

PATRICK J. CURRIER. Having learned the lumber business from the initial steps until the finished product is delivered to the consumer, Patrick J. Currier has devoted his entire life to the industry and is now president of the Currier Lumber Company, one of the large concerns of the kind in Detroit. He had his initial training in Ontario, for he was born across the border in Webbwood, Canada, in 1893, a son of James and Margaret (Foran) Currier, both of whom were born in Ontario and are now living in Detroit, the father being connected with the Currier Lumber Company.

A country school near Webbwood supplied Patrick J. Currier with his only educational advantages, but through reading and observation and a retentive mind he has educated himself. When but thirteen years of age he began working in the lumber woods of northern Ontario, his first job being that of swamper and scaler and in driving logs on the river to the mills. Thus starting at the very beginning he learned every phase of the work in the open, then worked in the offices of the railway lumber camps as a clerk and accountant and thus brought broad and accurate knowledge, based upon experience, to the starting point of his own career as a lumber dealer. He was also for a time in the engineering department of the Algona Steel Corporation and when the World War was on and the country entered the conflict he served as a secretary in the Catholic army huts for the Knights of Columbus and as a Victory loan worker.

The year 1919 found him again in active connection with the lumber trade. He came to Detroit and was employed by the old established lumber firm operating under the name of the Ternes Coal & Lumber Company and later as the W. P. Ternes Company until 1925, when he organized his own company. His has grown to be the largest retail lumber business in Michigan and undoubtedly one of the largest in the country in the volume of trade, in the number of buildings that constitute the plant and in the force of 700 employes at the main yard and in the several branch yards. Mr. Currier has done much to develop the lumber industry and to disseminate useful knowledge as to the trade among its representatives. He not only sells lumber but manufactures everything for buildings in interior woodwork, and the company enjoys an unassailable reputation for the excellence of its products.

Mr. Currier married Charlotte E. O'Connor, a native of Eganville, Ontario. Her parents were Canadian born and both are now deceased. Mrs. Currier was a teacher in the schools of Ontario before her marriage and she is now vice president of the Currier

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Lumber Company. Mr. and Mrs. Currier have a family of six children: Donald F., twenty-four years of age, who was graduated from Notre Dame University with the class of 1938 and is now in business with his father; Vincent, aged twenty-two, also connected with the Currier Lumber Company; Gerald A., eighteen years of age, now attending Notre Dame University; Desmond P., a youth of fifteen, now a student in Campion College at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin; Colette Charlotte, aged twelve, attending Sacred Heart Academy; and Clara Carol. The family are members of the Catholic church and Mrs. Currier takes an active part in church affairs, is a member of the Catholic Women's Study Club and the Catholic Women's Club and with the interests of St. Mary's church of Redford is closely associated.

Mr. Currier belongs to the Knights of Columbus, in which he has taken the fourth degree and is a past grand knight of his council at Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. He belongs to the Michigan Lumber Dealers Association and the Wayne County Lumber Dealers Association, and of the latter has been president. In 1925 he realized a desire which he had long cherished in taking a trip around the world, and almost every year since then he has gone abroad. He has also visited all parts of America and thoroughly enjoys travel and the profit it brings in an educational way.