

Harry R. Moltz.

It is not possible to overestimate the value of an active and directing intelligence as a factor in business success or advancement in any line. Without this quality, no man, however skilled or however industrious, can expect to attain the full rewards and achievements that constitute even a reasonable degree of commercial achievement.

This quality has been a preeminent trait of one of Decatur's oldest and best known business men, Harry R. Moltz. Mr. Moltz is now secretary and treasurer and is giving most of his time to the business of the Decatur Produce Company. For a number of years he was also a dry goods merchant at Decatur. He possesses a fine and active mind and his superior judgment in business affairs has brought him a high position of esteem among his fellow associates, by whom he is frequently consulted.

The Decatur Produce Company was organized and incorporated in 1905. It is a highly successful business and one of the factors in securing a prompt and equitable distribution of farm and dairy products between the producer and consumer. The business has enjoyed a steady growth and prosperity, and it now has a large plant 80x100 feet, situated with access both to the Erie and Clover Leaf railway tracks. The plant is well adapted for its purposes, one part being for general storage and handling and another equipped with refrigeration facilities. This is perhaps the chief medium in Adams County through which the butter, eggs and poultry raised in the surrounding districts are concentrated and sent to market. The company ships these products everywhere, though New York is the main market. On the average they send out about two carload of eggs every week and a carload of poultry. The entire management and direction of the business is through Mr. Moltz, secretary and treasurer of the company. The other two officers, W. B. Frisinger, president, lives at Rockford, Ohio, while the vice president, J. L. Mosur, is also a non-resident.

Mr. Moltz is also a factor in the same line of business at Bluffton, where he is president of the Berling & Moltz Company, which operates a large warehouse and plant handling produce. The business at Bluffton has been in existence for about ten years.

Harry R. Moltz was born in Van Wert County, Ohio, in 1866, and received most of his early training in the schools at Van Wert, Fulton County, Ohio. When he was quite a young man in 1891 he came to Decatur, and here for twenty-one years was prominently engaged in the dry goods business, most of the time as president of the KueblerMoltz Company, now the Kuebler Company.

Mr. Moltz is a son of George W. and Mary (Hull) Moltz, both natives of Pennsylvania and married at Republic, Ohio. After their marriage they settled at Van Wert, where the father spent his active life as a dry goods merchant. He died at the age of seventy-eight and his wife passed away in Van Wert in 1868 when in the prime of life. They were active members of the Lutheran Church.

Harry L. Moltz married at Decatur Anna Dailey, who was reared and educated here, where her parents were well known residents for many years and her mother is still living. Mrs. Moltz is active in the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Moltz is affiliated with the Subordinate and Encampment degrees of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is also a Blue Lodge Mason and a member of the Conhistory at Fort Wayne. Politically he is identified with the republican party.