

CLARENCE O. RAYN.

Clarence O. Rayn was born in Bear Creek township, Jay county, Indiana , February 7, 1873. His parents were Alexander and Caroline (Mendenhall) Rayn. The father is now a resident of Portland. The mother died when Clarence was about four years old. He has one sister living at Winchester, Indiana. The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm and attended school regularly and finished his schooling at the university at Ada , Ohio. He began the printer's trade at the age of seventeen, working in the News office at Ridgeville, which was then owned by his brother-in-law, W. L. Day. By working at the trade he made much of the money that made it possible for him to attend various normal schools and prepare himself for his chosen profession, that of newspaper work. At the age of twenty-two he bought a second-hand printshop at Portland and moved it on wagons to Mendon, Ohio, where he launched his first newspaper, and the first in that town. He remained there until 1896 and then sold it to O. F. Geiger, the present owner. He then returned to Geneva and worked in the office of the Geneva Herald for his brother, O. G. Rayn, now deceased, and in April, 1897, he purchased the Herald office and by hard work and skillful management has it and a snug little home paid for. He also owns the brick building in which the Geneva Herald office is located.

On September 19, 1897, he married Miss Pearl Leota Dutton, youngest daughter of five children born to James W. and Sarah (Grant) Dutton, two highly respected people. Mrs. Rayn was born May 7, 1876, in Mendon, Mercer county, Ohio. She was one of the best known and most highly respected young ladies of that community. She was a member of the Church of God, but now belongs to the M. E. church of Geneva, of which Mr. Rayn is also a member. He at present is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Daughters of Rcbekah and Pythian Sisters. Mrs. Rayn is also a member of the two latter orders, in good standing, and at this time is noble grand of Sylvia Rebekah Lodge, No. 327.

Snow's History of Adams County, Indiana, John Fletcher Snow, B. F. Bowen, Indianapolis, IN, 1907, p. 390 (image 489).