

KAVANAUGH, WILLIAM H

William H. KAVANAUGH, proprietor of a public garage and general taxicab business at Portland, where he has made his home since 1914, was formerly and for years engaged in the newspaper business, but with the development of the automobile industry departed from that line and entered the rapidly developing field in which he since has been engaged and is doing well. Mr.

KAVANAUGH was born in the city of Cleveland, Ohio, October 25, 1870, and is a son of Thomas and Jennie (HENSON) KAVANAUGH. He supplemented the schooling received in the schools of that city by a course in a business college there and also took a preliminary course in the study of law, but did not complete his studies along that line, instead becoming interested in newspaper work and as a young man became engaged in the circulation department of the Dayton (Ohio) News. He presently was promoted to the position of manager of that department and remained at Dayton until 1898, when he went to Cincinnati and was there further engaged in newspaper work for two years, at the end of which time he accepted a proposition to take charge of the state circulation force of one of the Indianapolis newspapers. For three years he was thus engaged and then he branched out on his own account and for eleven years thereafter was engaged throughout Indiana and Ohio in installing systems for the increase of circulation in the offices of county seat newspapers in those states. During this time Mr. KAVANAUGH had formed the pleasant acquaintance of the city of Portland and when he presently made up his mind to "settle down" and acquire a permanent residence his inclination turned him in this direction. He had been noting with interest the rapidly developing field opened up by the general use of automobiles and upon taking up his residence in Portland opened there a public garage, to which he presently added a line of taxicabs, and he has since been quite successfully engaged there in that line, his place of business on North Meridian street being one of the best known public garages in this section of Indiana.

On June 21, 1900, William H. KAVANAUGH was united in marriage to Catherine FLORA, who was born in Dayton, Ohio, but was reared at Bluffton, Ind., to which place her parents, John and Laura (CHRISTMAN) FLORA, had moved when she was a child. Mr. KAVANAUGH is a Republican and is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having become affiliated with that order at Marion, Ind. Mrs. KAVANAUGH is a member of the Daughters of Rebekah, to which order she became attached at Winfield, Kans.

SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, p.166. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.