

## EWRY, CHARLES S

Charles S. EWRY, formerly and for many years engaged in the hardware business at Portland, one of the best known merchants and business men of that city, but who for the past few years has been giving his attention almost exclusively to the extensive chicken hatchery he has established in that city, is a native of the old Buckeye state, but has been a resident of Portland since he was twenty-five years of age. Mr. EWRY was born on a farm in Montgomery county, Ohio, August 31, 1862, and is a son of William and Mary E. (PRUGH) EWRY, the latter of whom was born in the state of Maryland. William EWRY was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, and followed farming all through his active career, moving from Montgomery county to Darke county (Ohio) in the latter '60s, in which latter county he spent his last days. He and his wife were the parents of five children, all of whom are living, the subject of this sketch having two brothers, the Rev. David S. EWRY and Frank EWRY, and two sisters, Anna C. and Viola. Reared on the home farm in Darke county, Charles S. EWRY completed his schooling in the high school at Ansonia and at the age of seventeen years began teaching school. For two winters he was thus engaged, and then at the age of nineteen years began farming on his own account. He was married when twenty-one and continued farming until he was twenty-five, when he left the farm and came over the state line and located at Portland, where he presently became engaged as cashier in the local office of the G. R. & I. Railroad Company. For seven years Mr. EWRY remained with the railroad company and then he resigned his position and in partnership with W. D. YOUNT became engaged in the hardware business at Portland. This partnership continued for twenty-one years, at the end of which time Mr. EWRY took over the business for himself. It was in 1918 that Mr. EWRY launched out on the hatchery project which he has developed so successfully. He started with one incubator of a capacity of 2,420 eggs. The next year he tripled this capacity; in 1920 he further increased his incubating facilities to a capacity of 28,000 eggs, hatching out that year more than 70,000 chicks. In 1921 he increased his incubating capacity to 37,600 eggs at one hatching, which at a standard weight of eggs would mean two and one-half tons of eggs, and during the season hatched out more than 100,000 chicks. He since has increased his incubating capacity to 43,000 eggs. Mr. EWRY has given his thoughtful attention to the development of the incubating business and has invented an egg turner on which he has secured patents covering the United States and Canada. His skill in the tin shop comes in well here, for he manufactures all his own incubators

and thus has everything in the plant just to his liking. In his political views Mr. EWRY is "independent." He is a member of the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias at Portland and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, the congregation of which he has served as a member of the board of stewards. It was on January 1, 1884, that Charles S. EWRY was united in marriage to Lola B. WILSON, who was horn m Darke county, Ohio, daughter of Samuel and Mary C. (EYLER) WILSON, who were the parents of eleven children, six of whom are still living, Mrs. EWRY having five sisters, Minerva J., Minnie B., Edith G., Ida M. and Mary F. To Mr. and Mrs. EWRY have been born four children, three of whom are living, sons all, Ralph, Fred and Edgar. Ralph EWRY is the well-known general manager and editor of the Portland Sun. Fred EWRY, who is an oil well shooter, married Laura G. WILLIAMS and has one child, a daughter, Marjorie. Edgar EWRY, who is associated with his father in the operation of the big egg hatcher, married Marjorie LEDBETTER.

SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.355-356.  
Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut