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## **BARNEY RIKSEN**

To Barney Riksen, local insurance agent for the past twelve years, and assistant cashier in the Oak Harbor State Bank, goes the honor of being the only retired councilman to have an Oak Harbor street named in his honor.

"This was one of the greatest moments in my life," Barney stated, with a mischievous twinkle in his eyes. "There are very few even active councilmen who can boast a similar distinction."

Barney's rise to local fame was preceded by several years of hard work on his father's farm in Clover Valley where he was born, October 14, 1899, the youngest in a family of four children. He attended the Clover Valley grade school and then went to the Oak Harbor High School where he was graduated at the early age of 17.

In 1918 while working in the creamery, he was enlisted in the service and spent several months in a training camp at Seattle. Shortly after his return he began working in the Oak Harbor State Bank where he is now assistant cashier.

"But I wasn't always good at handling money," Barney smiled. "I can remember when I was a little child and my father offered me and my brother a nickle and a dime. He gave me first choice and I took the nickle because it was the biggest."

In 1921 Barney and Alice Bultman were married. The Riksens now have two children, a boy and a girl, both in school. It was in 1921 that Barney bought out the insurance agency here that he has handled since.

"I enjoy writing insurance and believe that a sound policy should be the first consideration," he said. He has made a considerable study of various insurance policies.

Barney's main hobby is hunting, but he also likes baseball and other outdoor sports. He is one of the four local men attending night classes in Mount Vernon.

"I can't remember how I earned my first dollar," Barney concluded, "But I've just spent my last one to make a job!"

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