

RODKEY, ORA

Ora RODKEY D. D. S., a veteran of the World war, commander of the local post of the American Legion at Redkey and a well-known dentist of that city, where he has been practicing ever since he came out of dental college, is a native Hoosier and has lived in this state all his life. Doctor RODKEY was born on a farm in Whitley county, Indiana, December 30, 1889, and is a son of J. E. and Hattie May (RICHARDS) RODKEY, who are now living in Wabash county. J. E. RODKEY also was born in Whitley county, a member of one of the pioneer families of that county, and early became engaged in farming, the vocation to which he had been trained from youth. After some years on the farm in Whitley county he moved to North Manchester, Ind., where he became engaged in the restaurant business, but after four years of that form of experience decided that farming was better suited to his tastes and inclinations and he bought a farm of eighty acres in the North Manchester neighborhood in Wabash county and has since resided there. It was thus that the greater part of Doctor RODKEY's youth was spent on the farm. He finished the course in the public schools of North Manchester and in 1910, entered the Indiana Dental College at Indianapolis, from which institution he was graduated in 1913. Upon receiving his diploma Doctor RODKEY opened an office at Redkey and has since been engaged in the practice of his profession in that city. During the period of America's participation in the World war Doctor RODKEY enlisted his services and after a period of training was commissioned a lieutenant in the Medical Corps of the army and was stationed at Camp Custer (Michigan), where he served for five months or until his discharge on December 31, 1918, the war then being over. The Doctor was one of the active promoters of the organization of Ralph Williamson Post (No. 238), American Legion, at Redkey, and is now serving his second term as commander of that post. He also is a member of the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias at Redkey, is a member of the Portland lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and is affiliated with the Greek Letter fraternity Xi Psi Phi, the dental college fraternity. He is a Republican and has ever taken a good citizen's interest in local civic affairs.

On February 23, 1916, Dr. Ora RODKEY was united in marriage to Rhea G. THOMAS, who was born in Wabash county, this state, daughter of E. F. and Zora B. THOMAS. Doctor and Mrs. RODKEY have a pleasant home at Redkey 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.140. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.