

## **R. A. AKIN M. D.**

The man who devotes his talents and energies to the noble work of ministering to the ills and alleviating the sufferings of humanity is pursuing a calling which in dignity, importance and beneficial results is second to none other. If true to his profession and earnest in his efforts to enlarge his sphere of usefulness, he is indeed a benefactor of his kind, for to him more than to any other man are intrusted the safety, the comfort, and, in many instances, the lives of those who place themselves under his care and profit by his services. It is gratifying to note in the series of personal sketches appearing in this work that there remain identified with the professional; public and civic affairs of Monroe county many who are native sons of the county and who are ably maintaining the prestige of honored names.

R. A. Akin was born at Bloomington, Indiana, on March 7, 1880, and is the son of George W. and Laura (Ridge) Akin. The father, who was born in Parke county, Indiana, was a carpenter and farmer and a man of good character and high standing in his community. He and his wife both died in Monroe county in 1910. the father having been retired from active pursuits for some time prior to his death. He was a Democrat in politics and, though not active in public affairs, he took intelligent interest in the current events of the day. He and his wife were the parents of two children, the subject of this sketch and Ida E.

R. A. Akin received a good common school education and then entered the State University, where he graduated in 1906. Having determined to take up the practice of medicine for his life pursuit, he then matriculated in the Indiana University School of Medicine, where he was graduated in 1908 with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He immediately entered upon the active practice of his profession at Bedford, but a short time afterward he removed to Gary, Indiana, where he remained until 1909, when he came to Bloomington and has since continued here in the active practice of medicine and surgery. His well equipped offices are located in the Allen block, and, though one of the younger physicians of Bloomington, he is already in command of a goodly share of the local patronage. He is a general practitioner, though he has achieved unusual success in surgery, having handled successfully a number of very important cases and having assisted Dr. Harris in nearly all of the latter's important work. Dr. Akin possesses a pleasing personality, which has won for him many warm friends throughout the community and he is entirely deserving of the eminent standing he has secured, both professionally and socially. He is a member of the Monroe County Medical Society, of which he is secretary and treasurer, and also belongs to the Indiana State Medical Society. Politically, he is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party, though his professional duties preclude his taking a very important part in public affairs. Fraternally, he belongs to Lodge No. 446, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, in Bloomington and takes a keen interest in the work of this fraternity.

*(History of Lawrence and Monroe Counties Indiana , 1914 B. F. Bowen & Co. Inc. Indianapolis, Indiana pgs 542-543)*