

DENNEY, J RAY

J. Ray DENNEY, a well-known young farmer of Madison township, living on rural mail route No. I out of Union City, Ind., is a native son of Jay County and has lived here nearly all his life. Mr. DENNEY was born at Portland on January 18, 1890, and is a son of Riley H. and Sadie (HENRY) DENNEY) both of whom also were born in Jay county, members of pioneer families here. Riley H. DENNEY, who for many years was engaged in the jewelry business at Portland, is now living retired in that city. To him and his wife four children were born, the subject of this sketch three sisters, Ina, Florence and Gladys. J. Ray DENNEY was reared at Portland and was graduated from the South ward school, after which he took two years in the high school.

Sometime later he went to Indianapolis and was for two years (1911-13) employed in the assembling department of the automobile plant of the Nordyke & Marmon Company in that city. In 1914, he returned to Jay county and became engaged in farming in Madison township, in partnership with his maternal uncle, Samuel HENRY, and continued thus engaged until Mr. HENRY's death on October 27, 1921, since which time he has been carrying on his farming operations alone, making his home on the old Henry place, where he has a very well equipped farm; plant and is doing well. Mr. DENNEY is a Democrat and is a member of the local lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons at Portland and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of that city as well as of Delta chapter of the Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity at Portland. On May 30, 1909, J. Ray DENNEY was united in marriage to Mary Neva HALLAM and to this union one child was born, a son, James R. DENNEY, born on September 19, 1913, who is now a student at Center school. Mrs. DENNEY who died on October 13, 1918, was born in the state of Missouri, daughter of James M. and Fannie (RICE) HALLAM, but was reared and educated at Crawfordsville, Ind., where her father is engaged in the livestock business. SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.138-139. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.