

BELL, ARTHUR E

Arthur E. BELL, secretary and manager of the Pennville Lumber Company at Pennville and recognized as one of the most active and energetic young business men of that town, is a native of England but has been a resident of this country since he was eighteen years of age and of Jay county since 1908. Mr. BELL was born in the city of London on December 26, 1889, and is a son of William Martin and Nellie (GAY) BELL, both of whom also were born in England and who now are living at Indianapolis, Ind. William Martin BELL is an expert harness maker, who was for years associated with his father in that business in London, the BELL's having been harness makers to Queen Victoria. In 1900 he came to America and became engaged in the harness making business at Troy, N. Y., but later came to Indiana and has since made his home at Indianapolis. He and his wife have three children, the subject of this sketch having a brother, William Henry BELL, and a sister, Florence May. Arthur E. BELL did not come to America when his father came in 1900, but remained in London to complete his schooling, giving his special attention to chemistry, and it was not until he was eighteen years of age that he came over and rejoined his parents in Indianapolis. That was in 1907. A year later he became employed in the lumber yard of the Ayers Lumber Company at Redkey and has ever since been a resident of Jay county. He remained at Redkey until 1918, when he accepted the position of manager of the local plant of the Pennville Lumber Company at Pennville and moved to the latter place, where he has since resided. He presently acquired an interest in this company and in 1921 was elected secretary of the same, since which time he has acted both as secretary and manager and has done much to advance the growing interests of the company. Mr. BELL is a skilled musician and during the time of his residence at Redkey not only taught music there but was employed as the organist at the Methodist church. He now is organist at the Methodist church at Pennville, of which church he and his wife are members. Mr. BELL is a 32nd degree (Scottish Rite) Mason, is past chancellor commander of the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias and is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In 1915 Arthur E. BELL was united in marriage to Mary Ellen WINSHIP and to this union four children have been born, Martha Percetta (deceased), Catherine Ann, James Henry and Adelma Arthur. Mr. and Mrs. BELL have a very pleasant home at Pennville and take an interested part in the community's general social activities. SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls.1922, Vol. II, pp.198-199. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut

