

SCHWARTZ, JOHN H.

CHARLES E. SCHWARTZ, senior member of the law firm of SCHWARTZ & BECHDOLT and a practicing attorney at the bar of the Jay Circuit Court for more than twenty years, vice-president of the First National Bank of Portland, a member of the board of directors of the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Bryant and in other ways identified with the commercial, industrial and civic interests of this county, is a native son of Jay county and has lived here all his life, from the days of his youth actively interested in the best development of this region, Mr. SCHWARTZ was born on a farm in Pike township on April 1, 1867, and is a son of Charles B. and Fredericka (ROWLS) SCHWARTZ, the former a veteran of the Civil war, who had settled there a few years prior to this date, coming over here from Hamilton county, as is set out elsewhere in this volume. Charles B. SCHWARTZ and wife were the parents of seven children, all of whom are living save Jacob, the others besides the subject of this review being John H. SCHWARTZ, the Portland photographer; Dr. William D. SCHWARTZ, also of Portland; George S. and Oliver F. SCHWARTZ and Caroline, wife of John HUDSON.

Reared on the home farm, Charles E. SCHWARTZ received his early schooling in the neighborhood schools and early qualified himself to teach school, a profession he followed during the winters for nine years, meanwhile supplementing his schooling by attendance at the old Eastern Indiana Normal School at Portland, the Tri-State Normal School at Angola, the Normal School at Marion and a course at Valparaiso University. During this period he was giving his attention to preparatory studies in law, and thus prepared entered the Indiana Law School at Indianapolis, from which he was graduated in 1900. Upon receiving his diploma Mr. SCHWARTZ opened an office for the practice of his profession at Portland, and has ever since been engaged in practice in that city. In 1917 he formed a partnership with Frederick BECHDOLT, the practice since then being carried on under the firm name of SCHWARTZ & BECHDOLT. Mr. SCHWARTZ is a Democrat, and in 1910 served as county attorney. He is a member of the board of directors and vice-president of the First National Bank of Portland, a director of the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Bryant, for fourteen years a member of the board of directors of the W. H. Hood Company, wholesale grocers at Portland; is a director of the Peoples Loan and Trust Company, of Decatur, Ind.; a director of the Portland Forge and Foundry Company, and is a life member of the board of trustees for a tract of 385 acres of land in Randolph county, granted in perpetual trust to Purdue University, 200 acres of this land to be operated for experimental purposes in behalf of the university's school of agriculture, the remainder to be maintained as a perpetual forest and game preserve. Mr. SCHWARTZ also is treasurer of the company operating the Portland automobile body works, one of the chief industries in this part of the state, and is in other ways interested in the general business life of the community. He is a member of the local lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

In 1902 Charles E. SCHWARTZ was united in marriage to Inez L. JOHNSON, daughter of Harvey and Sarah J. JOHNSON, and to this union one child has been born, a son, Robert.

SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.128-129. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.