth A., a graduate of Potomac High School, lives at Detroit, Michigan; Roselle, a graduate of Xenia High School, lives at Xenia; and LaVonne, attends school at Xenia. The two daughters make their home with their grandmother, Mrs. Albert Friend, of Xenia. Mr. Friend was married the second time to Leora Watson, of Danville, Illinois, in April, 1927. She is the daughter of Gus and Jennie (Daniels) Watson, natives of Illinois. He died in 1919 and his widow lives at Danville.

Mr. Friend has served as justice of the peace at Jamesburg for the past twelve years. He is a Republican in politics, a member of the Methodist Church, and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is serving his third term as a member of the local school board and is recognized as one of the popular members of the community.

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**William Walter**, retired, is known in Henning as one of the substantial pioneer citizens of Vermilion County. He was born at Ripley, West Virginia, March 3, 1851, the son of Simon and Lydia A. (Hornbeck) Walter.

Simon Walter was born near Evansville, West Virginia. He was reared on a farm and attended the district school. In 1852 he came to Illinois with his family and settled on a farm near Armstrong, where he remained until he retired and moved to Potomac a few years before his death. He died in April, 1902, at the age of seventy-nine years. His wife is also deceased. They were the parents of the following children: Perry, deceased; Henry, lives

retired at Murray, Iowa; William, the subject of this sketch; Mary E., married Joseph Cook, who died in 1928, and she lives at Armstrong, Illinois; Nancy J., married Joseph Hobbs, lives at Clarks Hill, Indiana; and Joseph, who died in infancy.

The boyhood of William Walter was spent on a farm near Armstrong, Illinois. He attended the district schools and for eight years was a teacher in the schools of Vermilion County. In 1884 he purchased a farm of eighty acres near Henning, where he lived for seventeen years. He then traded this farm for one hundred and sixty acres near Rankin, Illinois, which he operated for a period of twenty years. He has since lived retired at Henning, having moved here in 1921. He is the owner of two hundred and forty-one acres of land in Butler Township.

On March 2, 1880, Mr. Walter married Miss Emma Layton, of Potomac, Illinois, the daughter of Aaron and Charlotte (Balcom) Layton, the former a native of Broome County, New York, and the latter of Pennsylvania. He died September 7, 1873, and his wife died January 9, 1915. Both are buried at Potomac. Mr. and Mrs. Layton were the parents of the following children: Warren A., born June 10, 1846, died April 28, 1851; Caroline B., who died September 5, 1875, was the wife of Charles LaGrange, a Civil War veteran; Silas B., born May 20, 1853, died January 27, 1873; Emma Layton Walter, born August 5, 1857; John, born November 27, 1859, died July 10, 1926; and Laura Judy, born May 27, 1863, the widow of Charles Judy, who died in 1915. She lives at Goodwine, Illinois. To William and Emma (Layton) Walter were born five children, as follows: Cecil Earl, born October 22, 1881, married February 4, 1920, to Fay Blanche Matthew, is a veteran of the World War, lives at Danville, Illinois; Carrie Belle, born October 13, 1883, married Dr. A. O. Sistler, lives at Wellington, Illinois; Dean Harold, born September 8, 1891, married September 4, 1927, to Edna Wallen, of Henning,

lives at Danville, and he is a veteran of the World War; Aaron Layton, born September 5, 1893, married Emma Edith Thompson, of Collision, Illinois, lives at Royal, Illinois; and Aubrey S., born March 13, 1895, married in 1921, to Gertrude Little of Rankin, Illinois. He is a farmer and lives near Bosville, Indiana.

Mr. Walter has always been a Republican and cast his first vote for President Ulysses S. Grant. He is a member of the Methodist Church. Both he and his wife are highly esteemed members of the community in which they have spent so many years. They will have the honor of celebrating their golden wedding anniversary in 1930.

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**Frank Golliday** is among the esteemed citizens of Potomac, where he has spent practically his entire life. He was born at Columbus, Ohio, July 11, 1864, the son of Jackson and Jane (O'Hale) Golliday.

Jackson Golliday was one of the earliest settlers of Potomac. He was born in Columbus, Ohio, as was also his wife. When he was ten years of age his parents brought him to Potomac, at that time known as Marysville. He became a farmer, but after several years returned to Columbus, Ohio. Five years later, however, he removed again to Potomac, and from 1865 until his death two years later was a resident of this place. His wife died in 1894. Both are buried at Potomac. To Mr. and Mrs. Golliday were born four children: Thomas, who died at the age of sixteen years; Nellie, married Douglas Alexander, retired, lives at Potomac; Martin, died in infancy; and Frank, the subject of this sketch.

Frank Golliday has lived at Potomac for many years. He received his education in the schools here and has lived in the same house for almost sixty years. Since 1899 he has served as sexton of the Potomac Cemetery. He is well



known and well liked in the community. Mr. Golliday has a fine library in his home and has always spent much of his spare time in reading. He is also interested in the gathering of Indian relics and has quite an unusual collection.

In 1887 Mr. Golliday was united in marriage with Miss Mary Weiser, of Potomac, the daughter of George and Nancy (Offord) Weiser, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Virginia. Mr. Weiser died in 1924 and his wife died in 1905. They are buried at Potomac. Mrs. Frank Golliday died in 1917 and is buried in Potomac Cemetery. She had the following children: Blanche, who died in April, 1928, was the wife of Alfred Talbott; Lloyd F., lives at Bloomington, Illinois; and Ida, unmarried, lives at home.

Mr. Golliday is a Republican, and has held membership in the Methodist Church of Potomac since 1884. He has been affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America for the past thirty years.

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**J. Smith Mason.**—Among the prominent business men of Oakwood is J. Smith Mason, who is identified with the Mason & Trent Brothers Lumber and Hardware Company. He was born in Licking County, Ohio, October 19, 1863, the son of Jacob W. and Elizabeth A. (Smith) Mason.

Jacob W. Mason's sketch appears elsewhere in this history in the biography of his son, Dr. Frank M. Mason.

J. Smith Mason was educated in the district schools of Licking County, Ohio. He came to Oakwood in 1881 and spent several years in the teaching profession, being located at Hope, Pleasant Grove, and Welcome. He also engaged in general farming and during the summer months attended the Teachers' Institute. He later became interested in business at Glenburn, Illinois, as manager of

the Glenburn Coal Company. In 1898 he returned to the old homestead and continued farming until 1913, at which time he removed to Oakwood and purchased an interest in the Trent Brothers & Elliott Lumber and Hardware Company. The business was thereafter known as the Mason & Trent Brothers Lumber Company. They are general hardware merchants and are also extensive dealers in lumber, their yards and warehouses being located on the Big Four Railroad. The company also deals in builders' supplies, plumbing fixtures, roofing, brick, and gravel.

Mr. Mason was married in 1886 to Miss Emma A. Makemson, the daughter of Darius and Nancy (Watson) Makemson, natives of Oakwood, both now deceased. He died in 1884 and his wife died in 1915. They are buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Mason: Laura, a graduate of Oakwood Township High School, married A. I. Duke, lives at Oakwood, and they have three children, Clyde Duke, Martha Duke, and Glenn Duke; Vivian E., a graduate of Oakwood Township High School, married Ross Hill, who died in 1914, and they had three children, Dorothy, attends Charleston College, Esther, attends Oakwood Township High School, and Marion, who died in 1928; Gracia, attended Danville High School, married Walter Smoot, who died in 1914, and they had a daughter, LaVerne, who was graduated from Danville High School in 1929. Gracia Smoot later married Verne Jennings, of Danville; and Harold S., a graduate of Oakwood Township High School in 1928, attends the University of Illinois.

Mr. Mason has always been a Democrat. He has served as highway commissioner and postmaster, as well as mayor of Oakwood. He is a charter member of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Free Will Lodge No. 872, and belongs to the Council and Commandery. He is president of the Oakwood Building & Loan Association and takes an active part in the business and civic life of the community.

**Russell B. Rodgers.**—Among the progressive and widely known young business men of Vermilion County may be mentioned Russell B. Rodgers, who is proprietor of the Rodgers Grain Company at Oakwood. He was born near Veedersburg, Indiana, December 11, 1901, the son of William and Marian (Durham) Rodgers.

William Rodgers was born at Wallace, Indiana. Throughout his life he has been interested in general farming and stock raising and is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and seventy-eight acres near Veedersburg, Indiana. He is a Democrat and a member of the Christian Church. Mr. and Mrs. Rodgers are the parents of the following children: Minnie, the widow of Emerson Grenard, who was killed in an automobile accident, January 22, 1929, and she lives at Wingate, Indiana; Gertrude, married Alfred Humphrey, lives at Waynetown, Indiana; Lulu, married Raymond Mitchell, lives at Wingate, Indiana; Verna, married Charles Daisy, lives at Waynetown, Indiana; Fred, lives at Frankfort, Indiana; Frank, lives at Hoopeston, Illinois; Harry, lives at Newton, Indiana; Russell B., the subject of this sketch; and Bernice, married Earl Alward, lives at Wallace, Indiana.

Russell B. Rodgers obtained his education in the public schools of Veedersburg, Indiana, and remained on his father's farm until 1923, at which time he became identified with the grain business of Freeman Knowles. Three years later he came to Oakwood, where he purchased the grain elevator from J. W. Johnston. His business has expanded greatly in the last few years and Mr. Rodgers now owns and operates elevators at Muncie, Brothers, and Bronson, Illinois. These four elevators handle the large volume of business which is operated under the name of the Rodgers Grain Company. While one of the youngest business men in the community, Mr. Rodgers ranks among the most independent and influential citizens of Oakwood. He lives at Oakwood.

On June 28, 1923, Mr. Rodgers married Miss Dora Rhodes, of Covington, Indiana, the daughter of Sylvester and Della May (Jones) Rhodes. He was born in Ohio and died in 1909. His wife, a native of Indiana, died in 1918. Both are buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, Covington, Indiana. To Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes five children were born: Alma, married Merle Haynes, lives at Dayton, Ohio; Dora, Rodgers; Clarence, lives at Wingate, Indiana; Henry, lives at Detroit, Michigan; and Estelle, who lives at Oakwood. Mr. and Mrs. Rodgers have no children.

Politically, Mr. Rodgers is a Democrat. He is a member of the Christian Church and his wife is identified with the United Brethren Church. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

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**J. W. Johnston.**—One of the most progressive business men of Oakwood is found in J. W. Johnston, who is president of the State Bank of Oakwood, and a member of one of the most prominent pioneer families of Vermilion County. He was born on a farm just north of Oakwood, January 23, 1856, the son of David and Mary A. E. (Brittingham) Johnston.

David Johnston was born in Kentucky. When a boy his parents removed to Ohio, where he was educated. In 1844 he came to Illinois and broke prairie with ox teams in the western part of Oakwood Township, Vermilion County. From 1857 until the time of his death in 1905 he was a farmer in Oakwood Township. He was one of the pioneers and became a prominent farmer of this community. He is buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery. His wife died April 11, 1910. Mr. Johnston was a Republican and served as a member of the school board for many years. He held membership in the Methodist Church. To Mr. and Mrs. Johnston two children were born: Matilda



Jane, died August 6, 1880, was the wife of David M. Young, who died in 1925; and J. W., the subject of this sketch.

J. W. Johnston obtained his education in the district schools of Vermilion County and spent his boyhood on his father's farm. He became a partner in his father's farm and its management in 1878 and developed into one of the leading stockmen of this section of the county. This partnership between father and son continued for sixteen years, after which the elder Mr. Johnston retired. J. W. Johnston continued as active manager of the farm until 1917, at which time he leased the land for several years. It is now operated by his own children. Mr. Johnston is the owner of five hundred and twenty acres of well improved land, but has been a resident of Oakwood since 1926, at that time having built a new home there. He has served as president of the State Bank of Oakwood since 1924.

On December 19, 1900, Mr. Johnston was united in marriage with Miss Estelle Oakwood, the daughter of Henry J. and Priscilla (Sailor) Oakwood, both deceased. They have three children: Mary Oletha, born December 11, 1901, a graduate of Oakwood Township High School, married Albert Seyfert, lives near Oakwood; Martha Frances, born July 15, 1904, a graduate of Oakwood Township High School, married Orville Albert, lives near Oakwood; and Henry David, born April 19, 1908, a graduate of Oakwood Township High School in 1926, lives at home.

Mr. Johnston has always been a Republican. He has held the office of supervisor of Oakwood Township for two terms and since 1901 has been a member of the local school board and treasurer. He has been identified with the Masonic Lodge since 1878, being a member of Oakwood Lodge No. 872, Danville Consistory, Vermilion Chapter No. 82, Athelstan Commandery No. 45, Knights Templar. While Mr. Johnston is actively identified with the

business life of Oakwood, he derives his greatest pleasure and happiness from his farm, which is among the finest to be found in Vermilion County.

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**Gordon Bridgman**, popular garage owner of Oakwood, was born here, October 17, 1897, the son of W. H. and Elizabeth (Pate) Bridgman.

W. H. Bridgeman, a farmer of Vermilion County, was born at Summerfield, Ohio. He came to Illinois early in life and for a number of years was employed by the Butler Coal Company, Oakwood. He later went to Arkansas and spent seven years on a farm there before his return to Oakwood, where he was employed in the coal mines. Mr. Bridgman is now interested in farming near Oakwood. He is a member of the Christian Church. To Mr. and Mrs. Bridgman the following children were born: Glenn, a World War veteran, lives at Oakwood; Gordon, the subject of this sketch; Ula V., married Virgil Rossnell, lives at Fairmount, Illinois; Anna, married Elmer Balback, lives at Oakwood; Josephine, lives at home; W. H., Jr., lives at home; Hardy and Paul, both at home; Robert, who died in 1919; and Ballard, at home.

Gordon Bridgman spent the early years of his life on a farm in Arkansas. He attended the public schools and later enrolled in an automotive school at Kansas City, Missouri, where he learned the automobile mechanic's trade. He has been the proprietor of a garage at Oakwood since 1925. It is located on Route No. 10, just east of the city. Mr. Bridgman does expert repair work and handles a complete line of automobile accessories. He also is a battery specialist.

On April 12, 1921, Mr. Bridgman was united in marriage with Miss Crystal Van Allen, of Oakwood, the daughter of O. M. and Rebecca (Hill) Van Allen, the for-

mer a native of Ohio and the latter of Vermilion County. Mr. and Mrs. Van Allen are residents of Oakwood. There are two children in the Bridgman family: Thelma May, born December 5, 1921; and Wilma Regene, born April 5, 1924.

Mr. and Mrs. Bridgman are members of the United Brethren Church.

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**O. P. Clark.**—Among the important business men of Vermilion County, and of Georgetown in particular, few represent more substantial interests than O. P. Clark, who is president of the First National Bank. He was born near Crawfordsville, Indiana, February 17, 1867, the son of John G. and Mary (Holladay) Clark.

John G. Clark was for many years one of the leading business men of Georgetown. He was born at Guilford, North Carolina, and spent his early life there. He later lived in Indiana, and in 1872 came to Illinois and purchased a farm near Ridge Farm, where he remained until 1886. He was a dentist by profession and engaged in practice at Covington and Crawfordsville, Indiana. Mr. Clark came to Vermilion County about 1870 and purchased a farm in Elwood Township. He became president of the First National Bank of Georgetown with which he was identified until the time of his death in 1917. He is buried at Georgetown. Mr. Clark was a prominent member of the Friends Church of Vermilion Grove and was one of the founders of Friends Academy at that place. Mary (Holladay) Clark, a native of Vermilion County, died in 1919. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Clark: O. P., the subject of this sketch; S. M., judge, lives at Danville; and Emma, married Elbert C. Cosand, who is head of the English department at Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana.

O. P. Clark spent his boyhood on a farm near Ridge Farm. He attended Vermilion Academy and in 1889 was



O. P. CLARK





graduated from Earlham College with the degree of Bachelor of Science. He then taught school for three years and in 1892 became interested in the banking business as cashier of Dwiggins & Starbuck, at Georgetown. The following year this institution was taken over by John G. Clark, father of the subject of this sketch, and P. H. Smith. It was operated as a private bank until 1900, at which time it became a national bank, with John G. Clark as president, and O. P. Clark as cashier. After the death of his father in 1917, Mr. Clark succeeded to the presidency. He has been associated with the Georgetown Building & Loan Association since 1896, having served as secretary-treasurer, and is now president.

In August, 1892, Mr. Clark was united in marriage with Ada Elliott, of Vermilion Grove, the daughter of John M. and Sarah (Mendenhall) Elliott, natives of North Carolina and Illinois, respectively. Both Mr. and Mrs. Elliott are deceased and are buried at Vermilion Grove. Mr. and Mrs. Clark are the parents of seven children, as follows: 1. Ruth, born in 1893, a graduate of Georgetown High School, Earlham College, and the University of Illinois, having received her Master's degree at the latter institution. She was married June 1, 1928, to Ward N. Black, who is superintendent of schools at Georgetown. 2. Elma, born in 1895, a graduate of Georgetown High School, Earlham College, and Columbia University, having received her Master's degree at the latter institution. She is now dean of the girls Westtown School at Westtown, Pennsylvania. 3. Zola, born in 1897, a graduate of Georgetown High School and Earlham College. She married Clyde Little, attorney, and lives at Cleveland, Ohio. 4. John E., born July 4, 1900, a graduate of Georgetown High School and the Law School of the University of Illinois. He is a member of the firm of Hutton & Clark, Danville. He married Gladys Castle, of Ridge Farm, Illinois. 5. Mary, born in 1903, a graduate of Georgetown High

School and Earlham College. She is a teacher in the Scottsdale (Pennsylvania) High School. 6. Oren P., assistant cashier of the First National Bank, Georgetown, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history. 7. Iola, born in 1908, a graduate of Georgetown High School, Earlham College, and the University of Illinois, having received her degree from the latter institution in 1929. She is a teacher of physical culture in the high school at Birmingham, Alabama.

Mr. Clark has always been a Republican. He has held the office of mayor of Georgetown, and has been a member of the local school board for the past twenty-eight years. He has also been a member of the board of trustees of Earlham College for eighteen years and a member of the board of trustees of Vermilion Academy for fifteen years. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge, Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America.

Mr. Clark is the owner of a fine dairy farm of two hundred and twenty acres south of Georgetown, on which he now has fifty head of pure bred cattle.

Mr. Clark has always taken a keen interest in the affairs of Vermilion County.

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**Oren P. Clark** is one of the prominent young bankers of Vermilion County, being identified with the First National Bank of Georgetown as assistant cashier. He was born in this city, November 7, 1906, the son of O. P. and Ada (Elliott) Clark.

A complete sketch of O. P. Clark appears elsewhere in this history.

Oren P. Clark acquired a city school education and after his graduation from Georgetown High School entered the University of Illinois from which he received his degree in

1928. He has since been connected with the First National Bank of Georgetown as assistant cashier.

Mr. Clark is a Republican and is a member of Phi Pi Phi fraternity.

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**J. D. Cromwell.**—A leading business man of Vermilion County is found in J. D. Cromwell, who is interested in the general mercantile business at Fithian. He was born here, December 28, 1858, the son of Jackson and Mary Jane (Meade) Cromwell.

Jackson Cromwell was born at Marion, Indiana, and his wife was a native of Conkeytown, Illinois. He followed farming throughout his life. He died March 31, 1920, and his wife died March 27, 1923. Both are buried in McFarland Cemetery. Their children were: Jackson and Maria, both deceased; J. D., the subject of this sketch; J. S., lives at Fairmount; Cora Reams, lives at Fairmount; Rosetta and Nellie, both deceased.

J. D. Cromwell attended the schools of Fithian. He has always lived here and for a number of years was interested in general farming and stock raising. He is now recognized as one of the dependable merchants of Fithian, where he has a well established business.

On October 3, 1878, Mr. Cromwell married Miss Mary Elizabeth Long, of Perrysville, Indiana, the daughter of William J. and Nancy E. (Gritton) Long, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Kentucky. Mr. Long died February 17, 1915, and his wife died October 20, 1892. To Mr. and Mrs. Cromwell the following children were born: Charles Elmer, died January 20, 1882; Hallie Jackson, died December 21, 1884; John Winfield, died November 26, 1920; Arthur Earl, garage owner, lives at Fairmount, Illinois; Everett Ortha, died May 30, 1890; Lena E. Richard, lives at Fithian; Leona W. Hopper, lives at Fairmount; and Wilma E. Anderson, lives in Chicago.



Mr. Cromwell is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen of America, and Royal Neighbors.

At the time the court house in Danville was being built in 1877, Mr. Cromwell hauled one-eighth of the brick used in the construction of the building.

In 1876 he hauled one-fourth of the brick used in building the Centennial Hotel at Danville. He also worked six months during that time in a general store for Mr. Webster.

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**Frank G. Doney**, capable postmaster of Fithian, is a member of one of the oldest and best known families of Vermilion County. He was born at Fithian, November 2, 1880, the son of Barton T. and Belle (Owens) Doney.

A complete sketch of Barton T. Doney appears elsewhere in this history.

Frank G. Doney attended the public schools of Fithian, and throughout his early business career was identified with his father's store at Fithian, being in the latter's employ for twenty-seven years. He became a partner in the business, which was disposed of in March, 1925. Mr. Doney was then employed for a year in the shops of the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad at Danville. He assumed the office of postmaster at Fithian, May 5, 1926.

On July 29, 1903, Mr. Doney was united in marriage with Miss Anna J. Fisher, of Fithian, the daughter of Joseph and Martha (Board) Fisher. Mr. Fisher was born at Richmond, Indiana, and died May 1, 1916. His widow has spent her entire life at Fithian. Their children were: Sina, married Everett Underwood, lives at Georgetown, Illinois; Maude, died in April, 1923, was the wife of Joseph Williams; Anna J. Doney; R. L., who died April 24, 1929; John, lives at Fithian; Fremont, who died June 6, 1910;

Hazel, married Clarence Payne, lives at Fithian; Fay, lives at Danville; and Doris Lucille, lives at Fithian. Mr. and Mrs. Doney have no children.

Politically Mr. Doney is a Republican. He and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Church, and he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen of America, and Royal Neighbors.

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**Barton Taylor Doney**, deceased, was identified with the business life of Fithian for a number of years, and was among its most honored citizens. He was born at Spencer, Indiana, in 1849, and died at Fithian, January 17, 1928.

Mr. Doney was reared and educated in Indiana. He came to Illinois about 1873 and settled at Newton, where he conducted a blacksmith shop for two years. He then removed to Fithian, where he spent the remainder of his life. He became one of the most successful merchants of this section and owned and operated a general mercantile business here for almost half a century. He also served as postmaster at Fithian for a period of eighteen years. Mr. Doney retired in March, 1925, and died three years later. He is buried in Stearns Cemetery, near Fithian.

Mr. Doney married Miss Belle Owens, of Owensburg, Indiana. She lives at Fithian. Four sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Doney: John, lives at Danville; Frank G., a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history; Clyde B., lives at Villa Grove, Illinois; and Benjamin, who died February 6, 1908.

Mr. Doney was a life long Republican. He served as assessor of Oakwood Township continuously for twelve years, and was also a member of the local school board. He was a member of the Christian Church and Modern Woodmen of America, being a charter member of the local lodge.

**John Urbas.**—One of the leading citizens and most prominent business men of Westville is John Urbas, who has been the proprietor of a funeral home there for almost a quarter of a century. He was born in Lithuania, June 6, 1882, the son of Michael and Antanna (Darzinika) Urbas.

Michael Urbas and his wife were born in Lithuania, where they spent their early lives. He followed farming until he came to the United States, and then was employed as a cabinet maker in Chicago. He came to Westville in 1904 and the following year went to Spring Valley, where he remained for two years. He then returned to Westville, where he now lives retired. He is eighty-eight years of age. His wife died in 1908 and is buried at Spring Valley. To Mr. and Mrs. Urbas the following children were born: Elizabeth, deceased; Joseph, lives in Chicago; John, the subject of this sketch; and Eva, married Peter Geltkovisky, lives at Westville.

John Urbas was reared and educated in his native land and was fifteen years old when he came to this country with his parents. He was employed in a grocery store in Chicago for several years and during that time attended night school. He also attended Barnes School of Anatomy and Embalming, from which he was graduated in 1905. In February, 1906, he established a business at Spring Valley, where he was associated in partnership with Antonio Carp. After two years Mr. Urbas sold his interest in the business and came to Westville in 1907, where he conducted a funeral home on State Street until 1909. He then removed to his present location on West Street. A new mortuary is in the process of construction on this site and promises to be the finest type of funeral home in Vermilion County. A chapel will be erected in connection with the mortuary and the latest type of funeral equipment will be installed by Mr. Urbas.

In 1914 Mr. Urbas was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Lugousky, of Westville, the daughter of Charles and Anna Lugousky, natives of Lithuania. The former died in 1926. Mrs. Lugousky lives at Westville. Mr. and Mrs. Urbas are the parents of two sons: John, born in 1915, attends Westville High School; and Cyril, born in 1916, student.

Mr. Urbas is identified with the Republican party in politics and served as postmaster of Westville, as well as alderman. He is a member of Saint Peter's and Saint Paul's Catholic Church, and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, Redmen's Lodge, and Citizens Club.

As a pastime, Mr. Urbas finds much pleasure in hunting and is the owner of several fine hunting dogs.

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**J. Frank Haworth.**—Prominent in business and financial circles in Westville, J. Frank Haworth has played an important part in the growth of his city, where he is president of the First National Bank. He was born at Bloomington, Indiana, March 12, 1880, the son of Beriah and Sarah (Trimble) Haworth.

Beriah Haworth was born in Georgetown Township, Vermilion County, and his wife was a native of Ridge Farm, Illinois. He grew up in that section of the county and received his education in the district schools. He engaged in farming until 1880, at which time he and his brothers purchased a pottery. He met with an accidental death in 1884, at the age of forty-four years. His widow later remarried and lived in Kansas until the time of her death in January, 1929. To Beriah and Sarah (Trimble) Haworth were born the following children: Charles E., lives at Argonia, Kansas; William W., lives at Argonia, Kansas; Nellie, married Robert Weller, lives at Wichita, Kansas; J. Frank, the subject of this sketch; Donna, mar-



ried R. S. Hammond, lives at Argonia, Kansas; and Bessie E., married L. W. Englehardt, lives at Fort Myers, Florida.

J. Frank Haworth was four years old when his father died. He then went West with his mother and lived at Argonia, Kansas, until 1898, at which time Mr. Haworth returned to Illinois and settled at Vermilion Grove. He entered Vermilion Grove Academy in 1898 and four years later accepted a position as bookkeeper in the First National Bank, of Georgetown. At that time O. P. Clark was president of the institution and three years later Mr. Clark purchased a controlling interest in the First National Bank of Westville. At that time Mr. Haworth was transferred to Westville as vice president of the local bank. In 1915 he purchased Mr. Clark's interest in the bank, in partnership with A. L. Summers, and the latter became president with Mr. Haworth as vice president and cashier. In March, 1923, Mr. Summers died and at that time Mr. Haworth became president of the bank.

The First National Bank of Westville was organized in December, 1904. It has a capital stock of \$25,000, surplus of \$25,000, and deposits amounting to \$700,000. It is recognized as one of the leading financial institutions of the county and succeeds in rendering first class banking service to its large clientele.

In 1913 Mr. Haworth was united in marriage with Miss Laura B. Smith, of Hoopeston, the daughter of Samuel D. and Anna (Wolf) Smith, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. Mr. Smith died in 1919 and his wife died in 1920. Both are buried at Hoopeston, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Haworth are the parents of five children: John Franklin, born in 1915, attends Georgetown High School; William B., born in 1916, attends Georgetown High School; Catherine Anne, born in 1918; Ruth Eleanor, born in 1920, died in 1928; and Charles Richard, born December 31, 1923.

Mr. Haworth has always been a Republican. He is a member of the Friends Church, and is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Georgetown Lodge No. 154, Danville Consistory, Modern Woodmen of America, and Redmen Lodge. The Haworth home is at Georgetown, where Mr. Haworth has served as a member of the school board and as treasurer of the board for the past twenty years. He also owns a farm of eighty acres in Grant Township, where he enjoys spending his leisure time.

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**J. F. Quartier.**—One of the outstanding business men of Westville is J. F. Quartier, proprietor of the Quartier Company. He was born in Belgium, June 8, 1884, the son of Eugene and Virginia (Blary) Quartier.

Eugene Quartier was a native of Belgium and his wife was born in France. They came to the United States in about 1884 and settled in Danville, where Mr. Quartier was employed in the mines. In 1894 he became interested in the grocery business in South Danville, and in 1900 established a branch store at Westville. The Danville store was destroyed by fire in 1912 but Mr. Quartier continued as proprietor of the Westville store until 1920, when he sold the business to his son and retired. He died December 30, 1926, and his wife died in 1925. Both are buried in Spring Hill Cemetery, Danville. Mr. Quartier was a Republican. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Quartier: Victoria, died in infancy; Eugene, died in 1913, had served as mayor of Westville and as tax collector of Georgetown Township; Marie, died in 1916, was the wife of John Montgerard; John, died in 1918; Celia, died at the age of ten years; and J. F., the subject of this sketch.

J. F. Quartier was educated in the schools of Danville, afterwards going into the store with his father. He also

became interested in the insurance business, which he has continued to the present time in connection with his other enterprises. When he became proprietor of the Quartier Company in 1920 he established a furniture business in connection with the former, which has been numbered for many years among the leading grocery stores of Vermilion County. A branch furniture store was established at Georgetown in 1924. The local stores have an extensive trade within a radius of thirty miles of Westville.

In 1907 Mr. Quartier married Miss Mildred Copeland, of Danville, the daughter of W. G. and DeBora (Hoover) Copeland. Mr. and Mrs. Copeland were natives of Vermilion County. There are three children in the Quartier family: Julien, associated in business with his father; Mildred, and Ernest John, students.

The family residence is located at 24 North Main Street, Danville.

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**Arthur L. Stewart** is a successful business man of Danville, where he is identified with the Stewart Rug Service, 1203 Oak Street. He was born at Liberty, Indiana, March 7, 1882, the son of Benjamin and Virginia (Bunting) Stewart.

Benjamin Stewart was born at College Corner, Ohio. He was employed in his father's sawmill until he was twenty-five years of age and then removed to Oxford, Ohio, where he owned and operated a farm for several years. He later lived at Liberty and Everton, Indiana, and also was a resident of Anderson, Indiana. About 1910 he located at Peru, Indiana, where he resided until the time of his death in 1918. He is buried at Anderson, Indiana. His widow, born at Liberty, Indiana, lives at Danville and is eighty-four years of age. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Stewart, as follows: Dallas E., farmer, lives near Indianapolis, Indiana; Minnie Myrtle,

died in infancy; Cortland Clifford, lives at Alton, Illinois; Leah I., married John Moore, lives at Anderson, Indiana; Laura Oma, married Earl Spargur, lives at Indianapolis, Indiana; Martin, died in infancy; Arthur L., the subject of this sketch; and Margaret Louise Baker, married George Reynolds, lives at Huntington, West Virginia.

Arthur L. Stewart attended the public schools of Anderson, Indiana. As a boy he was employed in a glass factory and was identified with the glass industry as a blower until 1911. He was employed at Simms, Indiana, and later was located at Chicago Heights, Illinois, Marion, Indiana, Muncie, Indiana, and Danville. He came to Danville in 1906. In November, 1911, he purchased a portable vacuum cleaning rug machine and this was the beginning of his well established business of today. He organized a sweeping club and made contracts for the cleaning of homes, offices, stores, etc. In 1917 another department was added to the business, that of cleaning and repairing Oriental rugs. The business has increased to such an extent that the service building on Oak Street has been enlarged on numerous occasions. The Stewart Rug Service renders high grade service not only to his local customers but also many cleaning plants throughout the United States, making a specialty of servicing Oriental rugs. It maintains service throughout the United States and has an unusually large volume of business. Mr. Stewart has made numerous inventions which pertain to the cleaning process and these are also shipped to various points throughout the United States and Canada.

In 1901 Mr. Stewart was united in marriage with Miss Carrie John of Swayzee, Indiana, the daughter of H. C. and Sarah (Collins) John, natives of Indiana. Mr. John died in 1925 and his wife died in 1929. Carrie (John) Stewart died February 25, 1904, and is buried at Swayzee, Indiana. She was the mother of two children: Ethel Vera, born June 3, 1902, a graduate of Danville High



School and for seven years a teacher at Garfield School, married on June 8, 1929, to Otha Mitchell, of Swayzee, Indiana. They live at Danville. (2) Lowell Reece, born September 4, 1903, a graduate of Garfield School. He is now an engineer on the New York Central Railroad. He was married March 24, 1922, to Ruby Rife, of Danville, and they have two children, Marion and Gene Stewart. Mr. Stewart was married the second time in 1907 to Ella Menier, of Danville. She was reared and educated by Rev. S. S. Jones, of Danville.

Mr. Stewart is a Democrat. He and his wife hold membership in the Christian Church, and he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America.

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**P. L. Testa**, popular garage owner of Georgetown, is among the reliable and substantial business men of Vermilion County. He was born at Braidwood, Illinois, May 29, 1885, the son of John and Mary (Testa) Testa.

John Testa, a native of Italy, is a well known resident of Cardiff, Illinois. He was about twenty years of age when he came to the United States and settled at Braidwood, Illinois, where he engaged in the general mercantile business. He has lived retired since 1919. His wife is also a native of Italy. To Mr. and Mrs. Testa the following children were born: Angela, married William McLean, and she died in 1919; Mary, married Caesar Antonina, lives at Wilmett, Illinois; Minnie, twin sister of Mary, married Thomas Tyrell, lives at Cardiff, Illinois; P. L., the subject of this sketch; Anton, lives at Hillsboro, Illinois; Lucy, married William Monahan, lives at Hillsboro, Illinois; and Phillip, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history.

P. L. Testa attended the public schools of Braidwood, Illinois, and Carbon Hill. He was employed in his father's

store for several years and in 1894 engaged in the mercantile business for himself at Cardiff, Illinois. After a year he sold the store and removed to a farm near Cardiff, where he spent two years. He then went to Bensenville, Illinois, where he owned and operated a general store for seven years. Mr. Testa later worked in the coal mines, and in December, 1927, came to Georgetown, where in partnership with his brother, Phillip Testa, he purchased the garage business of J. R. Dillon. Later, they became local agents for the Ford automobile, trucks and tractors. They are recognized as leading automobile men of this section of Vermilion County and operate one of the most up-to-date garages and service stations.

In 1909 Mr. Testa was united in marriage with Miss Laura Tyrell, of Cardiff, Illinois, the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Sinnott) Tyrell, natives of Ireland. Mr. Tyrell died at Campus, Illinois, in 1900 and his wife died there, March 6, 1927. To Mr. and Mrs. Testa the following children have been born: Alvin, born in January, 1912, attends Georgetown High School; John, born in May, 1913, attends Georgetown High School; Loretta, born in 1917, student; Harvey, born in July, 1919, student; and Phillip, born in April, 1928.

Mr. Testa is a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church.

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**Phillip Testa**, who is identified with Testa Brothers Motor Company, Georgetown, is a veteran of the World War and is recognized as one of the enterprising and successful young men of Vermilion County. He was born at Carbon Hill, Illinois, May 8, 1893, the son of John and Mary (Testa) Testa.

A complete sketch of John Testa appears in the biography of P. L. Testa, to be found elsewhere in this history.

Phillip Testa received his education in the public schools of Carbon Hill and Cardiff, Illinois. He studied automobile mechanics at Grier College, Chicago, and began his career as a mechanic in the employ of the Simmons Motor Company, Chicago. After eighteen months in that company's employ Mr. Testa returned to Cardiff and was connected with a garage there until 1917, at which time he enlisted for service in the World War. He was sent to Fort Wright, Long Island, New York, and attached to the Coast Artillery. He sailed for overseas duty in October, 1917, and saw active service in France throughout the war period. After his discharge in March, 1919, Mr. Testa located at Georgetown, where he was employed in the garage of J. R. Dillon. He and his brother, P. L. Testa, have been the owners of this popular garage since December, 1927, and are local Ford dealers.

Mr. Testa is a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Georgetown, and belongs to the American Legion. He is unmarried.

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**G. E. Blayney**, proprietor of Georgetown's leading drug store, is a representative and widely known citizen of Vermilion County. He was born at Grant, Nebraska, September 24, 1889, the son of C. F. and Clara (Hepker) Blayney.

C. F. Blayney is a native of Pennsylvania. He spent his early life there and later lived in Nebraska. He subsequently engaged in the grain business at Montpelier, Ohio, and also owned elevators at Eden, Ohio. He later lived at Angola, Indiana, and for several years was the owner of a hotel at Fremont, Indiana. Mr. Blayney owned and operated a fruit farm near Paw Paw, Michigan, and for a number of years was the proprietor of a drug store at Elkhart, Indiana. Since 1915 he has lived at Fairfield, Illinois, where he is the owner of several large farms. He

and his wife are members of the Methodist Church. She was born at Bryan, Ohio. To Mr. and Mrs. Blayney were born two children: G. E., the subject of this sketch; and Clela, married Dale Black, lives at Fairfield, Illinois.

G. E. Blayney obtained his education in the public schools of Angola, Indiana, where he also attended Tri-State College. He spent three years as a clerk in Why-song's Drug Store, Angola, after which he entered Valparaiso University, being graduated as a pharmacist in 1911. He spent the following six months as a pharmacist in the O'Malley Drug Company, at Dwight, Illinois, and then purchased a drug store at Elkhart, Indiana, which he successfully conducted for three years. He later owned a store at Fairfield, Illinois, and for a time was connected with Vanetta's Drug Store, Chicago Heights. He came to Danville in 1916 and purchased the Philpott Drug Company, which he successfully managed until November, 1919, at which time he came to Georgetown and purchased the F. E. Kesper Drug Company, which was operated under the name of Blayney & McGee until June, 1920, when Mr. Blayney became sole proprietor. The store was completely remodeled in 1925 and is among the attractive stores of the city.

On August 5, 1913, Mr. Blayney was united in marriage with Miss Glycie Krouse, of Elkhart, Indiana, the daughter of P. G. and Rebecca (Benfer) Krouse, natives of Pennsylvania, now residents of South Bend, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Blayney have a daughter, Mary Jane, born August 21, 1916.

Mr. Blayney is a Republican and is serving his third term as assistant supervisor. He is a member of the Methodist Church, and is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Russell Lodge No. 154, Danville Consistory, Ansar Shrine, Springfield, Illinois, and Gao Grotto, Danville. He is secretary of the Home Building Loan Association of Georgetown.



**M. S. Fletcher, M. D.**—During the twenty-five years that he has been established in a general practice at Georgetown, Doctor M. S. Fletcher, a veteran of the World War, has proven his skill as a physician and his worth as a citizen, and today stands out as one of the county's foremost men. He was born at Ridge Farm, February 17, 1869, the son of Henry and Mahala (Haworth) Fletcher.

Henry Fletcher, a native of Vermilion Grove, spent his entire life in Vermilion County and was numbered among its most successful farmers. He died in 1909 and is buried at Pilot Grove. His wife, born at Georgetown, spent her entire life in Vermilion County and died in 1926. Mr. Fletcher was a Republican, a member of Friends Church at Pilot Grove, and a charter member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He served as supervisor of Elwood Township for several terms. To Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher were born eight children: Oliver, born in 1861, died in 1865; John, born in 1864, lives at Ridge Farm; Albert, born in 1867, died in 1899; M. S., the subject of this sketch; Cassius, born in 1872, died in 1876; William, born in 1876, postmaster at Joliet, Ill.; Lydia, married John Wasson, lives at Chrisman, Illinois, and Ola, married Joseph Pierce, lives at Ridge Farm.

M. S. Fletcher attended the district school, Ridgefarm High School, and in 1889 he taught school in the Busby district at thirty dollars a month. In 1900 he entered the University of Illinois. By hard work he was able to support himself throughout his college career and in 1894 he entered the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania, where he spent two years. He received his degree as Doctor of Medicine from the University of Illinois, at Chicago, in 1898, and in 1899 received his Bachelor of Science degree from this University at Champaign, Illinois.

In the spring of 1898 he began the practice of medicine at Jamaica, Illinois, where he remained almost a year. He then was located at Ridge Farm for a period of three



*Mr. S. Fletcher, B.S., M.D.*



years, after which he served as county physician at Danville for three years. He came to Georgetown in 1905, where he has since remained, and where he has established an excellent practice.

Doctor Fletcher enlisted for service during the World War, July 26, 1917, and received the commission of first lieutenant. He was stationed at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis, Indiana, and later was transferred to Camp Buell, Kentucky, being discharged from the service on January 6, 1919.

In 1897 Doctor Fletcher was united in marriage with Miss Jessie Baum, of Ridge Farm, the daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Beal) Baum. Mr. Baum is deceased and his widow lives at Ridgefarm. Mrs. Fletcher was educated in the Ridgefarm High School, and for ten years taught in the same high school. Doctor and Mrs. Fletcher have a daughter, Mildred, born in 1900. She is a graduate of Georgetown High School and Penn College in Iowa, and also has a degree from the University of Illinois. She is the wife of Kenneth Schecter, of Georgetown. They have a daughter, Sally Sue, born August 31, 1928.

Doctor Fletcher is a Republican, a member of the Friends Church, Georgetown, and belongs to the American Legion. He served as president of the Georgetown School Board for fourteen years and has always taken an active part in the social and civic life of the community.

The maternal great-grandfather of Doctor Fletcher, James Haworth, was the founder of the city of Georgetown, having filed a plat of the town, March 30, 1827. The paternal great-grandfather, Henry Fletcher, was teaching school at Vermilion Grove at that time and it is claimed that he was the third school teacher in Vermilion County. This data gives the date of residence in Vermilion County of these ancestors of Doctor Fletcher as one hundred and two years ago.



**Charles Brooks**, who is the efficient and well known cashier of the First National Bank of Westville, is a native of this place. He was born December 11, 1885.

Mr. Brooks was educated in the public schools of Westville and began his business career in Chicago. Upon his return to this city in November, 1918, he became assistant cashier of the First National Bank. In June, 1921, he resigned to become assistant national bank examiner. However, in May, 1923, Mr. Brooks returned to the First National Bank of Westville as cashier, in which capacity he now serves.

Mr. Brooks married Miss Nell Murphy, of Westville. They have no children.

Politically, Mr. Brooks is a Republican. He and his wife are active in the social life of Westville, and have a wide circle of friends.

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**Ernest Paxton.**—Numbered among the prominent citizens and successful business men of Georgetown is Ernest Paxton, who is vice president and secretary of the "Grab It Here Stores." He was born at Owensville, Kentucky, March 31, 1901, the son of C. S. and L. V. (Warner) Paxton, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume.

Ernest Paxton was reared and educated at Georgetown and after his graduation from high school in 1920 he became interested in the management of the "Grab It Here Store," the original store being located at Georgetown. Stores were subsequently opened throughout Illinois and Indiana until the company now owns and operates thirty branch stores. The business was incorporated in 1924 with C. S. Paxton as president, and Ernest Paxton as vice president and secretary. Mrs. James Rice is also a member of the firm. The Illinois stores are located in the following cities: Georgetown, Westville, Sidell, Fair-

mount, Newman, Danville, Indianola, Hume, Potomac, Broadlands, Hoopeston, Kansas, Paris, Tuscola. There are two stores at Georgetown and five located in the city of Danville. The Indiana stores are located as follows: Dana, Cayuga, Kingman, Covington, Veedersburg, Attica, Hillsboro, and Williamsport. The company operates its own bakeries at Danville, where the headquarters of the business are located. Approximately one hundred people are employed. The well known slogan of the company, "Where Ma Saves Pa's Dough," accurately describes the shopping powers afforded the customers of this large establishment.

In 1921 Mr. Paxton was united in marriage with Miss Grace Shipps, of Bakersfield, California, the daughter of John and Cora (Frazier) Shipps, natives of Catlin, Illinois, and now residents of Bakersfield, California. To Mr. and Mrs. Paxton have been born two sons: Joseph Sherman, born in 1923; and Norman Frazier, born in 1925.

Mr. Paxton is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, Masonic Lodge, and Knights of Pythias, and is a director in the Georgetown Building and Loan Association.

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**W. C. Dukes.**—A substantial citizen and enterprising and dependable business man of Georgetown is found in W. C. Dukes, building contractor. He was born at Westville, Illinois, February 8, 1864, the son of Ellis and Nancy (Bowen) Dukes.

Ellis Dukes was born near Westville, Illinois, where he engaged in general farming until 1875. He then went to Montgomery County, Kansas, where he spent the remainder of his life. He died in 1879 and his wife, a native of Vermilion County, died in 1877. Both are buried in Kansas. They were the parents of the following children: R. N., lives in Ohio; J. H., who served as road commis-

sioner of Georgetown Township for twenty-five years, died at Westville in 1928; Mary, who died in 1878, was the wife of Henry Robertson; George W., who died in 1877; W. C., the subject of this sketch; and Rachel F., married U. C. Graham, lives at Pierceton, Indiana.

W. C. Dukes spent his early youth on a farm near Westville and later lived in Montgomery, Kansas, where he completed his schooling. He then returned east to Ohio and in 1884 located in Vermilion County. Four years later he became interested in the meat business at Westville, which he successfully conducted until 1900. He then removed to Georgetown, where he entered the building business as a contractor. In 1910 he went to Greene County, Indiana, where he farmed until 1916. He then returned to Georgetown where he resumed his building activities.

In 1886 Mr. Dukes married Miss Catherine Ellsworth, of Westville, the daughter of S. T. and Zerelda (Graves) Ellsworth, natives of Ohio and Kentucky, respectively. Mr. Ellsworth died in 1901 and his wife died in 1886. Both are buried at Westville. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Dukes, as follows: (1) Maude, born in 1886, a graduate of Georgetown High School, married in 1905 to Dr. J. H. Myers, dentist, lives at Georgetown, and they have a daughter, Kathryn Myers. (2) Fan M., born in 1888, married Roy Bennett, lives at Georgetown. (3) Fred M., twin brother of Fan M., a graduate of Georgetown High School, now a well known physician at Dugger, Indiana, married Cecilia Weaver, of Urbana, Illinois, and they have four children: William, Richard, Joseph, and Marcella Dukes. (4) Bert E., born in 1890, a graduate of Georgetown High School, lives at Georgetown, married Nellie Price. (5) R. F., a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history. (6) Clarence E., born in 1894, lives at Georgetown. He is a veteran of the World War. He

married Eva Bell, and they have a son, Don Ellsworth Dukes.

Mr. Dukes has always been a Republican. He has served seven continuous terms as supervisor of Georgetown Township and was overseer of the poor for two years. He holds membership in the Christian Church, and is a member of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Catlin Lodge No. 285. Mr. and Mrs. Dukes have a wide circle of friends in Vermilion County and are highly esteemed members of their community.

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**R. F. Dukes**, who is cashier of the First National Bank, of Georgetown, is a veteran of the World War and one of the most prominent young business men of the city. He was born at Westville, in 1892, the son of W. C. and Catherine (Ellsworth) Dukes.

A sketch of W. C. Dukes appears elsewhere in this history.

R. F. Dukes obtained his education in the public schools of Westville and attended the Georgetown High School. He was employed as a clerk in Henderson Brothers grocery store and later was connected with C. E. Pritchard's lumber business. In 1912 he became a mail carrier in the local post office but after six months resigned to accept the position as a clerk in the First National Bank. He was later promoted to assistant cashier but in June, 1918, enlisted for service in the World War, and was sent to Camp Jackson, South Carolina, where he remained throughout the war period. Upon his return to Georgetown, Mr. Dukes became cashier of the First National Bank, in which capacity he has since served.

Mr. Dukes was married in July, 1920, to Miss Florence Taylor, of Janesville, Illinois, the daughter of Stephen and



Mary Taylor. They have a son, William, born March 29, 1923.

Mr. Dukes is a member of the American Legion and has numerous other lodge and club affiliations.

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**John A. Frazier**, of Georgetown, represents one of the prominent and respected families of Vermilion County. He was born at Georgetown, October 15, 1873, the son of William and Jennie (Alexander) Frazier.

Abram Frazier came from New Market, Tennessee, to Georgetown in 1826. Soon after he returned to Tennessee and in 1828 again made the trip to Georgetown, bringing with him his brother, Abner. They engaged in the general mercantile business on the site of the present Frazier store in Georgetown. In 1859 Abram Frazier retired from business, and disposed of his interests to Captain Kyger, who later served in the Civil War as a member of the Seventy-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry. The business continued as Frazier & Kyger until 1867, and from 1867 until 1873 was known as Frazier & Moore, the members of the firm being Abner Frazier and William Moore. In 1873 it became Abner Frazier & Son. William Frazier, father of the subject of this sketch, enlisted in the Civil War in 1862 and served as a member of the One Hundred Twenty-fifth Volunteer Infantry. He was with General Sherman on his March to the Sea, and also participated in the Grand Review at Washington, D. C. From 1875 until 1880 his store was known as Abner Frazier & Sons, the third member of the firm being John Frazier. It carried on business from 1880 until 1885 as Frazier Brothers; from 1885 until 1892 was conducted by William Frazier; from 1892 until 1900 it was known as William Frazier & Son, John A. Frazier, the subject of this sketch, being the junior member. Since 1900 J. A. Frazier has continued

proprietor of the business, which has been successfully carried on for exactly one hundred and one years.

William Frazier, father of the subject of this sketch, was born at Georgetown, Illinois, December 4, 1842, and died at Georgetown in November, 1916. He married Jennie Alexander, who was born at Eugene, Indiana, October 25, 1846. She died in November, 1927, at the age of eighty-one years and is buried at Georgetown. William Frazier was the son of Abner and Mary (Millikan) Frazier. To Mr. and Mrs. Frazier were born four children: Birdie, died at the age of nine months; John A., the subject of this sketch; a daughter died in infancy; and Mayme, born in 1880, deputy county circuit clerk, lives at Danville. She married Roy Seymour, who died in 1918.

John A. Frazier attended the public schools of Georgetown and throughout his business career has been identified with the business which was founded at Georgetown by his grandfather in 1828. It is among the largest stores in this section of the county and handles a complete line of men's furnishings and shoes.

On April 4, 1895, Mr. Frazier was united in marriage with Miss Stella Fowler, of Georgetown, the daughter of William and Elizabeth Jane (Calvert) Fowler. Mrs. Frazier is a graduate of Georgetown High School in the class of 1893, and served for twenty-eight years as a member of the local board of education, having resigned from that office in 1928. She is also a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Mr. and Mrs. Frazier have two children: Mary Elizabeth, born January 9, 1897, a graduate of Georgetown High School, and Illinois Women's College, and has taken graduate work at Columbia University, now a teacher in the Danville High School; and William Fowler, born December 12, 1898, a graduate of Georgetown High School and Wabash College. He has also taken graduate work at Columbia University and is now director of athletics in East Saint Louis High School.

He is a veteran of the World War, having served in France with the United States Marines. He was married August 10, 1927, to Gladys Elizabeth Tucker, of Hume, Illinois, and they have a son, William Tucker Frazier.

Mr. Frazier has always been a Republican, and has held the office of mayor of Georgetown for two terms.

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**C. S. Paxton.**—An almost meteoric business success has been achieved by C. S. Paxton, president and founder of the "Grab It Here Stores," and one of the most prominent citizens of Georgetown. He was born at Charleston, West Virginia, July 26, 1879, the son of C. F. and Margaret (Zirkle) Paxton.

C. F. Paxton was born in Roanoke County, Virginia, spent part of his life in Kentucky, and in 1901 came to Georgetown, where he was living retired at the time of his death in 1915. He was a Democrat and a member of the Christian Church. His widow, born in Virginia, lives at Georgetown. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Paxton: C. S., the subject of this sketch; Ira, lives in New Mexico; T. C., lives at Georgetown; Atha, lives at Georgetown; Nina, deceased; Frank, lives in Chicago; Sarah, married George Gardner, lives at Georgetown; and Collins, lives at Other, Illinois.

C. S. Paxton was six years old when his family went to Kentucky from Virginia. He attended the University of Kentucky and Hamilton University at Nashville, Tennessee. In 1901 Mr. Paxton settled at Georgetown where he was employed in the coal mines for three years. He became a clerk in the Miner's Cooperative Store at Georgetown in 1905, and the following year purchased a small store with a capital of \$185. Today Mr. Paxton is the owner of the largest individually owned chain of grocery stores in this section of the country, having transacted a

million dollars worth of business in 1928. The company owns and operates thirty stores in Illinois and Indiana, with headquarters at Danville, where a large warehouse handles a stock of groceries valued at \$200,000.

In 1900 Mr. Paxton married Miss Lucy V. Warner, of Owingsville, Kentucky, the daughter of Reuben and Louise Warner. Mr. Warner died in 1895 and his wife died in 1922. Mr. and Mrs. Paxton are the parents of two children: Ernest, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history; and Margaret, born in 1905, married James Rice, lives at Georgetown.

Mr. Paxton is a member of the Methodist Church and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a Republican in politics and has served as mayor of Georgetown.

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**Charles Muirhead**, chief of the fire department at Danville, is among the well known men of the city, where he has spent his entire life. He was born here, September 23, 1884, the son of David and Marion (Fisher) Muirhead.

David Muirhead and his wife were born in Scotland. He came to this country in 1883 and settled at Danville, where he was employed in the coal mines for many years. He died in this city in 1917 and is buried in Danville. His widow lives at 603 Chandler Street. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Muirhead, as follows: Robert; David; Charles, the subject of this sketch; William; James; John M.; and Thomas T., who died in 1926, was a World War veteran. All are residents of Danville.

Charles Muirhead received his education in the public schools of Danville and as a boy was employed in the coal mines. In 1911 he entered the employ of the local fire department, where he spent six years. He then returned to the mines and in 1922 was appointed deputy sheriff of Vermilion County under Sheriff Timm. He served in that



capacity until May 1, 1923, at which time he again became identified with the fire department as assistant chief. In 1925 he became custodian of the Masonic Temple Building, but in May, 1927, assumed his present duties as chief of the fire department.

In 1915 Mr. Muirhead married Miss Anna M. Brown, of Danville, the daughter of Charles and Minnie Brown, natives of Germany, now residents of Danville. Mr. and Mrs. Muirhead have no children.

Mr. Muirhead has always been a Republican. He attends the Methodist Church, and belongs to the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Anchor Lodge No. 980, Past Master; Danville Consistory, Past Thrice Potent Master; Vermilion Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 82; Danville Eastern Star, No. 854, Past Patron; White Shrine of Jerusalem, No. 65; and Grotto.

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**George S. Hoff.**—Numbered among the highly successful business men and representative citizens of Danville is George S. Hoff, realtor and specialist in farm loans and insurance, with offices in the Daniel Building. He was born in Butler Township, Vermilion County, February 7, 1859, the son of Amos and Harriet A. (Blackford) Hoff.

Amos Hoff was born in Montgomery County, Indiana, and was among the earliest settlers of Butler Township, Vermilion County, where he successfully engaged in general farming until 1905. He then retired and removed to Rossville, Illinois, where he resided until 1917. He then came to Danville and lived there until the time of his death in 1920. He is buried at Potomac, Illinois. His wife was born in Fountain County, Indiana and died in 1921. Mr. Hoff was active in church work throughout his life and was one of the organizers of the Baptist Church at Point Pleasant, which is now abandoned. The following

children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hoff: George S., the subject of this sketch; Jerusha A., the widow of John O. Jenkins, later married B. E. Lane, and they live at Henning, Illinois; Minnie C., died in 1925, was the wife of Samuel H. Crandall; and Margaret M., married Henry Howell, lives near Henning, Illinois.

George S. Hoff attended the rural schools of Butler Township and completed his schooling at Danville. He began his teaching career in a district school known as Hedge Corner, near Rossville and in 1884 entered Normal University at Normal, Illinois, where he spent two years. He then resumed teaching and in 1889 taught at the Oakwood School. He purchased a farm four miles north of Muncie, Illinois, and two years later became principal of schools at Catlin, Illinois, and from there to Indianola, Illinois. In 1895 he re-entered Normal University and subsequently became principal of the Ottawa schools. However, due to ill health, he was obliged to retire from the teaching profession, and in 1897 Mr. Hoff came to Danville, where he became interested in the real estate business. He has always made a specialty of handling farm loans and was one of the organizers and secretary and treasurer of the Farm Loan Association of Danville. He has now associated with him in business his daughter, Miss Reva Clair Hoff, the firm being known as George S. Hoff & Daughter. The Danville National Farm Loan Association is among the largest loan associations in the State, having loans outstanding in Vermilion County amounting to more than one million seven hundred thousand dollars.

In 1888 Mr. Hoff was united in marriage with Miss Carrie B. Vinson, the daughter of John E. and Elizabeth E. (Trimmel) Vinson. Mr. Hoff gives to his wife much credit for whatever success he has made in life. The former, Mr. Vinson, was born in Kentucky, died in 1893. He was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church and

rode the circuit of Vermilion County for many years. His wife, born in Vermilion County, died in 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Hoff's only child is Reva Clair. She was educated in the public schools of Danville and following her graduation from Danville High School in 1909 she entered Northwestern University, where she specialized in the study of music. She was graduated in 1913 and was identified with chautauqua and lyceum work for five years, after which she became associated with her father's business in Danville. She became a member of the firm in 1923. Miss Hoff is secretary and treasurer of the Danville National Farm Loan Association, which is the local representative of the Federal Land Bank of Saint Louis, Missouri. She is also Past President of the Danville Business and Professional Women's Club. Her experience in chautauqua and lyceum work have served her greatly in making her rank among the most able speakers at civic and business meetings. She is frequently called upon to make speeches and addresses throughout the county and state. Miss Hoff lives at home with her parents in Danville.

Politically, Mr. Hoff is a Republican. He is a member of the Methodist Church and has been secretary of the official board of formerly Kimber and now what is known as the Saint James Methodist Episcopal Church for twenty-seven years. He is president of the Board of Trustees of Lake View Hospital, Danville, and was one of the organizers of the Hospital Association of Illinois. He was active in the founding of the Vermilion County Farm Bureau and was one of the organizers of the Danville Real Estate Board and the Illinois Association of Real Estate Boards. Mr. Hoff is affiliated with Olive Branch Lodge No. 38, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree. He is one of the most public spirited citizens of Danville and is recognized as an able business man and excellent citizen.

**George Sedlmayr**, well known as one of the leading and representative citizens of Danville, was born at Munich, Bavaria, September 15, 1868, and is of German origin. His parents, George and Anna (Stulberger) Sedlmayr, spent their entire lives in Germany. The father occupied an important position in the government employ, being in charge of the mails for a great many years, having succeeded his father in that business. He was born in 1840 and died in Munich May 23, 1889. His wife, who was born in 1845, died November 4, 1888.

Like most boys of German birth, George Sedlmayr was given good educational advantages and was graduated from the high school of Munich, August 8, 1885. It was on May 12, 1893, that he began his voyage to America to become a resident of the new world. He located at first in Chicago, where he spent five years as a brewer in the employ of the Peter Schoenhofen Brewing Company. On September 7, 1898, he was promoted to brewmaster, which position he filled until December 7, 1903, when he removed with his family to Danville, becoming financially interested in the Danville Brewing Company, which was later changed to the Fecker Brewing Company. Mr. Sedlmayr served as secretary and brewmaster of this company for a number of years and after the company was reorganized as the Fecker Company Mr. Sedlmayr continued as secretary, in which capacity he now serves. He is also vice president, and has been identified with the interests of this business for thirty-one years.

On January 7, 1899, Mr. Sedlmayr was united in marriage at Chicago, Illinois, with Miss Lydia Reisenegger, whose parents were residents of that city. Her father, now deceased, was at one time in the employ of the city map department as manager under Mayor Harrison. Mr. and Mrs. Sedlmayr have three children, namely: George W., born March 23, 1900, died June 22, 1914, buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville; Clara, born August 4, 1908,



employed by the Palmer National Bank, lives at home; and Ernest Frank, born January 28, 1924, lives at home.

Prior to his emigration to America Mr. Sedlmayr served one year in the German army from 1888 until 1889. He was not compelled to remain in the service longer due to the fact that he had acquired a higher education than most young men were given.

On national issues Mr. Sedlmayr usually votes the Republican ticket, but at local elections he supports the man whom he believes best qualified to fill the offices. He and his family are members of the Catholic Church and he is identified with the Moose Lodge, Knights of Columbus, and Danville Turner Society, of which he has been secretary for the past twenty years. He is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and Loyal Order of Moose.

Mr. Sedlmayr is public spirited and progressive and supports every movement which he believes will prove of general good to the community. He has always been regarded as one of the leading citizens of Danville, the city in which he has spent so many years.

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**Thomas J. Wodetzki**, president of the Danville Tent and Awning Company, is one of the leading figures in the business life of Danville. He was born at Lincoln, Logan County, Illinois, July 25, 1865, the son of Edward L. and Josephine (Davis) Wodetzki.

Edward L. Wodetzki was born in Germany and was sixteen years of age when he came to the United States and settled in Baltimore, Maryland. He was a carpenter by trade and also was a member of the first fire department in the City of Baltimore. Following his marriage in 1847 he came to Illinois and settled on a farm near Lincoln. He retired in 1884 and died in 1911 at the age of ninety-

two years. His wife, born in Baltimore, died in 1923, age ninety-five years. Both are buried at Lincoln, Illinois. They had the following children: Edward, lives at Danville; Mary, married William McCoy, lives at Decatur, Illinois; Julia, died in 1929, was the wife of George Larison; John, who died in 1882; Katheryne, married Alex Steward, lives at Peoria, Illinois; Thomas J., the subject of this sketch; L. L., lives at Peoria; and C. C., lives at Lincoln, Illinois.

Thomas J. Wodetzki received his education in the schools of Lincoln, Illinois. When twenty years of age he went to Rawlins County, Kansas, where he took up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres and where he remained for three years. From there he went to Forth Smith, Arkansas, where he farmed and raised cotton for two years, after which he located at Saint Joe, Missouri. While in that city he was employed by the Seick Manufacturing Company, makers of awnings and tents. After two years he returned to Lincoln, Illinois, where he engaged in business for himself as a manufacturer of awnings and tents. In five years he sold his business interests and located at Peoria, Illinois. In 1902 he came to Danville, where he established his present business. It was formerly located on College Street and in 1906 was moved to 423 East Main Street. In 1911 the business was again moved to 202 West Main Street, and in 1916 to its present location, 248-50 West Main Street. The Danville Tent and Awning Company are specialists in canvas, the slogan of the company being, "If it is made of Canvas, we make it." Branch stores are maintained at Kankakee and Mount Vernon.

On December 29, 1896, Mr. Wodetzki was united in marriage with Miss Katheryne Crain, of Lincoln, Illinois, the daughter of William H. and Amanda (Stevens) Crain. The former, born at Dayton, Ohio, died in 1921. The latter died in 1924. Mr. and Mrs. Wodetzki are the parents of

six children: Glen A., associated in business with his father, married Catherine Werner; Thelma J., graduate nurse, lives at Shelby, Montana; Kathryne, married Volanid Vaught, lives in Chicago; Lewis, lives at Tilton; Henry, and Ethel May, both at home.

In politics Mr. Wodetzki is identified with the Democratic party and at the present time is serving his first term as mayor of Tilton. He and his family hold membership in the Second Presbyterian Church and he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

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**Benjamin B. Taylor.**—One of the outstanding citizens of Vermilion County is Benjamin B. Taylor, who is president of the Taylor-English Coal Company, of Catlin. He was born at Catlin, January 4, 1878, the son of Thomas A. and Mary C. (Acre) Taylor.

Thomas A. Taylor was born at Romney, Ind. He was a graduate of Millikin University, and for a number of years taught school. He became the owner of one thousand two hundred acres of land in Vermilion County, which he operated for many years. He was a director of the First National Bank of Catlin, a director of the First National Bank of Oakwood, and president for ten years of Lakeview Hospital, Danville. Mr. Taylor was widely known for his numerous deeds of charity and was a valuable citizen of the community in which he lived. He was a Republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church, Catlin Lodge, No. 285, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree, Royal Arch Mason, and Knights Templar. Mr. Taylor died May 27, 1924, and his wife died October 28, 1927. Both are buried at Catlin. They had the following children: Clemmer, married C. C. Andrews, who is president of the First National Bank, Oakwood, Illinois; Gail H., farmer, lives at Catlin; Elvessa,



BENJAMIN B. TAYLOR





lives at Catlin; Joseph, retired, lives at Catlin; Benjamin B., the subject of this sketch; Robert, lives at Catlin; Margaret, deceased, was the wife of C. W. Wherry, Catlin; Catherine, married H. E. Douglas, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history; Lois, married Lawrence Church, lives at Catlin; Thomas W., lives at Catlin; and Harriet, married Conrad Howard, lives at Wilmington, Illinois.

Benjamin B. Taylor obtained his education in the public schools of Catlin and after his graduation from Catlin Township High School in 1898 he entered the store of G. W. Tilton as a clerk, in which capacity he served for five years. In 1903, in partnership with his brother, Joseph, he engaged in the general merchandise business. Mr. Taylor organized the Danville Collier Company in 1907, with mines at Catlin, and he became president of the company. He organized the Indiana Semi-Block Coal Company in 1911 and operated mines at Cates, Indiana, also becoming president of that company. Mr. Taylor organized the Taylor-English Coal Company in 1918 and the company purchased the interests of the Catlin Coal Company, as well as other coal lands in this section. He became president of the Chicago Colliers Company, which was organized in 1920, and this corporation owned 2,000 acres of land, known as the Keisler Hill, near Catlin. It became a \$600,000.00 corporation and was sold in 1925 to the United Electric Coal Company. Mr. Taylor was also one of the organizers of the Shipp-Timber Company in 1921, of which he became president.

September 19, 1900, Mr. Taylor married Miss Cora Partlow, the daughter of George and Irene (English) Partlow, the former a native of Joliet, Illinois, and the latter of Perrysville, Indiana. He is deceased and his widow lives at Catlin. Mrs. Taylor is the granddaughter of J. G. English, who was the founder and president of the First National Bank of Danville. Mrs. Cora Taylor was born in

Danville, where she graduated from the high school and taught school in Danville until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have one daughter, Josephine. She is a graduate of Catlin Township High School, Ward-Belmont College, Nashville, Tennessee, and the University of Illinois. She is now employed in her father's office.

Mr. Taylor is a Republican. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian Church, and belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332, and Danville Country Club. The Taylor residence at Catlin, situated on twelve acres of land, is among the most beautiful homes in the county. Mr. Taylor also is the owner of a fine farm of 260 acres.

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**John F. Shimkus.**—As postmaster of Westville, Mr. Shimkus, a veteran of the World War, is numbered among the representative young men of Vermilion County. He was born in Lithuania, October 23, 1896, the son of Frank and Ursula (Warnagis) Shimkus.

Frank Shimkus, who died January 31, 1925, was a native of Lithuania. His wife, also born there, died in 1927. Both are buried at Westville. Mr. Shimkus was a farmer in early life and after his arrival in this country he worked in the coal mines of Pennsylvania and Illinois. He met with an accidental death in the mines. To Mr. and Mrs. Shimkus eight children were born, two of whom survive: Lean, married Michael Ranktis, lives at Westville; and John F., the subject of this sketch.

John F. Shimkus received his education in the public schools of Chicago and Westville, and after his graduation from Westville High School he attended Brown's Business College, Danville. Mr. Shimkus was employed in the coal mines near Danville and later entered the offices of the Bunsen Coal Company, Westville, as assistant pay-

roll clerk. After three years he became assistant cashier of the First National Bank, Westville, and two years later was engaged as payroll clerk for the United States Fuel Company, formerly the Bunsen Coal Company, at Benton, Illinois. In June, 1918, he volunteered for service in the World War and enlisted in the United States Navy at Great Lakes Station, Chicago. He was discharged December 22, 1918, and upon his return to Westville became interested in business. He was appointed postmaster of Westville in January, 1920, and has since held that office.

On September 25, 1917, Mr. Shimkus was united in marriage with Miss Bertha Possolt, of Westville, the daughter of John and Emma (Stark) Possolt, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Georgetown, Illinois. He died November 1, 1925, and his widow lives at Westville. To Mr. and Mrs. Shimkus have been born two daughters: Emma Lou, born December 8, 1921; and Phyllis Jane, born December 1, 1925.

Politically, Mr. Shimkus is a Republican. He holds membership in Saint Peter's and Saint Paul's Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus, Loyal Order of Moose, and American Business Club, Danville. He was active in the organization of the Martin F. Vutrick Post No. 51, Westville, of the American Legion, and served as its first Commander.

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**L. H. Mennel** is prominent in business circles in Danville, where he is superintendent of the Illinois Power & Light Corporation. He was born at Quincy, Illinois, November 12, 1898, the son of Adam and Emma (Timpe) Mennel.

Adam Mennel, who died in 1914, was a native of Illinois. He was born at Burton and when ten years of age went to Quincy with his family, where he was educated.



He became a well known building contractor and was engaged in that work until his death. He met with an accidental death during the building of a bank in Quincy. His widow lives in that city. Their children were: L. H., the subject of this sketch; Clarence and Adelia, who live at Quincy.

L. H. Mennel attended the public schools of Quincy and Gem City Business College. He began his business career with the S. M. Willmer Company, chain store operators. The business was subsequently sold to L. R. Steele Corporation of Buffalo, New York, and Mr. Mennel remained in the employ of the new concern. He became store manager in Danville and in 1924 accepted a position with the Illinois Power & Light Company as assistant to F. A. Tucker. In August, 1928, he became superintendent.

Politically Mr. Mennel is a Republican. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church and Fraternal Order of Eagles, Lodge No. 535.

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**Henry Bireline**, of Henry Bireline Company, Inc., sheet metal and roofing specialists, is recognized as one of the substantial business men of Danville, and is a member of one of the oldest families of Vermilion County. He was born in this city, June 8, 1864, the son of John Adam and Catherine (Stickler) Bireline.

Both John Adam Bireline and his wife were natives of Germany. He was a butcher by trade and in 1858 emigrated to the United States and settled at Circleville, Ohio. He later removed to Williamsport, Indiana, and in 1860 came to Danville, where he entered the mercantile business. About 1876 Mr. Bireline sold his interests in this city and went to Dewitt, Arkansas, where he purchased a large farm. He died October 1, 1877, at the age of fifty years.

His wife, born in 1830, died in 1917, and is buried in Spring Hill Cemetery, Danville. They were the parents of four children: Andrew, lives in Florida; Henry, the subject of this sketch; Anna, who died in 1917, was the wife of Charles Brady; and John, who died in 1917.

Henry Bireline grew up in Danville and attended the public schools. He was twelve years old when he went to Arkansas with his parents. He returned to Danville, however, after several years, and as a boy was employed in a local restaurant, where he received wages of one dollar and fifty cents per week and board. He later was employed as an errand boy by J. G. English, banker. At an early age he became interested in roofing and tinning and was employed by Haven, VanSickel & Barker for about ten years. In 1892, in partnership with John W. Orr, Mr. Bireline engaged in business for himself on the present site of the Adams Building on North Vermilion Street. After three years the company purchased property at 121-23 North Walnut Street where they erected a building. Mr. Bireline became sole owner of the business in 1915 and remained at the former location until 1924, at which time he purchased property at 615 North Hazel Street, where he erected his sheet metal and roofing plant. The business was incorporated in 1916 and since that time his sons, Robert and Leo, have been identified with the business.

Mr. Bireline was married September 6, 1886, to Miss Emma Diehl, of Danville, the daughter of Frank and Fredericka Diehl, natives of Germany, both now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Bireline were born five children: 1. Kate Ellen, born July 13, 1887, married on June 10, 1912, to Walter Meck. She died in 1918. 2. Robert Franklin, born March 6, 1890, lives at Danville. He was married April 5, 1916, to Nell Porter, of Danville, and they have a son, Henry Porter Bireline. 3. Leo Henry, born June 19, 1894, lives at Danville. He was married April 4, 1916, to Ruby

Dot Bodine, and they have two children, Margaret Emma, and Robert Allen. 4. Florence Charlotte, born November 29, 1897. She was married in 1919 to Harry Bennett, of Danville, and they have two children, Billie and Barbara. 5. Emily Louise, born September 23, 1908, lives at home.

Mr. Bireline has always been a Republican. He is an active member of Saint James Methodist Church and is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 38; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Athelstan Commandery; Medinah Shrine, Chicago; Gao Grotto, Danville; Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; Red Men; and Ben Hur.

Mr. Bireline is the owner of large tracts of land in Florida and has four hundred acres planted in pecans near Gainesville, where he and his family spend the winter months. A beautiful home was built on the plantation there by Mr. Bireline several years ago.

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**Fritz Schriever.**—One of the well known young business men of Rossville is Fritz Schriever, who is identified with the Shell Petroleum Company as manager of the Shell Service Station at Rossville. He was born in Hamm in Westfallen, Germany, March 29, 1883, the son of Theodore and Elizabeth T. Schriever.

Theodore Schriever was born in Germany, where he spent his entire life. He died in 1900 and his wife died in 1917. Mr. Schriever served in the German Army and was identified with the railroad service for a number of years as a conductor. He later was employed as superintendent of a wire manufacturing company. To Mr. and Mrs. Schriever were born four children: Henry, lives in Germany; Elizabeth, died at the age of sixteen years;

Fritz, the subject of this sketch; and Walter, who lives in Germany.

Fritz Schriever was reared and educated in Germany and shortly after his marriage went to Brazil, South America, where he took up a tract of three hundred and fifty acres of government land. After a year he accepted a railway position and engaged in construction work throughout the mountain regions of that section of South America. He served in this capacity for two years and endured continual hardship in that primitive country, being in contact with Indians, and wild animals. On numerous occasions the men found it necessary to build bonfires around their camps to keep away the hostile Indians. After his return to Brazil, Mr. Schriever became interested in the lithograph business and in 1912 went to Germany. He came to the United States in July, 1913, and located at Collison, Illinois, where he operated a blacksmith shop for two years. He then entered the employ of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad and in 1921 came to Rossville, where he was employed in the company's shops until 1924. He has since been identified with the Shell Petroleum Company in Rossville, and manages one of the largest stations in this section of the State.

In August, 1902, Mr. Schriever was united in marriage with Miss Wilhelmina Weidili, of Germany, the daughter of John and Walburga Weidili, both deceased. They have two children: Elizabeth, a graduate of Rossville High School, now studying piano and voice at Danville; and Walter, born in 1913, attends Rossville High School.

Mr. Schriever is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, and is affiliated with Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Lodge No. 714; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Danville Shrine; and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is serving his second term as a member of the Rossville School Board and is especially



interested in education. It was largely through his efforts that the commercial department was introduced into the Rossville school system.

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**Samuel C. Crispin, M. D.**, is one of the young and capable professional men of Danville, where he is engaged in the practice of medicine with offices at 916 East Fairchild Street.

Doctor Crispin is a graduate of the School of Medicine, Loyola University, Chicago, class of 1922. He served his internship in Saint Anthony's Hospital, Terre Haute, Indiana, and came to Danville in 1923. He has since engaged in general practice in this city.

Doctor Crispin was united in marriage to Ethel Ann Lenning, of Coal City, Indiana, after completing his internship in 1923 and has two sons, Samuel Byron and Robert Stanton Crispin. Their residence is located at 1902 North Gilbert Street, Danville, Illinois.

Doctor Crispin is identified with the Vermilion County Medical Society, Illinois State Medical Society, and American Medical Association. He is also a member of the Aesculapian Society of Wabash Valley, and the Association for the Study of Internal Secretions.

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**J. M. James, M. D.**, is one of the representative physicians and surgeons of Vermilion County, successfully engaged in the practice of his profession at Henning. He was born in Champaign County, Illinois, August 24, 1877, the son of John A. and Mary (Beauchamp) James.

John A. James was born in Vigo County, Indiana, as was also his wife. He was a farmer. He died in 1919 and his wife died in 1914. Both are buried in Mayview Cemetery, Mayview, Illinois. They were the parents of five chil-

dren: Frank M., lives at Conway, Arkansas; Albert R., lives at Henning; Rosa Winchester, lives at Urbana, Illinois; Chester A., lives at Indianapolis, Indiana; and J. M., the subject of this sketch.

J. M. James was educated in the public schools of Champaign County and then entered the Medical Department of Washington University, Saint Louis, Missouri, from which he was graduated with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. In the same year he established his residence in Henning, and here he has built up a most substantial general practice.

On March 6, 1907, Doctor James was united in marriage with Miss Aural C. Lane, of Henning, the daughter of Alonzo W. and Mary (Lewis) Lane, natives of Illinois and Wales, respectively. He died in 1925 and his wife died in 1927. Doctor and Mrs. James have no children.

Doctor James is a Republican and is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Scottish Rite, Danville, and Mohammed Temple, Peoria, Illinois.

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**Judge David C. Ade** is among the most substantial and representative citizens of Rossville, where he is serving as police magistrate and justice of the peace. He was born at Dayton, Ohio, January 10, 1859, the son of Christian and Mary (Funk) Ade.

Christian Ade was born in Stuttgard, Germany, where he was reared and educated. At the age of twenty-two years he came to the United States and settled at Indianapolis, Indiana, where he was married. He went to Dayton, Ohio, in 1858 and subsequently moved to Danville, Illinois, just before the Civil War. About 1866 he became an intinerant minister of the German United Brethren Church. After the death of his wife in 1873 he retired

from the ministry and settled on a farm of forty acres north of Denmark, Illinois, on the site of the present Vermilion Lake. In 1883 he removed to Cherryville, Kansas, where he purchased a farm and where he lived until his death in 1892. He is buried at Cherryville, Kansas. To Christian and Mary (Funk) Ade were born seven children, as follows: David C., the subject of this sketch; Amanda, who died at the age of thirteen years; Ella, who died at the age of fifteen years; Emma, married J. W. Tremble, lives at Oakwood, Illinois; Edward, lives at Cherryville, Kansas; Mary, the widow of Samuel Sanford, lives at Indianapolis, Indiana; and Lilly, married Fremont Beady, lives at Cherryville, Kansas.

David C. Ade received his education in the public schools of Dayton, Ohio, and later spent four years at the Theological Seminary at Dayton, Ohio. He served for a period of twenty-five years as a member of the United Brethren ministry throughout Illinois and Indiana, and in March, 1917, came to Rossville, where he purchased a home at 303 East Green Avenue, where he now lives. In April, 1920, he was elected justice of the peace and on April 6, 1929, became police magistrate.

On December 28, 1882, Mr. Ade married Miss Susan Tucker, of Danville, the daughter of Henry and Hulda (Brown) Tucker, natives of Kentucky and Indiana, respectively. Mr. Tucker died in 1901 and his wife died in 1902. Both are buried at Rossville. Mr. and Mrs. Ade have nine children, as follows: Irvin H., lives at Lafayette, Indiana; Ida May, married Claude Stevenson, lives at Rossville; William Harrison, who died in 1894; Charles Edward, lives in Chicago, Illinois, is a veteran of the World War; David C., lives on a farm near Champaign, Illinois, is a veteran of the World War; N. W., lives at Hoopeston, married Estella Babson, and she died March 22, 1929; Dorothy, married O. W. Murphy, lives at Danville;

Everett, who died at the age of eight years; and Ruth, married Lloyd Robertson, lives at Chicago, Illinois.

In politics Mr. Ade is identified with the Republican party. He is a member of the United Brethren Church and takes an active part in church work. He has been affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for thirty-two years and has been State Representative to the Grand Lodge. He has also been a member of the Modern Woodmen of America for the same number of years.

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**Charles Mires Woodbury.**—One of the prominent figures in business circles in Vermilion County is Charles Mires Woodbury, who is vice president of the Woodbury Drug Company, Danville, and a member of one of the earliest and best known families of Vermilion County. He was born in Danville, on the site of the Fisher Grand Opera House, January 15, 1868, the son of Dr. William W. R. and Maria Louisa (Williams) Woodbury.

Dr. William W. R. Woodbury was born in Ripley County, Indiana, in 1824, and died February 16, 1901. He is buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. His third wife, Maria Louisa (Williams) Woodbury, was the first white child born in Vermilion County, born at Catlin, February 22, 1827. She died September 9, 1903, and is buried in Springhill Cemetery. William W. R. Woodbury was reared in Ripley County, Indiana, and was seven years of age when his parents came to Danville in 1833. His father was a general merchant and fur trader and made numerous trips to New Orleans, Louisiana, by flat boat, the return trip being made by foot or horseback. At the age of fifteen years William W. R. Woodbury studied medicine with Dr. William E. Fithian, and at the same time attended a private school. He was graduated from Rush Medical College, Chicago, in 1850 and upon his return to Danville



was associated with the drug business of Dr. James A. D. Sconce. He later purchased the store and in connection with the business he carried on a general practice in medicine at 79-81 West Main Street. Doctor Woodbury was also the founder of the Woodbury Book Company in 1881, which was managed by him until 1885, at which time his son, Amos Gardner Woodbury, purchased the two stores. He operated them successfully until 1901, at which time a stock company was formed and the business known as the Woodbury Book Company, with Herman B. Wheeler as president. In 1903 the Woodbury Drug Company was incorporated with A. G. Woodbury as president; Charles M. Woodbury as vice president; Charles F. Ehlers, as manager; and Flora M. Woodbury, as secretary. Doctor Woodbury carried on his private medical practice until his death in 1901. As highway commissioner he built the first stone and gravel Georgetown Road. He was engaged in many business enterprises. He was mayor and laid out Springhill Cemetery as commissioner. He was numbered among the leading citizens of the community and was beloved by all who knew him.

To Dr. William W. R. and Maria Louisa (Williams) Woodbury were born the following children: Ernest, who died in infancy; Amos Gardner, who died in 1920; Mary, who has been blind since the age of four years, is a graduate of the Jacksonville Institute for the Blind, and is exceedingly talented in music, lives at Danville; Lucy W., unmarried, now president of the Woodbury Book Company, with which she has been identified for the past forty-six years; Charles Mires, the subject of this sketch; Flora Maria, unmarried, now secretary of the Woodbury Drug Company. All live in the old family homestead at 515 North Vermilion Street, Danville.

Charles Mires Woodbury obtained his education in the public schools of Danville and is a graduate of the Northwestern College of Pharmacy, Chicago. He became identi-

fied with his father's drug and book business early in life and served as vice president of the Woodbury Drug Company from 1903 until 1920, and was succeeded by Charles F. Ehlers as president. Mr. Woodbury is now vice president. He was also associated with his brother, the late Amos Gardner Woodbury, in the breeding of Jersey cattle and Poland China hogs on the Woodbury Hill Farm from 1895 until 1918, during which time Amos Woodbury served as president of the Vermilion County Farmers Institute. He increased meetings from one to twelve a year. A. G. Woodbury was the father of hard roads movement and as supervisor helped first to put it over. A. G. Woodbury deserves highest award of merit for extensive work done for this modern hard road movement, and was elected chief of supervisors for this. Charles Mires Woodbury has also had extensive real estate holdings in Danville and in 1904 was identified with his brother, Amos G. Woodbury, and his sister, Flora M. Woodbury, in the building of the Maria-Louise and Nelsonia, large fifteen apartment building in Danville. The Danville Motor Car Company building was built and owned by A. G. Woodbury. The Chesterfield additions were owned and laid out by A. G. and Charles M. Woodbury.

Mr. Woodbury is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Danville Consistory, Ansar Shrine, Springfield, Illinois, Knights of Pythias, Loyal Order of Moose, Isaac Walton League, and Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is a member of Saint James Methodist Episcopal Church, and belongs to the Sons of the American Revolution, and Half Century Club. He is unmarried and lives with his sisters at 515 North Vermilion Street.

Mr. Woodbury has always been interested in the early history of Danville and has a fine collection of early photographs of the city, part of which were taken by him and pioneer photographers. These and pioneer relics shown

by him and his sister, Flora M. Woodbury were shown at the Vermilion County Centenary and won the silver trophy, a huge silver loving cup, and awarded by the Danville Chamber of Commerce.

Gardner Woodbury, paternal grandfather of Mr. Woodbury, was born in Montgomery County, New Hampshire, 1801, and died at Danville in 1841. The paternal grandmother, Elizabeth (Songer) Woodbury, was born in Rockingham County, Virginia, about 1800 and died at Danville in 1876. The maternal grandfather, Amos Williams, was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, in 1797 and died at Danville in 1857. He traveled as far west as Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1821 and his father, Benjamin Williams, and his grandfather, Enoch Williams, fought from Bedford County, Pennsylvania, during the Revolutionary War.

Martha Shaw Williams, wife of Amos Williams, was born in Christian County, Kentucky, and lived at Paris, Illinois, when she married Amos Williams in 1826. Grandmother (maternal) of C. M. Woodbury.

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**J. S. Purnell**, mayor of Fithian, is a substantial and well known citizen of Vermilion County. He was born in Fountain County, Indiana, May 26, 1858, the son of George W. and Nancy (Henry) Purnell.

George W. Purnell was born in Fountain County, Indiana, February 13, 1834. He followed general farming and stock raising throughout his life and after his retirement lived at Danville. He died there, December 13, 1908, and his wife, born in Brighton County, Kentucky, December 16, 1832, died October 18, 1893. Both are buried in Stearns Cemetery, Fithian. The Purnell family came to Indiana about 1830. To Mr. and Mrs. George W. Purnell six children were born: Emma, born August 30, 1855, died Feb-

ruary 11, 1860; J. S., the subject of this sketch; Ella, born October 24, 1862, died in infancy; Arthur, born August 24, 1864, died in 1912; J. E., born in 1869, lives at Danville; and Dr. W. F., dentist, born June 22, 1872, lives at Veedersburg, Indiana. Mr. Purnell was a Republican and a member of the old Christian Church, which was organized in 1808.

J. S. Purnell lived in Indiana until 1871 and was educated in the district schools of Fountain County. He became a farmer and at one time owned several large farms in Vermilion County. He lived at Oakwood for several years and has been a resident of Fithian since 1923. Mr. Purnell is still the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and sixty acres, which is located north of Bronson, Illinois.

Mr. Purnell was elected supervisor of Oakwood Township in 1893 and has served as a member of the board for twenty-two years with the exception of three terms. He became mayor of Fithian in 1927 and has proven himself to be a most efficient and trustworthy administrator.

Mr. Purnell was married, October 8, 1879, to Miss Fannie M. Lucas, of Fountain County, Indiana, the daughter of J. G. and Jane (Sanford) Lucas, natives of Indiana and Kentucky, respectively. Both are deceased. Mrs. Purnell's grandfather Lucas was born in London, England, and was fifteen years old when he came to this country. He became a prosperous merchant of Chambersburg, Indiana, where he engaged in business for more than forty years. He died at the age of seventy-five years. To J. S. and Fannie M. (Lucas) Purnell three children were born: Earl, born March 19, 1883, died December 23, 1885; Goldie, born February 5, 1888, married in 1906 to Dr. R. E. Johnson, and she died in 1917, buried in Stearns Cemetery, Fithian; W. Frank, born in 1895, a graduate of Danville High School and the University of Illinois, married Hazel



Shepperd, and they have three children. He operates his father's farm near Bronson.

Mr. Purnell has always been a Republican. He is a member of the Christian Church and is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge and Consistory. Both he and his wife are active in the social and civic life of the community.

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**Charles Virgil Tilton.**—One of the prominent business men of Fairmount is Charles V. Tilton, who is a member of one of the oldest and best known families of Vermilion County. He was born at Catlin, Illinois, March 21, 1863, the son of George W. and Lizzie A. (Albright) Tilton.

George W. Tilton was born in Beaver County, Pennsylvania, January 8, 1836. When a boy he came with his parents to Ripley County, Indiana, where he grew to manhood. He attended Moores Hill College for two years and then became a surveyor of Ripley County. He later taught school in the same county and after his arrival at Catlin, Illinois, also engaged in the teaching profession. In 1868 he became interested in the mercantile business at Catlin, and for almost half a century was numbered among the progressive merchants of Vermilion County. He also served as postmaster. Mr. Tilton was a Democrat, an active member of the Methodist Church, and belonged to Catlin Lodge No. 590, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He was also identified with his brother in stores at Pilot and Palermo, Illinois, about 1883. On August 14, 1862, George W. Tilton was united in marriage with Miss Lizzie Albright, who was born in Clermont County, Ohio, January 30, 1837, the daughter of George and Paulina (Ammon) Albright. George Albright was born at Nuremberg, Bavaria, Germany, November 10, 1813, and his wife was born in Baden, Germany, April 12, 1817. He died January 5, 1892, and



CHARLES VIRGIL TILTON



his wife died July 10, 1897. Both are buried in Ripley County, Ind. Mr. Albright came to the United States in 1833 and became a successful farmer. George W. Tilton died November 27, 1910, and his wife died October 18, 1925. Both are buried in Oakridge Cemetery, Catlin, Ill. Their children were: Charles Virgil, the subject of this sketch; Elsie Venus, born April 4, 1866, married Albert R. McGregor, lives at Danville; and Bertie, married George R. Catlett, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history.

The Tilton family traces its ancestry to England. Three brothers came from near Carlisle, Cumberland County, England, to the United States before the Revolutionary War, and settled in New Jersey. James Tilton removed to Fayette County, Pennsylvania, where he married Lizzie Pedan, and upon her death he later married Sarah Moore. They had two children, Enoch and John. Enoch Tilton was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, December 25, 1780. He was married in 1802 to Betsey Wheatley, who was born March 11, 1784. They later removed to Beaver County, Pennsylvania, where Enoch Tilton became a farmer and preacher. They had thirteen children, as follows: James, born August 2, 1803; Mary Whittum, born September 21, 1806; Sarah Tate, born June 6, 1808; Matthias, born October 17, 1809; Rev. Enoch, born July 22, 1811, grandfather of the subject of this sketch; Joseph, born December 25, 1812; John, born February 20, 1814; Rev. Charles, born November 21, 1815; Anna Van Camp, born July 19, 1817; Rev. Morgan, born May 28, 1819; Dr. Samuel, born April 6, 1821; Elizabeth, born April 11, 1822; and Rev. Job, born July 16, 1825.

Rev. Enoch Tilton, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born July 22, 1811. He was married on September 12, 1832, to Elizabeth Wilson, who was born January 12, 1811. They removed to Ripley County, Indiana, in 1844, and he became prominent as a Baptist minister



and farmer. He died November 12, 1883, and his wife died June 20, 1887. Both are buried in Ripley County, Indiana. Reverend and Mrs. Tilton were the parents of nine sons, as follows: John W., born August 15, 1834, died September 11, 1834; George W., born January 8, 1836, died November 27, 1910; William W., born October 10, 1837, died December 23, 1888; Samuel R., born August 21, 1840, died January 28, 1911; Enoch B., born January 16, 1843; Robert L., born April 12, 1845, died October 18, 1866; Andrew B., born February 25, 1847, died January 26, 1919; Joseph M., born May 8, 1849, died August 8, 1861; and James R., born July 8, 1853, died March 18, 1924.

Charles Virgil Tilton grew up at Catlin and received his education in the public schools there. Throughout his business career he has been interested in the general mercantile business and for a time was employed in his father's store. In 1883 they purchased a bankrupt stock at Fairmount, and assumed charge of its management. At the death of his father, Mr. Tilton assumed complete ownership of the business and has continued until the present time as one of the leading merchants of this section.

On January 21, 1886, Mr. Tilton was united in marriage with Miss Jeannette L. Reese, born September 7, 1864. She died September 22, 1928, and is buried in Greenview Cemetery, Fairmount. She was the daughter of Joseph and Virginia (Lawrence) Reese. Joseph Reese was born May 2, 1833, and died January 1, 1871. His wife was born May 16, 1835, and died September 22, 1925. To Charles Virgil and Jeannette L. (Reese) Tilton were born five children, as follows: Claude E., born November 16, 1887, a graduate of the University of Illinois, was married October 21, 1922, to Eleanor Mabelle Breach, lives at Olney, Illinois, and they have a son, Timothy; Nina Virginia, born June 11, 1890, married March 5, 1917, to Floyd E. Reese, assistant cashier of the Second National Bank, Danville, and they have a daughter, Virginia Jane; Julia

Elizabeth, born September 2, 1897, married Ernest E. Cast, of Danville, and they have a daughter, Phyllis Jeanette; Edith Ruth, born November 27, 1902, dietitian at the Oklahoma State Hospital, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and Walter Joseph, born June 23, 1894, died October 23, 1918. He was a graduate of the University of Illinois and was employed as a chemist by the Hercules Powder Company.

Charles V. Tilton is independent in politics. He is a member of the Baptist Church, and belongs to Fairmount Lodge No. 285, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

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**Earl Gritten.**—The Fithian Hardware Company, of which Mr. Gritten is president and treasurer, has long been recognized as one of the substantial business houses of Vermilion County. Mr. Gritten has ranked among the highly successful business men of Fithian for a number of years and is a member of one of the oldest families of this section. He was born in Pilot Township, May 4, 1884, the son of Thomas L. and Martha (Shank) Gritten.

Thomas L. Gritten was born on a farm in Pilot Township, the son of Labon E. Gritten, who came to Vermilion County during the early days and settled on a farm southeast of Penfield. The Gritten homestead was government land and was purchased at twenty-five cents per acre. Thomas L. Gritten became a substantial citizen of Bixby, where he owned and operated a blacksmith shop for many years. In 1890 he began the operation of a sawmill and thresher at Collison, Illinois, which he owned until 1904. He then rented a farm near Hope, Illinois, where he remained until the time of his death in 1906. His widow later married John Watson, and now lives near Danville, Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Gritten the following children were born: Earl, the subject of this sketch; Maude, mar-

ried Henry Baatz, lives at Bennington, Indiana; Ollie married William Pate, lives at Catlin, Illinois; Samuel, lives at Bismark, Illinois; Thomas A., lives at Danville; Myrtle, married Fay Wilson, lives in Chicago, Illinois; and Orville, lives at Fithian.

Earl Gritten received his education in the public schools of Bixby and Collison. He worked in his father's saw-mill and early in life became an expert in threshing work. He owned and operated threshers at Hope, Illinois, until 1922, at which time he removed to Fithian. He had served as justice of the peace at Hope from 1912 until 1922 and as highway commissioner of Pilot Township for one term. On January 10, 1924, Mr. Gritten became associated with the Price-Plotner Hardware Company, Fithian, as manager. The business was later incorporated as the Fithian Hardware Company and Mr. Gritten became president and treasurer. His daughter, H. Lorraine Plotner, is vice president and bookkeeper.

The Fithian Hardware Company are dealers in hardware, furniture, radios, plumbing and heating fixtures, and are also widely known dealers in farm implements. During the season of 1929, the firm sold twenty-one McCormick-Deering threshers, which represented a total of eleven carloads. Mr. Gritten was secretary and treasurer of the Illinois Brotherhood of Threshermen for five years. One of his responsibilities was the publication of "The Illinois Thresherman," a fine monthly paper devoted to their interests. The son of a thresherman, Mr. Gritten has operated engines and threshers for years; consequently his trade appreciates the sound, practical help, advice and service he is able to render through the Fithian Hardware Company, under which name he conducts a constantly growing business.

In 1904 Mr. Gritten was united in marriage with Miss Minnie Vinson, of Newtown, Illinois, the daughter of William and Hulda (McHenry) Vinson. Mr. Vinson died

May 27, 1925, and his wife died July 7, 1909. Both are buried at Emberry, Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Gritten three children were born: (1) H. Lorraine, a graduate of Joliet Township High School, married in 1926 to Cleo Keith Plotner, lives at Fithian; (2) Vinson, a graduate of Oakwood Township High School, married to Wintress Douglas September 21, 1929, associated in business with his father; and (3) Mervin, a student at Oakwood Township High School.

Mr. Gritten is a Republican and held the office of mayor of Fithian during 1925 and 1926. He is a member of the Methodist Church and is affiliated with Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Collison Lodge No. 713, Danville Consistory, and Modern Woodmen of America.

"Gritten's Grit," a monthly publication, sponsored by Mr. Gritten, is a further example of his unceasing interest in the local merchant and farmer.

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**William T. Snider, M. D.**—Among the most prominent physicians and surgeons of Vermilion County is Doctor Snider, who is successfully engaged in practice at Oakwood. He was born at Snider, Illinois, July 18, 1888, the son of G. B. and Martha Anne (Dodson) Snider.

G. B. Snider, retired, is a well known resident of Oakwood. He was born at Collison and for many years was one of the most successful farmers of Vermilion County. The town of Snider was named in honor of the Snider family and Mr. Snider served there as postmaster, as well as assessor of Blount Township. Since his retirement he has lived at Oakwood and is assessor of Oakwood Township. Martha Anne (Dodson) Snider was born at Snider, Illinois, and died February 22, 1927. She is buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery, near Oakwood. To Mr. and Mrs. Snider were born eight children, as follows: Ollie,



married Ross Cork, lives near Danville; Vora E., lives near Oakwood; Stella, married Fred Oakwood, lives at Oakwood; Nell, married Verne Juvinal, lives near Collison; William T., the subject of this sketch; Glenn, lives near Collison; Lulu, married Stephen L. Ludwig, lives near Collison; and Tempa, married Lloyd D. Coake, lives at Danville.

William T. Snider spent his boyhood on his father's farm near Oakwood. He attended Shellbark School and Brown's Business College, Danville. He spent several months in the office of the McArthur Brothers Construction Company, at Indiana Harbor, Indiana, also, academic course in University of Louisville, and in September, 1906, entered the University of Louisville, from which he was graduated in 1910 with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He spent a year in practice at Potomac and came to Oakwood September 1, 1911. He established offices on the site of the present State Bank Building, where he remained until 1918. He has since conducted his practice in a suite of offices connected with his home. Doctor Snider is surgeon for the United Electric Coal Company and Illinois Power and Light Corporation. He is identified with the Vermilion County Medical Society, Illinois State Medical Society, and American Medical Association.

Doctor Snider was married December 30, 1906, at Danville, to Miss Alice Fullington, of Collison, the daughter of Elijah and Addie May (Jones) Fullington, natives of Ohio and Illinois, respectively. They live at Oakwood. To Doctor and Mrs. Snider have been born three children: Wilma Bernice, born July 6, 1908, a graduate of Oakwood Township High School, attends the University of Illinois; Margaret May, born February 17, 1914, attends Oakwood Township High School; and William Fullington, born January 21, 1918, attends Oakwood school.

In politics Doctor Snider is identified with the Republican party. He is a member of the Methodist Church;

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Oakwood Lodge, No. 872; Danville Consistory; Peoria Shrine; Modern Woodmen of America; Walnut Hill Boat Club; and Rose Lawn Golf Club.

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**James B. Payne**, who is engaged in the insurance business at Potomac, Illinois, is a member of one of the earliest and best known families of Vermilion County. He was born in Danville, March 11, 1857, the son of John Payne, Jr., and Priscilla (Beasley) Payne.

John Payne, Jr., was born in the State of New York and his wife was a native of Indiana. He was a small boy when his parents, John Payne, Sr., and wife, came to Illinois and settled on what is now the Vermilion County farm, which was later purchased by John Payne, Jr.

John Payne, Jr., was twice married, his first wife being Verletta O'Neal. To them was born Wm. O., Alonzo G., Permelia A., Abel W. (commonly known as "Wad") and Adderson C. Payne. After the death of his first wife he was married to Mrs. Priscilla Beasley, mother of Mary A. Beasley, and to this union was born James B., the subject of this sketch, and Carrie Harriet Payne.

John Payne, Jr., died in 1863 and was buried in the cemetery which is located on the Vermilion County farm. His wife died in 1865 and was buried in Danville, leaving James B. and Carrie H. orphans at the age of eight and six years, respectively. About this time Alonzo G. Payne was honorably discharged from the Army and he and his good wife, Rhoda, took James B. and Carrie H. into their home and kept them until they established homes of their own.

When President Lincoln issued a call for volunteers, at the beginning of the Civil War, Wm. O., Alonzo G. and Abel W. Payne responded. During service in this war, Alonzo G. was promoted to the rank of captain. Abel W.,

for sixteen months endured the hardships of prison life in Andersonville and Libby prisons.

Carrie H., the full sister of James B., died in 1887; Wm. O. in 1888; Alonzo G. in 1907; Adderson C. in 1908 and Abel W. in 1927. Permelia A., widow of Joseph Malcom, lives in Iowa and Mary Beasley Smith, widow of William Smith, lives in Chandler, Oklahoma.

James B. attended school for two terms at the Old Red Seminary in Danville, then attended the school in Catlin, Illinois, and later the school at Newtown, Illinois.

In 1877 he was united in marriage to Miss Hettie O. Warner, of Newtown, Illinois. Her father, John P. Warner, was a native of Maryland and her mother, Sarah Ellen (Truax) Warner, a native of Ohio. To this union was born Lena V. Payne and a son (the son died in infancy). Lena V. was married to John Curtis Smith of Potomac, and to them one child was born, Louise Payne Smith, who was graduated from Potomac Grade and High Schools and from the Illinois Womans College of Jacksonville, Illinois, and for the past three years has been supervisor of music in the Oblong, Illinois, High School.

James B. Payne and wife commenced housekeeping in Catlin, where he operated the old Goins coal shaft until 1884, when they moved to Potomac, where they still reside. When they first came to Potomac, he engaged in the grocery and restaurant business. In 1866 he was appointed postmaster under President Grover Cleveland and held that office for nearly four years. He then took up the insurance business and in 1903 Elmer Moreland, of Potomac, entered into partnership with him, under the firm name of Payne and Moreland, which firm still exists. Mr. Payne was for several years agent for the New York Life Insurance Company, but in 1906 changed to the Franklin Life Insurance Company, of Springfield, Illinois, the firm of Payne and Moreland at that time taking a general agency with this company, and still holds that agency. The

firm also holds the district agency for the farm department of the Fidelity-Phenix Insurance Company of New York and write for the Hartford Fire, the Fire Association of Philadelphia, the Home of New York and the Central Surety and Insurance Corporation of Kansas City, Missouri.

Mr. Payne was a charter member of the Potomac Building and Loan Association and was secretary of that corporation for nineteen years. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Odd Fellows Encampment.

Mrs. Payne has been identified with the Womans Christian Temperance Union for about forty years and is one of the leading workers in Vermilion County.

Mr. and Mrs. Payne are active members of the Methodist Church of Potomac and are ardent supporters of all movements that are for the betterment of the community.

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**Carl S. Williamson, M. D.**—Standing high among the skilled professional men of Vermilion County, Doctor Williamson, of Fairmount, has honorably earned the position he occupies in his profession and community. He was born at Calhoun, Illinois, June 8, 1885, the son of Stephen A. and Martha (Walton) Williamson.

Stephen A. Williamson was born in Ohio in 1840. For a number of years he operated brick plants at Mt. Carmel, Illinois. He served throughout the Civil War with an Indiana outfit and after his discharge from the service returned to the brick business. In 1874 he became interested in farming. He died in May, 1919, and is buried at Calhoun, Illinois. His widow, a native of Illinois, lives at Calhoun. They had the following children: Charles, lives at Saint Louis, Missouri; Roland Ross, lives in Chicago; Minnie, married Obediah Barton, lives in Chicago; Mamie,



married Calvin Reaser, lives at Calhoun, Illinois; Carl S., the subject of this sketch; and Clarence P., retired navy officer, lives in Chicago, Illinois.

Carl S. Williamson attended the public schools of Calhoun. After completing his preliminary education he went to Chicago and finished his high school work, where he became an apprentice tool maker and die maker. He later studied mechanical engineering, but gave up this profession to study medicine. He entered Valparaiso University, from which he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1910. He served as interne at Frances E. Willard Hospital and Cook County Hospital. He spent two years in practice in Chicago as assistant instructor under Doctor Rubenwitz and Dr. Henry Schmitz. Doctor Williamson's next location was at Pipe City, Illinois, where he practiced for almost two years. He then came to Fairmount in 1914, where he has since established an excellent practice. He is a specialist in the treatment of chronic diseases and is recognized as an authority on Physico-Therapy. He is identified with the Vermilion County Medical Society, Illinois State Medical Society, American Medical Association, and American College of Physico-Therapy.

In 1908 Doctor Williamson married Miss Mary Elliot Thomson, of Ottawa, Canada, the daughter of William and Mary Thomson. He was born in England and for many years served as Postmaster General of Canada. He died in 1898 and his wife died in 1914. Several years after the death of his first wife Doctor Williamson was married to Miss Marie Tate of Chicago, the daughter of Allen and Mary (Williams) Tate, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Illinois. Mr. Tate lives at Villa Grove, Illinois. His wife died in 1921. To Doctor and Mrs. Williamson a son was born, James Hunter, born January 16, 1913. He attends Fairmount High School and has a pro-

spective appointment to attend the United States Naval Academy.

Mrs. Williamson has the following brothers and sisters: Maude Lee, married Roland Ross Williamson, a brother of Doctor Williamson; Jeanette, married Daniel Jenson, lives at Billings, Montana; Daniel O., lives at Bainbridge, Indiana; Luella, married Otis Norman, lives at Danville; Elza Franklin, physician and surgeon, served throughout the World War, lives at Plainfield, Illinois; and Marie Williamson.

Politically, Doctor Williamson is a Republican. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and belongs to Fairmount Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

During the World War Doctor Williamson enlisted for service and received the commission of first lieutenant, Medical Corps, under which commission he served.

Doctor Williamson is interested in the raising of flowers and has one of the finest and most beautiful gardens in the city. He also enjoys fishing and hunting and spends much of his leisure time in the pursuit of those sports.

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**R. O. Vinson.**—One of the most successful farmers of Vermilion County is found in R. O. Vinson, who is also president of the Peoples State Bank, of Collison. He was born in Pilot Township, Vermilion County, October 29, 1889, the son of C. W. and Josephine (Davis) Vinson.

C. W. Vinson, who lives retired at Oakwood, Illinois, is a native of Pilot Township, Vermilion County. He grew up on a farm near Collison and received his education in the district schools. He has always been extensively interested in farming and stock raising. About 1913 he removed to Danville but eight years later located at Oakwood, where he now lives. He is still numbered among the large land owners of this section. Mr. Vinson is a

Republican and a member of the Christian Church. Mr. and Mrs. Vinson are the parents of the following children: R. O., the subject of this sketch; and Clarence H., farmer, lives on the old homestead.

R. O. Vinson attended the district schools of Pilot Township and also studied at Brown's Business College, Danville. He returned to his father's farm at the age of seventeen years and was given a quarter of a section of land to work. He carried on that project until three years later, at which time the elder Mr. Vinson removed to Danville and at that time R. O. Vinson took up his residence on the homestead. He managed four hundred acres of land and in addition purchased one hundred and sixty acres. In 1913 Mr. Vinson removed to Collison, where he now resides. He has maintained his interest in farming, however, and now is the owner of more than four hundred and fifty acres of the finest farm land in Vermilion County. He is widely known as a feeder of cattle and hogs and is an extensive shipper. Mr. Vinson was elected president of the Peoples State Bank, of Collison, in 1921.

On November 19, 1913, Mr. Vinson was united in marriage with Miss Julia Osborn, of Collison, the daughter of J. T. and Nellie (Exton) Osborn. Mr. Osborn, who died in 1917, was a native of Collison and one of the most prominent men in this section. His wife died in 1914. To Mr. and Mrs. Vinson have been born three children: Charles Osborn, born October 27, 1914; Nellie Josephine, born March 13, 1917; and Theodore Kelley, born November 11, 1918. All are students in the Collison public schools.

Mr. Vinson is a member of the Christian Church and his wife holds membership in the Methodist Church. He is identified with Collison Lodge No. 714, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory; and Modern Woodmen of America. He is president of the Collison Masonic Association, president of the Emberry Cemetery

Association, and has been a member of the Collison School Board for six years. He is now serving in his second year as superintendent of the Collison Methodist Episcopal Sunday School.

Mr. Vinson was the first young man in Collison to be called in the draft in 1917, but due to physical disability was honorably discharged.

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**E. Dean Huber.**—As junior member of the firm of J. W. Huber & Son, real estate brokers, E. Dean Huber is a well known figure in the business life of Danville, and he stands deservedly high in popular esteem. He was born at Cobden, Union County, Illinois, June 28, 1896, the son of J. W. and Mabel M. (Dean) Huber.

J. W. Huber was born at Belleville, Illinois, October 19, 1872. He was an orphan at nine years of age and in early youth went to Anna, Illinois, to start life on his own resources. He identified himself with the shoe business until 1895 and then went to Belleville, where he conducted a retail store until 1903. After a year's residence at Champaign, Illinois, Mr. Huber came to Danville in 1904, where he has since successfully engaged in the real estate business, being one of the pioneer operators of Vermilion County. The offices of J. W. Huber & Son are located in the First National Bank Building.

In 1895 J. W. Huber married Mabel M. Dean, who was born at Simco, Ontario, Canada, May 2, 1875. They have three children: E. Dean, the subject of this sketch; Beatrice R., lives at home; and Elizabeth M., married Charles Baum, lives in New York City. Mr. Huber is a Democrat, a member of the Presbyterian Church and Elks Club.

E. Dean Huber was eight years of age when his parents located at Danville. He attended the public schools and



following his graduation from Danville High School in 1914 became associated with his father in the real estate business. He has been a member of the firm since 1916.

On April 11, 1917, Mr. Huber was united in marriage with Miss Elsy M. Ernst, the daughter of Anton and Linna Ernst, natives of Germany, and early settlers of Danville. Mr. Ernst, who died in 1915, had lived in Danville since 1879, where he engaged in the wholesale and retail meat business.

Mr. Huber is a Republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church, and has the following club affiliations: Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332, Past Exalted Ruler 1925-26; Kiwanis Club, vice president 1922-1925-1928; Danville Rifle Club, president 1926-27-28; and Danville Chamber of Commerce, president in 1929. He served as president of the Danville Real Estate Board in 1923-24, and president of the Danville Country Club in 1928. He is also identified with the Illinois Real Estate Association and National Association of Real Estate Boards.

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**Walter V. Dysert.**—The professional career of Walter V. Dysert has extended over a period of twenty-eight years, during which he has brought to his calling splendid legal abilities and a regard for professional ethics that has served to gain him general confidence. From the outset he has been numbered among the reliable and energetic lawyers of Danville, and on several occasions has been called upon by his fellow citizens to represent them in offices of trust and responsibility.

Mr. Dysert was born in Oakwood Township, Vermilion County, May 31, 1881, the son of Joseph and Abigail (Vinson) Dysert.

Joseph Dysert served throughout the Civil War as a member of Company C, One Hundred Twenty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was born in Vermilion County and spent his entire life there. He became a successful raiser of pure bred stock. He died in 1926 at the age of ninety-four years. His wife is also deceased. They are buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery, Oakwood Township. Their children were: Naomi, married John W. Fowler, lives at Otterbein, Indiana; Samuel, deceased; John E., lives in Oakwood Township; Estella, married H. P. Kiger, lives on the old homestead in Oakwood Township; and Walter V., the subject of this sketch. Mr. Dysert was a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, Masonic Lodge, and Grand Army of the Republic.

Joseph Dysert was the son of Joseph Dysert, who was born in Ohio. Abigail (Vinson) Dysert was the daughter of Leven T. and Abigail Vinson, natives of Irving County, Kentucky. They were among the earliest settlers of Oakwood Township. Mrs. Vinson lived to the age of one hundred and four years.

Walter V. Dysert attended the public school of Oakwood Township and following his graduation from Oakwood High School in 1900, he studied law at Illinois Wesleyan University, and was admitted to the bar in 1901, and was a member of the law firm of Buckingham & Dysert, at Danville, for a period of five years. He then practiced alone until 1910, at which time he removed to Los Angeles, California, where he remained until 1917. Upon his return to Danville he became a member of the firm of Graham & Dysert. Judge Graham died in 1925, but Mr. Dysert continues the practice under the firm name of Graham & Dysert. He served as a member of the Illinois State Legislature in the Forty-fifth General Assembly. He holds the office of Master in Chancery of the Circuit Court of Vermilion County.

In 1905 Mr. Dysert married Miss Mabelle Fox, the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. A. L. Fox, both deceased.

Mr. Dysert is a Republican and a member of the Elks Lodge, Chamber of Commerce, and Danville Country Club. He is identified with the Vermilion County Bar Association, Illinois State Bar Association, and American Bar Association.

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**John Szilagyi** is one of the younger men who have achieved success in the business life of Westville as the proprietor of a large mercantile business. He was born in Hernad Csany, Austria-Hungary, January 11, 1897, the son of George and Mary (Wargo Gyurcsó) Szilagyi.

George Szilagyi was born in Austria-Hungary, where he was reared and educated. He came to the United States at the age of twenty-five years and settled at Westville, where he was employed in the coal mines for several years. He then became interested in the mercantile business at Westville and was thus engaged at the time of his death, April 23, 1913. His wife died in 1921. Both are buried at Georgetown, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Szilagyi were the parents of the following children: George, who died in infancy; John, the subject of this sketch; Mary, married John Kovacs, lives at Westville; Kate, married Joseph Sebastian, lives in Chicago; Elizabeth, unmarried, lives in Chicago; George, lives at Westville; Henry, lives at Westville; Julia, who died at the age of five years; Helen, attends Westville High School; and Stephan, died in infancy.

John Szilagyi was six years of age when he came to this country with his parents. He was educated in the public schools of Westville and at an early age became identified with his father's grocery business. After the latter's death, Mr. Szilagyi made a trip to Europe with his mother, and upon his return to Westville in 1913 was employed by Austin Ellsworth. On May 1, 1916, Mr. Szilagyi estab-



JOHN SZILAGYI





lished his present business. He carries a complete line of groceries and meats, and also handles general merchandise. The company also deals in radios, electric washers, electric refrigerators, stoves, etc. A branch store is maintained at Indionola, Illinois.

On June 15, 1924, Mr. Szilagyi was married to Miss Catherine Takacs, of Westville. They have no children.

Mr. Szilagyi is a Republican, a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Danville. He is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Loyal Order of Moose.

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**Benjamin Canady Richie** is one of the active and most successful business men of Georgetown, where he is interested in the real estate business. He was born at Georgetown, December 5, 1860, the son of James King and Sophia R. (Canady) Richie.

James King Richie was born in Tennessee, October 24, 1826. He became one of the leading merchants of Georgetown and met with great financial success in all his business undertakings. He was married May 31, 1854, to Sophia R. Canady, who was born at Georgetown, March 7, 1834, the daughter of Benjamin and Ann (Haworth) Canady, who were among the first settlers of Georgetown, having come here when it was little more than a wilderness. James King Richie died December 10, 1891, and his wife died February 1, 1881. Both are buried at Georgetown. Their children were: John F., who died August 28, 1856; Morris Edward, lives at Georgetown; Anna Cora, who died February 17, 1880; Benjamin Canady, the subject of this sketch; Mary Augusta, who died December 22, 1891; Charles K., who died March 3, 1868; and Willie B., who died August 4, 1874.

Benjamin Canady Richie grew up in Georgetown and attended the public schools. He later attended Earlham

College and the University of Illinois. He began his business career in his father's store, but after his marriage went to Springfield, Illinois, where he established a grocery business. In 1891 he returned to Georgetown, and he has since devoted his time to his real estate interests in this city. He lives with his family on the old Richie homestead, which is among the historic landmarks of this section. Many interesting heirlooms of the Richie and Leaverton families are to be found in this lovely old home, which carries on its tradition of hospitality.

On October 27, 1886, Mr. Richie was united in marriage with Miss Mary Caroline Leaverton, of Chatham, Sangamon County, Illinois, born at Pocahontas, Bond County, Illinois, September 22, 1864, the daughter of Wilson and Jeanette T. (Johnson) Leaverton. Wilson Leaverton was born at Indianapolis, Indiana, March 16, 1825. He moved with his father's family to Pocahontas, Bond County, Illinois. In 1849 he crossed the plains to California when only twenty-four years of age, with only a yoke of oxen and very little money and he as well as the entire party came near perishing for want of water. He remained in California for two years, and came back with three thousand dollars in gold nuggets in a belt strapped around him. He invested this gold in a farm at Pocahontas, Bond County, Illinois. In 1871 he moved with his family to Chatham, Illinois, where he purchased a farm of one thousand acres. He died September 16, 1895, and is buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Illinois. His wife, who died November 24, 1903, was a native of Pocahontas, Illinois, the daughter of Benjamin and Rebecca (Plant) Johnson. Her father was twice elected to the Illinois Legislature, once to the lower house, 1838 to 1840, and once to the Senate, from 1842 to 1846. To Benjamin Canady and Mary Caroline (Leaverton) Richie were born four children: (1) James King, born September 20, 1887, a graduate of the University of Illinois, now superintendent

of the electrical department of George A. Spang & Company Oil Well Supplies, Butler, Pennsylvania. He is a member of the Phi Delta Theta and Eta Kappa Nu fraternities, also a Mason and a member of the Presbyterian Church. He married Miss Lillian Brandon Spang, of Butler, Pennsylvania, daughter of George A. and Laura Brandon-Spang. She died November 17, 1918. (2) Wilson Leaverton, born January 13, 1889, attended the University of Illinois and the University of Boulder, Colorado, now engaged in the electrical business, Georgetown. He is a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity, a Mason, and a member of the Methodist Church. He married Miss Emma Adelia Keenan, of Bloomington, Illinois, the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Wilbur E. Keenan. They have a son, Wilbur Benjamin Richie, born February 19, 1927. (3) Sadie May, born March 28, 1895, died November 27, 1901. (4) Harold Benjamin, born December 11, 1902, a graduate of the University of Illinois in 1925 and the University of Minnesota, having received the degree of Master of Science from the latter institution, and taught school for one year at the University of Minnesota. He is now doing research work in Dairy Bacteriology and Butter Culture in the chemical laboratories for Swift & Company, Chicago, Illinois. He married Miss Lucilla M. Madson, June 30, 1929, at Lanesboro, Minnesota. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Madson, and was graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1929. They live in Chicago. He is a member of the Masonic order and the Methodist Church.

Politically, Mr. Richie is a Republican. He is a member of the Methodist Church, and belongs to the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America.

Mrs. Benjamin C. Richie takes an active interest in local club work. She was president of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society for seventeen years, is a life and memorial member, and a member of the Eastern Star,



Women's Christian Temperance Union, and Home Missionary Society, and was president of Danville District W. F. M. S. for three years. Her great great grandfather, Samuel Johnson, came from Scotland in 1750 and settled in North Carolina, where he became an extensive land owner. Through this ancestry, Mrs. Richie holds membership in the Daughters of the Colonists. She also had four ancestors who served in the Revolutionary War, namely: Charles Johnson and Williamson Plant, who are buried at Pocahontas, Illinois; John Foster Leaverton, born in London, England, buried near Leesburg, Ohio; and William Buntain. Mrs. Richie is a member of Governor Bradford Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, of Danville, Illinois. Her father served in the Civil War as a member of Company F, One Hundred Thirty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and she holds membership in the Daughters of Veterans, Danville, Illinois, and Auxiliary Legion at Georgetown.

Wilson Leaverton Richie served during the World War, having enlisted September 6, 1917, as a member of Company D, Three hundred Thirteenth Engineers, Eighty-eighth Division, United States Army. He was sent to France August 13, 1918, and was discharged from the service on June 13, 1919.

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**George A. Potter, M. D.**—One of the representative citizens and substantial men of Danville is Doctor Potter, physician and surgeon, with offices in the Temple Building. He was born on a farm near Danville, February 2, 1876, the son of Elijah and Sarah E. (Hoskins) Potter.

Elijah Potter was born on the old Potter homestead near Danville, September 28, 1848. He spent his entire life there and became one of the most successful farmers of Vermilion County. He died September 26, 1915, and

his wife, born near Henning, Illinois, February 13, 1855, died December 18, 1893. Both are buried in Johnson Cemetery, near Danville. Mr. Potter was a Republican, and held the offices of tax collector and school treasurer. He held membership in the Christian Church and was a prominent citizen of the community in which he spent his entire life. To Mr. and Mrs. Potter were born three children: George A., the subject of this sketch; Daisy J., married Ulysses Grant Fairchild, lives at Urbana, Illinois; and Jewell, farmer, lives on the old homestead near Danville.

George A. Potter spent his boyhood on his father's farm in Blount Township and attended the district schools. He became a teacher in the local schools and in 1899 entered what is now known as Washington University, Saint Louis, Missouri, where he took up the study of medicine. He received his degree as Doctor of Medicine in 1903 and engaged in practice at Hope, Illinois, and later was located at Royal, Illinois. He came to Danville in November, 1919, where he has since built up an excellent practice.

On April 6, 1904, Doctor Potter was united in marriage with Miss May B. McCoy, the daughter of John F. and Martha Jane (Gibbons) McCoy, natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. McCoy, who lives retired at Danville, was a leading architect in the city for many years. His wife died in 1918 and is buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. To Doctor and Mrs. Potter were born seven children, as follows: Rosalyn, born June 23, 1905, a graduate of Danville High School and Illinois State Normal University, now a teacher in the high school at Melvin, Illinois; Janet, born December 31, 1906, a graduate of Danville High School, attends Illinois State Normal University; Theodore B., born February 26, 1909, attends Danville High School; George Fisher, born January 15, 1911, attends Danville High School; Sarah May, born December

8, 1912, attends Danville High School; Martha Ellen, born September 16, 1915, won the township scholarship in 1929; and Carolyn C., born May 2, 1923, attends the grade schools of Liberty District.

Doctor Potter is identified with the Vermilion County Medical Society, Illinois State Medical Society, American Medical Association, and Aesculapian Society. He is a member of the Christian Church, and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen of America, and Woodmen of the World.

Doctor Potter is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and eighty acres, which is located ten miles northwest of Danville. His home on North Vermilion Street is among the most attractive residences in the city and is located on a beautiful estate of five acres.

Elijah Potter, great grandfather of Doctor Potter, was born in 1788. He fought throughout the War of 1812 and is buried in Johnson's Cemetery, northwest of Danville. His son, William Potter, helped in the building of the log cabin used as Republican headquarters during the campaign of President Benjamin Harrison. It was located on the present site of the Danville Chamber of Commerce.

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**Herbert Ernest Hutton** has been established in the general practice of law at Danville, Vermilion County, since 1904. He has offices in the First National Bank Building, and has built up a law business of such scope and importance as to denote him one of the representative members of the bar of Vermilion County.

Mr. Hutton was born at Kentland, Indiana, May 9, 1880, the son of Dr. J. H. and Phoebe Jane (Rawlings) Hutton.

Dr. J. H. Hutton was born in Ohio. He spent a number of years in Indiana and later lived at Hoopeston, Illi-

nois, where he engaged in the practice of his profession as a dentist from 1885 until 1903. He died in August, 1925, and is buried in Rose Hill Cemetery, Hoopes-ton. His widow, born in Johnson County, Indiana, lives at Hoopes-ton. Doctor and Mrs. Hutton had two sons: Herbert Ernest, the subject of this sketch; and Harry C., born October 6, 1882, lives at Danville.

In the public schools of Hoopes-ton, including the high school, Herbert Hutton acquired his early education. He received his Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws degrees at the University of Indiana, and in 1904 began the practice of law as assistant state's attorney under John M. Keeslar, state's attorney. In 1905 he was appointed by the Governor of Illinois as public administrator and public guardian of Vermilion County, which offices were held by him for six years. In 1910 Mr. Hutton formed a partnership at Danville with the Hon. S. Murray Clark, now circuit judge. The name of the firm was Clark & Hutton. This partnership continued until the election of Mr. Clark as circuit judge in June, 1927. On July 1, 1927, Mr. Hutton formed a partnership under the name of Hutton & Clark, with John E. Clark, of Georgetown, Illinois. This copartnership is still engaged in the general practice of law at Danville.

August 21, 1909, Mr. Hutton married Myrtle A. Jackson, of Danville, Illinois, the daughter of James Benjamin and Mary (Harris) Jackson, the former a native of Martinsville, Indiana, and the latter of Springfield, Ohio. They are residents of Danville. To Mr. and Mrs. Hutton were born three children: Mary Jane, born February 16, 1911; Jackson Rawlings, born October 2, 1914; and Ernest, Jr., born November 8, 1918.

Politically Mr. Hutton is a Republican. He is a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Elks Club, Phi Delta Theta fraternity, Knights of Pythias, Kiwanis Club,



Sons of the Revolution of Illinois, Isaac Walton League, Danville Rifle Club, and Danville Country Club.

Mr. Hutton is the president of the Danville Chamber of Commerce. In college he was president of his senior class. He has filled offices in various organizations in Danville, as follows: President of the Isaac Walton League; president of the Danville Rifle Club; president of the Danville Country Club; president of the Danville Kiwanis Club; chancellor Commander of the Damascus Knights of Pythias.

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**Jesse Otis Faris**, jeweler and optometrist, is prominently identified with the business life of Danville. He was born at Carrollton, Missouri, October 24, 1870, the son of Cary Campbell and Eliza (King) Faris.

Cary Campbell Faris, deceased, was a veteran of the Civil War. He was born in Hillsboro County, Ohio, in 1831. Throughout his life he engaged in general farming, and spent several years in Kansas, having gone there in 1870. Upon his return to Ohio he engaged in farming until the time of his retirement. He died in 1909 and his wife, who was born in Ohio in 1837, died in 1926. Both are buried at Pricetown, Ohio. Mr. Faris served during the Civil War as a member of the Thirty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was a Republican, a member of the First Christian Church, and the Grand Army of the Republic. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Faris: Benjamin Franklin, retired, lives at Springfield, Ohio; Carey Clifton, jeweler and optometrist, lives at Marion, Indiana; Robert Lincoln, retired army officer, lives at Greenfield, Ohio; Jesse Otis, the subject of this sketch; Charles Foster, postmaster, lives at Hillsboro, Ohio; Addie, married Edward Sonner, lives at Walla Walla, Washington; Belle, deceased, was the wife of Ben-

jamin Knight; and Tessie, deceased, was the wife of Thomas Smith.

Jesse Otis Faris attended the public schools of Price-town, Ohio, and The Hillsboro Academy. He later attended the Chicago School of Opthamology and in 1894 established an optical business in Wabash, Indiana. He disposed of this business there in 1900 and removed to Danville, Illinois, when he opened a jewelry and optical business at 51 North Vermilion Street. In 1912 Mr. Faris retired but four years later re-entered the business at the location which bears his name now at 131 East Main Street. In February, 1929, this business was reorganized and now operates under the name of Faris Company. Besides his extensive reputation in the jewelry business, he is widely known as an expert in his profession as an optometrist.

In 1893 Mr. Faris married Miss Jennie Harreld, the daughter of William and Josephine Harreld. They have four children, as follows: (1) Carl V., born October 23, 1894, a graduate of Bridgewater College and a registered optometrist. He married Bernice Hume and they have one son, J. O. Faris, Jr., born March 28, 1916. (2) Beulah, born December 5, 1896, married L. P. Livengood, lives at Danville, Illinois. They have two children, Hilda Mae, born August 6, 1918, and Byron Nelson, born December 8, 1922. (3) Nina, born May 30, 1902, married Joseph C. Payne. They have three children: Joseph Jr., born November 20, 1925; Patrica Louise, born August 11, 1928; and Rachel Ann, born December 25, 1929. Both Mr. and Mrs. Payne are graduates of the University of Wisconsin. (4) Ralph Gordon, born February 19, 1906, a graduate of Missouri Military Academy. He married Lois Terry and lives in Danville, Illinois. Mr. Faris and his wife and all the family are associated in the various branches of Masonic orders. Mr. Faris, Carl V., and Ralph Gordon are affiliated with Olive Branch Ancient Free and Accepted

Masons, No. 38; Vermilion Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 82; Danville Council, No. 37; Athlestan Comandery, Knights Templar, No. 45; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Gao Grotto; Carl V. is a member of Ansar Temple; Elks Club; and Rotary Club. Mr. Payne and Mr. Livengood are both members of Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree.

In politics Mr. Faris is identified with the Republican party. He holds membership in the Third Church of Christ, and is affiliated with the following Masonic bodies: Olive Branch Lodge No. 38; Vermilion Chapter No. 82, Royal Arch Masons; Danville Council No. 37; Athlestan Commandery, Knight Templar, No. 45; and Danville Consistory.

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**John E. Clark** holds rank as one of the most successful of the younger attorneys of Danville and Vermilion County. He was born at Georgetown, Illinois, July 4, 1900, the son of Oliver P. and Ada (Elliott) Clark.

John E. Clark attended the public schools of Georgetown, Illinois, and following his graduation from high school in 1917 attended Earlham College. He was graduated from the University of Illinois in 1922 and from the Law School of the same university in 1925. Mr. Clark was admitted to practice at the bar of Illinois in February, 1926, and located in Chicago with Victor B. Scott. The following year he came to Danville, where he has since been identified in practice with H. Ernest Hutton, under the firm name of Hutton & Clark. They have offices in the First National Bank Building.

In 1926 Mr. Clark married Miss Gladys Castle, the daughter of John E. and Myra (Haworth) Castle, of Vermilion County. Mr. Castle died in 1927 and his widow lives at Ridge Farm, Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Clark a daughter, Mary Jo, was born December 9, 1927.

Mr. Clark is a Republican, a member of the Friends Church, Masonic lodge, Elks, the American Legion, American Business Club, Phi Pi Phi and Phi Alpha Delta fraternities. He also belongs to the Collegiate Club of Chicago and the Chicago Bar Association.

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**William J. Payne**, deceased, was prominent in the city of Danville for many years. He was born in Vigo County, Indiana, April 10, 1855, the son of Allen F. and Mary Ann (Jewell) Payne. Both Allen F. Payne and his wife were natives of Indiana. They are deceased and buried near Brazil, Indiana

William J. Payne grew up on his father's farm near Brazil and attended the district schools of Clay County. In early life he was a farmer. After coming to Danville Mr. Payne was identified with the Illinois Printing Company, the Danville Daily News, and for eight years was secretary of the Illinois Free Employment Bureau. He was also extensively interested in Florida real estate. Mr. Payne served as assistant postmaster of Danville for a period of seventeen years. He died May 12, 1928.

On August 19, 1879, Mr. Payne was united in marriage at Rockville, Indiana, with Miss Rachel Anne Oliver, of Turner, Indiana, the daughter of William and Sarah Ann (Fortner) Oliver, natives of England and Indiana, respectively. Both are deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Payne were born seven children, as follows: William Allen, manager of the Palm Beach Post, West Palm Beach, Florida; Gertrude, teacher, Danville; Frank, salesman, Western Brick Company, Danville; Harry, general superintendent, Illinois Light and Power Company, Danville; George O., identified with the Mid-West Brick Company, Ottawa, Illinois; Isabel, married Eugene Smart, Mansfield, Ohio; and



Joe C., identified with the Faris Jewelry Company, Danville.

Politically Mr. Payne was a Republican and he was a member of the Republican County Central Committee. He was a charter member of the Modern Woodmen. Mrs. Payne and the children were members of the Church of Christ.

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**Hugh J. Marlatt.**—Among the leading and highly successful business men of Danville is Hugh J. Marlatt, who is president of the Marlatt Battery & Manufacturing Company. He was born in Warren County, Indiana, April 21, 1885, the son of Edward Hale and Wilhelmina (Meredith) Marlatt.

Edward Hale Marlatt, deceased, was a native of Indiana. He was born at Westpoint, in 1853, and spent his boyhood on a farm. He went to Attica, Indiana, in 1898, where he established a wholesale and retail feed business. He was thus engaged until the time of his death, March 13, 1926. His wife, born in Warren County, Indiana, in 1856, died August 27, 1928. Both are buried at Attica, Indiana. The business which was established by Mr. Marlatt is now operated by his sons, Charles E. and John O. Marlatt. Mr. Marlatt was a Democrat and a member of the Methodist Church. There were five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Marlatt: Etta, deceased; Charles E. and John O., who live at Attica, Indiana; James I., lives at Aberdeen, Washington; and Hugh J., the subject of this sketch.

Hugh J. Marlatt was educated in the public schools of Warren County, Indiana, and attended Attica High School. When a young man he entered the employ of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad as round house clerk. In 1906 he went with the Marrs-Tanner Electric Company, Danville, as an electrical apprentice. He remained in that company's employ continuously until 1910, at which time

he went to Chicago with the Automatic Telephone Company for one year. He was later identified with the United Electric Construction Company. In 1912 he entered the employ of the city department, Chicago, as an electrical mechanic, but the following year was made supervising electrical engineer on the municipal piers. In the Spring of 1914 he was given the position of redesigning the electrical installation on the municipal pier, holding this position until 1916, when the pier was completed. The following year Mr. Marlatt was in charge of maintenance work on the pier. He went to Aberdeen, Washington, in 1917 and was located with the Grays Harbor Shipyard as an electrical mechanic until November, 1918. He then was superintendent of Grays Harbor Railway & Light Company until June, 1919, when he returned to Chicago. He re-entered the city's employ for one year and in September, 1920, came to Danville, where he became interested in the manufacture of batteries at 19 North Walnut Street. In 1921 the Marlatt Battery Manufacturing Company was organized by Hugh J., Charles E., and John O. Marlatt. The business was begun in a small way and in October, 1925, a modern factory building was built at 1112 Industrial Avenue. An addition was erected in 1927. The company was incorporated in January, 1928, with the following officers: Hugh J. Marlatt, president; John O. Marlatt, vice president; and Charles E. Marlatt, secretary-treasurer.

In 1910 Mr. Marlatt was united in marriage with Miss Florence E. Jeffry, the daughter of Arthur O. and Anna (Puff) Jeffry, the former a native of Rockford, Illinois, and the latter of Saint Louis, Missouri. He died in February, 1925, and is buried at Charleston, Illinois. His widow lives at Danville.

Mr. Marlatt is independent in politics. He is a member of Saint James Methodist Episcopal Church; Windsor Lodge, No. 836, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons;

Rotary Club; and Chamber of Commerce. He is also a member of the International Manufacturers Association and Illinois Manufacturers Association.

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**I. N. Doughty**, who is general superintendent of the Western Brick Company, is among the highly successful and widely known business men of Danville. He was born in this city, May 29, 1884, the son of James F. and Oceana (Morin) Doughty.

James F. Doughty was born at Montpelier, Vermont, in 1856, and died in 1918. He is buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. He was reared at Montpelier, his parents having died when he was a young boy. He came to Danville early in life and entered the employ of the Kelly Coal Company, with whom he was identified for many years, finally becoming general superintendent of their seven mines. He later was associated with the Hartshorn interests in Ohio and also operated a mine for the Western Brick Company. Mr. Doughty was a Republican, and a member of Catlin Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. His widow, born at Danville, is still a resident of this city. Their children were: Edith, deceased; I. N., the subject of this sketch; and Russell, born in 1900, died in 1910.

I. N. Doughty was educated in the public schools of Danville, in 1902 was graduated from Danville High School, and in 1906 from the University of Illinois. He then went to San Francisco, California, for a short time and upon his return to Danville, became connected with the Illinois Power & Light Company, in the engineering department. In 1907 he was put in charge of the work of building the street railway at Paris, Illinois, and during 1908-1909 was city engineer for the city of Harrisburg, Illinois. In 1910 he went as construction engineer for the

Western Brick Company, in charge of the building of the company's plant. During 1910-1912 he was superintendent of No. 2 Plant; during 1913-1916 was superintendent of No. 1 Plant; and in 1917 was made general superintendent of the company.

In 1917 Mr. Doughty married Miss Ethel Gerard, the daughter of John and Loretta Gerard, deceased.

Politically, Mr. Doughty is a Republican. He is a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332, American Concrete Institute, and American Ceramic Society.

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**Leslie P. Livengood**, who is agency manager for the Minnesota Mutual Life Insurance Company at Danville, is a native of this city, and one of the popular young business men of Vermilion County. He was born May 1, 1894, the son of Dr. J. A. and Flora (Parker) Livengood.

Dr. J. A. Livengood, deceased, was a leading physician and surgeon of Danville. He was born at Wallace, Indiana, attended Butler College, and was graduated from Rush Medical College with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He practiced in Chicago and Danville and for many years was surgeon for the Chicago & Milwaukee Railroad. He was affiliated with the Masonic Lodge. Doctor Livengood died in February, 1896, and is buried at Wallace, Indiana. His widow, born at Hillsboro, Indiana, lives at Danville. The subject of this sketch, Leslie P., was the only child born to Doctor and Mrs. Livengood.

Leslie P. Livengood secured his early education in the public schools of Danville and attended the University of Illinois. He has always been interested in the insurance business, having been first associated with the Equitable Life Insurance Company of Iowa as field supervisor. He resigned in 1920 and has since held his present position



as agency manager at Danville for the Minnesota Mutual Insurance Company. He is a graduate of the Life Insurance Sales Research Bureau, Hartford, Connecticut. Offices are in the Baum Building.

In 1916 Mr. Livengood married Miss Beulah F. Faris, the daughter of J. O. Faris, of Danville, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history. They have two children, Hilda Mae and Byron Nelson.

In politics Mr. Livengood is identified with the Republican party. He is a member of the Central Christian Church, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 38, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Danville Country Club, Roselawn Country Club, Exchange Club, and Chamber of Commerce. He is also affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332.

Mr. Livengood enlisted as a private in 1910 in Battery A, First Illinois Field Artillery, and was later commissioned first lieutenant of the battery. He resigned in 1916.

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**Major Russel Curtis Rottger**, who is district commercial manager for the Illinois Bell Telephone Company at Danville, is a native of Illinois. He was born at Jacksonville, May 16, 1891, the son of Curtis H. and Jessie Rottger.

After completing his early education in the public schools of Jacksonville, Illinois, Russel Curtis Rottger was graduated from Springfield High School, and 1913 received the Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Illinois. Since that time he has been identified with telephone interests. He began as clerk to the commercial superintendent of the Central Union Telephone Company, and in 1914 was promoted to state cashier for Illinois for the same company. The following year he was made chief clerk to the general manager with headquarters at Spring-

field, Illinois, and in 1916 was elected treasurer and general manager of the Vermilion County Telephone Company. In 1918 he became president of the company and when it was sold to the Illinois Bell Telephone Company in 1928 Mr. Rottger was made district commercial manager.

In his military affiliation Mr. Rottger is major in the Illinois National Guard, Thirty-third Division, and holds the rank of Major in the United States Army Reserve Corps. He is former president of the Rotary Club, and holds membership in the Danville Country Club, Elks Club, Roselawn Golf Club, Hamilton Club of Chicago, Masonic Lodge, thirty-second degree, and Chamber of Commerce.

On November 21, 1914, Mr. Rottger married Florence Mildred Smith, at Oak Park, Illinois. They have a daughter, Rosemary Jane.

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**Oscar M. Bredehoft**, deceased, was for many years a leader in the business life of Danville, where he was founder and president of the Bredehoft Dairy Company, 617 North Vermilion Street. He was born in this city, June 28, 1879, the son of George and Julia (Eichelman) Bredehoft.

Oscar M. Bredehoft was reared in Danville and early in his business career became identified with the bakery business. Previous to that he had been employed as a clerk for Peter Beyer, for many years one of the best known shoe dealers in Danville. He later went with Henry Bahl, shoe dealer, and then went on the road as a shoe salesman. Deciding to enter business for himself, he went to Gainesville, Florida, where he purchased a bakery. His next venture was the bakery on East Fairchild Street, Danville, of Herman Manteufel. After conducting the business for a number of years he sold out to the present Inter-

State Baking Company, and went into the dairy business. This was in 1919. The business grew rapidly and only a few years ago a new and modern plant was erected on North Vermilion Street, near the Big Four Railroad Station. Mr. Bredehoft died August 2, 1928, and is buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville.

Mr. Bredehoft is survived by his widow and five daughters, the latter being as follows: Mrs. Frank Abbott, lives in Chicago; Dorothy, employed at the Bredehoft Dairy, Danville, Illinois; Virginia, Barbara, and Georgia, all living at home. A brother, Leo Bredehoft, of Bredehoft & Ball, wholesale grocers, also survives Mr. Bredehoft, as well as a sister, Miss Mabel Bredehoft.

On June 18, 1899, Mr. Bredehoft married Miss Helen F. Griffin, who was born in Washington, Indiana, the daughter of Rev. James L. and Verna (Charley) Griffin, natives of Virginia and Indiana. The Reverend Griffin was a minister of the First Church of Christ in Danville, having come here in 1893 where he remained until his death in 1895. His widow resides with her daughter, Mrs. Bredehoft.

Mr. Bredehoft was a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He was a staunch Republican.

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**Joseph S. Belton**, who is secretary-treasurer and manager of the Bredehoft Dairy Company, is well and favorably known in Danville. He is a native of this city, born October 12, 1877.

The boyhood of Mr. Belton was spent in Danville, and following his graduation from high school in 1891 he accepted a position as billing clerk with Webster Grocery Company, with whom he was identified continuously for thirty-three years. He was advanced from billing clerk to bookkeeper, and later served as road salesman for a period

of twenty-five years. He became sales manager in 1920 and became vice-president in 1922, and treasurer of the company in 1924. Mr. Belton resigned from the company's employ in December, 1928, and assumed the management of the Bredehoft Dairy Company on February 1, 1929.

On July 12, 1906, Mr. Belton was united in marriage with Miss Grace Mater, of Danville. They have two children: Sara Elizabeth, who attends the University of Illinois; and William R., clerk, First National Bank, Danville.

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**John A. Gannon** is widely known in Danville, where he is a court reporter. He was born in Chicago, Illinois, October 25, 1893, the son of Edward and Margaret (Turner) Gannon.

Edward Gannon was born near Wilmot, Wisconsin, March 20, 1866, and his wife is a native of Spring Grove, Illinois. He grew up on his father's farm and in early life engaged in general farming. He went to Chicago in 1891, where he learned the carpenter trade, which he followed for some time. About 1899 he became a member of the Chicago police force, with which he has since been identified as a member of the Lawndale Station. He is a Republican in politics. Margaret (Turner) Gannon is the daughter of George and Mary (Dorsey) Turner, natives of Scotland and early settlers of Spring Grove, Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Gannon were born four children: John A., the subject of this sketch; Lawrence P., civil engineer, identified with the Illinois Highway Department, lives at Paris, Illinois, is a World War veteran; Florence, a graduate of the University of Chicago, married Walter Peterson, lives in Chicago, Illinois; and Edward, Jr., a member of the flying squadron, Chicago Police Department, is a World War veteran, having served in the United States Navy.



John A. Gannon received his education in Chicago and is a graduate of Crane Technical High School and Barrett Institute, Chicago. After leaving school he was employed in the city offices as a stenographer and in 1912 was appointed secretary to the warden of the Illinois State Penitentiary at Chester, Illinois. He served in that capacity until October 5, 1917, at which time he enlisted in the army for service in the World War, as a member of the Nineteenth Infantry, attached to Fort Logan, Colorado. He was later stationed at Fort Houston, Texas, and also served on the Mexican border. He attended the Officers' Training School at Camp Pike and was commissioned a second lieutenant. Mr. Gannon was discharged from the service on December 24, 1918. He then was attached to the United States Attorney's office as chief clerk in East Saint Louis, Illinois. Mr. Gannon came to Danville as a court reporter in October, 1927.

In 1921 Mr. Gannon was united in marriage with Miss Kathryn Carr, the daughter of Harry and Edith (Young) Carr, of Saint Louis, Missouri. They have a daughter, Shirley Ann, born February 22, 1926.

Politically, Mr. Gannon is a Republican. He is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332, and belongs to the American Legion and "40 and 8 Society."

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**The Vermilion Malleable Iron Company**, of Hoopeston, is one of the five industries which are classified in the major division of those operating in this city. This business was first organized under the name of the Hoopeston Malleable Foundry Company, and was financed by local capital in the year 1907. At that time there was built a foundry building and an annealing plant. These two buildings yet remain and form the nucleus of the present plant. The original company failed at the time of the

panic of 1908 and the plant lay idle for some years, until it was purchased by the present owners.

In the fall of 1912 the plant came to the notice of Chicago capitalists, who shortly thereafter purchased the property from the receivers of the previous bankrupt organization. At that time the plant had been laying idle for two years or more and consisted only of the two original buildings and the brick building which is still used by the present company as a general office. The present company, known as the Vermilion Malleable Iron Company, was then incorporated and formed with Fred A. Poor, of Chicago, as president. The same organization still operates the foundry business, although the plant has more than doubled in the capacity of output during the past ten years.

The productive capacity of the company has been increased from two thousand five hundred tons to its present output of five thousand to six thousand tons per year. During the last ten years the number of employes has been more than double over the number of persons employed by the original company. The pay roll of the company averages more than one thousand dollars per day. Many improvements have been made in the factory and plant as a whole. While these have not been of the revolutionary or sensational type, they have greatly added to the value of the property.

The Vermilion Malleable Iron Company produces only a high-class malleable iron, known as "Certified Malleable Iron," that is to say, the malleable castings are certified as to quality, strength and elongation by the American Malleable Castings Association, and the entire manufacturing process is conducted under the inspection of the Association. Certified malleable iron is around fifty per cent stronger than the ordinary malleable product. It approaches very closely to steel and has supplanted to a

great degree many parts formerly made from steel castings.

The officials of the Vermilion Malleable Iron Company at present are as follows: F. A. Poor, president; P. W. Moore, vice president; F. C. Moore, operating vice president; H. C. Holloway, secretary; F. A. Preston, treasurer; R. W. J. Harris, general manager; C. L. Collier and W. L. Berkey, superintendents.

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**Charles Milton Bruff, Jr.**—One of the representative young business men of Hoopeston is Charles Milton Bruff, Jr., a veteran of the World War, who is president and treasurer of the Iliff-Bruff Chemical Company. He was born at Brooklyn, New York, August 8, 1889, the son of Charles Milton and Jessie (Johns) Bruff.

A complete sketch of Charles Milton Bruff appears elsewhere in this history.

Charles Milton Bruff, Jr., attended the public schools of Chicago, his family having located there when he was a very small child. He was graduated from Hyde Park (Illinois) High School in 1907 and began his business career with the Morden Frog & Crossings Works, Chicago Heights, Illinois, of which his father was superintendent. In 1916 Mr. Bruff came to Hoopeston and became associated with the Iliff-Bruff Chemical Company as a cost accountant and bookkeeper. He has since been interested in this concern with the exception of the period of time spent in service during the World War. At the time of the death in 1928 of Ellsworth Iliff, Mr. Bruff was elected president and treasurer of the company.

Mr. Bruff enlisted for service in the World War, April 3, 1918, and was sent to Fort H. G. Wright, Long Island, where he was attached to the heavy artillery. Later, he was assigned to Battery E, Sixty-eighth Heavy Artillery,

and served in France for eight months with that outfit. He was discharged from the service in March, 1919, at Camp Grant.

In 1919 Mr. Bruff was united in marriage with Miss Minnie A. McCoy, the daughter of Nelson and Mary (Finley) McCoy. Mr. McCoy, who died in 1917, was a native of Hoopeston and a leading citizen of this section of Illinois. He was treasurer of the Woodmen of America and in business life was identified with the Hoopeston Water Company. His wife is also deceased.

Mr. Bruff is a Republican in politics, and holds membership in Chicago Heights Lodge No. 851, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; American Legion; Commercial Club; Chamber of Commerce; Isaac Walton League; and Hubbard Trail Country Club.

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**Charles Milton Bruff**, deceased, was a leader in the business life of Hoopeston for a number of years, where he was identified with the Iliff-Bruff Chemical Company. He was born in the Carolinas, November 15, 1861, and was a small boy when his parents removed to Washington, District of Columbia.

Mr. Bruff engaged in public work as time keeper on the construction of the great Croton aqueduct that supplies New York City with water. He came to Chicago in 1892 and was connected with the Calumet Iron & Steel Company of South Chicago. Later, he was superintendent of the Morden Frog & Crossing Works, and when the plant was moved to Chicago Heights in 1905 he went with them. In 1914 he became associated with Ellsworth E. Iliff and came to Hoopeston, where they established the Iliff-Bruff Chemical Company. Mr. Bruff served as vice president



and secretary of the company until his death, April 13, 1919.

On August 24, 1887, Mr. Bruff was united in marriage with Miss Jessie Johns, of New York City. They had the following children: Arthur Stanley, deceased; Pearl B., married Robert E. Palmquist, lives in Chicago Heights, Illinois; Charles Milton, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history; May Charlotte, married Rufus C. Orr, lives in Chicago Heights, Illinois; and Winifred B., married Edwin Rennebohm, lives at Madison, Wisconsin.

Mr. Bruff was a member of the Masonic and Elk Lodges, Knights of Pythias, Industrial Club of Chicago Heights, and Commercial Club. He was a liberal and generous man, prominent and respected in his community.

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**Emory Herbert Richcreek** is a well known and excellent citizen of Hoopeston, where he is engaged in the real estate and insurance business at 108 North Market Street. He was born at Strawn, Livingston County, Illinois, September 5, 1875, the son of Jerd Coon and Minnie (Wilhelm) Richcreek.

Jerd Coon Richcreek was born in Coshocton, Ohio, in 1845. He was well educated and for a number of years was a teacher in the schools of Ohio and Illinois. Later he became superintendent of the Sullivan Farm in Livingston County, which is now known as the Hiram Sibley Farm. After six years Mr. Richcreek removed to Strawn, Illinois, where he was the owner of a grain elevator and implement business. He also was a lumber dealer. In 1880 he sold his interests and removed to Montana, Kansas, where he farmed successfully until 1893. In that year he was elected probate judge of Labette County, Kansas, and served for two years. He became the owner of six hundred acres of land and in 1895 purchased a lumber yard at Oswego, Kan-

sas. He was appointed postmaster there and served under President Roosevelt's administration. He then entered the hardware and implement business in Oswego and was thus engaged at the time of his retirement in 1917. At the time of his death, January 1, 1929, Mr. Richcreek was the owner of valuable parcels of land in Oswego, Kansas, and had over five hundred acres of fine farm land. He was a Republican. Minnie (Wilhelm) Richcreek was born in Germany in 1856 and came to this country with her brothers and sisters in 1873. She lives at Oswego. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Richcreek were: Emory Herbert, the subject of this sketch; Alice, married B. W. Reed, lives at Wichita, Kansas; Genevieve, married Carl Belt, lives at Coffeyville, Kansas; Tecumseh, lives at Wichita, Kansas; and Orville Kenneth, World War veteran, lives in Kansas City, Missouri, where he is the owner of the Franklin Hotel.

Emory Herbert Richcreek received his education in the public schools of Labette County, Kansas, having attended Pleasant Valley School No. 48. He was five years old when his family removed from Strawn, Illinois, to Kansas. In 1893 Mr. Richcreek assumed charge of his father's farm of six hundred and forty acres, which he operated until 1897, at that time removing to Oswego, Kansas. He then established a feed, flour and seed business, known as the Richcreek Flour, Feed and Seed Store. After a year Mr. Richcreek sold the business and was identified with his father's lumber interests until 1901. He came to Hoopes-ton in 1902 and the following year purchased a grocery store. After six months he entered the employ of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad for a short time, soon after which he again entered the grocery business. In 1913 he purchased the J. E. Watson Grocery Company, 202 North Market Street, which he continued to operate successfully for twelve years. This store was subsequently traded for a farm of one hundred and sixty acres near

Hoopeston. Since 1923 Mr. Richcreek has been interested in the real estate and insurance business. He purchased a section of the Mann Block in 1920, which he still owns. He also is the owner of extensive other real estate parcels in Hoopeston. In his insurance business he represents the following companies: Northwestern Fire Insurance Company; Rhode Island Insurance Company; National Union Insurance Company; Great Lakes Insurance Company; American Automobile Association; and North River Fire Insurance Company.

On September 9, 1896, Mr. Richcreek was united in marriage with Miss Lulu Powell, the daughter of O. W. and Elizabeth Powell, natives of Ohio, and now residents of Washington Court House, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Richcreek have a daughter, Thelma, a graduate of Hoopeston High School. She lives at home.

Politically, Mr. Richcreek is a Republican and he has always taken an active part in local politics. He is a member of Independent Order of Odd Fellows, No. 496; Modern Woodmen of America, No. 257; Loyal Order of Moose, No. 1227; and Farm Bureau. His wife is a member of the Presbyterian Church of Hoopeston.

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**D. Arthur Thomas**, a veteran of the World War is numbered among the progressive young business men of Catlin, Illinois, where he is identified with the Catlin Motor Company. He was born here, May 13, 1896, the son of David and Elizabeth (Engelman) Thomas.

David Thomas, his father, was a successful farmer and stockman of Catlin Township, and a native of Illinois. He was born at Tilton, Illinois, and died at his home near Catlin, Illinois, August 10, 1929. He owned and operated one hundred and eighty acres of well improved land near Catlin. Mr. Thomas was a Republican, a member of the Meth-

odist Church, and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas had the following children: Ethel, married J. T. Dickinson, lives at Seattle, Washington; Helen, at home; D. Arthur, the subject of this sketch; Herman, Hazel, Cedelia, and an infant, all four deceased.

D. Arthur Thomas grew up at Catlin and following his schooling he entered Brown's Business College. At the outbreak of the World War he enlisted in the service of Infantry Company I, Camp Jackson, Columbia, South Carolina, later transferred as sergeant to the Division Headquarters, Twentieth Division, at Greenville, North Carolina. After several months he was then transferred to Camp Taylor, Louisville, Kentucky, where he was discharged in February, 1919. Upon his return to Catlin, Illinois, he became interested in the automobile business and sold Ford cars for DeLong Motor Company, Fithian, Illinois, and Barker Motor Company, Danville, Illinois. In December, 1920, he went to Los Angeles, California, where he continued to sell Ford automobiles. Upon his return to Catlin, he became identified with the Catlin Motor Company and in 1923 purchased a half interest in the business. He became sole owner of the concern in 1926. The Catlin Motor Company, dealers in this territory for the Ford Motor Company, have an up-to-date and well-equipped garage and render expert service.

On February 2, 1923, Mr. Thomas was married to Miss Pauline Jones, born August 30, 1899, and the oldest child of William and Ona (McDonald) Jones, of Catlin, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Thomas have two children, Kathleen Jane, born May 23, 1925, and Robert William, born April 5, 1928.

Mr. Thomas is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, American Legion, Catlin Lodge, No. 285, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree.



**Maude Mae Palmer** has for almost twenty years been the capable and well known postmaster of East Lynn. She was born on a farm in McLean County, Illinois, the daughter of Thomas A. and Lucetta O. (Halfhill) Palmer.

Thomas A. Palmer was among the first settlers of McLean County, Illinois. He was born in Ohio, the son of John and Rachel (Steadman) Palmer, both of whom were natives of Virginia, but later removing to Ohio, from whence they later emigrated, in a covered wagon, to Illinois, when their son, Thomas A. was fifteen years of age; they settled in McLean County, removing to East Lynn, Vermilion County, in the early nineties. John Palmer died at the age of seventy-six, and his wife at the age of seventy-seven years; both are buried at East Lynn. Their son, Thomas A., followed farming until he moved to East Lynn, the same year as his parents, when he engaged in the transfer business. From 1910 till his death in 1916, Mr. Palmer was assistant postmaster at East Lynn. He was also greatly interested in the poultry business, and was building up a flock of pure bred White Rocks at the time of his death. In politics, Mr. Palmer was a Democrat, although he cast his first vote for Abe Lincoln, in 1864; his last vote was cast for Woodrow Wilson, in 1912.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Palmer were Maude Mae, the subject of this sketch, and Clarence E., who was married to Miss Georgia Hardy, in South Bend, Indiana, where they have since resided; their children are Richard Lynn, Delbert, Chester, Ethel Mae, and Thelma. When Miss Palmer was three and one-half years of age, she lost her mother through death, and grew up in the home of her grandfather Palmer.

Maude Mae Palmer received her education in the public schools of East Lynn, and following her graduation, she was employed as a clerk in the general store owned by E. C. Kelley, in East Lynn. In 1910, she was appointed postmaster, as the result of a civil service examination, in

which she stood first in a group of four contestants. She has served through the Wilson, Harding, Coolidge and Hoover administrations. She also conducts a small shop in connection with her administrative work. Since 1919, she has served as state secretary of the Illinois Branch of the National League of District Postmasters of the United States, and has represented the Illinois Branch as a delegate to the following national conventions: Detroit, Minneapolis, Washington, District of Columbia, Chattanooga, Chicago, Cleveland, Louisville, Omaha and Niagara Falls.

Miss Palmer is a member of the Methodist Church and for more than twenty years has been the teacher of the Triangle Class of the East Lynn Methodist Episcopal Sunday School.

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**T. W. Willingham.**—One of the most influential figures in educational circles in Illinois is T. W. Willingham, who is president of Olivet College. He was born at Sebree, Kentucky, January 20, 1893, the son of John A. and Ella (Timmons) Willingham.

John A. Willingham was born at Louisville, Kentucky. His father was an officer in the Civil War and was a member of the Kentucky State Legislature for many years. John A. Willingham spent his early life as a merchant and in 1893 became a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. He served as pastor of the Church of the Nazarene from 1910 until 1917. He died May 21, 1917, and is buried at Vermilion Grove, Illinois. His widow lives at Olivet, Illinois. She was born at Hanson, Kentucky. Her family received a tract of land, the deed to which was given for services in the Revolutionary War, and which was signed by George Washington. To John A. and Ella (Timmons) Willingham the following children were born: Maud, died in infancy; Mrs. Mabel Flowers, lives at Har-

per, Kansas; Mrs. Lorine Walker, lives at Belle Plaine, Kansas; T. W., the subject of this sketch; Flora, lives at Olivet; Ruth, lives at Lexington, Kentucky; Mrs. Kathleen A. Richards, lives at Georgetown, Illinois; and John A. Jr., lives at Olivet.

T. W. Willingham spent his boyhood in Kentucky and was educated in Ruskin Cave College, Tennessee, and Olivet College. He also studied in the McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, and served as a minister of Nazarene Church from 1915 until 1922. He then became treasurer of Olivet College and served in that capacity from 1922 until 1926, at which time he was appointed president of the college.

On October 21, 1915, Mr. Willingham married Miss Mary Cusick, of Courtland, Michigan, the daughter of Rev. Charles A. and Loretta (Davenport) Cusick. He died April 26, 1921, and his wife died March 7, 1929. They were natives of Michigan. To Mr. and Mrs. Willingham were born three children: Miriam Irene, T. W., Jr., and Charles, all students.

Mr. Willingham is a Republican and a member of the Church of the Nazarene.

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**Clay Cooke** is among the best known business men of Ridge Farm, where he is interested in general insurance. He was born here, July 21, 1888, the son of Joseph F. and Druzilla P. (Campbell) Cooke.

Joseph F. Cooke was born in Vermillion County, Indiana, and his wife was born at Georgetown, Illinois. Mr. Cooke engaged in general farming throughout his life. He operated two hundred and forty acres of land, which was part of the original Cooke homestead. Mr. Cooke was a Democrat and a member of the Presbyterian Church. He died in 1907 and is buried at Bethel, Illinois. His widow

lives at Ridge Farm. To Mr. and Mrs. Cooke eight children were born: Nettie, married Arthur Jones, lives at Ridge Farm; Roy F., lives at Indianapolis, Indiana; Mae D., the widow of A. B. Hughes, lives at Detroit, Michigan; Clay, the subject of this sketch; Harley D., lives at Indianapolis, Indiana; Blanche, married Claude Maffett, lives at Georgetown, Illinois; Lura, married John Sheppard, lives at Eugene, Indiana; and Glenn L., lives at Detroit, Michigan.

Clay Cooke was educated in the public schools of Bethel and Ridgefarm, Illinois. He has spent his entire life in this section and until 1921 ranked high among the farmers of the county. He came to Ridge Farm in 1922 and was associated with the Northwestern Coal Company for a time, later with the United States Fuel Company, and in October, 1924, he purchased the insurance business of Hiberly & McMahon. Mr. Cooke represents the following companies: Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Company, Ltd.; Hartford Fire Insurance Company; Connecticut Fire Insurance Company; Reliance Fire Insurance Company; Springfield Fire & Marine Insurance Company; Minneapolis Fire & Marine Insurance Company; National Fire Insurance Company; Fidelity Phoenix Fire Insurance Company; Sun Fire Insurance Company; North British & Mercantile Fire Insurance Company; American Casualty Company; Western Automobile Casualty Company; Hartford Accident Indemnity Insurance Company; Ocean Accident & Guarantee Insurance Company; Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company.

In 1907 Mr. Cooke married Miss Gertrude Pierce, the daughter of Win and Lelah Pierce, natives of Champaign County, Illinois, now residents of Los Angeles, California. Mrs. Cooke died December 19, 1916, and is buried at Ridge Farm. To this union two children were born, Louise and J. Frank. Mr. Cooke was married the second time in 1922 to Miss Grace Boston, the daughter of Thomas and Amer-



ica (Hildreth) Boston, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Illinois. Mr. Boston, a Civil War veteran, died February 22, 1928. His wife died in 1901. To Clay and Grace (Boston) Cooke have been born two children, Jack and Gretchen.

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**C. S. Montooth.**—Prominent in educational affairs in Vermilion County is C. S. Montooth, who is superintendent of schools at Allerton. He was born at Toulon, Illinois, February 25, 1879, the son of James and Mary E. (Wilson) Montooth.

James Montooth was born in Ireland. He was a small child when his parents came to this country and settled in Illinois. He served throughout the Civil War as a member of the Nineteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was discharged with the rank of first lieutenant. He later served as sheriff of Stark County for four years. Mr. Montooth died in 1922 and his wife died in 1911. Both are buried at Elmira, Illinois. They were the parents of the following children: Mrs. Della Rennick, lives at Toulon, Illinois; Mary L., and Edith S., both deceased; Mrs. Laura Milnes, lives at Neponset, Illinois; Dr. J. L., lives at Morris, Illinois; S. W., lives at Toulon, Illinois; and C. S., the subject of this sketch.

C. S. Montooth attended Toulon (Illinois) Academy and received the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science from the University of Illinois. He has served as principal or superintendent for the past twenty-one years, including four years at Chrisman, Illinois, and five years at Allerton, Illinois.

On July 29, 1906, Mr. Montooth married Miss Alice W. Logan (Bachelor of Science, University of Illinois), of Edinburg, Illinois, the daughter of David and Martha E. (Sprinkle) Logan, natives of Illinois. Mr. Logan died at

Edinburg, Illinois, in 1925. His widow lives in Miami, Florida. Mr. and Mrs. Montooth have two daughters: Hazel Evelyn, a junior at the University of Illinois; and Martha Grace, who attends school at Allerton.

Mr. Montooth is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, and belongs to the Masonic Lodge, Eastern Star, and Modern Woodmen of America.

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**Joseph Gurney Cannon**, nationally and locally known as "Uncle Joe" Cannon, was born at New Garden, North Carolina, May 7, 1836, and died November 12, 1926. His father, Dr. Horace Franklin Cannon, who was drowned in 1851, was one of the founders of Guilford College, North Carolina; his mother was Gulielma Hollingsworth. His grandfather, Samuel Cannon, of Huguenot descent, was a native of Ireland, migrating thence to New England and from there to North Carolina.

While Joseph was still a child, the family removed to what is now Annapolis, Indiana, where the boy became a clerk in a country store. He studied law under John P. Usher and at the Cincinnati Law School, and in 1858 began practice at Shelbyville, Illinois, removing soon after to Tuscola and later to Danville, where he made his home for the rest of his life.

In January, 1862, he was married to Mary P. Reed, of Canfield, Ohio. From 1861 to 1868 he was state's attorney for the Twenty-seventh Judicial District. Defeated as a Republican candidate for Congress in 1870, he was elected to the Forty-third Congress (1873-75), and held his seat until the end of the Fifty-first Congress (1889-91.) At the opening of the Fifty-first Congress (1889-91) he was an unsuccessful candidate for speaker, but Reed, who was elected, made him his "lieutenant in parliamentary procedure" and he took an important part in the discussions

which led, on January 29, 1890, to Reed's action in counting a quorum. He was elected to the Fifty-third Congress (1893-95) and sat in the House until the close of the Sixty-second Congress (March 3, 1913). At the opening of the Fifty-seventh Congress (1901-03) he was elected speaker and retained that office until the end of the Congress, March 3, 1911.

In 1904, while speaker, he was made permanent chairman of the Republican National Convention at Chicago, and in the convention of 1908, at the same place, received fifty-eight votes for president on the first ballot, all but eleven of the votes being from Illinois. He was defeated for re-election to the Sixty-third Congress (1913-15), but regained his seat in the Sixty-fourth Congress (1915-17), and continued a member of the House until the close of the Sixty-seventh Congress, March 3, 1923, when he retired.

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**Ted Henderson.**—Numbered among the most popular young men of Vermilion County is Ted Henderson, a veteran of the World War, who is serving as postmaster of Ridge Farm. He was born here, July 16, 1895, the son of William and Sarah (Thompson) Henderson.

William Henderson, mayor of Ridge Farm, is a highly esteemed citizen of the county. He was born at "Yankee Point," near Ridge Farm, and his wife is also a native of the same place. Mr. Henderson spent many years as a farmer and in 1901 came to Ridge Farm, where he was one of the organizers of the Vermilion County Telephone Company. He also was interested in real estate and insurance. Besides holding the office of mayor, Mr. Henderson is commissioner of highways. He is a Republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church, Ridge Farm Lodge No. 632, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and Modern Woodmen of America. To Mr. and Mrs. Henderson the

following children were born: Mayme, married D. D. Stanfield, lives at Edgar, Illinois; Everett, deceased; Hugh; Floy, married Donald L. Cowan, lives in New York City; William McKinley, lives at Ridge Farm; Ted, the subject of this sketch; Leah, deceased; Freida, married Walter Bruce Tucker, lives at Chrisman, Illinois; and James Warren, lives in New York City.

Ted Henderson received his early schooling at Ridge Farm, and after his graduation from high school in 1913 he entered the University of Illinois. He enlisted for service during the World War and was sent to Kansas City, Missouri, later to Mississippi, where he was attached to Battery F, One Hundred Thirty-ninth Field Artillery, Thirty-eight Division. He served in France with that outfit and was discharged in February, 1919. Upon his return to Ridge Farm, Mr. Henderson became interested in the automobile business as a mechanic. He was appointed postmaster of this place in 1923 and has filled the office with utmost ability and efficiency.

Mr. Henderson was married (first) in 1918 to Miss Harriet B. Hester, the daughter of Cyrus and Georgia (Foster) Hester. Mr. Hester is a retired grain dealer and lives at Ridge Farm. His wife is a native of Virginia. Mrs. Henderson died in 1922 and is buried at Ridge Farm. Mr. Henderson was married (second) on July 14, 1928, to Miss Susie Mae Satterlee, the daughter of William and Cora (Peer) Satterlee, residents of Dana, Indiana.

Mr. Henderson is a Republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church and has the following lodge affiliations: Ridge Farm Lodge, No. 632, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Gao Grotto; Knights of Pythias; Modern Woodmen of America; and American Legion, Past Commander of U. C. Fletcher Post, No. 334. He also belongs to the Illinois Postmasters Association, and the American Postmasters Association.



**Wilfred J. Goreham**, who is principal of Sidell Township High School, is numbered among the widely known and well liked young men of Vermilion County. He was born in Chicago, Illinois, December 26, 1896, the son of John H. and Elizabeth (Smith) Goreham.

John H. Goreham was born in Norwich, England. He was nineteen years old when he came to this country and settled in Chicago, where he entered the employ of the Pullman Company. He was a tinner by trade and remained in the employ of the Pullman Company for a period of thirty-six years. Mr. Goreham died in 1920 and is buried in Mount Greenwood Cemetery, Chicago. He was a Republican and a member of the Methodist Church and Royal League. Elizabeth (Smith) Goreham, also born in England, lives in Chicago. There were five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Goreham, as follows: Mildred, married James W. Duncan, lives in Chicago; Wilfred J., the subject of this sketch; Gertrude, married Eston H. Ellis, lives in Chicago; Winifred, married David W. Orr, lives at River Forest, Illinois; and John H., lives in Chicago.

Wilfred J. Goreham attended the public schools of Chicago. He was graduated from Illinois Wesleyan Academy in 1920 and from Illinois Wesleyan University in 1924 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Mr. Goreham was also interested in church work and during his college career was a preacher in the Methodist churches at Sellersburg, Indiana, Covell, and Kenney, Illinois. He began his teaching career in 1924 as principal of Armstrong (Illinois) High School and three years later accepted his present position as principal of Sidell Township High School.

In 1924 Mr. Goreham was united in marriage with Miss Alta Lois Bailey, the daughter of R. F. and Minnie (Bentley) Bailey, of Normal, Illinois. They have a son, Wilfred John, Jr., born January 8, 1927.

Mr. Goreham is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and holds membership in Arts and Crafts Lodge,

No. 1017, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Bloomington, Illinois; Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, Pi Kappa Delta, and Phi Sigma Iota fraternities. He is a member of the Illinois State Teachers Association, a life member of the National Education Association, and a member of the National Association of Secondary School Principals, and of the Illinois High School Principals Association. He belongs to the International Lyceum and Chautauqua Association, being listed as a lecturer in the Association's year book. Politically, Mr. Goreham is a Republican.

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**Max Charles Schwartz** is highly esteemed and widely known in Danville, where he is manager of the local offices of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. He was born at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, November 14, 1891, the son of John and Mary (Brunner) Schwartz.

John Schwartz, deceased, was a native of Germany. His early life was spent in his native land and he was interested in the general mercantile business with his father. He emigrated to the United States in 1870 and settled in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he engaged in the grocery business for a number of years. He lived retired from 1890 until the time of his death in 1892. Mr. Schwartz is buried in Milwaukee. His widow, born in Germany, resides at Maywood, Illinois. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz: Adolph, M. D., engaged in practice at Dallas, Texas; Joseph, attorney, lives at Denver, Colorado; Joanna, died at the age of six years; Rose, died at the age of four years; Fannie, married Maximillian Rehbock, lives at Maywood, Illinois; and Max Charles, the subject of this sketch.

Max Charles Schwartz spent his boyhood in Chicago and attended the public schools. He began as an office boy in the employ of Spencer & Bartlett Company, wholesale

hardware dealers, and by hard work was steadily advanced until he became manager of the export and import department of the business. Mr. Schwartz resigned in 1919 and became associated with the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company as a salesman in the Chicago offices. He later became assistant manager and on May 7, 1928, came to Danville in charge of the local agency. Offices are located in the Kresge Building.

On October 15, 1915, Mr. Schwartz was united in marriage with Miss Malvina Sommer, of Chicago, the daughter of Ignatius and Theresa (Hajek) Sommer. Mr. Sommer, born in Bohemia, died in 1912. His widow lives in Chicago. Two daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz: Vivian and Lorraine, both students at Washington School, Danville.

Mr. Schwartz is a Republican and a member of the Sons of Illinois Church, Chicago.

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**Jack Moore Williams.**—Jack Moore Williams, the subject of this sketch, was born February 28, 1886, in Ionia County, Michigan, at a point five miles north of Muir and three miles west of Hubbardston in North Plains Township.

He is the son of Frank Oliver Williams and Blanche Luella Moore, who are living near Ionia, Michigan. The father was born December 1, 1863, in Ionia County, Michigan, and the mother was born September 17, 1866, in Massachusetts. They were united in marriage April 9, 1884, at Matherton, Michigan.

Mr. Williams is directly descended from Job Williams, who with his younger brother, Daniel, came to New England from Wales in 1770, working their way over on a sailing vessel. Both fought in the Revolutionary War with the Colonists and Daniel Williams was killed in battle. At

the close of the war, Job Williams settled in West Bloomfield Township, Ontario County, New York, where he married Miss Polly Apply. John Apply Williams, born in 1796, and Polly Apply Williams, born in 1799, were the fruits of this marriage. The mother died and Job Williams in 1801 married again.

John Apply Williams settled in New Lima Township, Alberta County, Ohio, later going to Michigan where he bought a farm in West Bloomfield Township, Oakland County, where he married a widow, Patience Jenks Parks. Four children were born to this marriage, John Oliver Williams, Olive Arulia Williams, Edwin Ruthven Williams and Orin Williams, who died in infancy.

John Oliver Williams returned to New York State, and married Miss Marian Abby, a school teacher, and settled in North Plains Township, Ionia County, Michigan, where his father had removed.

Three sons were born to this marriage, Frank Oliver Williams, father of the subject of this sketch, Charles Williams and Albert John Williams. Charles Williams is dead. John Oliver Williams died January 7, 1900, at Greenville, Michigan, and his wife died January 1, 1910, near Greenville.

Job Williams, Jr., son of Job Williams by the second marriage, came to Kankakee County, Illinois, and settled, despite the fact both his half-brother and half-sister migrated to Michigan.

On the maternal side of his family, Mr. Williams's mother was the daughter of Cullen A. Moore, born May 1, 1844, in Massachusetts, and who came with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William A. Moore, to Michigan and settled near Lansing. The Moores were among the first settlers in the Massachusetts colony.

Mr. Williams received his education in a small rural school and the schools of Ionia, Greenville and Lyons, Michigan. He was united in marriage August 21, 1905, to Miss



Myrtle Hull in Charlotte, Michigan. One daughter was born to this union, Inez Edna, May 21, 1906, who is now Mrs. Gilbert Bunch, of Jackson, Michigan.

He was united in marriage a second time April 12, 1924, in Danville, Illinois, to Mrs. Phoebe Lucile Fulton Bacon. A son, Frank Moore Williams, was born to this union January 10, 1928, in Danville. Mrs. Williams also has two children by a former marriage, Eugene Franklin Bacon, born January 26, 1919, in Danville, Illinois, and Norma Belle Bacon, born February 8, 1921, in South Bend, Indiana.

Mr. Williams, after several years of varied work, mostly spent in Detroit and Mount Clemens, Michigan, and Duluth, Minnesota, engaged in newspaper work in 1909 in Charlotte, Michigan, as a reporter on the Charlotte Tribune, a weekly. He went from there as editor of the Greenville, Michigan, Independent, a weekly, and later to the United Press Association, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, as advertising manager. He also worked as reporter on the Grand Rapids, Michigan, Herald, and operated the Michigan Advertising Agency in Grand Rapids.

In 1918 he went to the Washington, District of Columbia Times as a reporter and assistant city editor, returning later to Jackson, Michigan, where he was Sunday editor on the Citizen-Press. Before coming to Danville, Illinois, January 1, 1923, he was on the copy desk of the Toledo, Ohio, Times; city editor of the Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, Herald; a reporter on the Kalamazoo, Michigan, Star; and owner of the Associated Newspaper Service, an advertising agency, in Cleveland, Ohio.

He joined the reportorial staff of The Commercial-News, Danville, Illinois, January 1, 1923, which position he still holds. He was also appointed United States Commissioner for the Eastern District of Illinois June 6, 1926, by Judge Walter C. Lindley of the United States District Court.

Mr. Williams is a member of the Saint James Methodist Episcopal Church, the American Business Club, the Midwest Stamp Club and the American Aero Philatelic Society. He served three years as secretary of the American Business Club and is secretary and treasurer of the Fifth District of American Business Clubs. Philately, or collecting stamps, is his hobby, and he is manager of the Exchange Department of the American Aero Philatelic Society, a national collectors' organization.

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**Jean W. Moore, M. D.,** established his residence in the city of Danville in 1926, and here his ability and personal popularity have combined to mark him as one of the representative physicians and popular young professional men of Vermilion County. He is a native of Fairfield, Illinois, born September 12, 1897, the son of D. P. and Mary (Wall) Moore.

D. P. Moore was born at Fairfield, Illinois, where he resides at the present time. He spent his boyhood on a farm and attended McKendree College, Lebanon, Illinois, for two years. He was interested in the reorganization of the telephone company at Olney, and was identified with that for a period of thirteen years, after which he sold his interests to the Southeastern Illinois Telephone Company. Mr. Moore then purchased the Olney Times, of which he served as editor and manager for twelve years. At the present time he has extensive coal mining interests. His wife is a native of Wayne County, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Moore's children were Jean W., the subject of this sketch, and a daughter, Ellen, died at the age of seven.

After completing his early schooling at Olney in 1915, Jean W. Moore entered McKendree College. On April 14, 1917, however, he left college to enlist for service in the World War. He enlisted in the United States Navy and

was sent to the Great Lakes Training Station, Chicago, and subsequently to United States Navy Hospital, Annapolis, Maryland. In June, 1917, he was transferred to the United States Steamship Nevada, and served as pharmacist's mate until September 9, 1919, when he was discharged from the service. He then re-entered McKendree College, where he remained until 1919. He spent the following years at Indiana University, receiving the Bachelor of Science degree in 1923 and in 1925 received the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He served as an interne in Saint Elizabeth's Hospital, Danville, and in 1926 entered private practice in this city with offices in the Temple Building. He is a member of the staffs of Saint Elizabeth's and Lakeview Hospitals.

On September 9, 1922, Doctor Moore was united in marriage with Miss Marjorie Spring, of Olney, Illinois, the daughter of Harry B. and Victoria (Eckenrode) Spring. Mr. Spring lives at Olney. His wife died in 1905. Two children have been born to Doctor and Mrs. Moore: Jeanine, born in 1925; and Harry Dalton, born in 1928.

Doctor Moore is a member of Saint James Methodist Church; Olney Lodge, No. 140, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Gordon Commandery, Olney, Illinois; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; Loyal Order of Moose; American Business Club; Phi Beta Pi fraternity; and American Legion. Politically, Doctor Moore is a Republican.

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**Clint Clay Tilton**, of Danville, was born in Catlin, Illinois, May 10, 1870, the son of Sam R. and Lura G. (Vance) Tilton. His father was a pioneer merchant of Catlin and his mother a daughter of Major John W. Vance, who came to this county in 1824 and for a number of years operated the Old Vermilion Salines. Mr. Tilton graduated from the Catlin High School in 1886 and later attended the Uni-

versity of Illinois, but did not complete the course. For the next several years he worked in various eastern cities as a printer and newspaper reporter, until 1904, when he returned to Danville and became manager of the Daily Press, then owned by John Beard. In 1908, in conjunction with A. R. Lynch, he purchased the Daily Press and the Daily Democrat, and consolidated them under the name of The Press-Democrat. Five years later he purchased the interest of his partner and continued the operation of the paper until November, 1919, when, because of ill health, he disposed of the property to a local company. Since that date he has not engaged actively in any business, but has devoted much time to writing on historical subjects. He is the author of the "Genesis of Old Vermilion," the official history of the county centennial celebration. In 1913 he was appointed postmaster of Danville, which position he held for one year.

On June 14, 1905, he was united in marriage with Miss Georgia May Wood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Wood, of Bloomington, who still abides with him. A foster son, Amos Clint Tilton, now a lad of fifteen, lives with them.

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**Winter L. Kimball** is an enterprising and widely known business man of Danville, where he has engaged in business for a number of years. He was born at Urbana, Illinois, January 11, 1872, the son of Robert M. and Elizabeth (Conrad) Kimball.

Robert M. Kimball, deceased, was a veteran of the Civil War. He was born near Princeton, Indiana, where he spent his boyhood and obtained his schooling. He was a tinner by trade and for a number of years operated a shop at Charleston, Illinois. He enlisted for service during the Civil War and following his discharge after the close of the war located at Urbana, Illinois, where he remained



until 1900. At that time he went to Auburn, Illinois, where he spent several years on a farm. After his retirement he lived in Danville and later at Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he died in 1924 at the age of eighty-four years. His wife died in 1913. Both are buried at Urbana, Illinois. Their children were: Winter L., the subject of this sketch; Roscoe, lives at Decatur, Illinois; Mildred Louise, married William Tipton, lives at Urbana, Illinois; Robert, lives at Cincinnati, Ohio; Lucretia, married Otis Mackey, lives at Jamesburg, Illinois; Tim, lives in Chicago; Ella, married Bert Hayman, lives in Chicago; James, died in infancy; and Fay, lives at Cincinnati, Ohio.

Winter L. Kimball grew up in Urbana, Illinois, where he attended the public schools. At an early age he learned the tinner's trade, which he has always followed. He was employed in his father's shop for some time and later by J. W. Shook for three years. Finally, when a young man, Mr. Kimball started out for himself and after several years located at Urbana, Illinois, where he was again associated with Mr. Shook. In 1898 he went to Muncie, Illinois, and took charge of the Intronuse Coal Company. Two years later he came to Danville and was associated with Bireline & Orr in the sheet metal business. In 1903 Mr. Kimball formed a partnership with Hiram Hickman and opened a tin shop on South Street, Danville. The following year the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Kimball continued at 1616 Franklin Street, which is the present location of the business. He is recognized as an expert in sheet metal and tinning work and also does slate and tar roofing.

On November 23, 1892, Mr. Kimball was united in marriage with Miss Lydia J. McGrew, of Lewis, Indiana, the daughter of David and Rebecca (Saltzgiver) McGrew. He was born at Canal Dover, Ohio, and died in 1914. His wife died in 1922. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Kimball, as follows: Floyd R., born November 13, 1893, died January 25, 1897; Kossuth, born January 4, 1896,

died February 1, 1903; Grace G., born September 5, 1898, died February 1, 1903; Hubert Eugene, born August 17, 1900, died February 1, 1903; Kenneth E., born in 1905, served during the World War in the United States Navy, lives at Saint Louis, Missouri; Austin O., born in 1906, associated with his father's business; Florence Mildred, married Harold Nolan, lives at Danville; and Inez Rebecca, married Irvin Heisley, lives at Danville.

Politically, Mr. Kimball is a Republican. He holds membership in the Christian Church, and is affiliated with Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Anchor Lodge, Past Master during 1918-19; Vermilion County Chapter No. 82, of which he is Past High Priest; Danville Council No. 37; Scottish Rite; and Gao Grotto.

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**George W. Beaver**, deceased, was a representative citizen of Henning and a veteran of the Civil War. He was born in Indiana, March 7, 1844, and died February 25, 1923. Mr. Beaver was the son of John B. and Leah (Spade) Beaver.

John B. Beaver was a native of Germany and his wife was born in Indiana. They were the parents of the following children: Emmanuel, lives in Indiana; Jacob; Aaron, lives in Indiana; George W., the subject of this sketch; and Sarah Mise, lives in Indiana.

George W. Beaver attended the district schools of Indiana and spent his boyhood on his father's farm. He was interested in farming and stock raising throughout his life and spent more than half a century on the Albert farm in Vermilion County. He retired in 1907 and removed to Henning, where he lived until his death in 1923. During the Civil War Mr. Beaver served as a private in Capt. John Leonard's Company K, Nineteenth Regiment. He was discharged at Elmira, New York, July 12, 1865.

In 1871 Mr. Beaver married Miss Mary Jane Albert, the daughter of Henry and Margaret (Weaver) Albert. He was born in Pennsylvania and died in 1866. His wife, a native of Ohio, died in 1870. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Beaver, as follows: John, born April 11, 1872, died November 26, 1875; Henry, born December 3, 1873, farmer, lives on the old homestead in Vermilion County; Addie, born September 29, 1875, married Frank Fairchild, farmer, lives in Indiana; Edward, born March 8, 1879, died August 11, 1879; and an infant daughter, born March 7, 1882, deceased.

Mr. Beaver was a member of the United Brethren Church early in life and later was identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. Politically, he was a Republican, and served for several years as justice of the peace of Blount Township, Vermilion County.

Mrs. Beaver is a member of the Free Methodist Church and Women's Missionary Society. She has thirteen grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Mrs. Beaver, although eighty-eight years of age, remains active in church and social work and is among the interesting pioneer women of Vermilion County.

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**Harlin Melville Steely, Jr.**, is one of the successful and popular attorneys of Vermilion County, and is engaged in active practice in Danville as a member of the firm of Steely and Steely. He was born in this city, the son of Harlin Melville and Miriam M. (Marquess) Steely.

A sketch of Harlin M. Steely appears elsewhere in this history.

Harlin M. Steely, Jr., attended the public schools of Danville and began his college career as a student at the University of Chicago. In 1904 he entered Yale Univer-

sity, from which he was graduated in 1908 with the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy. He was an associate editor of the Yale Record; member of the Skull and Crescent Society; the Kopper Kettle Club; the Glee and Banjo Clubs.

Mr. Steely studied law with his father and in February, 1911, was admitted to practice in Illinois. He is a member of the Vermilion County and Illinois State Bar Associations. He was city attorney of Danville from 1917 until 1919. He is president of the Danville Civic Council and in 1925 was president of the Kiwanis Club of Danville.

Mr. Steely is a thirty-second degree Mason, a Shriner, an Elk, and a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

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**J. S. Cromwell.**—One of the recognized leading men of Fairmount is J. S. Cromwell, who is identified with the general mercantile business of J. S. Cromwell & Son. He was born on a farm near Fithian, February 2, 1865, the son of Jackson and Mary Jane (Meade) Cromwell.

Jackson Cromwell was born at Marion, Indiana, and his wife was a native of Illinois. He followed farming throughout his life. He died March 31, 1920, and his wife died May 27, 1923. Both are buried in McFarland Cemetery. Their children were: Jackson and Maria Henderson, both deceased; J. D., lives at Fithian; J. S., the subject of this sketch; Cora Reams, lives at Fairmount; Rosetta and Nellie, both deceased.

J. S. Cromwell spent his early years on a farm near Fithian and attended the district schools. He followed farming until 1896 when he removed to Fithian and engaged in business as the proprietor of a grist mill. The mill was destroyed by fire in December, 1901, and in the spring of 1902 Mr. Cromwell located on a farm near McKindree, Illinois, where he remained until 1914. He has since been a resident of Fairmount. He purchased the



hardware business of W. W. Burroughs which he later sold to W. F. Temple. In 1915 he purchased the department store of J. A. Cox, which he conducted in partnership with his nephew, W. E. Black, under the firm name of Cromwell & Black. Since 1926 Mr. Cromwell has been associated in business with his son, L. J. Cromwell.

Mr. Cromwell was married (first) on May 9, 1886, to Miss Laura Ellen Firebaugh, who died September 15, 1895. She is buried in Stearns Cemetery, near Muncie, Illinois. She was the daughter of Thomas and Lucinda (Hobick) Firebaugh. He died in 1903 and his wife died in 1913. Both are buried at Mount Vernon, Illinois. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Cromwell: Bertha O., who died in 1910, was the wife of Jackson Richter, and they had two sons, Ralph J., who lives at Fairmount, and Bernard, who lives at Dearborn, Michigan; Charles H., lives at Danville, married Florence Howard, and they have two children, Delores and Robert; and Jesse D., lives at Danville, married Emma Howard, and they have three children, Tex Howard, Zella, and Margaret, all graduates of Danville High School.

Mr. Cromwell was married (second) to Miss Eva J. Underwood, who died in March, 1918. She was the daughter of L. C. and Sarah (Kyger) Underwood, who died in 1917 and 1925, respectively. To J. S. and Eva J. (Underwood) Cromwell were born nine children, as follows: Lela M., born September 18, 1899, a graduate of Fairmount High School, now teaches school; Lola, born January 1, 1901, died August 15, 1901; L. J., born December 23, 1901, associated in business with his father, married Zella Ellis, and they have two children, Harold Cromwell, and Olive June; Mary E., Sarah, Ruth, and Daphne M., all graduates of Fairmount High School, now teachers; George C., and Grace E., students.

On January 25, 1921, Mr. Cromwell was married (third) to Alice L. Fennemore, of Sidney, Illinois, the daughter of

George W. and Catherine (Morgan) Fennemore. He died in 1917 and his wife died in 1919.

Mr. Cromwell has served as tax collector of Oakwood Township and as assessor of McKindree Township. He is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, Modern Woodmen of America, and Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Mr. Cromwell is the owner of a fine farm of two hundred thirty acres in McKindree Township.

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**William F. Gerety, M. D.**, is prominent in Danville as one of the most successful physicians and surgeons of Vermilion County. He was born in this city, August 23, 1883, the son of Thomas and Margaret (Kelly) Gerety.

Thomas Gerety was born in Ireland, as was also his wife. He emigrated to the United States when about eighteen years of age and settled in Danville, where he worked in the old Moss Bank coal mines. Later, he was employed by his brother, who conducted a business at 122 West Main Street. After the death of his brother, Thomas Gerety took over the business, which he conducted successfully for forty-five years. He died in 1908 and his wife died in 1918. Both are buried in Saint Patrick's Cemetery, Danville. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Gerety were: Margaret, who died in 1892; James, who died in 1917; Catherine, the widow of Daniel Murphy, lives at the old homestead, 122 Payne Avenue, Danville; Anna, who died in 1892; William F., the subject of this sketch; Mary, lives at home; and Barney S., owner of Worthams World Best Shows, Little Rock, Arkansas.

William F. Gerety grew up in Danville and attended the public schools here. He clerked in the drug store of Owen & Raines for two years, and then went to Decatur, Illinois, where he took over the management of a drug

store in the Wabash Hospital for two years. In 1904 he entered the University of Illinois, and four years later received the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He then returned to the Wabash Railroad Hospital as house physician and in 1911 located at Danville, where he established a private practice with offices at 201½ East Main Street. He removed to his present location, 126½ East Main Street, in 1924.

On November 3, 1910, Doctor Gerety was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Meehan, of Decatur, Illinois, the daughter of William and Nellie (Fisher) Meehan. Mr. Meehan, now eighty-five years of age, lives at Decatur. His wife died in 1921. Doctor and Mrs. Gerety have a son, William Francis, born August 8, 1918. He attends Roselawn School, Danville.

Doctor Gerety is a member of Saint Paul's Catholic Church, and belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and Loyal Order of Moose. He is identified with the Vermilion County Medical Society and Illinois State Medical Society, and is a member of the staff of Saint Elizabeth's Hospital, Danville.

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**Martin L. Brookshier, M. D.**, is a prominent general medical practitioner of Georgetown. He is a well known citizen and is a leading member of the Vermilion County Medical Society, Illinois State Medical Society, and American Medical Association.

Doctor Brookshier was born in Clark County, Kentucky, January 12, 1878, the son of Achilles and Susan (Moreland) Brookshier.

Achilles Brookshier was born in Kentucky. He was educated in the district schools, taught school for several terms, and subsequently studied law. He followed farming, however, throughout his life and met with an acci-

dental death in a runaway at Gainesville, Texas, in 1896. His wife died in 1919. Both are buried at Winchester, Kentucky. Mr. Brookshier was a Democrat and a member of the Baptist Church. His wife held membership in the Christian Church. Five sons and two daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. Brookshier, all of whom are still living.

Martin Brookshier, the paternal grandfather of Martin L. Brookshier, was a Pennsylvanian by birth, and his wife, Amanda (Cummings) Brookshier, was of Irish extraction. They were pioneer settlers of Clark County, Kentucky, where the latter part of their lives was spent. They were the parents of thirteen children. On the maternal side the grandparents, George and Sally M. (Robertson) Moreland, were born in Pennsylvania, and settled in Clark County, Kentucky, at an early date. He died many years ago but his widow survived him until 1913, when she died at the age of one hundred and six years. She had lived on the same farm for seventy years.

Martin L. Brookshier received his early education in the district schools of Clark County, Kentucky. At the age of seventeen years he came to Illinois and settled at Decatur. He attended Green Academy at Taylorville, Illinois, and also studied at Marion Academy, at Marion, Indiana. He subsequently took a preparatory course in medicine at Willow Springs, Missouri, and in the spring of 1897 located at Pontiac, Illinois, where he spent almost three years in a shoe factory. He entered Barnes Medical School at Saint Louis, Missouri, in 1889, from which he received his degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1903. He began the practice of medicine at Graymount, Illinois, and after nineteen months located at Pontiac, Illinois. He later practiced at Decatur and Olivet, Illinois, and in September, 1917, came to Georgetown, where he purchased the Whitlock residence on Fifth Street. In 1924 he moved his office to Main Street and built a beautiful home on the adjoining lot. He erected an office and store building in 1927 and opened the Brook-



shier Drug Store, which is managed by his son, M. J. Brookshier.

On September 7, 1904, Doctor Brookshier was united in marriage with Miss Josephine Beier, of Bloomington, Illinois, the daughter of H. J. and Rickie (Cruse) Beier, natives of Germany. To Doctor and Mrs. Brookshier were born eight children, as follows: M. J., born June 14, 1905, lives at Georgetown, married Opal Hughes, and they have two sons, M. J., Jr., and Robert; Mildred Fern, died in infancy; Norwood Martin, born November 17, 1909, lives at Georgetown; Donald A., born September 9, 1911, student; Orville A., born August 1, 1914, student; Frieda Lorene, born April 23, 1917, student; Susan I., born December 24, 1920; and Paul Wayne, born March 17, 1922.

Doctor Brookshier is a member of the Nazarene Church.

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**E. C. Matthius** is a veteran of the World War and one of the best known young men of Lyons, where he is connected with the shops of the Big Four Railroad as foreman of car shops. He was born at Evanston, Illinois, August 11, 1894, the son of J. D. and Adella (Reinke) Matthius.

Rev. J. D. Matthius was born at Staten Island, New York, and his wife was a native of Chicago. She died in September, 1916, and is buried at Battle Creek, Michigan. Reverend Matthius was educated in the parochial schools of New York City and attended the Lutheran Theological College, at Fort Wayne, Indiana. He was later graduated from Concordia Seminary at Saint Louis, Missouri, in 1891 and was immediately made assistant pastor of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Chicago. He was also in charge of missionary work on the north shore of Chicago, between Edgewater and Glencoe, Illinois. In 1893 he took charge of the Bethlehem Church at Evanston, Illinois, and later

established self sustaining congregations at Rogers Park, Wilmot, and Glencoe, Illinois. In 1910 Reverend Matthius was called to the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, of Indianapolis, Indiana, where he is now serving as pastor. He is district president of the Missouri Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and president of the Foreign Missionary. To Reverend and Mrs. Matthius were born five children, as follows: R. H., lives at Indianapolis, Indiana; E. C., the subject of this sketch; Ada, unmarried, lives at Indianapolis, Indiana; Irma, married Jerry Jordon, lives at Indianapolis, Indiana; and Luella, unmarried, lives at Indianapolis, Indiana.

The boyhood of E. C. Matthius was spent at Evanston, Illinois, where he was educated. At the age of sixteen years he went to Indianapolis, Indiana, with his parents and began his business career as a salesman for the Marott Department Store. In October, 1912, he entered the employ of the Big Four Railway as a clerk in the offices at Beech Grove, Indiana. The following year he was promoted to cost accountant and served in that capacity until 1917, at which time he went to Brightwood, Indiana. In April, 1917, he enlisted for service in the World War and was sent to Columbus, Ohio, and later to Fort Monroe, Virginia, where he served as a first-class sergeant with the Forty-first Division. He was discharged December 12, 1918, and went to Indianapolis, Indiana, where he resumed his former work with the Big Four Railroad Company at Brightwood, Indiana. He was transferred to Mattoon, Illinois, July 29, 1922, as assistant general car foreman and on December 1, 1927, accepted his present position at Lyons as car foreman of the shops.

On October 6, 1920, Mr. Matthius was married to Miss Helen Resener, of Indianapolis, Indiana, the daughter of E. B. and Mary (Wehking) Resener, of Indianapolis. They have three daughters: Myra A., born June 16, 1921; Mary

Elizabeth, born October 16, 1923; and Mona Lee, born June 19, 1926, died in infancy.

Mr. Matthius is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, of Indianapolis, Indiana. He is affiliated with the American Legion, and Country Club of Mattoon. Politically, he is a Republican.

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**Harry Sager** is numbered among the enterprising men of Danville, where he is proprietor of the Sager Feed Mill. He was born in Marion County, Illinois, September 18, 1889, the son of Jacob and Mary (Allen) Sager.

Jacob Sager was born on a farm in Marion County, Illinois. He followed farming and stock raising there until 1899, at which time he removed to Kell, Illinois, where he became interested in business as a dealer in farm implements and machinery. He later conducted a meat business at that place and in 1903 came to Danville, where he operated a grocery and meat business at Oaklawn for two years. He then sold his business and entered the employ of the Chicago and Eastern Railroad, being employed in the Danville shops until his death in 1906. He is buried in Marion County. His widow, born in Wayne County, Illinois, lives at 1520 Oakwood Avenue, Danville. To Mr. and Mrs. Sager were born five children: Harry, the subject of this sketch; Stella, the widow of C. E. Lurger, lives at Champaign, Illinois; J. L., World War veteran, lives at Los Angeles, California; Fleeta, married D. Pilcher, lives at Toledo, Ohio; and Roy, lives at Oceanside, California.

Harry Sager spent his boyhood on his father's farm in Marion County and obtained his education in the public schools of Kell and Danville. He was employed as a call boy by the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad and later traveled for the company installing electrical appliances on the road. He continued in this work until 1919 when he

opened a garage in Danville. This was sold five years later and in 1924 Mr. Sager purchased the property at Buchanan and Green Streets, which is the site of his present business. He carries on a wholesale and retail business, his warehouse having a three car capacity. Mr. Sager has attained success in his business by hard work. At an early age he assumed the responsibility of caring for his widowed mother and younger brothers and sisters, his father having died when he was seventeen years of age. Thus as a boy he possessed the same traits of a successful business man that are his today.

In 1919 Mr. Sager was united in marriage with Miss Pearl Brubaker, of Danville, the daughter of George and Mayme (Abrams) Brubaker. The former is deceased and the latter lives in Danville. Mr. and Mrs. Sager have no children.

In politics Mr. Sager is independent.

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**Henry Snider.**—One of Vermilion County's most prominent citizens and successful business men was Henry Snider, of Georgetown, who died November 16, 1928. He was a native of Kaief, Russia, born April 20, 1860.

Mr. Snider was the oldest child of a large family. His father died when he was very young, thus making it necessary for him to help care for the family. When he was twenty-one years of age he came to America and settled at Lafayette, Indiana, where he spent four years. He was possessed of an energetic and industrious disposition and from the very beginning of his business career met with marked success. As a merchant, he traveled by horse and wagon throughout the surrounding community, buying butter and eggs from farmers, in exchange for which he gave merchandise. Mr. Snider's business gradually drifted into Cumberland County, Illinois, and it was he who was the



founder of the town of Roslyn, where he established a general mercantile business in 1890. At that time he also became postmaster of the newly organized village. In 1894 Mr. Snider sold his business at Roslyn and moved to Haze, Illinois. Subsequently he located at Fairland, Illinois, and in 1897 went to Villa Grove, where he conducted a general mercantile business until 1900. He then came to Vermilion County and erected a large store building in Georgetown, and engaged in business with Gordon Grimes, a local school teacher. After three years Mr. Snider purchased his partner's interest and carried on the business until 1907, at which time he settled at Westville, where he was associated with C. B. Spang in the mercantile business. After a year Mr. Snider again purchased his partner's interest in the business. He also had extensive real estate interests at Westville, being the promoter of the Snider addition, just outside the city limits of Westville. He also conducted a mercantile business at Lyons, Illinois, and in 1924 established a business at Georgetown, which is now carried on by his daughter, Miss Esther Snider. She is also proprietor of the store at Ridge Farm, which was established by her father in 1927.

On November 26, 1892, Mr. Snider was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Frederick, of Roslyn, the daughter of Oliver and Lucy (Warner) Frederick. He was born in Kentucky and died in 1888. His wife, born in Putnam County, Indiana, died in 1928 at the age of ninety-one years. Both are buried at Toledo, Illinois. Mrs. Henry Snider died February 23, 1920, and is buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. To Mr. and Mrs. Snider were born three children: Harry, born at Roslyn, Illinois, December 6, 1893, died October 4, 1927; Esther, born August 24, 1899, a graduate of Danville High School and the University of Illinois, taught school at Indianola and Tuscola, Illinois, now manager of the stores and business which were established by her father; and Rachael, born

January 6, 1908, married on March 2, 1929, to O. E. Minniear, and lives at Danville.

Mr. Snider was affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville.

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**Gladys Price Brown**, who is identified with the Physicians and Surgeons Exchange, is recognized as one of the highly successful young women of Danville. She was born at Fairmount, Vermilion County, May 26, 1897, the daughter of Charles M. and Alice M. (Yerkes) Price.

A complete sketch of Charles M. Price appears elsewhere in this history.

Gladys Price attended the public schools of Fairmount and after her graduation from high school entered Eastern Illinois State Normal School, Charleston, Illinois. She is a graduate of Gem City Business College, Quincy, Illinois, Kellberg Institute, Chicago, and the School of Physical Therapy, Saint Joseph, Missouri. Part of her education was received in night schools her entire expenses being earned by her efforts in the business world. She also taught school for six and one-half years and after her graduation from the Kellberg Institute she spent four years conducting a department of physical therapy in Danville. As the result of her continued association with doctors she realized the necessity of a Physicians and Surgeons Exchange, which was created by her in June, 1928. The entire work of organization was carried on by Mrs. Brown alone.

The Physicians and Surgeons Exchange and Nurses Registry in the city of Danville is the first and only doctor's information exchange in Vermilion County. It is a free service to the public and is financed by dues paid by the doctors who are members of this organization. The year of 1928 was devoted entirely to the organization

process, which consisted of selling the doctors and advertising a service to which the public has heartily responded. The Exchange now includes a Nurses Registry which supplies graduate, undergraduate, and practical nurses not only for the city of Danville but for outlying towns and communities where help is needed. At the present time the Exchange has a total of forty-two doctors registered.

On March 5, 1927, Gladys Price married George H. Brown, who was born at Saint Joe, DeKalb County, Indiana, the son of Calvin H. and Alice (Swineford) Brown. Mr. Brown lives at Fort Wayne, Indiana, where his wife died July 10, 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have a daughter, Dorothy Alice.

Mrs. Brown is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Fairmount, and belongs to the Business and Professional Women's Club and Vermilion County Republican Women's Club.

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**Charles M. Price**, retired, is a representative citizen of Fairmount, having spent his entire life on the old Price homestead. He was born March 27, 1860, the son of George and Ruth (Wooden) Price.

George Price was born in Madison County, Ohio, August 19, 1834. He came to Illinois from Ohio when nineteen years of age and accumulated valuable land holdings, which he improved. He was especially interested in the buying and shipping of cattle and at the time of his death left a large estate. He was known throughout the community as "Uncle George." Mr. Price died January 9, 1912, and his wife, born at Catlin, Vermilion County, July 25, 1830, died February 28, 1917. Both are buried in Daugherty Cemetery, Fairmount. To Mr. and Mrs. George Price the following children were born: John Wesley, deceased; Elizabeth Baldwin, deceased; Josephine Rice,

lives at Sidell, Illinois; Eugene, died in infancy; Addie Jackson, lives at Sidell; Alberta Clapp, deceased.

Charles M. Price attended Jordan school near Fairmount and at an early age assisted his father with his farming and stock interests. At the time of his marriage, at the age of twenty-seven years, he took over the management of the home farm, at which time his father retired. From then on his activities were confined to grain raising, which he continued until his retirement at the age of fifty-five years. He has continued to reside on the old Price homestead and superintends his farming interests.

On October 19, 1887, Mr. Price married Miss Alice Maud Yerkes, of Fairmount, the daughter of Hiram and Hester E. (Prevo) Yerkes, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Indiana. Mr. Yerkes died June 3, 1913. His wife died December 7, 1877. Hiram Yerkes enlisted in the Union Army during the Civil War as a member of Company H, Sixty-third Indiana Infantry, in August, 1862. He fought in sixteen battles and followed his regiment in all its marches, participating in all the hardships and vicissitudes of a soldier's life. The records indicate that he was one of the bravest men of his company and while at the front in some of the hardest fought battles of the war stood at his post without fear and flinching. He was contented to enter the ranks as a private soldier, but was soon promoted to the rank of corporal and afterward became sergeant. He met the enemy in battle at Resaca, Georgia, Franklin and Nashville, Tennessee, Atlanta, Kenesaw Mountain, Jonesboro, Cassville, Lost Mountain, Altoona, Chattahoochie, Town Creek, Burnt Hickory, Buzzard's Roost, Fort Anderson, Wilmington, and Columbia, North Carolina. He was at one time entirely buried in the dirt plowed up by a rebel cannon ball, escaping by a miracle from being torn to pieces by the deadly missile. He witnessed the surrender of General Johnson, through General



Sherman, but the joy of the Union Army was soon saddened by the news of Lincoln's assassination. In July, 1865, the regiment was discharged and Mr. Yerkes mustered out at Indianapolis.

To Charles M. and Alice Maud (Yerkes) Price were born five children: Walter Earl and Lowell Milton, both died in infancy; Ethel Lynn, who is identified with the New York Life Insurance Company, Decatur, Illinois; Gladys Brown, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history; and Mabel Redmond, lives at Decatur, Illinois.

Mr. Price is a Republican. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Fairmount. He is familiarly known throughout the community as "The Deacon," a title which clings to him on account of his active service in the church.

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**William Brooks Murray** is among the prominent and widely known business executives of Danville, where he is identified with the Miller Train Control Company. He also takes an active part in the civic and social life of the city and is president of the Rotary Club of Danville. Mr. Murray was born at Dunkirk, New York, August 5, 1875, the son of Eugene and Addie (Brooks) Murray.

William Brooks Murray was educated in the public schools of New York City. He studied engineering at Portland, Oregon, and New Haven, Connecticut, and in 1893 was employed as a railroad fireman. Two years later he became a railroad engineer. Later, he became interested in stationary engineering with the Hill-Miller Company of Washington, of which he became chief engineer in 1896, erecting engineer in 1898, and the following year he was appointed chief engineer of the Palais Royal. In 1908 he entered business for himself as general manager of the Murray Engineering Company, doing general con-

tracting and machine construction work. In the latter work he served as advisory engineer for the Miller Train Control Company, and in 1911 gave up all connections to devote himself entirely to designing and perfecting a workable train control system. The system, as evolved by Mr. Murray, was first installed on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad in 1911, and its success has been cited by Congressman Esch, author of the Esch-Cummins Transportation Act, as justification for the installation of train controls on all railroads, as provided by the Act. In making the citation Mr. Esch stated that after what has been proven on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, the cost of installation was justifiable on account of the benefits to be derived in conservation of life, and property, and in facilitation of traffic.

Altogether forty-nine different railroads have been affected by this act, which requires adoption of train control systems, and it is estimated that the first cost of the installations will not be less than two hundred million dollars. Many of the roads have already begun the installation of these systems and among them the Miller Train Control System is now engaged in installing the Miller Control on the lines of the New York Central Railroad east of Cleveland, Ohio, a work which is being conducted under the personal direction of Mr. Murray.

Among those who are personally interested with Mr. Murray in the Miller Train Control Company is Mr. H. B. Miller, of Washington, D. C., who is general manager; J. W. Garber, of Washington, D. C., is president; and William Dupont, of Wilmington, Delaware, is chairman of the company's executive committee.

Including Mr. Murray's professional and fraternal affiliations may be mentioned the Washington Society of Engineers, the Railway Signal Engineers Association, the National Railway Association, Chicago Engineers, National Association of Steam Engineers, and National Rail-

way Appliance Association. He is president of the Rotary Club, and belongs to the Old Colony Club of New York, Elks Club, Masonic Lodge, thirty-second degree, and Chamber of Commerce. He is a Republican and a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Murray is familiarly known in Danville in engineering circles as "Safety First Bill Murray."

In 1902 Mr. Murray married Miss Georgia Farnsworth, of Silver Creek, New York. They have three daughters: Martha, Flora, and Laura.

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**George W. Johnson**, who is identified with the Interstate Baking Company, ranks among the progressive business men of Danville, and he is also a veteran of the World War. He was born in Chicago, Illinois, October 24, 1886, the son of Gus and Anna (Abrams) Johnson.

Gus Johnson was a native of Illinois and spent many years in the employ of the Pullman Car Company. Both he and his wife died in 1891 and are buried at Attica, Indiana. They were the parents of three children: Arthur E., druggist, lives at Indianapolis, Indiana; Luella, lives in Chicago, Illinois; and George W., the subject of this sketch.

George W. Johnson received his early schooling at Attica, Indiana, and was graduated from high school there in 1904. He then came to Danville and in September, 1905, entered Brown's Business College, from which he was graduated in 1906. He began his business career with the Webster Grocery Company as assistant secretary, and was identified with that concern until 1918. In May, 1918, he enlisted for service in the World War and was sent to Camp Kearney, California, where he was attached to the Eighty-first Infantry. He served as company clerk in charge of mail service and throughout the war was located

at that camp, being discharged in February, 1919, with the rank of corporal. Mr. Johnson returned to the employ of the Webster Grocery Company until December, 1919, at which time he purchased an interest in the Manteufel Baking Company, the firm name then being known as the Interstate Baking Company. This partnership has continued to the present time and the company's business extends throughout Danville and surrounding territory. This up-to-date bakery is located at 850-52 Fairchild Street.

In 1924 Mr. Johnson was united in marriage with Miss Erma Fix, the daughter of Edward W. and Anna Fix, the former a native of Warren County, Indiana, and the latter of Danville. Mr. Fix lives at Saint Louis, Missouri. His wife died in December, 1923, and is buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. He is extensively interested in the manufacturing business, being one of the founders of the Quality Stove & Range Company and the Oakland Foundry.

Politically, Mr. Johnson is identified with the Republican party. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church, Kiwanis Club, and Bakers of Illinois, and he has the following club affiliations: Anchor Lodge, No. 980, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Ansar Temple; Iris Chapter; and American Legion.

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**The Interstate Baking Company** is among the well established and up-to-date bakeries of Vermilion County. It is located at 850-52 Fairchild Street, Danville. This pioneer business house of Danville was organized as the Manteufel Baking Company in 1898, its original location being at 863-65 East Fairchild Street. The business was begun in a small way, employing only three men. About 1914 it was enlarged and the present extensive plant built



on Fairchild Street. In 1920, at the time of Mr. George W. Johnson's entry into the firm the name was changed to the Interstate Baking Company.

Modern equipment is in use throughout the plant, which employs eighteen men and operates five motor trucks in Danville and vicinity. The average monthly business has increased from one thousand dollars to approximately ten thousand dollars. The plant is open to the public for inspection at all times. Its trademark, "Par-X," is outstanding as a symbol of high grade bakery products.

The Interstate Baking Company may be justly proud of its modern facilities for the baking of bread. From the electric dough mixers, to the rounding machines, even the process of weighing has been eliminated. The bread then is moulded by machine, which eliminates handling by hand, and it then goes to the proofing pan before reaching the electric ovens. After the baking process is complete, the bread is automatically wrapped and sealed by a machine which handles fifteen hundred loaves per hour.

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**Herman Manteufel.**—Prominent among the pioneer business men of Danville may be mentioned Herman Manteufel, founder of the Interstate Baking Company. He is a native of Germany, born at Hessenaussa, May 10, 1869, the son of Louis and Hermina (Pope) Manteufel.

Louis Manteufel was born in Germany in 1839 and his wife was born in 1842. He was a graduate of a mining college in Germany and became prominent as a mining engineer, being superintendent of a mine at Hessenaussa. He came with his family to the United States in 1878 and settled near Hobart, Lake County, Indiana. He spent the remainder of his life as a farmer and stockman. Mr. Manteufel died in 1912 and his wife died in 1918. Both are buried near Hobart, Indiana. Mr. Manteufel was a Repub-

lican and a member of the German Methodist Church. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Manteufel: Helen and Laura, both deceased; Paulina, deceased, was the wife of Adolph Wendt, of Chicago, Illinois; Bertha, deceased; Marie, married Fred Mayhak, lives at Gary, Indiana; Herman, the subject of this sketch; Louis, lives on the old homestead near Hobart, Indiana; and Paul, lives at Oak Park, Illinois.

Herman Manteufel spent his early boyhood in Germany and Hobart, Indiana, where he attended the public schools. At the age of sixteen years he went to Chicago, Illinois, where he learned the baker's trade with the Heisler & Young Baking Company. In 1887 he was employed at the Palmer House, Chicago, and was one of the bakers at that hostelry at the time of the visit of President Cleveland on his wedding trip. Mr. Manteufel came to Danville in 1892 and entered the employ of the Linne Baking Company. Six years later he established a baking business of his own, known as the Manteufel Bakery, at 863-65 East Fairchild Street. The modern plant was built at 850-52 East Fairchild Street in 1914. A complete sketch of the growth and development of this business appears elsewhere in this history. Mr. Johnson has been identified with the enterprise since 1920.

In 1899 Mr. Manteufel married Miss Margaret Hosch, the daughter of Andrew and Mary (Koch) Hosch, natives of Germany, both now deceased. The Hosch family emigrated to the United States about 1860 and settled at Reading, Pennsylvania, later removing to Danville in 1866. To Mr. and Mrs. Manteufel a daughter, Esther, was born. She is a graduate of Danville High School and is employed in a clerical capacity in the auditor's office of Vermilion County.

Mr. Manteufel is a member of the German Methodist Church, Knights of Pythias, No. 84, and belongs to the

Illinois Bakers Association, American Society of Bakers Engineers, and American Bakers Association. Politically, he is a Republican.

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**Charles Maurice Crayton.**—Holding high rank in legal circles in Vermilion County, Charles Maurice Crayton is also well known in Danville as the efficient state superintendent of Free Employment Offices. He was born at Hillsboro, Indiana, November 9, 1872, the son of George May and Elizabeth Murphy (Guilliamo) Crayton.

George May Crayton was born in Fountain County, Indiana, in 1828, the son of Thomas and Susan (May) Crayton. He was the son of an Irish immigrant, who settled in North Carolina, and his wife, Susan (May) Crayton, was a grand-daughter of Captain Billie May, and a daughter of George May, early pioneers of Indiana. Captain Billie May was an officer in the Mexican War and a prominent man. The maternal grandfather, John L. Guilliamo, was born in Scotland and was an early settler of Tennessee. George May Crayton was a merchant for many years at Hillsboro, Indiana, where he died in 1880. His wife, born in Fountain County, Indiana, in 1837, died August 3, 1910. Both are buried at Hillsboro. Their children were: Henry A., lives at Danville; John M., William A., T. V., and Thomas E., all deceased; Jennie, married Joseph Parker, lives at Los Angeles, California; and Charles Maurice, the subject of this sketch.

The boyhood of Charles Maurice Crayton was spent at Hillsboro, Indiana, and Potomac, Illinois, where he attended the public schools. He also was graduated from Indiana Normal College, taught school for several years, having been granted a teacher's certificate by James Bingham, later attorney general of Illinois. Mr. Crayton taught for two years and then entered the office of the

"Potomac Rustler," of Potomac, Illinois, where he learned the printer's trade. He was connected with numerous publications, including the "Hillsboro Clipper," and the "Georgetown Herald." At the outbreak of the Spanish-American War he enlisted, April 20, 1898, in Battery A, Illinois Volunteer Infantry and served in Porto Rico. He was discharged November 28, 1898, and went as a reporter for the Danville "Daily Democrat." He shortly afterward purchased the "Potomac Republican," which he edited and sold in April, 1900. He then accepted the city editorship of "The Citizen," located at Poplar Bluff, Missouri. He resigned in July, 1902, to become editor of the "Potomac Republican." While serving there he studied law and in 1906 was admitted to the Illinois State Bar. He established offices at Potomac, Illinois, but after two years removed to Danville, where he was appointed assistant state's attorney. He resigned from this office in October, 1914, and formed a partnership with John M. Boyle, with offices in the First National Bank Building, the firm being known as Crayton & Boyle. In July, 1917, Mr. Crayton was commissioned a first lieutenant in the Illinois National Guard. He resigned August 27, 1917, and entered the Second Officers Training Camp at Fort Sheridan, Illinois, where he was commissioned a second lieutenant in artillery. On November 27, 1917, he was ordered to France with his outfit and sailed on December 23rd. Upon his arrival in France he was sent to Samur, and attended a French field artillery school, as well as the motor school at Vincennes, France. Later, he was assigned to the Fifty-ninth Coast Artillery Corps. He participated in the Saint Mihiel offensive and served in France until January 22, 1919. He was discharged February 14, 1919, and returned to Danville.

In April, 1919, Mr. Crayton was elected assistant supervisor of Danville Township, and later resigned to accept the appointment of election commissioner of Danville for



two years. On February 19, 1923, he was appointed state superintendent of eighteen employment offices, located with headquarters at Danville. Mr. Crayton maintains his law offices in the First National Bank Building.

August 11, 1901, Mr. Crayton married Miss Minnie B. Parker, of Potomac, Illinois, the daughter of A. M. and Elizabeth (Ather) Parker, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Vermilion County. He was justice of the peace at Danville and deputy sheriff of Vermilion County for a period of twenty-four years. Both he and his wife are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Crayton had the following children: Kathleen E., married Fred J. Burt, lives at Buffalo, New York, and they have a daughter, Elizabeth Crayton Burt; Lois G. and Mildred M., both at home; and Maurice P., who died in 1923.

Politically, Mr. Crayton is a Republican. He holds membership in the Christian Church, Loyal Order of Moose, United Spanish War Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and American Legion. He is identified with the Vermilion County Bar Association, Illinois State Bar Association, and American Bar Association.

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**Lionel Martelle**, who is city service supervisor for the Hoover Company, is among the active young business men of Danville. He is a veteran of the World War, having served in France with the Princess Pat regiment, Canadian forces. Mr. Martelle was born in Paris, France, April 14, 1894, the son of Alexander and Millicent (Asche) Martelle.

Alexander Martelle was born in Paris and his wife is a native of Cardiff, Wales. He is a graduate of Sorbonne University, Paris, and the University of Saint Petersburg, Russia, where he studied art. He was first violinist in the Paris Symphony Orchestra for many years and studied

art with the celebrated Solomon J. Solomon, A. R. A. During the World War Mr. Martelle served as captain in the French army and was an interpreter. He is now conducting a studio in London, England. Mr. and Mrs. Martelle have three children: Rose and Lillian, who live in London; and Lionel, the subject of this sketch.

Lionel Martelle received his early education in Paris, and in 1908 was graduated from Rugby College, in England. Two years later he came to the United States and located at Los Angeles, California, where he spent a year with the Pathe Motion Picture Company as a camera man. In 1911 he entered vaudeville, and worked on the Keith, Proctor, Orpheum and Pantages circuit, his act being listed as Martelle & Company. On August 26, 1914, Mr. Martelle enlisted in the Princess Pat regiment, Canadian Light Infantry, and went to France with this outfit. He saw continuous active service at the front until August 26, 1918, when he was severely wounded at the battle of Soissons. He spent many months in hospitals in France and England, and Toronto, Canada, and was discharged from the Sulphur Springs Military Hospital, Tampa, Florida, in March, 1922, with the rank of major. In 1919 he was decorated by H. R. H. Prince of Wales at Toronto, Canada, receiving the Medaille Militaire. He has also received personal letters from King George V, Prince of Wales, and Princess Mary.

Mr. Martelle returned to his profession in vaudeville in 1922 but on account of poor health was forced to abandon this work. He returned to Los Angeles in 1924 as a motion picture camera man but later during that year went to Covington, Indiana. He came to Danville in 1925 and the following year became identified with the Illinois Power & Light Company. Since 1928 he has been associated with the Hoover Company.

In 1924 Mr. Martelle married Miss Lena B. Hollingsworth, of Covington, Indiana.

Mr. Martelle is a Republican, a member of Saint James Methodist Episcopal Church, and belongs to the Masonic Lodge, thirty-second degree, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Loyal Order of Moose, and American Legion. He also belongs to the National Vaudeville Association and Society of American Magicians.

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**Orla O. Kreager**, who is well known in Hoopeston as the proprietor of the Hoopeston Hatchery, is a veteran of the World War. He was born at Gratiot, Licking County, Ohio, July 3, 1890, the son of Marion and Ida May (Fink) Kreager.

Marion Kreager was born in Licking County, Ohio. He spent his early life on his father's farm and later became successful as a general merchant at Gratiot, Ohio. In 1905 he removed to Hoopeston, where he was connected with the Grand Union Tea Company. He also had an interest in a mercantile business at Hoopeston for several years. Mr. Kreager removed to Lakeland, Florida, in 1919, where he now lives retired. He is a Democrat and a member of the Christian Church. His wife, also born in Licking County, Ohio, died in March, 1904, and is buried at Gratiot. Their children were: Orla O., the subject of this sketch; Ira Owen, mention of whom is made below; and Leona, deceased.

Ira Owen Kreager lost his life while in service during the World War. He was born at Gratiot, Ohio, March 5, 1893. At the outbreak of the World War he enlisted in Company B, Three Hundred Fifty-eighth Infantry, Ninth Division, and served with the rank of corporal. He was killed at the front and was the only soldier from Hoopeston to lose his life in active service. It is in his honor that the local American Legion Post is named.

Orla O. Kreager attended the public schools of Gratiot. He has been a resident of Hoopeston since 1905, at which time his family located here. He was associated with the Sprague Manufacturing Company, now the Sprague-Cells Company, and later went with the Illinois Public Service Company. He enlisted August 23, 1917, for service in the World War, and served as a member of Company B, Third Illinois Regiment, National Guard, which was later made Company B, One Hundred Twenty-ninth Infantry, Thirty-third Division. Mr. Kreager saw active service in France and participated in the battle of Saint Mihiel and Meuse Argonne drive. He was discharged June 6, 1919, and upon his return to Hoopeston re-entered the employ of the Illinois Public Service Company. In 1921 Mr. Kreager became identified with the A. W. Murray Plumbing Company, Hoopeston. Since 1926 he has been interested in the Hoopeston Hatchery as manager.

In 1919 Mr. Kreager married Miss Evelyn Floyd.

Politically Mr. Kreager is a Democrat. He is a member of the Methodist Church; Ira Owen Kreager Post No. 384, American Legion; and Star Lodge No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

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**Russell Iliff** is perhaps one of the most prominent young business men of Hoopeston, where he is secretary and general manager of the Iliff-Bruff Chemical Company. He is a native of Chicago Heights, Illinois, born September 29, 1900, the son of Ellsworth E. and Anna (Kohler) Iliff.

The sketch of Ellsworth E. Iliff, deceased, appears elsewhere in this history.

After his graduation from Hoopeston High School in 1922, Russell Iliff entered his father's factory. He was anxious to learn the business from the foundation and in 1922 became an apprentice in the laboratory. Mr. Iliff



has continued in the business and has held the offices of secretary and general manager since the death of his father in November, 1928.

Mr. Iliff married in 1925 Miss Florence Lottinville, the daughter of George and Louise (Schroeder) Lottinville, natives of Martinton, Illinois, and now residents of Kempton, Illinois, where Mr. Lottinville is a hardware merchant. Mr. and Mrs. Iliff have a daughter, Eloise Ann, born in 1926.

Mr. Iliff is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, and is affiliated with Star Lodge No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Hoopeston Chapter, No. 181, Royal Arch Masons.

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**Ellsworth E. Iliff**, who died November 29, 1928, was a prominent business man and highly esteemed citizen of Hoopeston, where he was one of the founders of the Iliff-Bruff Chemical Company. He was born at Lincoln, Nebraska, October 8, 1872, the son of Fred Iliff.

Fred Iliff was born in Indiana and early in life removed to Nebraska, where he engaged in general farming. He also conducted a livery business at Lincoln. He is deceased.

Ellsworth E. Iliff spent his boyhood at Rensselaer, Indiana, and was educated in the public schools. He was also a graduate of Lafayette Business College. After leaving school he spent three years as a telegraph operator in the employ of the Monon Railroad. He then went to Chicago Heights, Illinois, where he was identified with the Victor Chemical Works. He resigned in 1914 as superintendent of the plant and at that time, in partnership with C. M. Bruff, organized the Iliff-Bruff Chemical Company at Hoopeston. They are manufacturers of Mono Calcium Phosphate. At the time of his death Mr. Iliff was

president of this concern. He is buried in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston.

Mr. Iliff married Miss Anna Kohler, the daughter of John and Catherine (Minicus) Kohler, the former a native of Illinois and the latter of Indiana. Mr. Kohler died in 1920. His widow lives at Hoopeston. To Mr. and Mrs. Iliff were born three children: Marie, lives at home; Donald, deceased; and Russell, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this history.

Mr. Oliff was always a Republican. He was a member of Chicago Heights Lodge, No. 851, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; Illinois Athletic Club; Hubbard Trail Country Club; Commercial Club; and Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Iliff was a home loving man and very popular in the city of Hoopeston.

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**The Iliff-Bruff Chemical Company.**—The magic of one of the world's oldest and most interesting professions enters into the products of the Iliff-Bruff Chemical Company, established in Hoopeston in the year 1915 by Ellsworth Iliff and Milton C. Bruff.

"Snow White Phosphate," that in turn goes into the make-up of a thousand products of food is manufactured in wholesale quantities by The Iliff-Bruff Company, considered as one of Hoopeston's most substantial and growing major industrial enterprises.

Other products of the field of chemistry are also manufactured by The Iliff-Bruff Company, which each year since its establishment in Hoopeston, has taken a step forward in the ranks of such industries in the entire nation.

Plans of the company in the future to utilize the waste material from the making of Snow White Phosphate, by

the manufacture of chemical by-products, announced early in the year 1925, are going forward at the present time. In the test laboratory of the plant, experiments are going forward that are expected to culminate in the placing of other products on the world market by The Iliff-Bruff Company in quantities that will further associate their name with those of the leaders in the chemical industry of the nation.

The Iliff-Bruff is considered among the most progressive of Hoopeston's industrial concerns, affording employment to many men that are well paid the year around.

The scientific nature of the chemical industry makes any description of the processes and products manufactured impossible to any person except a chemist, and therefore none is attempted.

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**Cecil K. Reed** ranks high among the progressive young business men of Hoopeston, where he is proprietor of the Shell Service Station, located on the Dixie Highway at West Main Street. He is a native of Vermilion County, born at Cheneyville, August 26, 1907, the son of Charles D. and Orphia (Troxell) Reed.

Charles D. Reed and his wife are natives of Indiana. They are now residents of Cheneyville, where Mr. Reed is identified with C. C. Harlam & Company, grain dealers. Formerly, they lived in Indiana, where Mr. Reed engaged in general farming. They located at Cheneyville in 1907. Mr. Reed is a Republican, a member of the Christian Church, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Modern Woodmen of America. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Reed: Clifford, Cecil, Herbert, Russell, Ernest, Charles, Delmar, LeRoy, Vernel, Hazel, Zelda, Marjorie, and Norma Jean.

Cecil K. Reed received his education in the public schools of Cheneyville. For a time he was employed on the Illinois State Highway and engaged in road building in Vermilion County. He later went with the Chicago, Milwaukee & Saint Paul Railroad, and then with the Sprague-Sells Company, of Hoopeston. On April 3, 1929, he took over the management of the Shell Service Station. Mr. Reed operates one of the city's popular service stations and has a well established trade.

Mr. Reed is a Republican in politics. He is a member of the Christian Church and Modern Woodmen of America. He is unmarried.

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**Daniel A. Miller**, who is successfully engaged in the real estate and insurance business at Hoopeston, is a leading citizen of Vermilion County. He was born at Reading, Pennsylvania, October 9, 1878, the son of Sebastian H. and Hannah (Miller) Miller.

Sebastian H. Miller was a veteran of the Civil War, having served with Company G, Eighth Illinois Cavalry. He was a native of Reading, Pennsylvania, and in 1849 started to California during the gold rush. However, he stopped at Chicago, and soon located at Rossville, where he became a successful farmer. He died in 1903 and his wife died in 1908. Both are buried at Rossville. Mr. Miller was a Republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church, and Grand Army of the Republic. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Miller: Harry, lives on the old homestead at Rossville, Illinois; Ellen, deceased; and Daniel A., the subject of this sketch.

Daniel A. Miller spent his boyhood at Rossville and received his education in the public schools there. He followed general farming until 1902, at which time he entered the store of McConnell & Wilbur as a clerk. Two years



later he became associated with James Reed, and in 1907 came to Hoopeston as assistant manager of the Hoopeston Department Store. Mr. Miller resigned in 1922 and at that time established a retail shoe business at 223 East Main Street, which he successfully conducted until 1927. He then sold the store and has since devoted his entire time to the real estate and insurance business, making a specialty of farm loans.

In 1901 Mr. Miller was united in marriage with Miss Janet M. Miller, the daughter of Charles and Eliza Jane Miller, natives of Indiana. Charles Miller is deceased and his widow lives at Hoopeston. To Mr. and Mrs. Daniel A. Miller have been born four children: Lawrence R., lives at Detroit, Michigan, married Lucia Hall, and they have a son, Lawrence; Grace M., married Glenn Hawkins, lives at Hoopeston, and they have a son, Millard; Alan, lives at Detroit, Michigan, married Josephine Mugg; and Daniel A., Jr., a student.

Mr. Miller is a Republican and is serving his second term as supervisor of Grant Township. He is a member of the Methodist Church, and belongs to Star Lodge No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Hoopeston Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, No. 181; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Ansar Temple; and Modern Woodmen of America.

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**William T. Henderson.**—One of the most influential figures in professional circles in Vermilion County is William T. Henderson, who is serving as county judge. He is a native of Vermilion County, born at Georgetown, March 5, 1885, the son of John T. and Sarah Belle (Bennett) Henderson.

John T. Henderson was born at Georgetown, Illinois, in 1855, and died November 1, 1927. He is buried at the

place of his birth. His widow, born at Maysville, Illinois, resides at Georgetown. Mr. Henderson was a farmer in early life and in 1885 became interested in the general mercantile business at Georgetown. He later sold his interests there in 1925 and retired. Mr. Henderson was a Republican and for many years was a member of the local school board. He held membership in the Methodist Church and Knights of Pythias. There were eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Henderson, as follows: Oscar, lives at Portland, Oregon; Otis, lives at Georgetown, Illinois; William T., the subject of this sketch; Hon. Wilbur, who is serving his second term as a member of the Oregon State Legislature; John T., merchant, lives at Portland, Oregon; Joseph, born in 1890, died in 1896; Bennett F., postmaster, lives at Georgetown, Illinois; and Olive, lives at home. Wilbur, John, and Bennett Henderson are veterans of the World War.

John T. Henderson was the son of William and Mary (Black) Henderson. He was born in Vermilion Grove, Illinois, and died in 1908. His wife, who died in 1890, was also a native of Vermilion County. He was a farmer and in 1885 became interested in the mercantile business with his son. William Henderson was the son of Nathaniel Henderson, who was born at Henderson, North Carolina, and who came to Vermilion Grove in 1822. He was a cabinet maker by trade and also a millwright. He conducted a flour mill at Danville, on South Street, for many years. He also owned and operated the "Old Wheel" mill, located at Grape Creek, and known as the Henderson-Kyger Mills. He died in 1895 and is buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Danville. He was one of the pioneers of Vermilion County and was numbered among the successful business men of Danville.

William T. Henderson, the subject of this sketch, grew up at Georgetown, where he received his early education. He attended Illinois Normal School, spent two years at

Cornell College, and two years at the University of Illinois. He then taught school. He was admitted to the Illinois State Bar on October 18, 1910, and on January 1, 1911, became a member of the firm of Fleming & Henderson, Danville. Mr. Henderson served as city attorney of Georgetown for ten years and in April, 1925, was elected judge of Vermilion County.

In 1913 Mr. Henderson married Miss Ethel Spang, the daughter of C. B. and Ada (Phillips) Spang, of Butler, Pennsylvania, both now deceased. He died June 17, 1928, and his wife died in 1899. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Henderson: Ada Jane and Joseph William, both students.

Mr. Henderson is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, and has the following club affiliations: Russell Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, No. 154, Past Master, 1918; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Gao Grotto; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; Kiwanis Club; and Chamber of Commerce. He is identified with the Vermilion County Bar Association, Illinois State Bar Association, and American Bar Association. He is also an active member of the Vermilion County Farm Bureau.

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**P. Keith Andrews, M. D.**—Numbered among the leading physicians and surgeons of Vermilion County may be mentioned Doctor Andrews, who is successfully engaged in the practice of his profession in Danville, with offices at 5 Illinois Street. He was born at Clinton, Indiana, December 20, 1882, the son of Joseph F. and Martha J. (Fouts) Andrews.

Joseph F. Andrews was born at Saint Bernice, Vermillion County, Indiana, in 1855, the son of William and Lucy Andrews, natives of Pennsylvania and pioneer settlers of Indiana. Both William Andrews and his wife are

buried on the old homestead near Clinton, Indiana. Their son, Joseph F., followed farming on the home place until his marriage. He then located at Clinton, Indiana, and purchased a grocery store, which he successfully operated in connection with a hardware and implement business. He sold his interests in 1909 and until 1919 was a traveling representative, having removed to Chicago in 1909. He died in that city in 1921 and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Chicago. His widow, born at Indianapolis, Indiana, lives in Danville. She is the daughter of Samuel and Nancy Fouts. Mr. Fouts, a native of Indiana, was a prominent lumber dealer in Indianapolis for many years and also had business interests at Terre Haute, Indiana. Mr. Andrews was a Republican, a member of the Methodist Church, and belonged to the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America. To Joseph F. and Martha J. (Fouts) Andrews were born two children: P. Keith, the subject of this sketch; and Blanche, married L. C. Casey, lives in Chicago, Illinois.

Following his graduation from Clinton (Indiana) High School in 1901, P. Keith Andrews attended Loyola Medical College, from which he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1907. He began his practice at Atwood, Indiana, and in 1909 removed to Hindsboro, Illinois, where he was located until 1917. He then practiced at Ashmore, Illinois, until the time of his enlistment for service in the World War in 1918. Doctor Andrews served at Fort Riley, Kansas, as a first lieutenant in the United States Medical Corps. He was discharged in December, 1918, and resumed his practice at Ashmore, Illinois, until 1925, at which time he came to Danville. Doctor Andrews was appointed physician of Vermilion County in 1926 and is still serving in that capacity. He held that office in Coles County, Illinois. He is identified with the Vermilion County Medical Society, Illinois State Medical Society, and American Medical Association.



In 1913 Doctor Andrews married Miss Ellen Elizabeth Reeds, daughter of F. N. Reeds, of Illinois. He died in 1923 and his wife died in 1925. Both are buried at Hindsboro, Illinois. Doctor and Mrs. Andrews have no children.

Doctor Andrews is a Republican, a member of the First Presbyterian Church, and belongs to Further Light Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree; Gao Grotto; Modern Woodmen of America; Tau Alpha Epsilon fraternity; and American Legion.

Doctor Andrews has a wide acquaintance in the community and has already established an excellent practice in Danville.

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**Ernest A. Church**, who is superintendent of the Vermilion County Home, near Danville, has spent his entire life in this section and is a member of one of the oldest families in Vermilion County. He was born at Catlin, September 21, 1862, the son of George William F. and Sarah Elizabeth (Jones) Church.

George William F. Church was born in England. At the age of nineteen years he came to the United States and spent one year at Rochester, New York, before locating at Catlin. He was one of the first settlers of Catlin Township and for more than half a century farmed a tract of three hundred and eighty acres. He retired in 1887 and located at Danville, where he died in 1914. His wife, also born in England, died in 1887. Both are buried at Catlin. Mrs. Church was twenty-three years old when she came to this country with her parents and settled at Catlin. To Mr. and Mrs. Church were born eight children, as follows: Elizabeth, married Richard Puzey, both deceased; Henry G., lives on the old homestead in Catlin Township; Fred; Walter, deceased; Minnie L., married Peyton F. Douglas, both deceased; Ernest A., the subject of this sketch;

Maude I., married George M. Brady, deceased, and she lives at Catlin; and Ethel, married Clay Bumpus, lives at Danville. Mr. Church was a Republican and served as school director and treasurer for many years. He was a member of the Episcopal Church and Catlin Lodge, No. 285, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

Ernest A. Church received his education in the public schools of Catlin and spent his boyhood on his father's farm. After his marriage he purchased a farm of one hundred and thirty-six acres in Catlin Township, which he operated until the time of his appointment as superintendent of the Vermilion County Home in 1920. Prior to that time he had also engaged in the meat business at Catlin. In his management of the County Home, Mr. Church has proven his capability and executive ability, and he is recognized as one of the most efficient superintendents of the State.

On July 2, 1889, Mr. Church married Miss Anna V. Frazier, the daughter of John W. and Mary Frazier, natives of Illinois, both now deceased. They have a daughter, Helen V., who is the wife of William Muriel Fulrath, of Peoria, Illinois. They have two children, Richard and David.

Mr. Church is a Republican and has served as highway commissioner.

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**L. V. Chaffee.**—A substantial citizen and enterprising and dependable business man of Danville is found in L. V. Chaffee, who is president of Peyton-Palmer Company, wholesale grocers. He is a native of Illinois, born in Lawrence County, December 13, 1851, the son of Leonard and Ellen F. (McNece) Chaffee.

Leonard Chaffee was born in Lawrence County, Illinois. He died about 1851. Mr. Chaffee was a miller by trade. His widow died in 1908 and is buried at Palestine,

Illinois. Two sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Chaffee: L. V., the subject of this sketch; and Evander, deceased. By a second marriage Mrs. Chaffee was the mother of three children: Allen M. and Harlan H. Haskett, both deceased; and Mrs. W. O. Richey, who lives at Palestine, Illinois.

L. V. Chaffee spent his boyhood at Palestine, Illinois, and was educated in the public schools. He has been interested in the wholesale grocery business at Danville continuously since 1883 and for the past fifteen years has been identified with the Peyton Palmer Company as president.

On November 13, 1878, Mr. Chaffee married Miss Maria J. Wood, a native of Clay County, Illinois. They have no children.

Politically, Mr. Chaffee is a Republican. He has served as assistant county supervisor and as a member of the city council. He is a member of the First Church of Christ and is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and Knights of Pythias.

One of the outstanding events to take place in the city of Danville during 1929 was the unusual gift presented by Mr. Chaffee to the First Church of Christ Congregation. He presented the First Church of Christ building, located at Oak and Seminary streets, as a tribute to the memory of his mother, who for many years was an active member of the church. The gift was made as a complete surprise to the congregation. An excerpt from Mr. Chaffee's letter, giving the church building to the church, follows: "In making this gift I desire to do so in memory of a wonderfully good woman—a woman who prior to her death was an earnest and consistent member of this particular church organization for more than fifty years—a woman who stood very high in the community in which she lived, was a good Samaritan to many families in the town and community, was always ready and willing to go forth on any

mission of mercy, and to comfort and console the unfortunate, and to uplift those who had fallen. In making this gift of five thousand dollars to the First Church of Christ I do so in memory of that good woman—who was my mother.”

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**James A. Harlam** is one of the most popular business men of Cheneyville, where he is identified with the grain interests of C. C. Harlam & Company. He was born at Washington, Tazewell County, Illinois, October 8, 1867, the son of James Newton and Margaret Ann (Andrews) Harlam.

James Newton Harlam was born in Kentucky and his wife was a native of Ohio. He was a traveling salesman for many years and later in life engaged in the grain business in Woodford County, Illinois. He died in 1893 and his wife died in 1925. Both are buried in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Mr. Harlam was a Republican, an active member of the Presbyterian Church, and belonged to the Masonic Lodge. To Mr. and Mrs. Harlam were born five children: Lulu, deceased; Minnie, married E. O. Eyman, lives at Oak Park, Illinois; James A., the subject of this sketch; Charles, lives at Kentland, Indiana, is interested in the grain business with C. C. Harlam & Company; and Carrie, married H. D. Pruitt, lives at Hoopeston.

James A. Harlam was educated in the public schools of Eureka, Illinois, and attended Eureka College. He was a teacher in the schools of Woodford County for several terms and then became interested in the grain business with his father. After two years he formed a partnership with his brother, Charles C., the business being known as C. C. Harlam & Company. They began business at Goodfield, Illinois, later purchased an elevator at Crescent City, Illinois, and subsequently located at Ambia, Indiana. James A. Harlam operated and managed the elevator at



Ambia until 1911 when he assumed management of the elevator at Cheneyville. His brother is now in charge of the branch at Kentland, Indiana. Mr. Harlam maintains his residence at 518 East Lincoln Street, Hoopeston.

Mr. Harlam was married first in 1900 to Miss Bertha Miller, the daughter of A. C. and Cecelia (Townsend) Miller, natives of Indiana, now residents of Crescent, Illinois. Mrs. Harlam died in 1911 and is survived by one daughter, Margaret, who attends the University of Illinois. In 1913 Mr. Harlam married Mabel Love, the daughter of James and Grace Love. The former is deceased and the latter lives at Hoopeston. Mabel (Love) Harlam died in 1918. Mr. Harlam was married the third time in 1925 to Bess Johnston, of Hoopeston.

Mr. Harlam is a Republican and has served as alderman of the Second Ward, Hoopeston, continuously since 1922. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and is affiliated with Star Lodge No. 709, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a member of the Illinois Grain Dealers Association and the National Grain Dealers Association.

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**Roy Melloy Montfort, M. D.**, is one of the best known of the younger physician and surgeons of Vermilion County, engaged in the practice of his profession at Danville, with offices at 312 Temple Building. He was born at Galien, Michigan, July 11, 1889, the son of Frank and Mina (Mudge) Montfort.

Both Frank Montfort and his wife were born near Toronto, Canada. He died in 1889 and she lives at Benton Harbor, Michigan. They had two sons: Louis B., attorney, lives at Washington, District of Columbia. He is a veteran of the World War, having organized the Three Hundred and Sixtieth Air Squadron at Kelly Field, San

Antonio, Texas. He was later transferred to Washington, District of Columbia, and served with the rank of captain. Following the close of the war Mr. Montfort remained in Washington for five years with the Department of Justice.

(2) Roy Melloy, the subject of this sketch.

Roy Melloy Montfort was educated in the public schools of Benton Harbor, Michigan, and after his graduation from high school in 1909 he entered Michigan State College, where he remained for two years. He then attended Ferris Institute, for a course in pharmacy, passing State Board of Michigan, obtaining Registered Pharmacist degree, and in 1915 was graduated from Loyola University, Chicago, with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He served as interne at Saint Elizabeth's Hospital, Danville, during 1915 and 1916 and in January, 1917, established offices at Fairchild and Bowman Avenue and in the Temple Building. On July 11, 1917, Doctor Montfort volunteered for service in the World War and received the rank of first lieutenant, Medical Corps. He served as tubercular specialist at Fort Benjamin Harrison, and was later transferred to Camp Sherman, Ohio, Camp Greenleaf, Georgia, and Camp Colt, Pennsylvania, where he served in the same capacity until the close of the war. He was attached to the Second Gas Regiment, Camp Kendrick, New Jersey, at the termination of the war. He also studied at the Camp Greenleaf School of Internal Medicine and Lung Diseases. Upon his return to Danville, Doctor Montfort resumed his practice at 312 Temple Building. He served as tubercular specialist for the Veterans' Bureau for two years.

On July 6, 1927, Doctor Montfort was united in marriage with Miss Harriet Smith, the daughter of Marion and Ella Mae (Harris) Smith, of Gibson City, Illinois, and natives of Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have three children: Harriet Montfort; Eva Mae, married Claire Bishop, lives at Piper City, Illinois; and Virginia, married Watson McKee, lives at Piper City, Illinois.

Politically, Doctor Montfort is a Republican. He holds membership in the Methodist Church, and has the following lodge affiliations: Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Olive Branch Lodge No. 38; Bloomsburg Consistory, thirty-second degree; Almas Temple, Washington, District of Columbia; Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332; and American Legion. He is a member of the Vermilion County Medical Society, Illinois State Medical Society, and American Medical Association.

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**Edward M. Raimer** is perhaps one of the best known of the younger business men of Danville, where he is associated with the Raimer Realty Developing Company. He is a native of this city, born February 19, 1901, the son of Edward I. and Millie (McKee) Raimer.

Edward I. Raimer, deceased, was a leading citizen of Danville for many years. He was born in Danville, where he spent his entire life. He was a manufacturing chemist and was one of the organizers of the Raimer & Heinley Company, later also organizing the Raimer Realty Developing Company in 1901. He was identified with both of these organizations until the time of his death in 1924. He is buried in Springhill Cemetery, Danville. His widow lives in this city. Mr. Raimer was a Republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332, and Loyal Order of Moose. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Raimer: John McKee, lives at Long Beach, California; Edward M., the subject of this sketch; Mack McKee, lives at Brooklyn, New York; and Amelia, lives at Danville.

Edward M. Raimer obtained his early schooling at Danville, was graduated in 1921 from Saint John's Military Academy, and then attended the University of Illinois. He has since been identified with the interests of the

Raimer Realty Developing Company and is responsible for the opening of the following sub-divisions of Danville's suburban area: Millie Raimer; Raimer's Orchard Hill Addition; Raimer's Orchard Hill Second Addition; Raimer's Orchard Hill Third Addition; and Rose Lawn Heights. Mr. Raimer is especially interested in the planning and designing of homes to be built in these attractive subdivisions and carries out his own ideas in the development of these additions.

In 1927 Mr. Raimer married Miss Elizabeth Swaim, the daughter of Will and Olive (Erickson) Swaim. The former is deceased and the latter lives at Danville.

Mr. Raimer is a Republican, a member of Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 332, Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, Kiwanis Club, Danville Country Club, and Chamber of Commerce.

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**Harvey C. Adams.**—A man of varied activities in business and public life is Harvey C. Adams, who is president of the Danville Brick Company. He was born in Cass County, Indiana, February 2, 1870, the son of Lewis and Hannah (Schuman) Adams.

Lewis Adams was born in Preble County, Ohio, in 1829. He was a well known merchant at Galveston, Indiana, for many years and in 1876 removed to Crawford County, Illinois, where he engaged in farming on LaMotte Prairie, later removing to Hutsonville, Illinois, where he lived retired. He died in 1903 and his wife, also a native of Ohio, died in 1918. They are buried at Hutsonville. Their children were: Frank R., Mrs. Sarah Doggalt, Lorena, Crowell, and Belle, all deceased; Mrs. Emma Bishop lives at Danville; Mrs. Anna Holderman, lives at Hutsonville, Illinois; and Harvey C., the subject of this sketch.



Harvey C. Adams attended the public schools of Hutsonville, Valparaiso Normal School, and George Washington University, being graduated from the latter institution with the L. L. B. degree in 1892. He was employed as stenographer and court reporter at Robinson, Illinois, for Crawford County. Later he was a government employe in Washington, District of Columbia, connected with the Treasury Department, and was subsequently attached to the civil service commission and postal department. At that time Theodore Roosevelt was one of the commission and Mr. Adams was his secretary for a short time, and knew him well. Mr. Adams later served as secretary to Judge Jacob W. Wilkin of the Illinois Supreme Court, remaining in that capacity for eleven years. He then became interested in real estate in Danville and in 1905 was appointed secretary of the Vermilion County Building & Loan Association. At the time of the organization of the Danville Brick Company he became its president.

In 1892 Mr. Adams married Miss Blanche Meserve, of Crawford County, Illinois, the daughter of Dr. Stephen D. and Martha (Barlow) Meserve, the former a native of New Hampshire and the latter of Illinois. Doctor Meserve was a well known physician of Hutsonville, where he engaged in practice for over sixty years. Mr. and Mrs. Adams have a son, Stephen M. He is a graduate of DePauw University. He is vice president of the Danville Brick Company and assistant cashier of the Vermilion County Building Association. He married Alice Bishop.

Politically Mr. Adams is identified with the Republican party. During the World War he was chairman of the local board, serving without pay, and also chairman of the Red Cross for Vermilion County. He is a charter member of the Rotary Club and is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge, thirty-second degree, Elks Club, Chamber of Commerce, Danville Country Club, and Yacht Club.

**Paul H. Fithian, M. D.**—An experienced physician and public spirited citizen, Dr. Paul H. Fithian is numbered among the representative men of Vermilion County, and is a member of the first family of Fithian. He was born at Fithian, July 4, 1866, the son of E. C. B. and Anna M. (Hayes) Fithian.

E. C. B. Fithian was born at Danville, Illinois, in 1837. He was eighteen years old when he went to Georgetown, Illinois, from Danville. Later, he operated a farm for his father and lived south of Fithian during the greater part of his life. He retired in 1908 and lived at Fithian until the time of his death, November 17, 1908. The Fithian family was among the earliest families to settle in this section of Vermilion County and were highly esteemed citizens. They were identified with the Methodist Church. Mr. Fithian was a Republican. Anna M. (Hayes) Fithian, a native of Athens County, Ohio, born March 15, 1840, died June 26, 1916. Both Mr. and Mrs. Fithian are buried in Stearns Cemetery, Fithian. Their children were: Paul H., the subject of this sketch; Lila R., born June 30, 1868, lives at Fithian; E. C. B., born January 4, 1870, lives on the old homestead near Fithian; Charles, born January 23, 1871; and David W., born December 11, 1874, dentist, lives at Rossville.

Paul H. Fithian attended the district schools and the public schools of Danville. He was graduated from Keokuk College in 1890 and received the degree of Doctor of Medicine from Rush Medical College, Chicago. Doctor Fithian was then identified with the Wabash Railroad Hospital at Springfield, Illinois, until 1899, at which time he returned to Fithian and engaged in private practice. He has achieved marked success in his profession and has a well established practice.

On October 14, 1897, Doctor Fithian was united in marriage with Cora (Humphrey) Jewell, of Springfield, Illinois, the daughter of Cornelius and Margaret Humphrey,

natives of Indiana, both now deceased. Doctor and Mrs. Fithian have no children.

Doctor Fithian is identified with the Republican party in politics, is a member of the Methodist Church, and belongs to the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Decatur Lodge, Danville Consistory, and Modern Woodmen of America. He has served continuously as a member of the local school board since 1901.

Doctor Fithian is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty-five acres south of Fithian.

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**John M. Hickman, M. D.**—One of the leading physicians and surgeons of Vermilion County, is Doctor Hickman, who has engaged in the practice of his profession at Westville since 1896. He was born at Nelsonville, Ohio, May 4, 1872, the son of W. C. and Catherine J. (Hunt) Hickman.

W. C. Hickman was born at Somerset, Ohio, December 30, 1832, and his wife was born at New Lexington, Ohio, in 1845. He was a printer by trade and served throughout the Civil War as a member of Company I, Fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He later engaged in the drug business at Nelsonville, Ohio, and subsequently read law. He was admitted to the Ohio state bar and served as mayor, coroner, and justice of the peace at Nelsonville. Mr. Hickman died November 10, 1898, and his wife died May 10, 1912. Both are buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Nelsonville, Ohio. Mr. Hickman was a Republican, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Masonic Lodge. There were three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hickman: Paul, born in 1867, died in 1888; Kate, married George Tannehill, lives at Lancaster, Ohio; and John M., the subject of this sketch.

John M. Hickman received his early education in the public schools of Nelsonville, Ohio, and after his graduation from high school in 1900 he became a clerk in a Nelson-

ville drug store. He subsequently entered the Ohio College of Medicine, from which he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1896. Since that time Doctor Hickman has carried on an extensive practice at Westville. He is identified with the Vermilion County Medical Society, Illinois State Medical Society, and American Medical Association.

In 1900 Doctor Hickman was united in marriage with Miss Mabel Brown, the daughter of Benjamin and Lydia (Dolan) Brown, natives of Lafayette, Indiana. Mr. Brown is deceased. His widow lives at Danville, Illinois. To Doctor and Mrs. Hickman were born three children: John Wesley, born in 1906, a graduate of the University of Illinois, associated with Paul H. Davis & Company, Chicago, Illinois; Helen Harriet, attends Stevens College, Columbia, Missouri; and Robert, born November 24, 1915.

Politically, Doctor Hickman is a Republican. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is affiliated with Georgetown Lodge No. 154, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons; and Danville Consistory, thirty-second degree.

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**Dr. Taylor W. Funkhouser**, physician and surgeon, is among the able professional men of Danville, and is a veteran of the World War. He was born at Mattoon, Illinois, January 26, 1890, the son of Charles B. and Elizabeth (Chaney) Funkhouser.

Charles B. Funkhouser, who lives retired on a farm near Mattoon, Illinois, is a native of that section of Illinois. His wife was born near London, England. Mr. Funkhouser followed farming and stock raising throughout his active career and has lived retired since 1914. To Mr. and Mrs. Funkhouser the following children were born: Flora S., unmarried, lives at home; Dr. James Lee, physician, lives at Danville; Charles, died in infancy; Dr. Oscar B., physician, lives in Chicago, Illinois; Fern lives in Chi-



cago; Taylor W., the subject of this sketch; Tracy, farmer, lives at Mattoon, Illinois; Paul, who was killed in an automobile accident in 1917; Syble Jane, married Roscoe Hampton, director of athletics, Evanston (Illinois) High School; and Orville, superintendent of schools, Xenia, Illinois.

Taylor W. Funkhouser received his early education in the schools of Mattoon, Illinois, and attended Eastern Illinois State Normal School, now the Eastern Illinois Teachers College. He was graduated from that institution in 1909 and in that year entered the University of Chicago, from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1912. He then taught school at Jamesville, Minnesota, for one year, after which he matriculated at Rush Medical College, Chicago. After a year in the School of Medicine he again taught in the high school at Paxton, Illinois, for one year, and returned to Rush Medical College the following year. He received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1916 and spent the following two years at the Cook County Infirmary, Oak Forest, Illinois. He was then commissioned as first lieutenant in the Medical Reserve Corps and attached to the Base Hospital at Camp Taylor, Kentucky, where he remained on duty during the remainder of the war period. After his discharge from the service in January, 1919, Doctor Funkhouser entered Lutheran Deaconess Hospital, Chicago, as resident physician and surgeon and served in that capacity from April 20, 1919, until August 20, 1919. He then established his present practice at Danville with offices at 126 Warrington Avenue. In 1925 Doctor Funkhouser assumed the practice of Dr. Theodore Reagan, who removed to California. He has offices in the Temple Building. Doctor Funkhouser is a member of the staffs of Saint Elizabeth's and Lakeview Hospitals, Danville.

On August 19, 1924, Doctor Funkhouser was united in marriage with Miss Hilda Funk, of Danville, the daughter

of Emory and Dimmis (Webb) Funk, natives of Effingham, Illinois, now residents of Danville. Doctor and Mrs. Funkhouser have a daughter, Marion Louise, born in 1926.

Doctor Funkhouser is a Republican, attends the Methodist Church, and is affiliated with Olive Branch Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Danville Consistory, Gao Grotto, Loyal Order of Moose, American Legion, and Roselawn Country Club. He also holds membership in the Vermilion County Medical Society, Illinois State Medical Society, and American Medical Association.

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**John Thomas Prather**, deceased, was numbered among the substantial and well known men of Rossville. He was born near Danville, the son of William and Mary (Bowman) Prather.

William Prather, a native of Kentucky, died in 1881. His wife was born in Danville and is also deceased.

John Thomas Prather was a farmer and spent his active life on a farm east of Rossville. At the time of his death in 1902 he was living retired at Rossville. He was married on December 30, 1879, to Miss Rebecca E. Norton, who was born at State Line, Indiana, June 14, 1856, the daughter of Ichabod and Elizabeth (French) Norton.

Ichabod Norton was born at Augusta, Me., and his wife was a native of Virginia. He was a cooper in early life and later engaged in general farming. He lived at Rossville for many years and died there in 1878. His wife died in 1905. Both are buried at Lebanon, Indiana. Their children were: Zermiah, the widow of John Ross, who died in 1928, and she lives at Portland, Oregon.; Rebecca E. Prather; and Elizabeth, the widow of Hiram Johnson, who died in February, 1929, and she lives at Portland, Oregon.

To John Thomas and Rebecca E. (Norton) Prather were born four children: 1. Bert Ray, a graduate of Ross-

ville High School, class of 1902, at present associated with the Wilson Packing Company, Chicago. He married Florence Conrough, of Chicago, and they have two daughters, Virginia and Marion. 2. Charles R., a graduate of Rossville High School, engaged in business in Rossville. He married Bernice Hagen, of Chrisman, Illinois, a graduate nurse. They live at Rossville with Mrs. Prather. 3. J. Ross, who is engaged in business with his brother at Rossville. He married Alta Cooper, of Hoopeston, Illinois, and they have two children; Brownie, a graduate of Rossville High School in 1929; and John Douglass, attends school at Rossville. 4. Beulah, a graduate of Rossville High School and Illinois State Normal School, Bloomington, Illinois. She is engaged in secretarial work in Chicago.

Mr. Prather was a Democrat, a member of the Church of Christ and belonged to the Masonic Lodge. He was a prominent citizen of the community and was widely known throughout Vermilion County.









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