

GARBER, ERWIN C

Erwin C. GARBER, M. D. a well-known physician and surgeon of Jay county and for years a successful practitioner at Dunkirk, is a native son of the old Buckeye state, but has been a resident of Indiana and of Dunkirk since the days of his boyhood. He was born at Salesville, Ohio, August 18, 1881, son of Dr. Jonathan B. and Alma H. HARTLEY GARBER, both of whom were born in Guernsey county, Ohio and the latter of whom is still living. The late Dr. Jonathan B. GARBER, whose tragic death in the year 1913 is still a matter of lament in Dunkirk, was reared in Guernsey county, Ohio, where he received excellent schooling and took his preparatory reading in the study of medicine. He supplemented a course in the Miami Medical College at Cincinnati by a course in the Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia and was graduated from the latter institution in 1890. For a year following the receipt of his degree Doctor GARBER was engaged in the practice of his profession in the vicinity of Cincinnati and then, in the spring of 1892, came to Indiana and located at Dunkirk, where he was engaged in practice until the time of his untimely death, due to an automobile accident, in 1913. His widow is now living at Indianapolis. Dr. Jonathan B. GARBER and wife were the parents of three children, Dr. Erwin C. GARBER having two sisters, Nellie and Daisy.

Dr. Erwin C. GARBER was but ten years of age when his parents moved to Dunkirk and he was graduated from the high school at that place in 1901. Under the able preceptorship of his father he prepared himself for entrance to medical college, having early decided to follow his father's profession, and after a four year course at the Ohio Medical College at Columbus was graduated from that institution in 1905. For a year following his graduation Doctor GARBER served as an interne in the Miami Valley Hospital at Dayton, Ohio, and then, in June, 1906, returned to Dunkirk and became associated with his father in the practice of his profession in his home town, a mutually agreeable arrangement which was maintained until his father's lamentable death in 1913, since which time the younger doctor has been continuing his practice alone.

On August 22, 1907, Dr. Erwin C. GARBER was united in marriage to Ella Mae O'NEILL, who for several years had been a member of the excellent teaching staff of the Dunkirk city schools, and to this union has been born three children, J. Neill, Eleanor Jane and Alma Elizabeth. J. Neill GARBER is a member of the class of 1925, Dunkirk high school. Mrs. GARBER was born in Belmont county, Ohio, but was reared in Muncie, this state, and was graduated from the Muncie high school, after which she entered the ranks of Indiana teachers and, as noted above, was teaching school at Dunkirk prior to her marriage. Her parents, James and Laura (GREGORY) O'NEILL had two children, Mrs. GARBER having a brother, John J. O'NEILL. Mrs. GARBER is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and Doctor GARBER is a member of the Baptist church. They are Democrats and in August, 1921, Mrs. GARBER was elected the Democratic member of the Dunkirk city school board, the first woman to be elected to that office. The Doctor is a 32nd Mason, affiliated with the blue lodge and the chapter at Dunkirk and the consistory at Ft. Wayne, and is a noble of the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, affiliated with the temple at Ft. Wayne. He also is a member of the local lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Dunkirk. For a time during the period of America's participation in the World war Doctor GARBER rendered service in the Medical Corps of the army, having been commissioned a first lieutenant.

SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.164-165. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.