

Idaho with its countless opportunities, its splendid natural resources and its chances for ready development, promising rich returns, has drawn to it enterprising men from every section of the country. Among those who have come from Kansas is Shadrach J. Benson, now proprietor of amen's furnishing goods store at Hailey. He was born in Washington county, Kansas, March 31, 1874 and is a son of John W. and Lucy (Scott) Benson. He left the Sunflower state in company with his parents, the family removing to Boise, Idaho, in 1881. They spent two years in the capital city and in 1885 became residents of Ketchum, Idaho, where the father engaged in the live stock business.

Shadrach J. Benson was reared to manhood upon the old home ranch, pursuing his education in the schools of his native state and in Boise, Idaho. He followed farming at Meridian, Idaho for a short time in early manhood and afterward turned his attention to mining near Ketchum, where he was located for years. He then engaged in running stock and in teaming and in 1904 he entered mercantile circles by establishing his present business. Here he has a large and well appointed stock of men's furnishing goods, carrying everything that the latest market affords and his reliable and substantial business methods, together with his attractive stock have secured for him a very liberal and substantial patronage. He also operates his ranch west of Hailey, comprising two hundred acres of land.

In 1909 Mr. Benson was married to Miss Bessie G. Brown, a daughter of Andy and Margaret Brown and a native of Hailey. They have three children: Claude A., Clara and Shadrach, Jr. Mr. Benson votes with the Democratic party and has served as county commissioner, and for two terms as a member of the city council of Hailey. He is also a member of the Commercial Club, of which he is serving as secretary and treasurer, and he is in hearty sympathy with the purposes of the organization to develop Hailey, to extend its trade relations, and to uphold its civic standards. Fraternally he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and with the Eagles. He actuated at all times by a spirit of advancement which is manifest in his connection with every organization to which he belongs, whether of a business or social character. Laudable ambition has shaped his course and indefatigable enterprise has enabled him to continue therein, so that as the years have passed he has advanced step by step from a humble position in the commercial world to one of affluence.