

C. Harry Ayers, former mayor of Portland and for years actively engaged in the real estate business in that city, is a native of the old Buckeye state, but has been a resident of Jay County since the days of his boyhood. He was born in Auglaize County, Ohio, June 24, 1868, and was thirteen years of age when he came into Indiana and became a resident of Pike Township, this county. He completed his schooling in district school No. 2 in that township and early became engaged in buying and hauling timber, a line he followed for eight years or more, or until about 1898, when he moved to Portland and became engaged there as custodian of the high school building.

From the time of his arrival in Portland Mr. Ayers took an active interest in local civic affairs and in 1903 was elected mayor of the city for a term of two years. So satisfactory were his services in this capacity that in 1905 he was re-elected for a term of four years and thus served as mayor of the city for a period of six years, at the end of which term of service he became engaged in the real estate business in Portland and has ever since been thus engaged, one of the most active factors in the realty market in this section of the state.

Mr. Ayers is a Republican and has long been recognized as one of the leaders of that party in this county. He is a member of the local lodges of the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen and the Fraternal Order of Eagles at Portland and he and his wife are members of the Christian church.

On July 11, 1890, C. Harry Ayers was united in marriage to Nora Silvers, who was born in the neighboring county of Randolph, and to this union have been born two daughters, Goldie M., who married Russell Bergman, of this county, and has one child, a son, Jack Bergman, and Marie, who is at home with her parents.