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Waldo E. Smith, M. D.

Among the younger members of the medical profession in Adams County no one is spoken of with higher appreciation of his ability than Dr. Waldo E. Smith, of Decatur.

Doctor Smith is a graduate of the medical department of the Ohio State University at Columbus, getting his M. D. degree in 1906. Thus for more than ten years he has given his time and efforts to a general practice as a physician and surgeon at Decatur, and a splendid patronage has been accorded him from all over the county. Doctor Smith has his offices in his home, which is a beautiful brown stucco house, one of the most attractive residences of the city. He has taken an active part in the work of the County and State Medical societies, and has served as president and secretary of the County Society.

Doctor Smith was born near Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio, December 30, 1871. He grew up there, attended the public schools, graduated from the Ohio Northern University in 1896, and had one year of teaching experience in his native county. In June, 1896, he came to Decatur, Indiana, and taught township schools four years and for a time was principal of the Pleasant Mills school before taking up the study of medicine.

Doctor Smith is a son of Jasper and Flora (Case) Smith. Jasper's brother Clinton Smith was for many years a successful physician in Fayette County, Ohio. Jasper Smith and wife were both born in Franklin County, Ohio, where the family were among the earliest pioneers. One of Doctor Smith's ancestors, Peter Willington, is credited with having erected the second house in Franklin County. That old home stood on the banks of the Scioto River and was in good state of preservation until 1916. Peter Willington was one of the men who witnessed the execution of the Indian Leatherlips by order of the famous Tecumseh. Leatherlips was chief of the Wyandotte tribe and was executed on a charge of witchcraft preferred by Tecumseh, more for the purpose of getting rid of that influential leader than on any real ground to support the charge. Jasper Smith was a grandson of David Smith, son of Nelson Smith. David Smith was granted a license as teacher in 1801 in Franklin County, and was thus enrolled among the serviceable citizens before Ohio became a state. He and his son Nelson spent most of their lives as farmers in Franklin County.

The Case family, in Doctor Smith's maternal ancestry, were New England people. They were members of a large colony that moved to Ohio 120 years ago and laid out the

town of Worthington near Columbus. Of their lands they set aside a half section to be used for educational purposes, and this land was included in the corporation of the village. Doctor Smith's mother was a daughter of Alvin Case and a granddaughter of Orlando Case. Both were farmers and merchants and many others of the family were mechanics. A high degree of inventive skill has always characterized the varied members of the Case family. They discovered and developed the process of "case hardening of steel." One of the Cases also invented the process of roller manufacturing of corn meal now universally used.

After the marriage of Jasper Case he spent his life on or near the old homestead in Franklin County, where he died in 1907 at the age of seventy-four. The widowed mother is still living at the age of seventy-five in Perry Township of Franklin County, and is still in vigorous health. Eight of her brothers and sisters are still living, all married and have children of their own. The average age of these people is about seventy. Doctor Smith's mother was fifth in a family of ten children. The greater number of the Case family were adherents of the Methodist Church. The Smiths as a rule have been republicans in politics. Doctor Smith was the second son and third child in a family of ten children, eight of whom are still living.

Jasper Smith was a fighting soldier of the Union during the Civil war. He first enlisted in the Forty-sixth Ohio Infantry and was in service until the battle of Shiloh, where he was taken ill and sent home on a furlough. When sufficiently recovered he rejoined the One Hundred and Seventysixth Ohio Infantry and was in service until the close of the war. During his first enlistment he was orderly sergeant and during the second was quartermaster sergeant.

Doctor Smith married at Decatur Miss Martha D. Cline. She was born in Union Township of Adams County October 13, 1870, and was well reared and educated and before her marriage was a teacher. They have three children: Lucile O., Genevieve I. and Lowell C. Lucile graduated from the Decatur High School in 1915 and is now teaching her third consecutive term. Genevieve is a senior in the local high school and was born September 12, 1900. Lowell is in the seventh grade of the local schools. Doctor and Mrs. Smith are members of the Presbyterian Church. He is an independent republican and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.