

SPADE, JACOB M.

JACOB M. SPADE, a veteran grocer at Portland and the proprietor of the oldest continuous grocery store in Jay county, is a native son of this county and has lived here all his life, well known in business circles in Portland since the days of his young manhood. Mr. SPADE was born on a farm in Wayne township, this county, and was reared there, a son of Daniel and Mary SPADE, both of whom were born in the state of Maryland, the former a son of John SPADE, who became one of the pioneer settlers in Wayne township. Daniel SPADE and wife were the parents of six children, three of whom are still living, Jacob M. SPADE having two brothers, Alexander and Horace M. SPADE.

Jacob M. SPADE supplemented the schooling received in the public schools of this county by a course in the Indiana State Normal School and then became engaged in telephone work at Portland, helping to install the first telephone system in that city. He then became engaged in the lumber business there, associated with the firm of Wilt & SPADE, and was the bookkeeper and buyer for that firm for nine years, at; the end of which time, in 1892, he became engaged at Portland in the grocery business and has ever since been thus engaged. Mr. SPADE's first store was in the room now (1921) occupied by the Iholt wall paper store, but he long since moved into the room now occupied by him as a grocery in North Meridian street, and there has a well-established business.

On December 27, 1882, Jacob M. SPADE was united in marriage to Olive BOWEN, who was born in Wayne county, Indiana, and to this union were born six children, Maud, Ethel, Frank, Keith, Emily and Dorothy, all of whom are married save the last named, who is attending school at Roanoke, Va. Frank SPADE, who was born on September 23, 1889, is engaged with his father in the grocery business. Keith SPADE is the secretary-manager of the local commercial association, or chamber of commerce at Portland, with offices in the court house. Jacob M. SPADE is a Republican. He is the treasurer of the Rotary Club and is affiliated with the local lodges of the Knights of Pythias and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, p.83. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.