

## J. A. BUCKMASTER.

There is in all probability no better known educator in Adams county than J. A. Buckmaster, the subject of this sketch. He has been identified prominently with the educational movements and developments of this county for the past twelve years and has made a place for himself among the leaders of thought in his district. He was born in Jefferson township, Adams county, April 4, 1874. He is a son of David and Sarah (Hutchinson) Buckmaster. His father was born in Holmes county, Ohio, and was married in that state. He migrated to Indiana and brought his young wife with him. He made the long trip in 1852 and settled on a farm which he cultivated. J. A. Buckmaster, his son, was one of a family of five children, four of whom are still living. He was reared on his father's farm in Jefferson township and received his preliminary education in the common schools of the neighborhood. After completing his course in the common schools he taught in Jefferson township for two years. He aspired to a better education and following the completion of his second year as a teacher he entered the Tri-State Normal College at Angola, Indiana. After completing his course in this institution, where he did good work and secured high standards, he returned to his home in Jefferson township. He at once resumed his work as a teacher and has since continued in it. He began teaching when but nineteen years of age and served as an educator for more than twelve years.

He was placed on the Republican county ticket in 1898 for clerk against his consent, which resulted in defeat, but led all Republican candidates in the number of votes he received. In 1904 he was the Republican candidate for trustee of Jefferson township and was again defeated and without dismissing school during the campaign reduced a Democratic majority of eighty-three votes to a Democratic majority of seven. He owns and lives on a farm of forty acres in Jefferson township, also owns one-third interest in a string of oil tools with Mr. J. L. Yancy and D. H. Rumble.

When the Jefferson Township Telephone Company was organized a few years ago it was the second mutual company in this part of the county. Mr. Buckmaster was elected its president for the first year and at the end of that term was re-elected for the next year. He has since held the office of secretary for the company two years. This company is now one of the largest, if not the largest, in the county. It has many miles of lines and about one hundred phones.

During this time he has proved himself an able and efficient educator and to his patience and efforts many youths of Jefferson township owe their introduction to the world of culture and intellectual attainments. He is a teacher who takes a keen interest in the progress of his profession and keeps abreast of its progression. He is interested in various associations and attends sessions of the state meeting and of county institutes. He has also frequently taught vocal music.

He was married in 1895 to Miss Harriet A. Brewster, a daughter of Daniel and Loverda (Bebout) Brewster. His wife's father is a native of Pennsylvania and came to Indiana in an early day. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Buckmaster: Angelo T, Claudie B., Lois L. and Verlyn G. Mr. Buckmaster is a Republican and has always voted the ticket of this party. He is in no sense a public man and has not aspired to public office. However, he keeps in touch with public changes and

events and is well informed upon most political subjects. He and the members of his family attend the Evangelical church. Fraternally Mr. Buckmaster is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is the present teacher of the school of District No. 2, of Wabash township, and the school at the last session numbered seventy-three pupils.

**Snow's History of Adams County, Indiana, John Fletcher Snow, B. F. Bowen, Indianapolis, IN, 1907.**

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Lived on the farm on which he was born until he and his family moved to Portland in Jay County, Indiana in 1923 where he lived until his death.

He attended teacher's college at Angola in preparation for a teaching position in the local schools where he taught for 30 years. Many of the Jefferson Township youth credited him with the only education that was available to them at the time, and many pupils were his lifetime friends.

He was a member of the Mount Carmel Evangelical Church while he lived in Jefferson Township, but became a member of Portland's First Presbyterian Church after moving to Portland. He chose the Presbyterian Church due to his mother's membership in the Presbyterian Church in Fredericksburg, Ohio where she was born and lived until she came to Indiana and married David Buckmaster.

Mr. Buckmaster was a lover of music and sang and taught singing in the schools and in his church. Also a farmer, Insurance and real estate agent. Died of a Heart Attack

**Contributed by D R Buck**