

From "Business Biographies" in the Farm Bureau News, Nov. 23, 1933:
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DR. R. J. WALKER

Dr. R. J. Walker was born on a homestead in Nebraska. There his father tired of fighting drought, grasshoppers, and prairie fires, so moved to the county seat to become manager of a lumber yard.

Here Doctor went to school with the girl who was later to become his wife, until his sixteenth year when his father moved to Lincoln, Nebraska to engage in the wholesale lumber business. As Doctor would not go to school, his father made him go to work, securing the as freight bill collector for the Mo. Pac. R. R. Co.

During the next five years the Doctor subbed in almost every job in the city railroad station, part of the time carrying R. R. mail to Cong. W. J. Bryan's and U.S. Senator A. R. Talbott's office.

Then the family moved to Arkansas, where for five years Doctor worked at carpentry, farming and sawmilling, studying at night. A married sister, whose husband was a medical student, visited the family.

She thought Doctor was degenerating by becoming like many natives of the locality and suggested he take up dentistry, and so he entered the University of Nebraska without much enthusiasm, but soon found every subject interesting.

The second year he married the prettiest and one of the most popular girls in the University. After graduating he was appointed the demonstrator in charge of the Dental Dept. and came West later to accept a similar position with one of the coast colleges.

He practiced 17 years in Anacortes. In 1927 he sold out to Dr. J. L. Masters. He spent 1928 prospecting and writing, keeping well enough informed to have dental opinions accepted and published in the Sunday magazine section of one of the largest newspapers. By success at portrait painting he had also proven this work profitable.

Deciding that knowledge which one spends the most years acquiring by study and experience provides the easiest living, Doctor is willing to stick to Dentistry until he can more permanently gratify his hobby – mining and prospecting, with all their uncertainty, but with all their freedom from indoor confinement and human suffering.

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