

SPAHR, EMERY N.

EMERY N. SPAHR, of the firm of McConochy & Spahr, proprietors of a popular garage and automobile accessory shop in North Meridian street, Portland, is a native son of Jay county, a member of one of the county's pioneer families, and has lived here all his life. Mr. SPAHR was born on a farm in Greene township on February 12, 1893, and is a son of Morris H. and Anna B. (MILLER) SPAHR, both of whom also were born in this county, the latter a daughter of David T. and Jane (PRATT) MILLER, early residents of this county, as is set out elsewhere in this volume. Morris H. SPAHR, proprietor of a half section of land in Greene township, is a representative of one of the real pioneer families of Jay county, a son of John O. and Experience (HILDRETH) SPAHR, who came over here from Greene county, Ohio, in pioneer days and became influential factors in the development of Greene township, which was given its name in honor of the numerous Greene county people who settled there in the days when lands in that section were being taken up, as is noted elsewhere. To Morris H. SPAHR and wife were born five children, of whom three are living, the subject of this sketch having a brother, Oliver SPAHR, and a sister, Alta.

Reared on the home farm in Greene township, Emery N. SPAHR received his schooling in the old Union school (district No. 8) and from the days of his boyhood was a valued assistant in the labors of the farm. He married at the age of twenty-two and for five years thereafter continued to reside on the home place, renting a portion of the same from his father and farming it. He then moved to the village of Blaine, where he was engaged in business for a year or more, at the end of which time, in April, 1921, he formed his present partnership with H. J. McConochy in the garage business at Portland and has since resided in that city. This garage, located at 414-416 North Meridian street, has a capacity for about sixty cars and has become one of the best known, service stations in eastern Indiana. The proprietors of the same also have a well-equipped general accessory store and are likewise agents for the sale of the Studebaker, the Oldsmobile and the Chevrolet automobiles.

On April 4, 1915, Emery N. SPAHR was united in marriage to Helen HUDSON, who also was born in Greene township. Mr. and Mrs. SPAHR are Republicans and Mr. SPAHR is a member of the Masonic lodge at Portland. Mrs. SPAHR also is a member of one of Jay county's pioneer families, she being a representative of the fifth generation of HUDSON's who have resided in this county, the family here dating back to 1839 when Benjamin and Ruth (DODD) HUDSON came over here with their family from Ohio and settled in the woods in section 19 of Pike township. Mrs. SPAHR is a daughter of Selby E. and Jessie (SHOUP) HUDSON of Greene township. Selby E. Hudson, proprietor of a farm of 240 acres in that township, is a son of William and Ocy Ann (COLLINS) HUDSON, the former of whom was a son of Aaron D. and Mary (MATTS) HUDSON, the latter of whom was a daughter of William G. and Hannah MATTS, who came here from New Jersey with their family in 1836, the year in which Jay county was organized, and settled in Wayne township. Aaron D. HUDSON, who was a son .of the pioneer Benjamin HUDSON mentioned above, became a substantial landowner in Pike township and served for one term as sheriff of Jay county.

SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.100-101. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.