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Riggs, Oliver G. (1870 -)

Walter Jernberg

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RIGGS, OLIVER G.

FILE NO. B-1108

Oliver G. Riggs conductor of the Saint Cloud, Boy's Band was born November 26, 1870, in Louisa township near Near Boston, Iowa. Oliver being one of a family of four children, his parents were Jasper and Rebecca Riggs.

When he was a small child his parents moved to Dorchester, Nebraska, where Oliver attended the grade schools. Upon his graduation of the eighth grade Oliver enrolled at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music at Oberlin, Ohio. After his graduation from this school he accepted a position as conductor of a village band at Albin, Iowa. Since then he has conducted bands at Joy, Illinois; Mount Pleasant, Iowa; Hawre, Montana; Grand Forks, North Dakota; Crookston and Bemidji, Minnesota.

In 1921 Oliver came to St. Cloud, here he organized the St. Cloud Boy's band which at one time numbered 250 pieces. As conductor of this fine musical organization he has had marked success. This band is much in demand having played at the International Kiwanis Convention at St. Paul, Minnesota, Junior Chamber of Commerce Convention at Des Moines, Iowa and several America Legion Conventions in Minnesota.

Oliver G. Riggs was married in November 1898 to Islea Graham, born Dec. 23, 1874 daughter of William and Katherine Graham of Aledo, Illinois. To Oliver and Islea(Graham) Riggs have been born two children Ronald Graham and Percy Harrison. Ronald is a teacher at Thief River Falls, Minnesota. Percy Harrison is instructor of Music at South Bend, Indiana High School where he is in charge of a fine musical organization. Oliver and Islea (Graham) Riggs make their home at 12th Avenue south.

Interviewed: Oliver and Islea(Graham) Riggs
Date: December 11, 1936
Interviewed by: Walter Jernberg

Publication Granted

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FOR THE OLIVER G. RIGGS BIOGRAPHY

NO LEGAL RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE