

Orville Allen who owns and occupies a splendidly improved ranch property comprising eighty acres and situated six and a half miles northwest of Meridian, came to Idaho from Utah in 1901. He lived in the latter state, however, for a period of only two years, having previously made his home in Kansas for many years. His birth occurred in Montana on the 12th of August, 1867, his parents being Eli and Julia (Poole) Allen, the former born in one of the eastern states, while the latter is a native of Ohio. Mr. Allen died in Idaho on the 32st of December, 1906, but is still survived by his widow, who now makes her home with her children.

Orville Allen was a youth of fifteen years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Kansas and it was in the Sunflower State that he met and married Miss Ella Ross, their wedding being celebrated September 28, 1892. She was born in Jefferson county, Iowa, December 23, 1869, a daughter of James and Catherine (Thompson) Ross, who were natives of Scotland but were married in Canada. Both have now passed away. To Mr. and Mrs. Allen have been born three children one of whom is deceased. Ralph Kenneth, whose birth occurred January 17, 1894, was married on the 26th of September 1914, to Ida Lucile Browning and died of influenza on the 25th of January 1920, aged twenty-six years and eight days. He left a widow and two sons; Chester Kenneth born October 23, 1916; and Ralph Wendell, whose natal day was June 11, 1920. Gladys, the second child of Mr. and Mrs. Orville Allen, was born October 25, 1898 and is now the wife of Rodney Oliver. Eli Ross, the youngest of the family was born on the 7th of June, 1907.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen have lived in the same neighborhood northwest of Meridian since their arrival in this state in 1901, while since 1903 they have resided continuously on their present ranch property of eighty acres, on which they have made all of the improvements. The place is equipped with modern conveniences and machinery, including a tractor and a gasoline engine which operates various useful devices by means of a system of belts and overhead shaft. There is also a silo on the ranch and Mr. Allen has a number of Holstein cows. In addition to his home ranch of eighty acres he owns an improved tract of twenty acres in the same neighborhood, on which he has a tenant. He likewise owns a good automobile and has long been numbered among the prosperous and enterprising citizens of his community.

In politics Mr. Allen is independent and while a resident of Kansas he served in the capacity of road overseer. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Fairview Congregational church, of which he is a trustee and to which his wife is also a member. He is likewise identified with the Farmers Alliance and both he and his wife are members of th Grange. Mrs. Allen belongs to the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, to the Ladies Aid Society and to the Red Cross, of which Mr. Allen is also a member. They have become widely and favorably known in Ada county during the two decades of their residence here, the number of their friends steadily increasing as the circle of thir acquaintanceship has-broadened.