

BATSCH, HENRY J

Henry J. BATSCH, production manager at the extensive plant of the Indiana Glass Company at Dunkirk and one of the original stockholders of that company, "grew up" to the glass manufacturing industry and it long ago was said of him that he had filled every position in a glass factory that a skilled workman could fill, hence his unusual qualification for the important position he long has held in connection with this chief industry at Dunkirk, where he has been located for the past twenty years. Mr. BATSCH was born at Wheeling, W. Va., April 12, 1863, and is a son of Theodore and Caroline C. (BRANDENBURGH) BATSCH, both of whom were born in Germany but had come to the United States with their respective parents in the days of their youth and were married in Pittsburgh, Pa., moving shortly afterward to Wheeling, where they established their home and reared their family. Theodore BATSCH and wife were the parents of five children, of whom two are now living, the subject of this sketch having a brother, Benjamin T. BATSCH. Reared at Wheeling, Henry J. BATSCH received his schooling in the schools of that city and was early attracted to the glass industry. When about ten years of age he became employed in a glass factory at Wheeling and was there employed for years, growing on up in the industry until he had become thoroughly qualified to fill any position requiring skilled experience in the plant. At the age of twenty-six he was given the position of night foreman in the big plant of the Dalzell, Gilmore & Lighton Glass Company at Findlay, Ohio. For eight years he occupied that position and then he accepted the position of manager of a bottle factory at Reading, Ohio, where he remained a year, at the end of which time he moved to Lancaster, Ohio, where for the next eighteen months he was engaged as manager of the glass factory at that place. While he was at Lancaster, Mr. BATSCH received a proposition from the National Glass Company at Dunkirk to become the production manager of that company's plant and he accepted the same, moving to Dunkirk on December 29, 1901, and at once entering upon the duties of this new position. When the National organization was reorganized as the Indiana Glass Company, Mr. BATSCH was one of the active promoters of that movement, one of the original stockholders of the new company, and still retains his interest in the company, continuing his position as production manager, a position he has occupied for more than twenty years, one of the best known figures in the glass industry in the country. Mr. BATSCH and his wife are members of the Congregations church at Dunkirk and are Republicans. Mr. BATSCH is a member of Justus H. Rathbone lodge, No. 400, Knights of Pythias, at Findlay, Ohio. On January 24, 1883, at

Bellaire, Ohio, Henry J. BATSCH was united in marriage to Mary J. FISH, who was born in Belmont county, Ohio, daughter of William and Elizabeth (McINTYRE) FISH, but was reared and educated at Bellaire, and to this union four children have been born, namely: Cora Leona, who died at the age of three years and seven months; Frank A., assistant production manager of the plant of the Indiana Glass Company, who married Lena EVERHART and has two children. Clistia and Charles; Flossie A., who married Freeman MILLER, a skilled workman in the plant of the Indiana Glass Company, and has one child, a son, Theodore, and Benjamin T., who married Ada MERRY and is now engaged in the practice of law at Toledo, Ohio. Benjamin T. BATSCH was graduated from the law school of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and was admitted to the bar of the Jay Circuit Court in 1914. When this country entered the World war he enlisted his services and received at the Officers Training Camp at Ft. Benjamin Harrison a commission as second lieutenant. He then was sent to Camp Custer and thence to Houghton, Mich., where he became adjutant of the post at that camp, later being sent in command of a troop of engineers to the camp at Columbia, S. C. From this latter camp he was called to Washington, D. C., and there was commissioned commander of the Butler College S. A. T. C. at Indianapolis. Benjamin T. BATSCH was in service for two years and was mustered out as a first lieutenant. SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls.1922, Vol. II, pp.336-337. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.