

J. MARION RICE

Few residents of Monroe county are as well and favorably known as the enterprising business man and representative citizen whose life story is briefly told in the following lines and none stand higher than he in the esteem and confidence of the community in which he resides and for the material advancement of which he has devoted so much of his time and influence.

J. Marion Rice has been a lifelong resident of Monroe county, having been born here on May 18, 1874, and is a son of Nathan L and Nancy Elizabeth (Burks) Rice, both of whom were also natives of Monroe county. The subject's paternal grandfather, Robert Rice, was a native of Virginia who came to Monroe county in a very early day settling at Whitehall. His wife was a native of this county. Nathan Lewis Rice became a student in the Indiana Eclectic Medical College of Indianapolis, where he was graduated in due time and was a practicing physician here during practically all of his active life, enjoying to a marked degree the confidence of the people among whom he mingled. He was a man of marked professional ability and was notably successful in the practice of his profession. To him and his wife were born five children, namely: Benjamin F., deceased; Melvin, deceased; J. Marion. Alfred A. and Roy H.. J. Marion Rice attended the common schools of his home community, receiving a good practical education. He completed his education by taking a complete course in pharmacy, after which he opened a drug store at Ellettsville, Monroe county, Indiana, which he has since conducted with notable success. Thoroughly, qualified by natural aptitude and technical training, Mr. Rice has proven himself abundantly qualified for the special line of effort to which he devotes his attention, and because of his square dealing, courteous treatment of his customers and genial disposition, he has, ever since locating here, commanded his full share of local patronage.

On August 9, 1896, the subject of this sketch was married to Luella Carpenter, a daughter of Frank and Elizabeth (McPheeters) Carpenter, who were early settlers in Monroe county. To this union have been born two children, Charles Russell Hubert and Marion Lucile.

Politically, J. Marion Rice is an enthusiastic supporter of the Progressive party, believing firmly the principles embodied in the platform of this party to be those most likely to conserve the best interests of the whole American people. He has never been an aspirant for political office, though he is now serving as president of the local school board and is also a member of the county board of education. Fraternally, Mr. Rice is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Improved Order of Red Men and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the first three named orders at Ellettsville and the Elks at Bloomington. Religiously, he is a member of the Church of Christ, to which he gives earnest support.

(History of Lawrence and Monroe Counties Indiana , 1914 B. F. Bowen & Co. Inc. Indianapolis, Indiana pgs 575-576)