

William Franklin Steele

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Among the public officials who are rendering valuable service to Mason county is numbered William Franklin Steele, tax commissioner, and widely known as an expert accountant. He was born October 4, 1869, in Shelbyville, Indiana, and was a child of six when his parents, John Wesley and Sarah (Hogue) Steele, migrated to Brown county, Ohio, where he was educated. He taught school in Brown county from 1891 until 1903 and during that period studied bookkeeping and higher accountancy. From 1896 until 1909 he was a bookkeeper for Robert Taylor, of Higginsport, Ohio, and he then came to Maysville. For three years he was employed as a bookkeeper in tobacco warehouses and in 1912 was made treasurer of the Independent Warehouse Company of Maysville. He filled the position until July 1, 1922, when he took office as tax commissioner, having been elected in the fall of 1921. His first term's record won him reelection in 1925, and his work represents the highest degree of efficiency in this branch of public service. He is a director of the Limestone Building & Loan Association of Maysville, which has profited by his wisdom and experience.

Mr. Steele was married September 28, 1890, to Miss Carrie Rosina Boehn, who was a daughter of Gustavus and Christina (Gray) Boehn, of Brown county, Ohio, and passed away April 8, 1912. She was the mother of two children. The son, Roland Raymond Steele, was born July 2, 1891, and is head bookkeeper for the American Tobacco Company of Maysville. He married Miss Elizabeth Halvey, of Augusta, Kentucky, and they have one child, William Duke, who was born January 28, 1920. The daughter, Nellie Fern, was born February 16, 1899, and is the wife of Douglas Power Newell, cashier in the State National Bank of Maysville. They have two children: Caroline, who was born May 14, 1923; and Douglas P., Jr., born June 13, 1925. Mr. Steele's second union was with Florence Boothby Shrofe, to whom he was married in 1917 at Washington, D. C.

Mr. Steele is an adherent of the democratic party and his fraternal connections are with the Masons and the Knights of Pythias. He is devoted to the interests intrusted to his care and owes his progress to hard work and the wise utilization of his time, talents and opportunities. Mr. Steele has a pleasing personality and has made many friends during the period of his residence in Maysville.
