

GEORGE D. CULBERTSON, of the firm of George D. Culbertson & Company, is one of the leading business men of Wasco county. He is established at Hood River as his headquarters and does a large business all over Wasco county, southwestern Washington and other portions of the country. The firm handles real estate and also does insuring and loaning.

George D. Culbertson was born in Denton county, Texas, on March 1, 1868, the son of Elijah H. and Helen H. (Curtner) Culbertson. The mother was born in Galatin, Missouri and her parents were natives of Crab Orchard, Kentucky. Her uncle, James Gerrard Curtner, was the second governor of Kentucky. The family were of Scotch descent and were early pioneers to Virginia. The father of our subject was born in Indiana, on December 28, 1824, and died on February 18, 1902, in Savanna, Indian Territory. He founded the village of Stringtown, Indian Territory, and was a merchant and mill owner there before railroads came. He also lived in Texas and raised stock and did contracting and building, when Tarrant, Denton and Wise counties were on the frontier. He built the first court house at Fort Worth and was there when it was a mere army post. In addition to his business career, the father was a noted Indian missionary, having for many years labored faithfully among the Indians and the whites and was instrumental in founding many Methodist churches. He was a man of power and eloquence and was known far and near in central United States. Being fearless and brave, he won the admiration of the savages and was enabled to reach them and on many occasions quiet them. At a good ripe age, having performed a noble work, he went to the reward that was waiting for him, sustained by the faith which had buoyed him over life's seas. The mother of our subject still lives at Savanna, Indian Territory. Her father was a pioneer of Wise county, Texas, and died there in 1878. George D. was educated in the district schools of Indian Territory and in an academy in north Texas. After graduating, he taught school in Choctaw and other nations for three years, having as pupils, Indian and white children. After that, we find him engaged as secretary and one of the faculty in the Fort Worth Business College, at Fort Worth, Texas, and later he engaged in the general merchandise business with his brother, at Savanna, Indian Territory. For three years, they did a nice business, then burned out. Next we see him in Oregon, where he resided for two years as head accountant of a dry goods house at Salem. After this, he returned home to attend to some personal business and remained there for several months, then he journeyed west to Portland. Here he accepted a position as chief accountant for a large wholesale boot and shoe house but finding the position too confining, he resigned and came to Hood River. He at once opened a real estate office, the year being 1901, and since that time has continued actively in business here. He handles property all over the country for hundreds of miles in every direction and does a large business. They confine their efforts to no particular line but handle farm, fruit, timber, grazing land and town property and in fact every kind of property in the business world. In February, 1905, Mr. Culbertson was chosen vice-president for Oregon of the National Real Estate Association at Des Moines, Iowa.

On November 26, 1903, at Hood River, Mr. Culbertson married Miss Caroline Booth, a native of The Dalles. Her parents, John P. and Mary L. (Riggs) Booth, were natives of Michigan and are mentioned elsewhere in this volume. Mr. Culbertson has four brothers, William T., Charles E., Jesse W., and John M., who is partner with our subject; and four sisters, Mrs. Frances Robinson, Mrs. Dora J. Smith, Mrs. Anna Collard, and Mrs. Alice M. Ingram. Mrs. Culbertson has one brother and two sisters who are mentioned in another portion of this work. Our subject is a member of the M.W.A. and in politics is a staunch Democrat, and takes an active interest in party politics.

Mrs. Culbertson is a member of the Episcopal church. Mr. Culbertson's grandfather, Andrew J. Culbertson, went to Oregon in 1852 with ox teams and remained in Powell valley, Multnomah county, until his death.