

A Centennial Biographical History of Crawford County, Ohio, Chicago, The Lewis Publishing Company, 1902

Albert M. Ensminger.

The press has not only recorded the history of advancement, but has also been the leader in the work of progress and improvement, the vanguard of civilization. The philosopher of some centuries ago proclaimed the truth that the pen is mightier than the sword, and the statement is continually being verified in the affairs of life. In molding public opinion the power of the newspaper cannot be estimated, but at all events its influence is greater than any other single agency.

In the history of Bucyrus, therefore, an account of the Daily and Weekly Forum should form an important factor, as this journal is the oldest established one of the county- and its present proprietors keep in touch with the most advanced methods of journalism, making the paper one of great value in Crawford County. **Albert Milton Ensminger** was associated with this paper from 1890 until October, 1901, when it was sold to the newly organized Bucyrus Publishing Company. He was born in Perry County, Pennsylvania, September 27, 1858, and traces his ancestry back to **Christian Ensminger**, who was born in the Keystone state June 8, 1762, and died March 6, 1836. His second son, **David Ensminger**, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Perry County, Pennsylvania, and married **Barbara Messinger**. Their son, **Henry Ensminger**, was born in Perry County, Pennsylvania, February 2, 1826, and pursued his education in the district schools near his home. He afterward turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and followed farming in Pennsylvania until 1866, when he settled in Jefferson Township, Crawford County, Ohio. In that year he established a store, and for two years was in partnership with his brother, **George Ensminger**, at North Robinson, the connection being dissolved by the death of the brother. **Henry Ensminger** then carried on business alone for four years, when he disposed of his mercantile enterprise and purchased a farm near North Robinson, upon which he resided until 1879. In that year he came to Bucyrus and opened a dry goods store in the Quinby block, being identified with business affairs in this city for some time. He was known as a reliable and trustworthy merchant and enjoyed the business confidence of the public in an unusual degree. He married **Susan Jacobs**, and his death occurred in Bucyrus, February 24, 1892. Unto this worthy couple were born the following children: **Franklin P., Albert M., Charles E., Anna M.** and **Alberta E.**

Albert Milton Ensminger, whose name forms the caption of this article, pursued his education in the public schools of Crawford County, Ohio, and on the completion of his literary course entered the law department of the State University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, where he was graduated with the class of 1882. In the same year he was admitted to the Ohio bar and began practice in Bucyrus. In 1885 he was elected city solicitor and discharged his duties so capably that he was re-elected for a second term. After his retirement from office he became associated with The Forum, and has since been connected with the paper except during the period from the 1st of August, 1894, until the 1st of September, 1898, when he was postmaster of Bucyrus.

On the 16th of December, 1886, **Mr. Ensminger** was united in marriage to **Miss Carrie Blair**, a daughter of **E. Blair**, president of the Second National Bank of Bucyrus and a most prominent

citizen. Their only child, **Edward Blair**, was born September 2, 1899. **Mr. Ensminger** is a member of St. Paul's English Lutheran church and socially he is connected with the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In his political affiliations he is a stalwart Democrat and was a candidate for presidential elector on the Democratic ticket in 1888. He has been an important factor in the progress and upbuilding of Bucyrus since locating here, and educational, church and social interests owe their promotion in a considerable degree to his efforts.

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