

## **SCHWARTZ, WILLIAM DANIEL**

WILLIAM DANIEL SCHWARTZ, M. D., former secretary of the board of health for Jay county and a practicing physician at Portland for nearly a quarter of a century, one of the best known physicians and surgeons in this section of Indiana, is one of Jay county's native sons who has ever taken an interest and pride in the advancement of the general cultural activities of the county and of his home town, and has thus for years been accounted one of the leaders in such activities hereabout. Doctor SCHWARTZ was born on a farm in Pike township on February 21, 1870, and is a son of Charles B. and Fredericka Anna (ROWS) SCHWARTZ, the former a veteran of the Civil war, who had come over here from Hamilton county in 1866 and settled in the beautiful valley of the Butternut, where they reared their family and became useful and influential factors in the development of that section of the county. Charles B. SCHWARTZ was the owner of a good farm of 120 acres and he and his wife were the parents of seven children, all of whom became teachers in the schools of this county and all of whom are living save Jacob, the first born, the others besides Doctor SCHWARTZ, being John H. SCHWARTZ, the Portland photographer; Charles F. SCHWARTZ, a Portland lawyer, George S. and Oliver F. SCHWARTZ and Caroline, wife of John HUDSON.

Reared on the home farm, William D. SCHWARTZ received his early schooling in the schools of Jefferson township and at the age of nineteen began teaching school, a profession he followed for five years, his last service in that connection having been as principal of the Bryant schools, and an older chronicle narrates that it is stated upon good authority that he held the best marked certificate in Jay county and that he was one of the most thorough students and systematic up-to-date teachers in the state. During this period of service as a teacher he had been continuing his studies and attended successively the old Eastern Indiana Normal School at Portland, the normal school at Covington, Ind., and the Marion (Ind.) Normal School, from which latter he was graduated in 1892. In the meantime he had been pursuing preparatory studies in medicine under the able preceptorship of Dr. J. T. DICKES and in 1893 entered the medical college of Indiana University at Indianapolis, from which he was graduated in 1896, second in honors in a class of fifty-three. Following a spirited competitive examination Doctor SCHWARTZ received an appointment as an interne in the Indianapolis City Hospital and after fifteen months of intensive practical experience there spent six months at the Post-Graduate Hospital in New York city, where he specialized on nose and throat surgery and diseases of women and children. Thus thoroughly equipped for the practice of the profession to which he had devoted his life. Doctor SCHWARTZ returned home and opened an office at Portland, where he ever since has been engaged in practice. In 1901 he made a trip to Europe for further post-graduate work and in the great hospitals of London, Paris and Berlin acquired further and practical knowledge of the advanced methods of European surgery. The Doctor is a member of the Jay County Medical Society, the Indiana State Medical Society, the Eighth District Medical Society, of which he is a past president, and the American

Medical Association, in the affairs and deliberations of which organizations he takes a keen interest, and it is his practice annually to take additional post-graduate work with a view to keeping fully abreast of modern advancement in surgical and medical science. For some time he served as secretary of the county board of health and has done much to advance the public health service in this county. The Doctor is a Democrat. He is a Freemason and a member of the local lodges of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Pythias, the Loyal Order of Moose and the Modern Woodmen of America, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, the Doctor being a member of the board of trustees of the church. During the time of America's participation in the World war Doctor SCHWARTZ rendered local service as the examining surgeon for the Jay county conscription board, examining all registrants under the operation of the selective draft law between the ages of 18 and 45 years. The Doctor passed the examination for army surgeon at Ft. Benjamin Harrison and was accepted for service with the rank of captain, the commission to become effective as soon as his work on the conscription board should have been completed. The armistice was signed about the time the board completed its work, however, and he never was called. Doctor SCHWARTZ is interested in several of the more important commercial and industrial enterprises of the city and has done much to help promote the general business interests of the community. He is a member of the board of directors of the First National Bank of Portland and chairman of the loaning board of that institution. He also is a member of the board of directors and vice president of the Home Telephone Company of Portland and the vice president and a member of the board of directors of the Bimel Spoke and Auto Wheel Company, as well as having other interests.

On October 14, 1897, the year following his graduation from medical college, Dr. William D. SCHWARTZ was united in marriage to Belle V. MOON, daughter of Sidney R. MOON, former reporter of the Indiana Supreme court, and to this union one child has been born, a daughter, Geraldine. Mrs. SCHWARTZ was born at Rochester, Ind. and her schooling was completed in the Indianapolis high school. Miss Geraldine SCHWARTZ, who is now (1921) a student in Miss Maderia's private school for girls at Washington, D. C. was graduated from the Portland high school and then entered Butler College at Indianapolis, during the same period taking a course of instruction at the John Herron Art Institute in that city. Miss SCHWARTZ has made a specialty of dramatic expression and has been an important contributing factor in the presentation of plays by the local Dramatic Club at Portland. She was a member of the dramatic society of Butler College during the time of her attendance at that college and in 1920 enacted the leading female role in "Stop Thief," the college play of that year.

**SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.88-90. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.**