

Edward F. HOTMIRE, one of Pike township's well known farmers and landowners and proprietor of an excellent farm on rural mail route No. 8 out of Portland, is a native sun of Jay county. Mr. HOTMIRE was born on the farm on which he is now living on October 20, 1878, and is a son of Richard and Matilda (LOVALL) HOTMIRE, who had moved up here from Randolph county many years ago. Richard HOTMIRE was born in Cincinnati [Hamilton Co.] and was but a child when his parents came up into Indiana and located in Randolph county, settling near the Jay county line, where he grew to manhood and where until his marriage he was engaged working at the grist mill at Deerfield. After his marriage he went to California with a view to locating there, but did not find things there to his liking and a year later returned to Randolph county and located there on an eighty-acre farm, after awhile moving from there up into Jay county and settling on a farm of 152- ½ acres which he had bought in Pike township. On this place he continued farming until 1907 when he retired and moved to Florida, where his last days were spent. Richard HOTMIRE and his wife were the parents of eight children, all of whom are living save one, the subject of this sketch having four sisters, Amanda, Rebecca, Anna and Myrtle; and two brothers, Harry and Charles N. HOTMIRE.

Reared on the home farm in Pike township, Edward F. HOTMIRE received his schooling in the neighborhood schools and his youth was spent in farm work. He then became attracted to electrical work and went to Marion, Ind. [Grant Co.], where for sixteen years he was connected with the operation of the power plant there. In 1917 Mr. HOTMIRE returned to the old home farm in Pike township, this county, which he bought, and has since resided there, now farming 132-1/2 acres, and is doing well. Since taking possession of the place he has made numerous substantial improvements and has a well equipped farm plant. On February 7, 1906, Edward F. HOTMIRE was united in marriage to Rosetta WEGMER, who also was born in this county, daughter of Henry and Lily WEGMER, and to this union two children have been born, sons both, Ralph and Richard, the latter of whom is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. HOTMIRE are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are Democrats. In April, 1921, Mr. HOTMIRE executed lease's on his land for oil development purposes and in January, 1922, the Boyer Oil Company "brought in" on his place a well which now is producing ten or twelve barrels of oil a day, the royalties on which provide a nice addition to Mr. HOTMIRE's income, and there are ample promises of 'further profitable oil development' on the place. This is the only oil well in Pike township.

Unknown source