

head and take an active interest in the general social and cultural activities of their home city.

On May 2, 1917, Dr. V. E. Verne applied for a commission in the Medical Officers' Reserve Corps, United States Army, and on July 10, 1917, he received his appointment by President Wilson as first lieutenant in the medical service.

JAMES M. WITHEROW.

James M. Witherow, court commissioner for Clay county, former city attorney of Moorhead, a practicing attorney in that city for the past twenty years and one of the best-known lawyers and public speakers in this part of the state and in the neighboring state of North Dakota, is a native of the Emerald Isle, but has been a resident of this country since he was seventeen years of age. He was born in the north of Ireland on December 19, 1869, son of James Witherow and wife, both of Scottish descent, and received his early schooling in his native land, remaining there until he was fifteen years of age, when, in 1884, he came to the United States.

Upon arriving in this country Mr. Witherow proceeded on up into the Red River valley, his point of destination being Grandin, Traill county, North Dakota. After two years in North Dakota, he left and came into Minnesota for the purpose of attending school, stopping in Norman county, where he worked on farms during vacations. During the winter of 1887-88 he attended Carlton College and later entered the Minnesota State Normal at Moorhead, from which he was graduated in 1892. During the year following his graduation, Mr. Witherow was engaged in teaching school at St. Vincent, up in Kittson county, and during the succeeding winter, 1893-94, was engaged in teaching at Caledonia, Traill county, North Dakota. Upon the completion of that term of school Mr. Witherow returned to Moorhead and entered systematically upon the study of law, a subject to which he had for some time been giving his thoughtful attention, having carried on his law studies and the study of elocutionary expression privately during the time he was engaged in teaching school, many hours having thus been put in practicing expression. On June 21, 1898, Mr. Witherow was admitted to the bar and has since been engaged in the practice of his profession at Moorhead, for years having been regarded as one of the leading lawyers in this part of the state, his recognition as a trial lawyer having come early in his practice. For ten years he served as attorney for the city of Moorhead and for the past

twenty years has been court commissioner for Clay county, which official position he now occupies. Mr. Witherow is an active and ardent Republican and has done much campaigning for his party, particularly in North Dakota, under engagement to the Republican national committee. He also is widely known as a lecturer and his lectures on travel, literature and kindred subjects are in much demand among farmers' clubs and school organizations.

On November 26, 1904, James M. Witherow was united in marriage to Emma Jane Bond, daughter of James Bond and wife, the former of whom is a farmer living near Hunter, North Dakota, and to this union four children have been born, Grace, Margaret (deceased), James and Frank. The Witherows are members of the Episcopal church and take an earnest interest in church work. Mr. Witherow was reared in the Presbyterian church, his people for generations having been Presbyterians, and one of his uncles was for some time moderator of the General Assembly of that church in Ireland. Fraternally, Mr. Witherow is affiliated with the Masons and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that order.

BRUNO KIPPELS.

Bruno Kippels, proprietor of the Moorhead laundry, owner of the public abattoir in Moorhead, formerly and for years a well-known building contractor in that city and in other ways identified with the community of which he has been a part since pioneer days, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of this country since he was twenty-four years of age. He was born in 1856, son of William and Katherina (Isaacheimer) Kippels, also natives of Germany, the former of whom was a farmer and a manufacturer, who spent all their lives in their native land and who were the parents of eight children.

In his native Germany, Bruno Kippels learned the trade of a miller and that of a baker and remained there until the summer of 1880, when he came to this country, landing at the port of Baltimore, August 1. A few weeks later he came on out to Minnesota and located at Moorhead, presently homesteading a quarter of a section of land in Spring Prairie township, Clay county, and the next spring entered upon the task of developing and improving the same, giving that place his close attention for nine years, at the end of which time he disposed of his farming interests and at Moorhead engaged in carpentering. Three years later he began work as a building contractor