

BOUSE, WILLIAM

William BOUSE, a well-known and substantial farmer of Penn township, proprietor of a well-kept farm on rural mail route No. 4 out of Bryant, is a native son of Jay county and has lived here all his life. Mr. BOUSE was born on a farm in Penn township on July 9, 1868, and is a son of Joseph and Frances Jane (GASKILL) BOUSE, both of whom were born in Ohio, where they were married. Not long after his marriage Joseph BOUSE came over into Indiana and made his home on a farm which he rented in Penn township, Jay County. That was in 1867, and he made his home there the rest of his life, his death occurring in 1880. His widow survived him many years, her death occurring in 1917. They were the parents of thirteen children, eight of whom are living, those besides the subject of this sketch being Sarah, Martha, Lemuel, Nathan, James, Rebecca and Mary Ellen. Reared on the home farm in Penn township, William BOUSE received his schooling in the neighborhood schools. He was twelve years of age when his father died and he thus early was thrown largely on his own resources. He worked as a farm hand until his marriage when he rented a farm in Penn township and began farming on his own account, continuing thus engaged until he took up work in the oil fields, a form of activity which he followed until 1904, when he bought a tract of nineteen acres of land and again started in farming. His affairs prospered and he has enlarged his holdings until now he and his son Frederick are the owner? of a well improved place of eighty-one acres and are doing well, gradually extending their operations each year. Mr. BOUSE and his wife are members of the Friends church and he is treasurer of the congregation. In his political views he is independent. William BOUSE married Bertha SHINN, a daughter of O. W. and Martha (DAULEY) SHINN, and to this union four children have been born, namely: Fred, who married Edna McCULLOUGH and has three children, William, Gerald and Ruth; Ray, who married Cora BAKER; Harold, who married Carrie HANCHAN and has one child, a daughter, Juanita, and Nellie, who is unmarried and is at home with her parents. The BOUSE's have a pleasant home and have ever taken an interested part in the community's general social activities. BAKER, BOUSE, DAULEY, GASKILL, HANCHAN, McCULLOUGH, SHINN SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.211-212. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.