

CHAPTER XXVIII

PERSONAL MENTION OF SOME OF THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN PROMINENT IN THE UPBUILDING OF HALL COUNTY

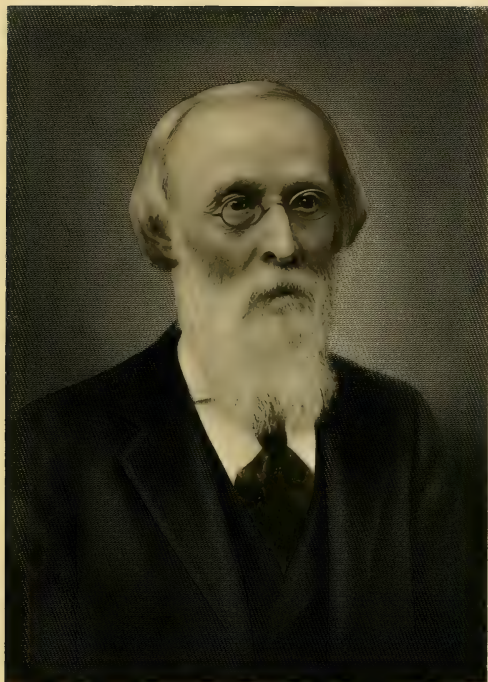
FRED HEDDE, whose name at one time represented some of Grand Island's most important interests, passed out of life in honorable old age, leaving behind him many material evidences of business enterprise and efficiency and a record of vigorous and upright manhood and useful citizenship.

Fred Hedde was born in one of the provinces of Germany, September 11, 1818. He had better educational opportunities than had many in his class in life and was permitted to develop his talents along the lines of his ambition, so that, when he came to the United States, at the age of thirty-six, he was already an experienced practitioner in the law. He was one of the intelligent, thinking men who left Germany in 1854, seeking a wider freedom in America. After reaching the United States he settled in the city of Davenport, Iowa, but in 1857 he decided on an agricultural life and located on a farm in Hall County, near Wood River. The quiet routine however of farm life very soon grew too monotonous for a man of such brilliant mind, and in a very short time he gave up rural activities and came to Grand Island. As he was possessed of capital, and was far-sighted in a business way, he invested in property, buying the corner lot on Third and Locust streets, for which he paid \$2,000. On this land he afterwards put up a substantial three-story building, which is occupied by prominent business firms on the ground floor, while the upper stories are utilized as business offices. Before leaving Germany, Mr. Hedde had been a contributor to the newspapers; this love for journalism remained with him and when the opportunity came for the purchase of the Grand Island *Independent*, he rescued it from bankruptcy. Subsequently he founded the *Daily Independent* and conducted this newspaper with ability for many years, finally selling it in 1891 to a stock company. He was a Republican of sturdy type but never accepted political honors of any kind. He was a generous, charitable man, a member and

liberal sustainer of the Lutheran church, but in his religious life as in other ways, he was always liberal-minded. His life was extended beyond that of many of his contemporaries, his death occurring in 1908.

In 1884 Mr. Hedde married Miss Louise Spethman, who was born in Germany and was brought to America by her parents when a child of five years. They were John and Melvina (Spethman) Spethman, who settled first in Iowa but came later to Nebraska and both died in this state. Mrs. Hedde is a member of the English Lutheran church. She is a woman of many accomplishments and since the death of Mr. Hedde has developed surprising business capacity. Disposing of her newspaper interests in the stock company, she took charge of the property and through her practical management and excellent judgment, has added greatly to its value and extension. Entirely on her own initiative, she has built a large annex to the building formerly mentioned and has fitted it up in first class modern style, making this corner a creditable index of the city's business prosperity. She is interested in many charities and especially in those at the present time connected with war work, her interest in the same has justly been stimulated because seven of her nephews are serving in the United States army. The names of these young heroes are: Albert and Walter Fretag, the former bearing the rank of lieutenant, Frank Spethman, Arthur Roeser, Henry Vieregg, and Fred and William Houck. Another military man in the family is Mrs. Hedde's brother, Leopold Spethman, who was a soldier in 1861 in the Union army in the Civil War.

ROBERT J. BARR.—"The boy is the father of the man," is a quotation with which every one is familiar, and impresses one with the importance of giving the boys every advantage in the matter of precept and education. That this was realized in the early days as well



Fred Hedde

as at the present time, may be gleaned from the stories told by the early settlers, who, in relating their experiences in the early settlement of the county, tell us that the first thing they did after the home was provided was to arrange for a place for the children to attend school. In view of the fact that large sums are expended to provide buildings and equipment, how necessary it is that care be taken to provide competent instructors in our institutions of learning. To have served a community like Grand Island for thirty-seven years as head of its public school system, is at once conclusive evidence of ability and a duty well performed. The subject of this record has been superintendent of the Grand Island public schools continuously since 1882, and we doubt if such a case is known of elsewhere.

Robert J. Barr is a native of Michigan, and was born at Grand Rapids, October 29, 1849. His parents were Jackson B. and LaMantha (Brink) Barr, and were farming people who spent their entire lives in Michigan. Their son received his education in the public schools of central Michigan, and taught his first school in 1868, when only nineteen years of age. He graduated from the State Normal College in 1873, and from that time to the present day has devoted himself entirely to educational work. After having charge of various schools in his native state, he came to Grand Island in 1882, and has been continuously at the head of the city's public school system since that time. Under his management the schools have taken front rank among the schools of the state, and their reputation has added largely to the attendance from outside districts.

September 4, 1878, Mr. Barr was married to Miss Eva A. Bellows, and they have one son, Dr. Albert S. who enlisted in September, 1917, and, after service in the hospitals of Camp Greenleaf, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, and Camp Greene, Charlotte, North Carolina, was over seas in the hospitals in France, where he served a year.

Mr. Barr is a republican in politics and a Mason, belonging to Ashlar Lodge No. 33 A. F. & A. M., Deuel Chapter No. 11, R. A. M., Mt. Lebanon Commandery No. 6 and Tangier Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

He and his wife are members of the Episcopal church.

HON. OTHMAN A. ABBOTT.—A member of one of the oldest American families, an honored veteran of the Civil War, an ex-member of the Nebraska Senate, first lieu-

tenant-governor of this state, and a leading member of the legal profession, Hon. Othman A. Abbott occupies a distinguished place among his fellow-men and is justly accounted one of the foremost of Grand Island's distinguished citizens. He was born September 19, 1842, at Hatley, County Stanstead, Quebec, Canada, a son of Abiel B. and Sarah (Young) Abbott, and is directly descended from ancestors who came from England to America as early as 1643. In that year they settled at Andover, Massachusetts, where the old Abbott homestead is one of the famous landmarks of the country, and after two and three-quarters centuries, still remains in the hands of the same family. This family has contributed many brilliant and distinguished men and women to the professions, not the least of whom is Othman A. Abbott, of Grand Island.

From the home in Canada, where the family had temporarily resided, the parents of Judge Abbott removed to DeKalb County, Illinois, and there the youth divided his time between work on the home farm and attendance at the local schools, including the high school at Belvidere. He was still residing there at the outbreak of the Civil War, and in 1861 enlisted in Company I, Ninth Illinois Cavalry, beginning a military career which lasted four years, three months and twenty-nine days, which was crowded with feats of courage, soldierly conduct and absolute fidelity to duty. His early military experiences included participation in the battles of General Curtis' campaign in Missouri and Arkansas, and subsequently his regiment was assigned to the guarding of the Memphis & Charlestown Railway. He was wounded in the right arm at Pontotoc, Mississippi, and was subsequently with General Thomas at Nashville, at which battle he received his second wound, a gun-shot through the left side. His gallantry and valor had earned recognition even before this, and February 23, 1865 he was promoted to the rank of second lieutenant, his advancement to the rank of first lieutenant coming May 23d following. His record throughout the long period of his service was one filled with brave and daring deeds.

While in the army he found time from his duties to commence the study of law, and after receiving his honorable discharge, upon his return to Belvidere he entered the office of Ira M. Moore, where he spent two more years in preparation. He was duly admitted to the bar in 1867, and not long thereafter came to Nebraska selecting Grand Island as his home, a community in which he was des-



O. A. ABBOTT

tinged to establish a name and reputation far beyond that of many contemporaries. His legal acumen and ability soon brought him to the forefront among the younger lawyers of his day, and as he took an interest and active part in republican politics, in 1871 he was elected as a member of the Constitutional Convention. The following year he was chosen to complete an unexpired term in the State Senate, and in 1875 he was again elected a member of the Constitutional Convention. By this time he had become a figure of state-wide reputation, and in 1876 was elected as the first lieutenant-governor of Nebraska, in which office he discharged his duties with dignity and distinguished ability. He has also served as county attorney of Hall County, and numerous other honors have come to him in recognition of his great abilities and splendid personal qualities. For a number of years past he has devoted himself exclusively to the practicing of law, and is ranked among the most capable members of his profession in his part of the state.

Judge Abbott married, February 9, 1873, Miss Elizabeth M. Griffin, of Sycamore, Illinois, a woman in every way qualified to be the helpmate of so capable a man. She is a graduate of Rockford (Illinois) College, and a woman of marked intellectuality and literary ability, who has been president of the Grand Island Library Board since its organization. Four children have been born to Judge and Mrs. Abbott: Othman A. Jr., a court reporter; Edith, a writer and educator of Chicago, and one of the heads of the School of Civics and Philanthropy under the Sage and Carnegie foundations, holding chairs in civics and philanthropy at the University of Chicago, one of whose several books, "Women in Industry," has been favorably received by press and public; Grace, recently an advisor for the War Labor Policy Board, at Washington, D. C. She is a graduate of the College at Grand Island and of the State University, and for many years was superintendent of the League for the Protection of Immigrants established and maintained by wealthy Chicago people. Later she was appointed as assistant of Miss Lathrop to enforce the child labor law, afterward held unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of the United States, and is now under employment of War Labor Board in connection with her labor in children's bureau. Miss Abbott was sent to Europe by the government with Miss Lathrop and is still in Europe but expects to return soon; and Arthur G., a graduate of the University of Chicago, class of 1906, who after several years of law

practice at Chicago is now a prominent member of the Grand Island bar.

Mrs. Abbott is a member of the Unitarian church. The Judge is a Scottish Rite Mason and belongs to the Loyal Legion and the Grand Army of the Republic. He is a firm supporter of the principles of the Republican party.

HON. GEORGE C. HUMPHREY.—

The name of Humphrey or Humphreys, is a very old and honorable English name, derived from the first name Humphrey. This is one of the several names of Germanic origin beginning with the syllable, hun or hum, supposed by some to be derived from the old race of Huns. The fact seems to be however, that it was taken from the old word "Hun" meaning stake, which was used as a weapon or support. The compound Hunifred, which was the earliest form of Humphrey, means support of peace.

Although at the present time there seems to be a somewhat differentiation between the name Humphrey and Humphreys, the distinction was not drawn in this country until a recent date, and many times different sons of the same father would use the two forms.

The most extensive branch of the family in the new world look to one Michael Humphrey for the origin of the name on these shores. He came here some time about 1643: not for religious motives—for he styled himself a "Member of the Church of England"—but for motives of self betterment. His home in England was Lyme, Dorsetshire, where his father Samuel, and his mother Susannah, long hoped and prayed for their son's return.

Michael settled in Massaco, now known as Simsbury, Mass., and married Susannah Grant. Her father was a man of property in Simsbury, of whom General U. S. Grant was the seventh in descent. Michael and Susannah's seven children all married, the five daughters uniting with the families of Lewis, Burnham, Shipman, Graham, and Bull. Their sons, Sergeant John, who was born in 1650, and Lieutenant Samuel, who was born in 1656, married Marry Mills, and Hannah Griffin respectively. Lieutenant Samuel was the great grandfather of Benjamin Humphrey, who was the father of William Humphrey, who was the father of Benjamin Humphrey, born in Steuben County, New York, in the year 1805, and the father of George C. Humphrey, subject of this sketch, who was born at Coolville, Athens County, Ohio, January 28, 1846. His mother's maiden name was

Anna Oakley. Of this family there were thirteen children, nine sons and four daughters namely, William Bennett, Miles Oakley, Susannah, Mary Jane, Abraham, Elihu Lewis, John Pratt, Mathew Dodder, Francis Marion, Benjamin, George Currier, Charlotte Ann, and Caroline Alice. The ancient arms of the Humphrey family in England are blazoned: sable, three ostrich feathers argent: the crest is a demi-griffin, wings holding between claws, ducal crown.

Benjamin Humphrey, George's father, died January 4, 1850, and his mother passed from life October 12, 1859. George at the age of five years, was bound out to Josephus Tucker—second cousin of J. Randolph Tucker of Revolutionary fame at whose home he remained until thirteen years of age, then resided with James Elliott one year, then with Jacob Smith one and a half years; leaving on November 14, 1861, he enlisted at Camp Wool, Athens, Ohio, as a private in Company B 75th Ohio Volunteer Infantry for three years, being at the time fifteen years, nine months and sixteen days of age. He was discharged January 1, 1864, at Folly Island, South Carolina. Reenlisted on the same date for the duration of the war, receiving his final discharge May 19, 1865, at the cessation of hostilities, having served three years six months and five days.

George Humphrey was promoted to the rank of corporal November 20, 1862—on July 2, 1863, he was captured at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, being held a prisoner thirty days, eleven days of that time on Belle Island near Richmond, Virginia. Upon his release he was again advanced, being appointed sergeant August 31, 1864.

During his life in the army he was engaged in the battles of Monterey, Shaws Ridge, McDowell, Franklin, Strasburgh, Cross Keys, Cedar Mountain, Freeman's Ford, White Sulphur Springs, Waterloo Bridge, Second Bull Run, Aldie, and Chancellorsville, Virginia, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Camp Baldwin, Gainesville, Florida, and Johns Island, S. C., but was never wounded. In February, 1866, he left Ohio for Junction City, Kansas, where he remained until June of that year, going thence to Newton, Iowa, remaining there until February, 1874, when he removed to Nebraska. He married Miss Margaret Jane Parrott at her home near Coolville, Ohio, November 5, 1868. To reach his bride he drove alone with a mule team and spring wagon from Iowa to Ohio in twenty-two days, was married and started back on November 8, having his wife and her sister Caro-

line along on the return journey, arriving at his home in Iowa, December 5, having spent twenty-six days on the way—camping out every night! Some honeymoon?

Of this union there were born five sons and four daughters, Charles J., George H., Florence Gertrude, Paul V., Mary O., J. Leslie, Anna Maude, Claude T. and Iva Blanche. All the children are living except Anna Maude who died in 1886. Mr. Humphrey filed on a one hundred and sixty acre homestead, N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ section 22-9-10 South Platte Township, Hall County, March 4, 1874, later he purchased from the Union Pacific Railroad Company S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ section 15, adjoining the old homestead and still owns the same property. Mrs. Humphrey died February 15, 1899. As his farm was rented he moved to Grand Island in October, 1901. He remarried in Omaha January 18, 1902, Mrs. Charlotte D. Flowers, who died March 13, 1916. There were no children by the second wife.

Mr. Humphrey has held the following offices in Hall County: member county board of supervisors, 1894-1895, representative 27th Session of Nebraska Legislature, 1901, deputy collector internal revenue, District of Nebraska, 1902 to 1915 inclusive, a period of service lasting thirteen years and seven months.

He was elected county assessor of Hall County in the fall of 1916, for a term of four years. He is not an educated man, not having had the advantage of a high school or college course; having had only a common school education such as was provided in schools in those early days, perhaps but three months in the winter, and a part of three months in the summer. He attended one term the winter of 1865-1866, after the war closed. Observation and experience in and of the world is a very good teacher, so it is often found, and Mr. Humphrey availed himself of every advantage for self improvement.

In politics, a staunch Republican, he was just old enough to cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1864. In religion, a Protestant, he was a charter member of the First Congregational church of Doniphan Nebraska, but is now a member of the First Congregational church in Grand Island.

Fraternally, he is a member in good standing of Grand Island Lodge No. 22, I. O. O. F., Doniphan Lodge No. 86, A. F. & A. M., Doniphan Duell Chapter No. 11, R. A. M. Mount Lebanon No. 6, K. T., Grand Island A. O. U. W. Lodge No. 1, M. W. of A. Lodge No. 408, Lyon Post No. 11, Department of

Nebraska G. A. R. and Department Commander 1915-1916.

He was instrumental in securing an appropriation from the City of Grand Island for the beautiful Soldiers and Sailors monument which was erected on the Court House grounds in 1913. A generous man, he is always ready to contribute to funds for any good purpose in the city or elsewhere. At the present time he resides at 103 East Eighth street, with his two daughters Gertrude and Blanche.

ERNEST WEBSTER AUGUSTINE.—

Among the younger generation of Grand Island business men who have not only taken a prominent part in commercial affairs but have also contributed of their abilities, enthusiasm and energies to the forwarding of civic matters and general movements for the public welfare, one of the more prominent is E. W. Augustine, general manager of the Augustine Company, manufacturers of art calendars and advertising specialties. He is a native son of Nebraska, born at Bruning, September 13, 1886, his father being Irving Milton Augustine, a review of whose career will be found on another page of this work.

Mr. Augustine's education was secured in the public schools of Grand Island and Grand Island College. He was brought up in the atmosphere of a printing office, for in 1896 his father had started what was known as the *Grand Island Free Press*, a newspaper which he published for several years, but of which he disposed after realizing the opportunities offered by the art calendar and advertising specialties field. With the organization of the Augustine Company, the son became actively interested in its affairs, and it was greatly due to his active and energetic work that the firm was able to prosper and flourish from the start. In 1908, when the business was valued at approximately \$3,000, he bought a half interest and assumed the duties of general manager, and under his regime in this position the concern has grown and developed until today, after ten years, it is conservatively valued at \$150,000. The Augustine Company at this time occupies and operates a large, modern, fully-equipped plant, and its products are distributed over fifteen states of the Union. Mr. Augustine is a man of marked ability in his field; he is possessed of unique and progressive ideas and imbued with the spirit of business aggressiveness—a man coming under the heading of being a "live wire." His business interests

are large and important, as aside from the work of the Augustine Company he is identified with other commercial affairs being a director of the Commercial State Bank of Grand Island, but notwithstanding his varied commercial activities he has always been able to find time to devote to the interests and welfare of his adopted community, and at present is vice-president of the local Young Men's Christian Association and is active in the Commercial Club. For twelve years he has been treasurer of the English Lutheran church, in the work of which he has always taken a helpful part, and of which Mrs. Augustine is also a member. She belongs to the Order of the Eastern Star, while her husband is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He supports the Democratic party at elections.

Mr. Augustine married June 17, 1910, Miss Parmelia M. Spethman, who was born at North Loup, Nebraska; the daughter of Dietric Spethman, a wagon-maker by trade, who came to Grand Island a number of years ago and is now engaged in the automobile business. Mr. and Mrs. Augustine are the parents of two children: Mercedes Alice, who was born in 1912; and Webster Pershing, born in 1918.

GUS E. NEUMANN, now serving his second term as county treasurer of Hall County, has been prominent in public life here for a number of years. He has been a resident of the United States for thirty-two years, and of the state of Nebraska for the same length of time. The high esteem in which he is held both personally and officially by his neighbors and fellow citizens testifies to his stability of character and true ideals of good citizenship. Treasurer Neumann was born in Germany, in July, 1876. He is a son of Ernest and Johanna (Grabs) Nuemann.

Ernest Neumann was born in Bohemia, then a province belonging to the Austrian monarchy, and, although he married a woman of German birth, maintained his home in Bohemia during the larger part of his life before emigrating with his family to the United States in 1887. He had served in the Bohemian army but had never learned a trade that he could make available in the busy country to which he had come in middle life, and therefore during the eight years that he longer survived, he engaged in various industries as a general laborer. His death occurred in 1895 in Grand Island, Nebraska, to which place he had come in the fall of



GUS. E. NEUMANN

1887. His widow survives and lives with her daughter in Niagara Falls, New York. There were three children in the family: William, who lives in Germany; Mrs. Christ Baier, a resident of Niagara Falls; and Gus E.

A boy of eleven years when the family came to Grand Island, Gus E. Neumann attended school here for a short time before starting to work in a printing office where he learned the trade and continued work as a printer from 1888 until 1908. In the meantime Mr. Neumann became acquainted with many men of affairs in the county and had also become intelligently interested in politics, many questions concerning the permanent development of Hall County being political issues.

His first adventure in business for himself was in 1898, when he purchased the *Nebraska Courier*, a republican paper, from the late Henry Garn.

In 1890 he sold the paper and joined a number of other young men who had, from time to time, been fellow-employees, in the organization of a stock company for the purchase of *The Independent*. He actively participated in the publication of the paper until his health forbade, early in 1909. In July of that year he was compelled to undergo a serious operation and upon the advice of his physician has never resumed his former work.

Mr. Neumann has for twenty years been actively engaged in the work of the city's volunteer fire department and has done much gratuitous service to the city in this capacity. For five years he was the secretary of the department and for two years its chief; and since the organization of a partially paid department has been assistant chief, being in charge of the volunteers, whenever the latter are called for assistance.

In 1911 he was elected county clerk and was continued in that office until January, 1917, when he assumed the duties of county treasurer, to which office he had been elected on the Republican ticket in the previous campaign. With such reliable, industrious and efficient public officials as Mr. Neumann, Hall County is bound to make rapid strides forward.

In 1897, Mr. Neumann married Miss Edith Wutzler, a native of Grand Island, Nebraska; the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wutzler, for many years an employee in the Union Pacific car shops. Mr. and Mrs. Neumann have two children, a daughter and son. The former, Irma, is the wife of William Reece, a soldier in the United States army in 1918; and Ernest F., who, at time of writing, is in the United States navy on a ship in the har-

bor of San Francisco. Mr. Neumann and his family belong to the English Lutheran church. He is identified with the leading fraternal organizations of the country, these including the Masonic, in which he has reached the Royal Arch degree, the Odd Fellows, the Elks and the Eagles, and he has been president of the last named fraternity at Grand Island.

JULIUS GUENDEL.—A former citizen of Grand Island well known and one who enjoyed the good will of all, was the late Julius Guendel. He was born in Hohenstein, Erns-thal, Saxony, Germany, August 5, 1865, and died in Grand Island in 1909.

Julius Guendel left his native land when he was sixteen years old to accompany his brother Richard to the United States. Soon after reaching America they came to Grand Island, Nebraska. Julius was without capital and thus had to work his way to a competency from the bottom of the ladder. He was industrious and honest and after working for a time as a farm hand went to the Pacific Coast where for two years he was engaged on the construction of the Oregon Short Line Railroad and then came back to Grand Island to enter the employ of Chris Rathman. Still later he was in the retail liquor business. He was kind and generous and there are many who recall him with grateful emotion.

Mr. Guendel married March 11, 1888, Miss Anna Bauer, who was born in Saxony, Germany. She is a daughter of William and Wilhelmina (Rahm) Bauer. Her father died in Germany but her mother subsequently came to Grand Island. Mrs. Guendel reached Nebraska just one year before her husband. Mr. and Mrs. Guendel had four children, the survivors being: A. J., Emil R., who was in the jewelry business for a number of years in Alliance, Nebraska, but is now in the employ of the Nebraska State Bank; Florence, who resides with her mother in the old home. Mr. Guendel was a member of the Liederkrantz Society, the Eagles, the Plattsdeutsch Verein, the sons of Herman and the United Travelers Union.

ARTHUR J. GUENDEL.—No community can afford unsafe banks, therefore a well sustained banking institution argues for its stability to the average man who is not willing to entrust his capital to individuals of haphazard reputation or without proper safeguards. Among the list of banking institu-

tions that accommodate the citizens of Hall County not one stands higher as safe, sound and reliable than the Nebraska State Bank, of Grand Island. There are many older banking institutions but none that have been more prosperous or have a sounder financial foundation.

Arthur J. Guendel, cashier of the Nebraska State Bank of Grand Island, was born in this city, July 13, 1880. He is a son of Julius and Anna Guendel, old settlers of the county. Being a native son he was reared in Grand Island and educated in the schools of his home city and at a very early age decided upon his future career. When only sixteen he entered a bank as a clerk and continued in a clerical capacity until the opportunity came for investment and a larger measure of responsibility. In April, 1917 he assisted in the organization of the Nebraska State Bank and became its first cashier, A. E. Cady, Jr., being vice-president. This institution has a capital of \$75,000 with deposits of \$680,000, the bank officers and entire board of directors representing a large aggregate of capital. The business is conducted along safe, conservative lines and has had a steady influence during the past year when values of all kinds have been disturbed on account of the World War.

Mr. Guendel married in 1914, Miss Julia Nay, who was born and educated in Grand Island and is a daughter of Coleman Nay, a native of Ireland who in his youth came to Grand Island. He became a man of importance here and for many years was active in political circles. Mrs. Guendel is a member of the Roman Catholic church. Mr. Guendel devotes himself closely to business relating to his own particular field, but nevertheless finds time to perform every duty demanded by good citizenship.

HERMAN HEHNKE, one of Grand Island's successful business men, has been a resident of this city since he was fourteen years old, and for twenty-six years has been in the hardware business. He is vice-president and general manager of the widely known firm of capitalists operating as the Hehnke-Lohmann Company, of Grand Island.

Herman Hehnke was born in Germany, June 21, 1868. His parents were Herman and Mary (Schreder) Hehnke, both of whom were natives of Germany. They emigrated to the United States settling in Grand Island and here the father worked at first as a carpenter and later was a contractor and still later

went into the hardware business in which he was interested up to the time of his death. There are many substantial buildings in Grand Island that stand as testimonials of his mechanical skill or of the honest carrying out of his building contracts. Among these are the Episcopal church, the Grand Island Business College and the University block. He was a Democrat in politics. Six of his seven sons survive, Gustave, the fifth, having died; the others are as follows: Herman, Otto, an architect, resides in Scotts Bluff, Nebraska; Hugo, who is a resident of Cairo, Nebraska, where he is manager of the Cairo Mercantile Company, a branch of the Hehnke-Lohmann Company of Grand Island; Carl, connected in business with his brother Herman; John, a carpenter at Grand Island; and William, who has charge of the furnace department of the above named business.

Herman Hehnke was a school boy when he came with his parents to Grand Island and continued his studies, first in Grand Island College and afterward in a college at Lincoln. He has been in the hardware business ever since completing his education, devoting his entire time to his present concern which is one of the largest in Nebraska, handling general hardware of every kind, furnaces, paints and varnish. He owns the business quarters, a substantial three-story building with dimensions of thirty-three by one hundred feet, the entire building being utilized by The Hehnke-Lohmann Company. The business career of this firm has been honorable in character and its policy is accepted by upright business men over a wide territory and it is mentioned as one of the old and representative mercantile firms of the county.

Mr. Hehnke married, in 1882, Miss Emma Aye, who died in 1911, being the mother of five daughters, namely: Freda, Ella, Lillian, Estella and Helen, all of whom survive except Ella. In 1915 Mr. Hehnke married Mrs. Anna Neubert and one daughter, Marielles, has been born to them. Mr. Hehnke is a Republican in his political affiliations and is an active citizen, serving honestly and efficiently at times on the board of aldermen, his business advice making him a very valuable member of the city council. He is a director of the Nebraska State Bank at Grand Island. For many years he has been a Mason.

PETER R. JENSEN, a substantial business man of Grand Island, owning and conducting a large grocery store on the north side of the city, has had experience in several in-

dustrial lines apart from this business since he came to America at the age of eighteen. Mr. Jensen is well known in Hall County, to which he came in 1886.

He was born in Denmark, August 3, 1867, the son of Jens Andersen and Marie Jensen, the former of whom was born in Slagelse and the latter in Horsens, Denmark. Both died in that country. The father was a machinist. Both parents were members of the Lutheran church. They had twelve children but none came to the United States except Peter R., who is the youngest of the five living members of the family. He attended school until he was fourteen years of age and then went on a sea-going ship, being for two and a half years on the water. He returned home, only to leave again as soon as he was eighteen years of age. After reaching the United States Mr. Jensen worked his way to Kansas City but shortly afterward went to Colorado to work in a mine there for very satisfactory wages. In 1886 he came to Grand Island being employed for two years at the boilermaker's trade. He then accepted a position with the Grand Island Street Car Company and had the distinction of operating the first car on the line, and remained with the company for eight years. Upon severing his connection with the street car company he became connected with the retail liquor business and after serving for seven years behind the bar, bought a saloon which he conducted for eleven years. When Nebraska laws were changed and the state became dry, Mr. Jensen embarked in the grocery business and has built up a fine trade.

Mr. Jensen married in June, 1896, Miss Anna E. Hansen, who was born in Denmark. They have four children: Lloyd, who is a clerk in the office of the Union Pacific Railroad at Grand Island; Louis, who is a ranchman in Burbank, Washington; Marie who assists her father in the grocery store; and Anders who is a schoolboy. Mr. Jensen and his family belong to the Lutheran church. In his political views he is a Democrat.

THOMAS E. BRADSTREET, president of the Bradstreet & Clemens Company, Grand Island, has long been identified with many substantial business interests in Nebraska. He is equally prominent in public affairs and is at present serving as a member of the upper house of the Nebraska legislature.

Thomas E. Bradstreet was born at Independence, in Buchanan County, Iowa, February 14, 1865, the tenth in a family of twelve

children and the only member living in Nebraska. His parents were William and Mary (Redman) Bradstreet, both of whom were born in the state of New York and were married there. In 1858 they removed to Iowa and homesteaded, where they passed the rest of their busy, useful, unpretentious lives. The father directed his affairs with honesty and good judgment and was considered a successful farmer and cattle feeder in Buchanan County. In his political views he was a Democrat, and of the Methodist Episcopal faith, he reared his children in that religious body.

Although brought up a farmer boy Thomas E. Bradstreet had educational advantages and after his primary school course was completed he sought other opportunities alternating his studies with work on the farm; later he attended a business college at Dubuque, Iowa, and at Waterloo. After working on a farm during two summers for \$15 a month, Mr. Bradstreet went to Cedar County where he taught one term in the Elkhorn district, and subsequently taught one term in O'Brien County. Early in 1886 Mr. Bradstreet rented a farm in that county, following his marriage, and continued on that farm for three years before removing to Sioux City, Iowa. After one year with D. H. Talbott on a ranch, he engaged in the dairy business in Sioux City, an enterprise carried on for the next twelve years with much success, but his next business venture proved that other business qualities than those he possessed were needed in the cattle feeding industry, for within four years Mr. Bradstreet had practically buried a capital of \$20,000. The balance quickly swung however, when he went into a line of business with which he was familiar and for which he was well equipped, since 1903 no resident of Hall County having prospered more substantially in the horse business. He has greatly enlarged the original scope of his enterprise and is now at the head of the Bradstreet & Clemens Company which own much valuable property at Grand Island. He owns all the barns used by lease from him, of the Grand Island Horse & Mule Company, and the Blain Horse, Mule & Cattle Company, which cover a large area. He is concerned along other business lines and was the originator and is president of the Equine Packing Company, now known as the Grand Island Packing Company.

Mr. Bradstreet married, in 1886, Miss Luella M. Biddinger, who was born at Independence, Iowa, and is a daughter of James Biddinger, a substantial farmer there. Mrs. Bradstreet is a highly educated woman. During the time she and Mr. Bradstreet resided on the

farm in O'Brien County, she also taught school. Mrs. Bradstreet passed away February 5, 1919 at Lincoln, being buried in Grand Island February 7th. She was a member of the O. E. S. Mr. and Mrs. Bradstreet had three children; two sons survive; Archie L., associated with his father in business; and Deo, who has been with the American Expeditionary Force in France since June, 1918, taking a gallant part in the great army of successes in September, a non-commissioned officer, being coporal of his company.

Although Mr. Bradstreet is a Republican in his political sentiments, his personal popularity carried him into office in a Democratic stronghold, in the fall of 1918. He could not be unkind of the great honor tendered him but apparently made little personal effort at campaigning, having left his home but three times for that purpose. His fellow citizens feel that their interests are safeguarded by a man of Senator Bradstreet's character.

He served in the state legislature in 1919, taking a very active part in demanding increased facilities for the Soldiers Home at Grand Island. He instigated a probe of existing conditions that resulted in several sweeping changes in the personnel and administrative policies of the State Board of Control of Public Institutions of the state of Nebraska. Senator Bradstreet also rendered invaluable service on the Roads and Highway Committee and numerous other committees. He advanced the idea that while the new \$5,000,000 state capital is being built the old building should be retained intact and the new building located on the north end of the present grounds and two blocks adjacent, to be acquired for that purpose. His contention that this would save the state approximately \$1,000,000 in rental and other expenses, may yet prove sound.

He is a thirty-second degree Mason and a Shriner and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen, the Elks and the Odd Fellows.

JULIUS BOECK, who has had long experience in the confectionery business and is a practical candy manufacturer, is one of Grand Island's substantial citizens. He has maintained his home in this city since 1883 and in 1912 erected his handsome residence at No. 509 West First street. Mr. Boeck is a member of the city council and has served three years on the Grand Island school board.

Julius Boeck was born in Schleswig, Germany, July 23, 1865. His parents were Professor Heinrich Albert and Henrietta (Herman) Boeck, both of whom were born and

died in Germany. Of their nine children, six are living, three of whom reside in the United States. Julius Boeck has a brother, John, who is a physician of Boise City, Idaho; and a sister, Dora, who lives at Phoenix, Arizona, the widow of Albert Geyler. By the time he was fifteen years old because of his father's attention to his education, Julius Boeck was well advanced in his studies and also was a youth of business enterprise. At that time he came alone to the United States and soon found employment in an Iowa drug store. From there he went to Boulder, Colorado, where he remained in the drug business with his brother for five years. In 1883 he came to Grand Island, Nebraska, and for two years was a clerk for the firm of Viet & Roeser then worked for Mr. Roeser alone for two years before he went into the grocery business for himself finally establishing his own confectionery business. Mr. Boeck then went on the road and represented the Dolan Fruit Company for two years. Following this he became travelling salesman for the Omaha Candy Company and continued in that relation for the next fifteen years. During this time Mr. Boeck prudently husbanded his resources and in 1907 began the manufacture of candy, operating as the Elting Candy Company. He met with success in this enterprise but his plant was destroyed by fire in June, 1918, since which time business has not been resumed, largely on account of the shortage of sugar. At present he is a member of the travelling staff of the Mueller-Keller Candy Company, of Saint Joseph, Missouri.

Mr. Boeck married, in 1886, Miss Dora Iveis, who was born at Springfield, Illinois, a daughter of Cornelius Iveis, who has conducted a hotel and grocery in Grand Island for four years. Mr. and Mrs. Boeck have had four children, namely; Emma Henrietta, a bookkeeper and cashier in her father's candy factory; Pearl Alfreda, a teacher in the public schools; Edith Rebecca, a cashier in a sugar factory; and Helen, who died at the age of two years. Mr. Boeck and his family belong to the Lutheran church. He is an active factor in the local Republican politics, and on many occasions has served in public office with great efficiency. He belongs to a number of fraternal organizations, among these being the Odd Fellows, the Elks, the American Order of United Workmen, the Maccabees and the United Commercial Travelers.

WILLIAM SPANGENBERGER, a solid, prosperous business man of Grand Island, has

spent his entire life here. From humble beginnings, through his own efforts he has become financially independent, in the meanwhile honestly earning the general esteem in which he is held. He is president and general manager of the Grand Island Storage Company, which has been in operation here since 1903.

William Spangenberg was born in Grand Island, August 22, 1869. His parents were Fred and Louise (Budde) Spangenberg, natives of Germany who came to Grand Island in 1865 living here the remainder of their days. For two years after reaching Hall County, the father engaged in freighting, then entered the employ of the Union Pacific Railroad and during the rest of his life worked in the roundhouse. He had eight children; the following six surviving: Pauline, the wife of Charles Hengen, of Lafayette, Indiana; Louise, living in Grand Island; William, a well known business man of this city; Fred, a railroad man; Carrie, the wife of George Carman, of Omaha; and Otto, bookkeeper for, and interested in the Grand Island Storage Company. Mr. Spangenberg is a Republican in politics and fraternally belongs to the Odd Fellows and the Royal Highlanders. He married Anna Norbeck, a native of Sweden; they have an adopted child, Inis. The eldest of the family, Dora, who died at Grand Island in 1916, was the wife of Nick Hengen.

William Spangenberg attended school in Grand Island but his people were poor and he had to go to work in early boyhood, his first job being herding cattle. Afterward he was employed on a farm for a time and then entered the Union Pacific Company's employ in the freight house in Grand Island, where he remained for twenty years. Even after he had invested his savings in a business of his own, he remained seven more years with the railroad company. In 1903, with his brother Otto, Mr. Spangenberg started the Grand Island Storage Co., which later was incorporated at \$20,000. He has been president and general manager of the concern ever since. This business has been developed into a large enterprise, a forwarding and dray line business being carried on in connection with the work at the storage plant.

Mr. Spangenberg married, in 1893, Miss Anna Reinecke, who was born in Grand Island, a daughter of Charles and Susan (Williams) Reinecke. Mr. Reinecke was a railroad man who came to Grand Island in 1866. Mr. and Mrs. Spangenberg have one daughter, Ruth, the wife of Conrad Ross, who is a brickmason by trade. They now live in Omaha and have

two children: Mabel and Bettie. Mr. Spangenberg is a Republican in politics. He belongs to the Royal Highlanders and was a charter member of the local organization. In addition to his business interests above stated, he is a stockholder in another of Grand Island's substantial concerns which has been built up—the Grand Island Hide & Fur Company.

MAX J. EGGE, optician, is one of Grand Island's best known business men. He is a representative of a sturdy race of pioneers who settled in Hall County a half century ago. Max J. Egge was born near Grand Island, Nebraska, May 4, 1871. His parents, both of whom have long since passed out of life, were Adolph and Otilie Egge. They were married in the city of Omaha, Nebraska, and came to Hall County in 1868, taking up a homestead east of Grand Island.

Max J. Egge was one year old when his parents came to this section of Nebraska. For a number of years after locating here his father worked as foreman of what was known as the State Central Mill, for Henry Koenig. Through industry, sobriety and frugality he accumulated enough capital to enable him to embark in business for himself. Subsequently he became a substantial coal merchant and a business man of importance in Grand Island. He took an interest in public affairs and politically was identified with the Republican party. The Lutheran church received his support. Of his four children the survivors are: Max J., Carl, a resident of Minneapolis, is superintendent of the railway mail service and for a number of years was a post office inspector; and Marie, the widow of R. V. Pistorius, lives in Grand Island.

After completing the high school course in Grand Island Max J. Egge found himself at liberty to choose the vocation he preferred above others and during the next few years learned the intricacies of the jewelry business, including the grinding and fitting of lenses. From 1893 to 1896 he was in the jewelry business at Cortland, Nebraska, and then came to Grand Island to establish a business house along the same lines. In recent years he sold his store and now devotes all his time to optical work, in which profession he enjoys the confidence of the community. Mr. Egge is somewhat prominent in Republican politics. He served four years as chairman of the Republican central committee and at present is serving in the office of city treasurer. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity, is a

Knight Templar and Shriner, and belongs to Lodge No. 604 Elks in Grand Island. In 1899 he married Miss Ada Casad, of Cortland, Nebraska. She is a member of the Christian and he of the Lutheran church.

THOMAS OLIVER CROMWELL HARRISON, one of Hall County's distinguished citizens, formerly serving with great judicial honor on the bench and as a member of the Nebraska State Senate, is an eminent member of his profession in Grand Island and the dean of the bar of the county. For many years he has been a notable figure in the court room and perhaps only less so in public affairs pertaining to community, county and state.

Judge Harrison was born in New Burlington, Clinton County, Ohio, May 22, 1849. His parents were Peter and Sylvania (Lovekin) Harrison, the former of whom was a native of England while the latter was born near Frederick, Maryland. Their marriage took place at Springfield, Ohio. They became the parents of eight children. But two of these survive, Judge Harrison and his brother Charles Harrison, a farmer residing in Greene County, Ohio. Peter Harrison was a manufacturer of furniture and for many years he conducted his furniture store at New Burlington, in the meanwhile also attending to his duties as a minister, first in the Wesleyan and later in the Methodist Episcopal church. He was a man of strong convictions and undoubtedly some of his admirable qualities descended to his children; he early became a strong anti-slavery man, an Abolitionist. Upon the formation of the Republican party he found himself in sympathy with that organization. In 1872 he came to Hall County, Nebraska, and for some years served as one of the board of county commissioners and also served one term in the state legislature. His wife had died in Ohio prior to his coming to the West. His death occurred in Grand Island.

The boyhood of Judge Harrison was spent in southern Ohio where he attended the common schools and later took a course in the Normal school at Lebanon. Before leaving Ohio he had read law under the preceptorship of his uncle, R. A. Harrison, at London. He was admitted to the Nebraska bar after reaching Hall County in 1873. For a short time he taught school and then entered into practice and for forty-five years has been identified with the courts of this state. He early became interested in public affairs so that political offices were soon tendered him, his first ac-

ceptance being the position of deputy county treasurer, in which capacity he served one term. In the meanwhile he made rapid headway at the bar being elected judge of the county court and served continuously in that office for eight years; subsequently, for the same period he served as police judge, and still later, for eight years was judge of the district court, having jurisdiction over eleven counties. Judicial experience is one of the most valuable qualifications of a judge and his fellow citizens appreciated this fact and proved their appreciation by electing him judge of the supreme court of the state, in which exalted office Judge Harrison served with intellectual vigor and sound judgment for six years. Judge Harrison was elected state senator, representing Hall and Hamilton counties, and during his term in the General Assembly, he reflected still further credit upon himself and his constituents. Since retiring from public life, Judge Harrison has continued his law practice in Grand Island also serving as attorney for the city school board.

Judge Harrison married, in 1880, Miss Mary C. Laine, who was born in the state of New York. She is a member of the Presbyterian church. The Judge is prominent in Masonic circles being a Knight Templar and also a Shriner. Although he is the only representative of his family in Hall County, at one time three of his brothers lived here, W. H., Richard L. and Charles. Harrison township in Hall County was named in honor of his family.

ERNEST G. KROGER, of Grand Island, is an able member of the bar, one of the younger leaders of the city democracy, and a citizen who has already impressed the force and straightforwardness of his character upon the legislation of his adopted community. During the past nine years he has been a practitioner in this city, and during the greater part of that time has acted in the capacity of police judge, an office in which he has given evidence of the possession of marked judicial and executive ability.

Judge Kroger was born at North Bend, Nebraska, February 15, 1888, a son of John and Mary (Docekal) Kroger, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Austria-Hungary. Both his father and mother came to the United States as children of fourteen years with their respective parents, the families settling in Nebraska. For a number of years during his early life John Kroger was engaged in railroading, but eventually turned

his attention to farming in Hamilton County, where he became the possessor of 160 acres of land and developed a well-cultivated and highly-improved farm. There his death occurred after a successful and honorable career, his widow still making her home on the property which she had helped her husband to develop. They were the parents of five children: Ida, the wife of George Wurtz, a Hamilton County farmer; William, engaged in farming in Polk County, Nebraska; Ernest G., Adolph, farming in Hamilton County; and Lillian, who is single and makes her home with her mother on the homestead. The family belongs to the Lutheran church. In his political views, John Kroger was a democrat.

Ernest G. Kroger received his early education in the public schools of York County, Nebraska, following which he attended Concordia College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for two years. Deciding upon the law as the medium through which to work out his life's success, he became a student at the State University, Lincoln, Nebraska. He was an earnest, industrious student being duly graduated from that institution with his degree after three years of study, and in 1909 was admitted to the bar. At that time he came to Grand Island to enter upon the practice of his profession. In April, 1911, he was elected police judge, an office which he has since filled with rare ability, dignity and justice. He has been engaged in active practice, interspersed with his activities in Democratic politics and civic movements. Care and precision mark the preparation of all his cases of whatever nature, his thoroughness of preparation insuring a convincing and clear presentation of whatever subject comes before him for adjustment. Judge Kroger is a member of several clubs and fraternal organizations, and with his family attends the Lutheran church.

On September 29, 1909, Judge Kroger married at Polk, Nebraska, Miss Kathryn Niermann, who was born in Polk County. To this union there have been born three children: Roscoe, in 1910; Orville, in 1912; and Eleanor, in 1917.

RUSSELL L. GEER.—One of the business concerns in Grand Island that commands attention because of its long continuance, substantial character and commercial integrity is the Geer Company, of which Russell L. Geer is president. He was born in Grand Island, Nebraska, October 25, 1887, the son of L. T. Geer, an extended sketch of whom will be found in this work.

Russell L. Geer obtained his education in the public schools of Grand Island and was graduated from the high school in 1906. Instead of taking advantage of open opportunity whereby he might have won collegiate laurels, he illustrated his democratic principles by accepting work in his father's office in order to learn the company business through practical experience. After two years there Mr. Geer went to Kansas City where for four years he was employed as estimator for the American Sash & Door Company, returning then to Grand Island, where he became associated officially with the Geer Company, accepting the presidency of the organization. The stock of this company is owned by Mr. Geer, his father and his brother. The business of this company is one of large volume and wide trade connection.

Mr. Geer married, in 1912, Miss Ruth Hinzen, who was born in Walnut, Crawford County, Kansas, where she was educated and carefully reared. She is a member of the Christian church, in Kansas City. Mr. Geer was reared in the Congregational church. In politics he is a sturdy Republican but no seeker for public honors for himself, the quiet, steady pursuit of business bringing him the satisfaction and remuneration that afford contentment, without the cares attached to political preferment. He and his wife take part in the city's pleasant social life and are members of the Grand Island Country Club.

JOHN ALLAN.—A resident of Hall County for forty-five years, John Allan has the distinction of being head of the firm that has the only abstract business in the county. During his long residence here he has seen much public service, and through this, as well as through his various business interests, has been a helpful factor in building up and developing this thriving part of the state.

Mr. Allan was born May 30, 1850, in Scotland. He is a son of John and Margaret (Watson) Allan, who passed their entire lives in the land of their birth, where they were engaged in agricultural pursuits. They were highly respected people of their community and devout members of the Scotch Presbyterian church and through their example and teachings reared a family which survives to reflect credit upon their rearing. Of the thirteen children, eleven are living, but only four are residents of the United States: John, James, who is a resident of Wood River, Nebraska; Mrs. Jessie Wilson, of Doniphan,

this state; and Henry, formerly a resident of Hall County and for eight years clerk of the district court, but now a resident of Seattle, Washington.

John Allan received his education in the public schools of his native land. He was reared to an agricultural life, but the opportunities for advancement did not seem to be promising enough in the place of his birth and he decided to try his fortunes in the land across the waters. He was less than nineteen years of age when he arrived in this country, February 4, 1869, and was only twenty-three years old when he came to Hall County. For eight years following his arrival he was engaged in teaching school at Wood River, but at the end of that period secured employment in the court house at Grand Island. Two years later he was elected to the office of district clerk, which he filled with such ability that he was retained in office by consecutive elections until he had established an incumbency of sixteen years. In the meantime, in 1884, he had founded a small abstract business, which he built up gradually until it assumed large proportions, and at the expiration of his final term of office he began to give the business his undivided attention. The firm of John Allan & Son is now one of the large and important business concerns of the county seat and the only abstract business in Hall County. While abstracts are given the greater part of Mr. Allan's attention, he also handles real estate, insurance and loans, and is known as an astute and careful man of business, an excellent judge of land values, and a man of the highest probity and integrity. A Republican in his political views, in addition to the service mentioned above, he has contributed to his community his labors in the offices of deputy county clerk and deputy clerk of the district court. His fraternal affiliation is with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which order he is past grand master. With the members of his family, he belongs to the Episcopal church.

Mr. Allan was married June 18, 1885, at Grand Island, to Miss Fannie L. Garrett, who was born in Iowa, and of their children, three are living; Leo G., who was his father's partner in business, a former member of the Nebraska National Guards, who is now captain of Company M, 134th Infantry, A. E. F., France; Elsie M., who is assisting in her father's office during the absence of her brothers; and Rex J., who in April 1918, enlisted in the United States Navy, and is now stationed at Brooklyn, New York. Prior to enlistment he was attending the Colorado School of

Mines at Golden, Colorado, and when discharged intends to complete his education in that institution.

CHARLES HENRY TULLY, identified with the interests of Hall County, Nebraska, for over forty years, is a representative citizen of Grand Island and has had much to do with the development of its commercial affairs. He has been one of the public-spirited men who have given encouragement to civic progress along every line. Beginning at the foot of the ladder and climbing by the aid of character and industry, Mr. Tully has done much for himself as well as for Grand Island.

Mr. Tully was born at Rome, Oneida County, New York, June 21, 1853. His parents, William Henry and Annette (Bates) Tully, were also natives of New York. In 1859 they removed to the northern part of Indiana where for many years afterward his father engaged in the practice of medicine at Warsaw. He died March 13, 1919, aged ninety-five years, eight months and one day. He was one of the most venerable residents of Arkansas City, Kansas, having resided there with his daughter. The mother of Mr. Tully died in 1913, at the age eighty-six years. The parents had six children born to them as follows: F. M., a retired resident of Long Beach, California; A. A., in business at Omaha, Nebraska; C. H., F. F. a shoe merchant in Grand Island; W. D., a fruit farmer in the state of Washington; and Clara C., the wife of W. W. Spencer, a dealer in real estate at Arkansas City, Kansas.

Before the family removed to Indiana Mr. Tully had attended school, but the greater part of his education was secured at Warsaw. After he put his books aside, the young man determined at first to enter one of the professions, but a few months of study of dentistry convinced him that a different vocation would be more congenial. Therefore, in 1875, with three others, Mr. Tully crossed the country with a team and covered wagon to Columbus, in Platte County, Nebraska. Shortly afterward he preempted land in Greeley County, Nebraska, on which he remained until 1878, when he came to Grand Island. Here he went to work for John L. Means, with whom he later went into partnership, under the name of Means & Tully Contractors & Bridge Builders. During the many years that this association lasted, the firm built many bridges in Nebraska and Colorado. It was during this time, in May, 1897, that he began, in a small way, to manufacture wire fence and



C. H. TULLY

after his enterprise was well under way he sold his bridge interests to devote all of his time and efforts to his personal concerns.

At the present time Mr. Tully is the sole proprietor of the enterprise and devotes his time to manufacturing wire fencing and a wholesale business in nails, bank wire and steel gates. The greater part of his trade is in Nebraska and yet he has a growing list in Idaho and Wyoming. Mr. Tully has invested largely in Grand Island property. Of this one half block is on East Seventh street. In 1881 he built his handsome residence and also a most attractive one for his son.

Mr. Tully in February, 1888, married Miss Jennie M. Brown, who was born in Illinois. Her father was an officer in the Civil War who had settled near Central City in 1872. Mr. and Mrs. Tully have two children: Charles Franklin who is general manager of the father's business; and Inez, the wife of Paul R. Robinson. Mr. Robinson is cashier of a bank at Kramer, Nebraska. For many years Mr. Tully has been active in the work of the Congregational church. From the time of its organization he has been identified with the Y. M. C. A. He belongs to the Grand Island Home Guards, is a Knight Templar Mason, an Elk and a Knight of Pythias. Of the last named order he is past chancellor. In politics he is a staunch Republican. Mr. Tully has been a member of the library board for thirteen years and is one of the executive committee of the Red Cross and commercial club.

JOHN TORPEY.—Few names are better or more favorably known in the horse and cattle industry throughout Nebraska and adjacent states than that of John Torpey. He has devoted his entire business life to this line, beginning in boyhood, a love and knowledge of horses that early brought him into the first rank as a jockey, determined the choice of career in which he has met with great success.

John Torpey was born in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, near Philadelphia, February 22, 1870, the third in a family of five sons born to William and Ellen (Lee) Torpey. His parents were natives of Ireland but were brought to the United States in childhood. His mother is deceased but his father, for many years a farmer in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, now lives retired at Radnor, having reached his eighty-fifth year. He has always been a faithful member of the Roman Catholic church. Aside from John, his other sons

were: William, in the milk business at Radnor; James, who died in 1905; Thomas, a contractor and builder of East St. Louis, Illinois; and Robert, who is interested in rubber manufacturing at Norristown, Pennsylvania.

After completing the public school course at Radnor, John Torpey started into the horse and cattle business, in the meanwhile becoming an expert horseman and through his skill in horsemanship he attracted wide attention and became well known afterward in the racing field as a favorite jockey. From those early days to the present Mr. Torpey has continued in the horse business. His first partner was Thomas H. Haley; they remained together for three years. After that partnership was dissolved, Mr. Torpey took charge of a sales barn for Ivan C. Walker, at Norristown, and two years later was sent as a purchasing agent to East St. Louis, Illinois, eighteen months later going to St. Paul, Minnesota, where for three years he bought cattle for Mr. Walker; during the six years he remained in his employ, he visited all the important stock markets in the West. Mr. Torpey then came to Nebraska and entered into a partnership at Columbus with A. C. Scott. They opened a sales and feed barn and he remained in Columbus for three years before coming to Grand Island. Here he opened a first class feed barn which he operated until November, 1912, when he assisted in the organization of the Grand Island Horse & Mule Company, the four parties interested being: A. C. Scott, A. H. Langmann, W. S. Fletcher (of Loup City), and John Torpey. The company does a general horse and mule commission business and Mr. Torpey has been manager ever since the enterprise was started.

Mr. Torpey married, December 16, 1916, Miss Lillian Hinz, who was born in Grand Island. They are members of the Roman Catholic church. Mr. Torpey has never been very active in politics, business affairs possessing more interest for him, but he never neglects his citizenship privileges and, like his father, casts his vote with the Democratic party.

NELSON BRIGGS DOLSEN, manager of the J. H. Yost Lumber Company, has been a resident of Grand Island for less than a decade, nevertheless, he is well and favorably known here through his business enterprise and all-around good citizenship. During his entire business career he has been associated with lumber interests, as was his father successfully before him. Mr. Dolsen was born in

Canada, in 1864. His parents were John L. and Anna E. (Pratt) Dolsen, the former of whom was born in Canada and the latter in Vermont. In 1866 the Dolsen family came to the United States and settled at Bay City, Michigan, where the parents united with the Presbyterian church. They had nine children, four of these survive.

Nelson Briggs Dolsen obtained his education in the public schools of Bay City and after completing the high school course went into the lumber business with his father. He remained in Michigan until 1887, then spent about a year in Oregon and for eighteen months was an inspector for the Union Pacific Railroad. In 1888 he located at Silver Creek, in Merrick County, Nebraska, where he remained engaged in a lumber business for twelve years, being manager for the Chicago Lumber Company. For the next seven years Mr. Dolsen was interested in Norfolk, Madison County, transferring his lumber interests then to Hastings, in Adams County, where he remained for two years. In 1911 he came to Grand Island to take charge of the J. H. Yost Lumber Company's yard and has remained a resident of Grand Island ever since. He has taken a responsible citizen's interest in local matters but is not a politician. The business of the company, of which he is a stockholder as well as manager, claims the greater part of his time. He votes the Republican ticket.

Mr. Dolsen married in 1891, Miss Josephine Milliman, who was born in Illinois the daughter of M. W. Milliman, an early settler and stockman at Silver Creek. They have two children: Frederick M. and Bessie Pratt, the former of whom is a graduate of the Grand Island High School, in which the latter is yet a student. Mr. Dolsen and his family are members of the Episcopal church. He is a Royal Arch Mason and is past high priest of his lodge.

HENRY GLADE.—Representing the milling interests of Hall County, one of the most prominent concerns is that operating under the name of Henry Glade Milling Company. For more than thirty-five years this name has stood for high quality of product, purity of material and honorable business policy, and while the founder of the business has long since passed to his final rest, the name and policy of the business are being preserved by his capable and energetic sons. At the same time they are perpetuating the reputation established by their honored father.

Henry Glade, the founder of the business, was one of the men who richly deserved the title of self-made. He was born in Hanover, Germany, November 20, 1844, the youngest of a family of twelve children, and when four or five years of age was brought by his parents to the United States. The trip was made in a sailing vessel and after thirteen weeks on the ocean they landed at New Orleans and from there went to St. Louis, Missouri. Shortly after their arrival here the father died and not long after this the mother was called to the home beyond, so that the youth was left practically among strangers and was thrown upon his own resources at an early age. For many years he was compelled to stage a continued struggle against discouraging conditions. His education was of the most ordinary kind and as a boy he made his way to Dubuque, Iowa, where he learned the milling business and was only a boy of fourteen when placed in charge of a mill. He built the mill at Swiss Valley, Iowa and continued in the milling business in Iowa until 1878, when on the 22nd of December of that year he came to Nebraska and engaged in the same line at Columbus. In 1882 with George Etting and William McQuade he built a mill at David City, Nebraska. In 1883 he came to Grand Island and purchased the Koenig and Wiebe mill. Mr. Glade at that time had little save his experience and a small capital which he had accumulated. He entered vigorously and confidently into the milling field in this growing locality, and through the sheer force of his own ability, energy and perseverance built up a substantial business. The old mill was torn down and a new one was erected of modern character and put in operation January 1, 1884, and from that time until his death, December 18, 1910, Henry Glade was the directing head of this important enterprise. He was one of the community's most highly esteemed citizens. His reputation in business circles was of the best. In politics he was independent, though he never cared for public life, his business interests and his family connections completely satisfying him. He was a devout member of the Lutheran church.

Mr. Glade married April 26, 1866, at Bellevue, Iowa, Miss Catherine Etting, a sister of Albert Etting. They became the parents of six children. Mrs. Glade passed away February 28, 1886 and seven years later Mr. Glade married Louisa A. Brown.

Of the six children five are living: August A.; Christina W., the widow of Ed Kiefer, a resident of Lincoln; Fred M.; Filbert A.; and Arthur W.

In the death of Henry Glade Grand Island lost one of her worthiest citizens who for thirty-three years had been a resident here and during the whole course of a busy life was a man of stable character. In editorial comment on his death the Grand Island *Independent* had this to say of Mr. Glade: "Probably no man so active in business for over thirty years in Grand Island, is known less in public life. Mr. Glade belonged to no fraternal orders or societies of any kind and when he was not at work he was at home. He was a hard working man all his life and probably nothing contributed more to his success."

August A. Glade was born near Dubuque, Iowa, December 20, 1868. He was educated in the public schools, and was but fifteen years of age at the time he joined the concern of which his father was the head, and of which August A. is now treasurer and bookkeeper. He is one of the highly esteemed business men of Grand Island, is an active factor in civic affairs, and in politics is an independent Democrat. He married Miss Nellie Andrews, who was born in Kansas and prior to her marriage resided during the greater part of her life at Abilene. They are the parents of two children: George C. and Catherine. Mrs. Glade is a member of the Christian Science church.

Fred M. Glade was born near Dubuque, Iowa, January 25 1876, and received his education in the public schools of Grand Island. He entered his father's mill at an early age, but his business career was frequently interrupted by his activities in baseball. Like his brothers, he had been an athlete from boyhood, and he soon developed such prowess that he entered the national pastime as a professional. In 1898 he joined the Fort Worth, Texas, club, and in 1900 was purchased by the Des Moines club of the Western League. While there his work attracted the attention of one of the scouts of the Chicago Cubs team, which bought him from Des Moines in 1902, but a place on that famous National League team was not found for him and he finished the year with Saint Joseph, of the Western League. He continued with Saint Joe during 1903, but in 1904 returned to "fast company," being purchased by the Saint Louis club in the American League. It was while with this club that he had his best seasons, remaining on the roster of that team during 1904, 1905, 1906 and 1907, in which years he became a great favorite among the fans of the Mound City. In 1908 he was sold to the New York team of the American League,

and that was his last appearance in the spangles. At the end of the season he retired from the diamond to enter the milling business with his brothers. His business record has been an excellent one, and it has been largely through his aggressive and energetic work that the enterprise has prospered so greatly. Mr. Glade maintains an independent stand in politics, preferring to use his own choice in picking candidates. He married Miss Dixie Husband, who was born near Fulton, Missouri. They are the parents of two children: Frederick, born in 1909; and Henry Dixon, born in 1911. Mrs. Glade is a Christian Scientist and is first reader in the church in Grand Island.

Filbert A. Glade was born near Columbus, Nebraska, June 22, 1880, and his entire life from the time he left school has been passed in connection with the milling business. He is now a partner in the Henry Glade Milling Company. He married Mary Lightner, of Abilene, Kansas, and has one son: Henry Arthur. Mr. Glade is a capable man of business and a factor in various civic movements promulgated for the benefit of the general community.

Arthur W. Glade, head miller in the Hendy Glade Mills, was born in Grand Island, May 4, 1885, and, like his brothers, has had his entire business experience with the family company. Also like them he is a public-spirited citizen, and is popular with a wide circle of acquaintances, which is another family characteristic. He married Miss Nellie Dobson, of Abilene, Kansas. They have one daughter, Elizabeth, who was born in 1908.

The Henry Glade Milling Company's mill has a capacity of four hundred and fifty barrels per day, and the product is shipped through the states of Wisconsin, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Iowa and Michigan. During the final year of the war, the mills furnished much flour for the United States Government. The brothers devote all their time to the business, which under their management, has become one of the essential manufacturing adjuncts of Grand Island.

CARL H. MENCK. — The family of Carl H. Menck came to Hall County sixty-two years ago. This section of the state has been represented by him during this time. During this period he has aided in developing the land, in building the school houses and in supporting the church. Mr. Menck was born on a farm in Hall County, December 2, 1868. His parents, Christian and Ernestine (Harding)



Henry Glade

Menck were born in Germany. Of his father's family Emilie, August C. and Carl H. are living. His father was born May 31, 1831 and died November 8, 1909. His mother was born May 25, 1828 and died October 23, 1911. Christian H. Menck came to Hall County in 1857 and took up a claim. He was the first of a German colony. Carl's father and mother were married in 1858 and lived to celebrate their golden wedding September 21, 1908. They removed from the farm to Grand Island in 1890. The members of the family still own the farm. The father and mother were both members of the Lutheran church. Christian Menck was one of the founders of the Liederkrantz society. He filled several township offices and voted with the Democratic party.

The subject of this sketch obtained his education in the public schools and in a business college. His first business position was that of bookkeeper for the Grand Island Lumber Company. He was in this position from July, 1888 to 1894 when he was elected city clerk. He held this office three years and in 1897 he was elected county clerk. He served in that important office two terms. When he left the clerk's office he turned his attention to banking, being assistant cashier of the Commercial State Bank. He served in this capacity until 1908 when he was elected cashier. This office he still holds. This is one of the many sound banking institutions of the state having a capital of \$150,000, surplus \$35,000 and average deposits of \$100,000. As cashier of the bank Mr. Menck has the confidence of the public.

In 1892 Mr. Menck married Miss Amelia Boehm who was a sister of Theodore Boehm of this county. Mrs. Menck died June 19, 1903 leaving two children: Harold C. and Lydia C. Menck. The son entered military service, May 28, 1918 as a member of Company D, three hundred and thirty-eighth machine gun battalion, eighty-eighth division which landed in England August 29, 1918, and in France, September 1, 1918. The battalion was under artillery fire in the front line trenches.

The daughter, Miss Lydia C. Menck, is a graduate of the high school and the Grand Island Conservatory of Music and is a teacher of vocal music. Both son and daughter are members of the Lutheran church as were also their mother. Mr. Menck is a Democrat in politics, is public spirited and is interested in all the progressive movements in Grand Island and Hall County. He is serving his third term as a member of the school board. He is greatly interested in athletic sports and has

been connected for a long time with the Plattsdeutch and Liederkrantz societies and is a member of some of the leading fraternal orders. He has taken the council degree in Masonry, is a Shriner, is treasurer of the Royal Arch body and a member of the Masonic building association. He is, also, past exalted ruler of the Elks and is chairman of the building association of that organization. He has represented the Knights of Pythias in the Grand Lodge of that order. He is a typical American business man, being capable and resourceful. He is wise enough to combine recreation with stern duties.

ARTHUR H. LANGMAN, who has many important business interests in Nebraska and other sections, reflects credit on Grand Island, for this is his place of birth, schooling and residence. The business success that has made his name so widely known, has been secured by persistently following an industrious path in a common sense way, making use of the practical talents that nature bestowed, and with good judgment never assuming responsibilities too heavy to carry.

Arthur H. Langman was born at Grand Island, Nebraska, March 20, 1882, a son of Fred and Margaret (Rief) Langman. The parents of Mr. Langman were born in Germany, but emigrated to the United States where the mother died in 1883. The father homesteaded in Hall County when he first came to Nebraska, continuing to live on his land until 1908, when he retired to Grand Island. He has been a resident of the United States since 1869 and many years ago was admitted to full citizenship. He votes with the Republican party, and he is a member of the Lutheran church. His two sons live in Nebraska, Fred and Arthur H., the former of whom was clerk of the county court in Hall County, for ten years. He now conducts a garage at Potter, Nebraska. The one daughter, Lena, is the wife of J. L. Converse, who is a traveling salesman and lives in the city of New York.

Arthur H. Langman worked on his father's farm in boyhood and attended school. He then drove a grocery wagon for Frank Olsen for a time, in the meanwhile applying himself to the study of bookkeeping, after mastering this, he took charge of the books and accounts of Thomas E. Bradstreet. Being alert as to private business opportunities he soon proved excellent business judgment in the buying and shipping of horses to the Grand Island market. For some years he was a member of

the Bradstreet firm but later sold his interest to assist in the organization of the Grand Island Horse & Mule Company, of which he is vice-president. Mr. Langman is also president of the Walker-Langman Land & Live Stock Company, of Elbert County, Colorado, having a valuable ranch there and additionally owns an extensive farm in Kimball County, Nebraska. He has property at other points and his garage at Potter, Nebraska, with dimensions of one hundred and fifty by seventy-five feet, is one of the finest in western Nebraska.

Mr. Langman was married in 1910, to Miss Daisy Heffelfinger, who was born at Grand Island, a daughter of Jerome O. Heffelfinger, who is interested in the Chicago Hide & Fur Company at Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. Langman have one son Arthur Jerome. They are members of the Episcopal church, and fraternally he is identified with the Elks.

HIRAM J. PALMER, who is one of the best known residents of Grand Island, for forty years has been active in the substantial development and political life of Hall County. Although now living somewhat retired, for many years there were few important county matters agitated, in which he did not prove his right to be considered an intelligent, earnest and honest citizen, and the universal esteem in which he is now held is a just tribute to his worth. Mr. Palmer is one of the representative men of Hall County.

Hiram J. Palmer is of English ancestry, his grandparents having come to the United States and settled in Pennsylvania. He was born in the Keystone state, August 21, 1849, one of a family of seven children born to Freeman and Mary (Raught) Palmer. Both parents were born in Pennsylvania and died there. Of the five surviving children, Hiram J. is the only one living in Hall County. Freeman Palmer was a farmer all his life. In early political life a Whig, upon the formation of the Republican party he united with that organization. Both he and wife belonged to the Baptist church.

In the country schools near his father's farm, Hiram J. Palmer obtained his education and remained on the home place until he was twenty-five years old, engaged in the usual farm industries and learning to be a competent judge of stock. In 1875 he came to Dodge County, Nebraska, and resided for nearly four years at Fremont, doing well in the business of buying and selling stock. In 1879 he came to Grand Island and during the

following twelve years he was in the horse and mule business, his operations being heavy in the shipping of mules and horses to Hall County where they were needed by settlers from Missouri, Illinois and Iowa. Mr. Palmer retired then from the stock business and embarked in the brokerage business with Walter Bacon. He had come to Nebraska on borrowed capital but had prospered greatly and was able about this time to go back to Pennsylvania and buy his father's farm. Later he disposed of that property but still has valuable farm land, owning 600 acres in Custer County, Nebraska.

April 16, 1877, Mr. Palmer was married to Miss Eva A. Griffin, who was born in Iowa. Mrs. Palmer's parents were Dr. S. W. and Matilda (Maxfield) Griffin, natives of Pennsylvania who became residents of Marshall County, Iowa, before the advent of railroads into that county. The doctor taught school and became the first county superintendent of schools of that county. He enlisted there for service in the Civil War, acting as assistant surgeon in the army, having taken up the practice of medicine. After the war they returned to Pennsylvania where they both died. Mr. and Mrs. Palmer have had eight children, namely: Harry E., who operates a wholesale and retail feed store at Ogden, Utah; Mabel, who lives with her parents; Jay, who is in the ice business at Grand Island; Grace, who died at the age of sixteen years; Hazel, who is with her parents awaiting the return of her gallant soldier husband from France, Captain William R. Gilchrist, who entered the United States' service with that rank in April, 1918; Helen, who is the wife of Walter Schourup, who is with a heating plant firm in Grand Island; George S., whose memory will ever be tenderly preserved by his grateful country, was a soldier in the American Expeditionary Force and was killed September 15, 1918; and Herbert, who has been with his army comrades in France since August, 1918. Mrs. Palmer and the children are members of the Episcopal church. In politics a zealous Republican, Mr. Palmer has served on the county executive committee and for four years was county treasurer of Hall County. In Grand Island affairs he has taken deep interest and as a member of the city council secured many reforms in the city government. He served one term as president of the Hall County Agricultural Society and many years on the board and for seven years at the State Agricultural Fair he was one of the judges. He has been a director of the First National Bank of Grand Island since

the organization of that institution. In Masonry he is a Knight Templar and is also a Shriner and additionally belongs to the order of Elks.

HENRY REESE, the mention of whose name in Grand Island brings forth testimonials of high esteem, has spent a large part of his long and useful life here. Even a partial record of his struggles and business successes makes interesting reading. He came practically without capital and through his own industry and provident saving, gradually accumulated means until now he may be classed with the substantial men of this city. He takes pride in the fact that his work was always well done and that at no time in his life have men doubted his honesty.

Henry Reese was born near the city of Kiel, Holstein, Germany, December 7, 1846, a son of John and Dora Reese, who were born in the same German province. His mother died in 1855 but the father lived to be eighty-six years old, passing away in 1905. Of the three children two survive and both are residents of Grand Island, Henry and Christian, the latter being a tailor by trade. Henry Reese had the usual school advantages of his class in his native land up to the age of fifteen years. He came to the United States and landed at Davenport, Iowa, where many Germans had already settled, May 16, 1870. He found work on a farm near that city. He had heard reports of this western country and his birthday the following year found him in Hall County, where he again engaged in farm work until March, 1872. Then for several months he worked in a railroad boarding house and from there, in October, 1872, accepted employment for his board and lodging until March 15, 1873. In the meanwhile Mr. Reese had become accustomed to the ways and language of the people among whom he sought to make his home, and they, in turn began to appreciate his willing industry and his faithful attendance on every duty to which he was assigned. In 1873 he began work for R. C. Jordan, first in the warehouse and later behind the counter of the O. K. store, with whom he continued for a year without any definite agreement as to wages. Fortunately Mr. Jordan proved to be as honest as himself and Mr. Reese was abundantly satisfied when he received the sum of \$400 for his labor, exclusive of his board and lodging. After this settlement he continued with Mr. Jordan for three years and six weeks on the same salary basis. Having thereby saved some money, in

May, 1876, Mr. Reese embarked in business for himself, in the produce line and handled eggs, butter and poultry and prospered to such an extent that by 1877 he was able to put up a small house on Fourth street, which he utilized as a dwelling in the rear and as business quarters in the front. Before moving into a larger place he had already begun the handling of groceries, in which line he continued for a number of years. Finally he erected a substantial two-story brick business house on Walnut street. With some changes he continued to be identified with the grocery trade until 1907, when he retired. In addition to his Walnut street property he owns another valuable two-story brick building on Second street.

On July 30, 1876, Mr. Reese was united in marriage with Anna Tramm, who was born in Holstein, Germany, and died at Grand Island, February 4, 1911. The religious faith of Mr. and Mrs. Reese was manifested by their connection with the Lutheran church. They had four children, namely: Bernhardt, born May 1, 1877, and died November 24, 1884; George, born July 23, 1878 and died January 28, 1911; Harry, now living in Florida, born February 14, 1880, and Bertha, born August 31, 1882, the wife of Gus Krueger of Grand Island.

Mr. Reese has been very active in the order of Odd Fellows. He was over fifty years of age when he was initiated in Grand Island Lodge No 22, in which he has passed all the chairs and has been a representative to the grand lodge in Omaha, Lincoln and Nebraska City. His first office in the lodge was that of trustee and afterward was installing officer and installed lodges in different communities in Hall County. In politics he has been a Republican and on that party ticket was elected a member of the city council. After serving one term he declined further political honors.

HENRY VIEREGG, one of Grand Island's most respected citizens, has been retired from active business pursuits for some years, but formerly he was engaged in several enterprises that helped to develop the city's commercial supremacy. He was born in the village of Gardersdorf, Holstein, Germany, December 22, 1840, one of a family of five children born to Hans and Elsie (Kruse) Vieregg.

When sixteen years old Henry Vieregg left his native land and came to the United States with his two brothers, John and James Vieregg. He made his way to Davenport, Iowa,

where he spent two years and then came to Grand Island and worked here until he was twenty-one years old, at that time entering a tract of land in Merrick County, Nebraska, on which he settled as the first pioneer of that county. His brothers followed and all became more or less well known, James Vieregg subsequently being elected the first treasurer of Merrick County. In 1876 Henry Vieregg returned to Grand Island and was engaged in the ice business here for some time and then went into the bottling business, handling mineral waters and non-alcoholic beverages. In 1915 he retired from business, but still is influential in local public affairs, for many years having been a member of the city council and of the board of education, for some years being president of the latter. Several years ago he was the candidate of the Democratic party for representative in the state legislature.

Mr. Vieregg was united in marriage in Grand Island, to Miss Caroline Spethman, who was born in Holstein, Germany, the daughter of John and Melvina Spethman, and children were born to them: Melvina, the wife of Frank Roeser, of Phoenix, Arizona, who formerly was assistant postmaster at Grand Island; Louise, the wife of Henry Lortzen who is a merchant in Grand Island; William, who is in the bottling business at Ravenna, Nebraska, assisted in establishing the first beet sugar factory in Hall County; Othelia, who resides with her parents; Albert, who is deceased; Emil, who is superintendent of the Grand Island Gas Company; Henrietta, who is a saleslady in a Grand Island department store; Oscar, who is assistant cashier of the Nebraska State Bank; Elsie, who resides at home; Henry, who is connected with the medical unit stationed at Camp Mead, in preparation for military service, and two children who died in infancy. In the largest and fullest sense Mr. Vieregg may be called a representative citizen of Hall County, for this is a section where business integrity and personal honesty have always been held essential. He has never identified himself with any fraternal organizations other than the Liederkrantz and the Plattsdeutschen societies.

EMIL H. VIEREGG, one of the competent and busy business men of Grand Island, is a native of this city, born January 4, 1881, the sixth of twelve children. His parents are Henry and Caroline (Spethman) Vieregg, both of whom were born in Holstein, Germany, but for many years have been valued residents of Grand Island.

Henry Vieregg came to the United States when sixteen years of age and his first two years were spent at Davenport, Iowa. He spent a short time in Grand Island but then bought a piece of land in Merrick County and moved on it as the first pioneer of the county, locating there just before his two brothers, John and James, the latter of whom subsequently became the first county treasurer. In 1876 he returned to Grand Island and from then until 1915, when he retired, was active and prospered in various industries. He married Caroline Spethman and twelve children were born to them.

Emil Henry Vieregg attended the Grand Island public schools and then, because of certain tastes and talents, took a course in chemistry in a Michigan college. Afterward he went to work as assistant chemist in a sugar factory and later became chief chemist and continued in the factory for six years. He then became interested in a box factory and after selling his interest there, came to the Grand Island Gas company as superintendent, a position he has ably filled for the past four years. He attends closely to business but not to the exclusion of interest in public matters for he is a good citizen and has served on the city council for two years.

Mr. Vieregg married in 1906 Miss Vernita Barber, who was born at Edgar, Nebraska, a daughter of George H. Barber, who was recorder of the A. O. U. W., for fourteen years and now is connected with the county treasurer's office at Lincoln. Mr. and Mrs. Vieregg have two sons, Arthur and George. Mrs. Vieregg is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Vieregg is a Mason and in 1906 was master of his lodge. He belongs also to the U. C. T. and the Liederkrantz. In politics he has always been loyal to the Democratic party.

FRED ROTH. — There are many reasons that might be mentioned explaining the business success of men in every community, but the greatest of these undoubtedly is industry. Many young men start out in life as did Fred Roth, one of Grand Island's substantial retired residents, with no capital except what may be secured through their own efforts. If industry marks and accompanies them, they may, like Mr. Roth, find their later years surrounded by welcome comfort, with financial independence assured. Mr. Roth owns one of the large business buildings here which he erected in 1914, which has proved a very profitable investment of capital.

Fred Roth was born in Rhine province, Germany, January 18, 1857. His parents were Frederick and Julia (Helm) Roth, both of whom passed their lives in Germany. They had ten children, Fred being the fifth in order of birth. Six of them are still living. The father was a baker by trade. Both parents were members of the Lutheran church. Fred Roth attended the Birkenfeld high school in 1871 and worked for his father until 1881, learning the bakery methods which for many years have made German bakery goods palatable and wholesome. He then came to the United States and during the first year worked in a bakery at Cleveland, Ohio. Following this he was employed in a bakery and restaurant at Columbus, Nebraska, and afterward worked as a baker in Aberdeen, Mississippi, Omaha, Sioux City, Iowa, and Omaha again. From that city he came to Grand Island in 1886. By this time, through his industry, he had accumulated enough capital to go into business for himself. He entered into partnership with his brother-in-law, R. M. McDowell, in the retail and wholesale liquor business. Mr. Roth continued in this line until 1902 when he sold out and embarked in the real estate business in conjunction with general insurance. Through his natural industry, close attention to business problems and excellent judgment, Mr. Roth steadily progressed. In 1894 he bought the corner of Third street and Wheeler avenue and thereon erected in 1914 a modern two-story brick building, with dimensions of twenty-two by one hundred and twenty-six feet, the first floor being adapted to business purposes, and the second story divided into well finished offices particularly suited to the wants of professional men. Mr. Roth has no trouble in finding satisfactory tenants.

For some years he has been practically retired from business.

Mr. Roth married in 1890 Miss Anna Weckbach, who was born at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, and during the many years she resided in Grand Island made friends of all who knew her. Her death occurred January 12, 1913. She was a member of the Catholic church. Three daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. Roth, namely: Lydia, the wife of John Heimes, who belongs to the medical unit at Fort Riley; Clara, employed in a local store, resides with her father; and Dorothea, who is teaching in Phillips, Nebraska. In politics Mr. Roth is a Republican. He belongs to the Fraternal Aid Union, the Sons of Herman and other social organizations. He is a member of the Lutheran church and his daughters of the Catholic church.

JOHN G. WOODIN, M. D., who has been engaged in medical practice in Grand Island since 1916, came here from a field of unusual experience, having been a medical missionary in India for five years. Dr. Woodin was born in Allen county, Kansas, July 27, 1883. His parents were James L. and Emma (Robinson) Woodin, both of whom were born in Illinois and were married there. Of their five children Dr. Woodin is the youngest, the others being: May, the wife of J. A. Devlin, of Effingham, Kansas; Lucy, who lives at Bentwood, California; Abbie, who lives at Miles City, Montana; Clara, the wife of E. W. Metcalf, of Denver, Colorado. The parents were members of the Baptist church. The father served in the Civil War as a member of the Eleventh Illinois Volunteer cavalry until he suffered the loss of an eye. In 1867 he moved with his family to Kansas and acquired a homestead in Allen County on which he and his wife subsequently died. They were people of solid worth.

John G. Woodin attended the grade schools in Allen County and the high school at Iola, afterwards entering the University of Kansas, from which institution he was graduated with his A. B. degree in 1905. He then became a student in the medical school of the university, receiving his degree in medicine in 1908. For two years afterwards he practiced his profession at Iola and then became a missionary in medical work in far off India, where a wealth of experience awaited him. In 1916 he located in Grand Island, succeeding to the practice of Dr. Weeter, and since coming to this city has been surgeon for the Union Pacific Railroad. He is examiner for the New York Life, the Mutual Benefit and other insurance companies. During the progress of the World War, Dr. Woodin was hearty in giving assistance to the draft board and in numerous other patriotic ways.

Dr. Woodin united in marriage in 1909 with Miss Bessie Livers, who was born in Illinois. They are members of the Baptist church. In politics Dr. Woodin is a Republican.

FRANK T. NIEMOTH, who belongs to an old and very substantial family of Hall County, but is now a resident of Merrick County, was born in Winnebago County, Wisconsin, and was eight years old when he accompanied his parents to Nebraska. They were John and Wilhelmina (Lindstedt) Niemoth, the former of whom lives retired at Grand Island. The mother of Mr. Niemoth died in that city on June 25, 1912.

Both parents of Frank T. Niemoth were born in Germany. The father came to the United States when fourteen years old, and for seven years afterward worked among Norwegians and learned their language. Following his first purchase of 160 acres of land after coming to Hall County, John Niemoth continued to acquire land until he owned two entire sections. In 1907 he retired to Grand Island, in which city he is respected and esteemed.

Frank T. Niemoth obtained his education in Hall County's excellent public schools, remaining with his parents until he was twenty-three years old, when he bought 160 acres of land, to which he subsequently made additions until he now owns 540 acres, all well improved. He carries on general farming and raises first class stock, making a feature of White Face cattle. In politics he is identified with the Republican party. He is serving in his second term as justice of the peace in Merrick County.

On April 12, 1890, Mr. Niemoth was united in marriage to Miss Alida Ahrens. Her father is deceased but her mother, Mrs. Madalene Ahrens, is a resident of Grand Island, where she is a valued member of the Lutheran church and has a wide circle of friends. To Mr. and Mrs. Niemoth seven children have been born: Walter, who married Erma Weighert; George, who lives in Oklahoma; Dora, who is the wife of Albert Buckow, of Hall County; and Amalia, Paul, Oscar and Victor, all of whom reside at home. Judge Niemoth and family belong to the Lutheran church. He is a member of the Farmers Union and the Nonpartisan League.

LOUIS VEIT, for many years an honest, upright business man of Grand Island, will long be remembered for his many admirable qualities as a man, one of these being kindness and generosity to those in need. Mr. Veit was born in Saxony, Germany, August 21, 1846, and died at his home in Grand Island on December 27, 1908. His parents were Elias and Annistinia Veit, both of whom died in Germany.

Louis Veit attended the common school of his neighborhood in Germany but had very few other advantages as his people were poor. He had some experience on farms and it was the hope of securing land that induced him to come to the United States, which he reached in 1875. After spending two months in Detroit, Michigan, where he sought work in order to add to his slender capital of \$500 he

made his way to Buffalo County, Nebraska, and in the same year entered a homestead claim. He lived there for six months and then turned it over to another person. Mr. Veit came then to Grand Island and for three years worked as a clerk for Christ Wasmer, then engaged in business with Oscar Roeser. They continued together as Veit & Roeser, for many years afterward. Subsequently Mr. Veit embarked in the grocery business on East Third street, Grand Island, and was so engaged up to the time of his death. He was a quiet, unostentatious, hard-working man, devoted to his family and to the city he had chosen for his home. For sixteen years he was president of the school board and held other offices.

Mr. Veit married in 1877 Miss Augusta Ahlers, who was born in Hanover, Germany. Her parents were William and Margaret (Dierks) Ahlers, who came from Germany to Hall County, in 1875 and continued on a farm until they retired. They passed away in Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. Veit had children as follows: William, in the grocery business on Second street, Grand Island; Helen, the wife of Carl Lembeck, who conducts a dry goods business at Lexington, Nebraska; Oscar, who succeeded his father in the grocery on Third street, Grand Island; Dorothea, the wife of Carl Hehnke, Grand Island; Louis, connected with a business firm in Indianapolis; Ernest, a grocer in Grand Island; and Augusta, the wife of William Sell, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The family belongs to the English Lutheran church. Mr. Veit was a Republican in politics.

EARL S. TUTTLE, whose business enterprise has made him important in Grand Island, is proprietor of the Home Dairy, which he has owned and conducted for nearly ten years. Mr. Tuttle was born in Logan County, Illinois, in 1881, where one of his grandfathers had settled in pioneer days after leaving Ohio. Another grandfather, Harvey Tuttle, on two different occasions, drove cattle over the long trail from Omaha to San Francisco.

The parents of Earl E. Tuttle were T. D. and Emma (Turner) Tuttle, natives of Logan County, Illinois. The mother of Mr. Tuttle is deceased. He is the third of their family of five children, the others being: Della, the wife of Bert Watt, living in Illinois; Bessie, the wife of L. J. Gilbert, also of Illinois; Harry, in the furniture and undertaking business at Benson, Nebraska; and one who is deceased. For a number of years the father of this family operated a lumber yard in Cali-



LOUIS VETT

fornia but now lives retired in Illinois. He is a Republican in politics, and he belongs to the order of Modern Woodmen.

Earl S. Tuttle had the good fortune to grow to manhood in a community where excellent schools prevailed and he completed a course in the high school and then learned railway construction work and for some years was employed by different contracting firms in such work. In February, 1909 he came to Grand Island and at first worked in a dairy and in 1911 bought the Home Dairy and since then has engaged in a general dairy business and with marked success.

In 1901 Mr. Tuttle was united in marriage with Miss Frances L. Pumpelly, who was born in McLean County, Illinois. They attend the Baptist church. In politics Mr. Tuttle is a Democrat, and fraternally he belongs to the Elks, the Woodmen of the World and the U. T. C.

JOSEPH BUCHFINCK, whose excellent farm is situated on section 12, Lake township, Hall County, is a careful, industrious man who thoroughly understands farming. He was born near Odessa, Russia, August 19, 1868; his parents were Leopold and Christina (Meyer) Buchfinck.

The parents of Mr. Buchfinck came to the United States and immediately to Hall County, Nebraska, in 1872. The father homesteaded three miles north of Grand Island where the family lived until 1880, when the family returned to Russia but only for a visit. When the father came back to Hall County, he bought 160 acres in Lake township, and it is this land that his son Joseph is so successfully operating today. The mother died on September 11, 1902 and the father's death followed on March 30, 1911. They had twelve children, all of them live in the United States, two, Joseph and August, in Hall County, and Christ, in Howard County, Nebraska.

On January 26, 1891, Mr. Buchfinck was united in marriage to Miss Lena Wagner, a daughter of Solomon and Theresa (Wagner) Wagner, who were early settlers in Merrick County. Four children have been born to the above marriage: Ernest, Theodore, Helena and Armin. Mr. Buchfinck and his family belong to the Lutheran church. He belongs to the Farmer's Union and the Nonpartisan League.

HENRY W. POTTER, one of Grand Island's older business men and one of her most

respected citizens, came here almost forty years ago and established himself in the cleaning and dyeing business, which he has continued to the present time, occupying the same quarters. He has greatly expanded his original plant and now operates under the name of the Grand Island Dye Works.

Henry W. Potter was born in Cassel, Germany, February 18, 1855. His parents, George and Anna (Dumire) Potter were natives of Germany and passed their entire lives there. The father, an industrious man, worked as a shoemaker. Of their seven children three came to the United States, Henry W. being the only survivor. Mr. Potter's father died and his mother married again and in 1853 his step-father and his brothers came to Baltimore, Maryland, from which city they later enlisted in the Union army and served through the Civil War.

Mr. Potter attended school and when twelve years old was set aside to learn the dyeing business, in which he was thoroughly instructed. With this excellent trade as a means of self support, he was able to make a living in Germany but wished to do more than that and in search of wider opportunities, came to the United States and in 1886 started into business in Grand Island, where he had located five years previously. Mr. Potter is the oldest man in the dye business at Grand Island and undoubtedly is the most expert, and is one of the oldest in the state.

In politics Mr. Potter is a Republican. He has always shown such a deep interest in Grand Island and has displayed such sound judgment in relation to both business and public affairs, that he has frequently been elected to office and during his four years as a member of the city council and his one year as a member of the county board, he assisted in the passage of many public-spirited measures that have added to the general welfare. He is a member of the Lutheran church, and belongs to the Sons of Herman and the old Plattsdeutschen society.

J. LUE SUTHERLAND, M. D., acknowledged to be one of Hall County's ablest and most faithful physicians, has been engaged in the practice of his profession here for thirty-two years, being the oldest resident physician of Hall County. Dr. Sutherland was born at Shelbyville, Indiana, September 23, 1854. His parents were John Wesley and Elizabeth (McIlrath) Sutherland.

John Wesley Sutherland was born in Pennsylvania, November 17, 1824, and died at

Knoxville, Iowa, April 26, 1914. His father, John Sutherland, was born in Scotland and died in Pennsylvania. In 1848 John Wesley Sutherland removed to Shelby County, Indiana, where he was a farmer until 1855. In that year he purchased a farm in Marion County, Iowa. He married Elizabeth McIlrath, who was born in Pennsylvania, March 27, 1826 and died at Knoxville, Iowa April 16, 1916. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church and were estimable in every relation of life. Of their ten children six are living and two of them are residents of Hall County, Nebraska, — Dr. Sutherland and an older brother, John W. who is a retired farmer.

J. Lue Sutherland attended the public schools of Marion County, Iowa, and the Central University of Iowa, being a student at Pella from 1872 to 1877, graduating in 1877. During the next two years while teaching school, he did preliminary reading in preparation for Rush Medical College, Chicago. From this institution he received his doctor's degree in 1882. Since then through post-graduate courses, personal study and scientific investigation, Dr. Sutherland has kept well abreast of the great wave of modern medical development. He is a specialist in diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, and was graduated, after special work in 1892 in the Chicago Post Graduate College, in 1900 from the Chicago Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat College, and as recently as 1909 returned to Chicago for further course in his specialty. Dr. Sutherland began practice at Newell, Iowa, and then came to Nebraska and before settling permanently at Grand Island in 1887, practiced for short periods at Wayne and at Wisner. He has served Hall County six years in the office of coroner and is county physician for the insane.

In June, 1882, Dr. Sutherland married Mrs. Emily (Fessenden) Kleeberger, who was the widow of Herman Kleeberger, by which marriage she had four children, two of whom are yet living. Dr. and Mrs. Sutherland had no children of their own but they adopted and raised a child, who is now Mrs. Zoe Elizabeth Smith, the wife of George B. Smith, of Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, who is serving in France with the American Expeditionary Forces. Mrs. Sutherland died March 26, 1903. She was a woman of beautiful character and was a devoted member of the Congregational church. Dr. Sutherland is a Republican in his political views. He is identified with the fraternal order of Knights of Pythias, of which he is past chancellor and member of the

grand lodge. Dr. Sutherland has always been a good citizen, professionally and otherwise, and during the many years he has lived in Grand Island he has rightly used his influence to guide public tendencies for the general welfare.

LLOYD G. THOMPSON, who is engaged in the practice of law at Grand Island, his native city, is the son of William H. and Nettie I. (Hutchinson) Thompson, a record of whom is found on other pages of this volume.

In the schools of Grand Island Mr. Thompson acquired his education, spending two years in high school after which he attended Suwanee Military Academy of Tennessee, where he took preparatory work prior to entering the University of Colorado, remaining in college but one year. Following this he devoted one year to the study of music in France and Italy, but upon his return to the United States entered the Creighton law school and after graduation from this institution located for the practice of his profession at Miami, Florida, remaining there a year. Returning to Grand Island, he formed a partnership with his father, being engaged in the practice of law when the World War began. Responding to the call for men in October, 1917, Mr. Thompson entered the American Field service, soon seeing active service in France. From this branch he was transferred to the aviation section of the United States Army as a private, later becoming a cadet and then received a commission as second lieutenant. For seven months he was instructor of aviation in France before being sent to Foggia, Italy, as instructor in the use of the Caproni bombing machine. After serving in this capacity he went to the Italian front for active fighting where he remained until the armistice was signed. Upon receiving his discharge the young aviator returned home, having rendered efficient service to his country and earned a creditable record for a young man of twenty-six.

Mr. Thompson was united in marriage to Miss Ruth Schwin, a native of Hall County. He has again taken up the practice of law in partnership with his father where new laurels await him.

E. ARTHUR WATSON, M. D., a specialist in surgery diagnosis, has been engaged in medical practice in Grand Island since 1914, coming here from other points in the state in search of a wider professional field. Dr.

Watson was born in Pierce County, Nebraska, August 1, 1883, the son of G. P. and Anna (McCarragher) Watson, the former of whom was born in Michigan and the latter in county Armagh, Ireland.

The father of Dr. Watson was eight years old when he accompanied his father to Sarpy County, Nebraska, where the latter took up land near Bellevue. At a later date G. P. Watson homesteaded in Pierce County, his land at that time being fifty miles distant from a railroad. In the course of years he made the stock business profitable and now lives in comfortable retirement at Plainview. He has been a leading factor in politics in Pierce County and served in the state legislature in 1897 and 1899, elected on the Democratic ticket. He belongs to the Odd Fellows and both he and wife are members of the Presbyterian church. Of his three sons, Dr. Watson is the youngest, the others being: Charles, a farmer and stockman in Pierce County; and Ansel C., in the stock business and lives at Plainview.

E. Arthur Watson completed his high school course at Plainview, Nebraska, and spent some time in the Normal college at the same place, after which he was associated with his father in the stock business for two years, in the meanwhile making plans for a medical career. These plans happily came to fruition and resulted in his graduation from Creighton Medical College, Omaha, in 1908, where he had, for a year, been first assistant to the celebrated Dr. C. C. Allison. Subsequently for two years Dr. Watson was in active practice at Brunswick, Nebraska, and for two more at Kearney, coming from the latter place to Grand Island in August, 1914. He is connected with Saint Francis Hospital, where all his operations are performed, many of them in their completeness being marvels of science. Dr. Watson had the advantage of taking graduate work under the instruction of the late Dr. Murphy, of Chicago, whose eminence in surgery is universally acknowledged.

Dr. Watson married in 1908, Miss May E. Mullin who was born at Parnell, Iowa, but was reared and educated in Omaha, Nebraska. They have had three sons: Gilbert Joseph, who died when aged four years eight months; Donald, a sturdy little schoolboy of eight years; and James Wendell, five years old. Dr. and Mrs. Watson are members of the Roman Catholic church. He has been very active in the Knights of Columbus organization and organized a council at Kearney and served as its first grand knight. He belongs to the Elks, but has never found time to be active

in politics, which, however, is no criterion of good citizenship. Dr. Watson has found in Grand Island, an appreciation of his scientific knowledge, as well as a congenial social atmosphere for himself and family.

JAMES A. MITCHELL, a substantial business man and worthy citizen of Grand Island, came to Nebraska with his people in boyhood. Almost forty years have passed since he first set foot in Grand Island, of which city he has been a permanent resident since 1893. Mr. Mitchell is president of the Chicago Hide & Fur Company, incorporated.

James A. Mitchell was born near Ionia, Michigan, March 4, 1871, a son of Robert and Mary (Howett) Mitchell, both of whom were born in Scotland. Robert Mitchell was a farmer in Michigan when he enlisted for service in the Civil War, becoming a member of the Third Michigan cavalry, and during his three years of dangerous service participated in many battles. He survived and returned to his Michigan farm to remain there until 1882 when he came to Nebraska acquiring a farm in Buffalo County. He now lives retired at Elm Creek. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is a Democrat in politics. His wife died in Colorado in 1903. They had three children, namely: James A., who is a resident of Grand Island; William, who conducts a garage at Elm Creek; and Robert, who is in the harness business at Minneapolis.

James A. Mitchell attended school in early boyhood in Michigan and completed his education in a military college at Kearney, Nebraska, from which he was graduated. His first business experience was clerking in a store at Elm Creek, later at Kearney. Following this he went to Chicago and worked for a firm dealing in hides which was his introduction to the hide and fur business. In 1893 he established a hide and fur business at Grand Island for D. H. McDonald, of Chicago, and so ably conducted it that the entire business was turned over to him when Mr. McDonald died. It has, since then, been incorporated, with a capital of \$65,000, as the Chicago Hide & Fur Company. The firm owns a large farm west of Grand Island where from 2,000 to 3,000 hogs are fed annually. Mr. Mitchell buys hides and furs all over the west.

In 1893 Mr. Mitchell was married to Miss Nettie Blake, a native of Iowa; they have had four children: Delman, who is associated with his father in business; Gladys, who died at the age of eleven years; and James Blake



DR. E. ARTHUR WATSON

and Jean, all of whom have been given educational advantages. Mr. Mitchell and his family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a Knight Templar Mason and belongs also to the Mystic Shrine. In addition to his Chicago and Grand Island interests, Mr. Mitchell is president of the Omaha Hide & Fur Company, of Omaha, Nebraska, and probably few men in the country are as well informed along this line and not many devote themselves so closely to its development. Mr. Mitchell is an earnest and thoughtful citizen and has always been identified politically with the Republican party, but no arguments of his neighbors and friends have served to convince him that his duty lies in accepting any kind of public office.

ROLLAND CECIL WOODRUFF, M. D., one of Grand Island's younger medical practitioners, enjoys a large measure of public confidence because of proved ability. In his special line of work, he exemplifies the wonderful progress that medical science has made within a comparatively short time. He is an enthusiast in his profession. Dr. Woodruff makes a specialty of X-ray work. He was born at Gibbon, in Buffalo County, Nebraska, August 13, 1888.

The parents of Dr. Woodruff, Charles E. and Mary (Smith) Woodruff, came to Nebraska in 1884. The father was born in Wisconsin, in 1852, and died at Walla Walla, Washington, in 1918. The mother, who was born in New York, still resides in Washington. Besides Dr. Woodruff, who was the first born, they had four children: Ralph, with the American Expeditionary Forces in England, when the World War was halted; Rhea, the wife of Clough Hudson, a newspaper man of Spokane, Washington; and Ruth and Eugene, both of whom live in Walla Walla, Washington. When the parents of this family came to Nebraska, the father started a lumber yard in Gibbon. In 1899 he removed to Grand Island and started the Yost Lumber yard, with which he remained until 1909 when he went to Walla Walla, Washington, where he was engaged in the lumber business until his death. He was a Republican in politics but was never an office seeker. For many years he belonged to the Masonic fraternity.

Rolland Cecil Woodruff attended the public schools of Grand Island and the Baptist College before entering the Chicago University. In 1913 he was graduated from Rush Medical College, Chicago, and for two years afterward served as an interne in the Cook County

Hospital. In 1915 he established himself in practice in Grand Island, where he is surgeon for the Union Pacific Railroad.

Dr. Woodruff married, in 1912, Miss Pauline Sutherland, a daughter of John Sutherland, who is a prominent attorney of Pierce, South Dakota. Dr. and Mrs. Woodruff have three children: Mary Katherine, Ralph and Bradley.

A close and earnest student of science, Dr. Woodruff in his busy life has found little time for politics although he never seeks to evade a citizen's responsibility. He votes with the Republican party. He is a member of the Hall County Medical society and the American Medical association, also of the Knights of Pythias and some social organizations. Both he and Mrs. Woodruff are members of the Baptist church.

HENRY CHARLES WENGERT, M. D.—There are few cities of its size that can boast of a more eminent body of medical men than can Grand Island. Almost every school is represented here and among them are trained specialists who have devoted years of their lives to scientific investigation and in their practice have accomplished wonders of cure and regeneration. One of the best known specialists in the difficult and very generally prevalent diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, is Dr. Henry C. Wengert, who has had many years of professional experience.

Henry Charles Wengert was born August 2, 1875. His parents were Philip and Elizabeth (Stenzel) Wengert, natives of Alsace-Lorraine, from which they came to the United States and settled at Miltonsburg, Ohio. The father was a merchant and died there. The mother yet survives. Of their five surviving children, Dr. Wengert is the only one living in Nebraska. He had excellent educational opportunities and creditably completed the public school course at Woodsfield, Ohio, then entered Starling Medical College, from which well known institution he was graduated in 1900. His first field of practice was Mapleton, Iowa, where he remained for five years and then removed to Overton, Nebraska, where he continued in practice for eight years. In the meanwhile he had continued his studies and had become so much interested in the diseases of the respiratory organs that he went to Chicago and remained nine months. During this time he took a course in the eye, ear, nose and throat schools in that city. He had while there the advantage of practice and investigation in the clinics and hospitals. In

1916 Dr. Wengert came to Grand Island and since then has devoted himself entirely to his specialty.

In 1900 Dr. Wengert married Miss Nancy J. Johnson, who was born at Thurman, Fremont County, Iowa. They are members of the Presbyterian church. Mrs. Wengert is active in many charitable ways. Dr. Wengert is a Democrat in politics and has served on both the staff of Governor Moorehead and of Governor Neville. Fraternally he is a Mason, a Knight of Pythias, and belongs, also, to the Modern Woodmen.

ELMER E. BROWN, whose practice in veterinary science covers a period of thirty years, has been a resident of Grand Island since 1900 and is well known over the county to different parts of which he is frequently called to exercise his professional skill. Dr. Brown was born in Pottawattamie County, Iowa, December 15, 1863, and is a son of Robert and Loanza (Murlett) Brown. They were born in Guernsey County, Ohio, and were married in that state. In 1856 they came to Iowa and took up government land and continued to live on it during the rest of Dr. Brown's life, he passing away at the age of eighty years, a man respected and esteemed by all who knew him. He believed in the principles of the Republican party and at times served in public office, once being a county commissioner. Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Of their family of twelve children there are eight survivors, but only two live in Nebraska, Elmer E. and a sister, Alice. She is the widow of M. M. Parish, who died at Omaha two years since. He was a veterinarian, and at one time was publisher of the *South Omaha Times*.

Dr. Brown comes of a long line of farming people. His grandfathers on both sides spent their lives in agricultural pursuits, Moses Brown, who was born in Ireland, dying on his farm in Iowa, and Louis Murless, who was born and died on his old homestead in Ohio. After his schooldays were over, Elmer E. Brown remained on the home farm in Iowa until in March, 1881, when he came to Nebraska and settled in Merrick County, where, for two years he rented a farm with his brother, Robert L. Brown. From there he went to Greeley County, Nebraska, homesteaded there and lived on his place two years, then sold and located at Wolbach. He had studied veterinary science very thoroughly and practiced this profession for six years at Wol-

bach, from which place in 1900 he came to Grand Island, and since then his time has been entirely taken up by the demands of his profession.

Dr. Brown married Miss Mary E. Hill on February 1, 1887, who was born at Janesville, Wisconsin, a daughter of Henry A. and Paulina (Campbell) Hill. The father of Mrs. Brown was born in Rock County, Wisconsin, and died at St. Paul, Nebraska. The mother was born in the state of New York and resides in St. Paul. Mrs. Brown's grandparents were Caleb B. and Permelia Hill, the former was a sea captain. The grandmother, born in Massachusetts, lived to venerable age, having passed ninety-eight years of life at time of death. Dr. and Mrs. Brown have had two children: Robert Allen, whose death occurred June 11, 1908, when but twenty years of age; and Hazel Maine, the wife of William Linderkamp, who is a sheet metal trade worker at Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. Linderkamp have a daughter, Theda Wilma. Dr. Brown and his family are members of the Congregational church. While not unduly active in politics, he keeps abreast of the times and in the various changes and developments finds no reason to change his faith in the Republican party.

WILLIAM E. CLAYTON. — Few professional men have more diversified demands made upon them than the druggists. To satisfy a clamoring public, a modern drug store owner is expected to offer for sale the choicest and most dependable articles of a dozen or more kinds of merchandise in addition to a complete and expensive line of the purest of drugs, for which he must assume full responsibility. It has often been remarked that no other business is made so free with as the drug store in case of accident or sudden illness, for which usage, it might be added, remuneration is seldom offered. The druggist himself, furthermore, must pass through a protracted and expensive course of study. The life is not one of ease but it is a worth-while effort, and as a class, no professional men enjoy more universal confidence nor general reputation for unblemished integrity. Grand Island has great reason to feel proud of her representative men in this profession. Attention is directed to William E. Clayton, who has been in business here since 1910.

William E. Clayton was born at Stockton, Cedar County, Missouri, June 5, 1886, the eldest of three children born to his parents, George O. and Mary E. (Lean) Clayton. The

father was born in Coles County, Illinois, December, 22, 1865, and the mother in Cedar County, Missouri, December 31, 1867. George O. Clayton was brought to Cedar County in 1866 and grew up there and was married in that county. His three children are: William E., Walter O. and Effie E. Walter O. has spent one year in the military training camp at Fort Worth, Texas. George O. Clayton and family removed to Oklahoma where he is engaged in farming and merchandising.

After attending school near his father's farm, William E. Clayton attended the high school at Blackwell, Oklahoma, and then entered the Fremont School of Pharmacy at Fremont, Nebraska, where he completed his course. From the age of seventeen he has been a student of pharmacy and in different places has had experience, but the first store he owned was when he purchased the drug business of W. B. Dingman at Grand Island, the transaction taking place January 29, 1910.

On August 18, 1914, Mr. Clayton married Grace Zinn, who was born at Fairfield, Ohio. They have one child, Billy, who was born June 15, 1916. Mr. and Mrs. Clayton are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In his political views he is frankly Democratic but has no political ambitions. Since early manhood he has been interested in Masonry and is one of the younger 32nd Degree Masons and Shriners at Grand Island. He also belongs to the Elks.

HENRY B. BOYDEN, M. D.—In the light of modern discoveries in medicine and surgery, it is no longer the privilege of the old practitioners to command exclusively the confidence of the sick. Experience, in many cases, has been forced to make way for the skill brought about by training under favorable conditions in newly developed paths of medical science and in the amazing ones in the field of surgery. Grand Island is fortunate in having within its borders a number of capable medical practitioners, one of the youngest and most able being Dr. Henry B. Boyden.

Dr. Boyden was born at Ravenna, in Buffalo County, Nebraska, January 12, 1889. His parents are Fred D. and Mary (Smith) Boyden, the former of whom was born in Chicago, Illinois, and the latter in Des Moines, Iowa. The maternal grandfather of Dr. Boyden, was the real founder of Ravenna, which stands on the land he homesteaded when he located as a pioneer in Buffalo County. He set out

many of the beautiful trees which adorn the streets of Ravenna. For many years during his lifetime, he conducted a land bureau for the government, and the mother of Dr. Boyden still carries it on. The father of Dr. Boyden came to Grand Island in the 'eighties to go into the drug store with his brother, and two years later bought a store at Ravenna. Some years later he went into the drug business in Chicago, where he is now in the business. Dr. Boyden has a younger sister Helen, who is the wife of Rev. McIrvine, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church at Edgar, Nebraska.

In 1904 Dr. Boyden was graduated from the Ravenna high school, after which he spent two years in Doane College, at Crete, and three years in the University of Nebraska, securing his B.Sc. degree from the latter institution in 1909. He then entered Rush Medical College, Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1911. He came to Grand Island in 1912. Prior to this, however, Dr. Boyden had served for eighteen months in the Cook County hospital, and for three months as an interne. Dr. Boyden is a surgery specialist and has been well prepared for this branch of medical science, at different times taking graduate courses with the noted surgeons of Rochester, Minnesota, New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Cleveland and Chicago. He was already engrossed in practice when public events interrupted his career. He entered the army of the United States on April 12, 1918, spent three and a half months at Fort Riley in training, and six months at Camp Beauregard, and was honorably discharged in January, 1919. He immediately returned home and has resumed his former activities.

Dr. Boyden married, September 20, 1916, Miss Eva Marie Brix, who was born at Lexington, Nebraska. Her father, Charles Brix, was connected with the milling business in Lexington. Later he returned with his wife to their old old homestead in Denmark, where Mrs. Brix subsequently died. Mr. Brix is now engaged in business in Omaha, Nebraska. Formerly Mrs. Boyden was a trained nurse in the Clarkson hospital, Omaha. Dr. and Mrs. Boyden have one child, Annabel Lee Boyden. They are members of the Episcopal church. In politics the doctor is a zealous Republican. He has long been identified with Masonic bodies. He still maintains his interest and membership in his college Greek letter medical fraternity.

Dr. Boyden occupies the offices of the late Henry D. Boyden, who was his uncle.



DR. HENRY B. BOYDEN

RICHARD BUENZ.—The residents of Hall County, when they have occasion to transact business in the county seat, find in Richard Buenz, register of deeds, an accommodating and competent public official. A native of Grand Island, born here December 29, 1874, his interests have always been centered in Hall County. His parents were John and Mary (Dreesen) Buenz.

Richard Buenz completed the public school course and later spent two months in a business college, that being the sum of his educational advantages. After learning the trade of a cigarmaker, industrial life claimed him for more than fifteen years, during which period he not only reached a high degree of skill in his trade but, through sterling characteristics and good citizenship, won universal confidence and esteem. He early became interested in politics and has always been a loyal worker in the ranks of the Democratic party. In 1910 Mr. Buenz was appointed county clerk and served eight months in that office, retiring from the same to assume the duties of register of deeds, to which office he was elected in January, 1911. Since then Mr. Buenz has devoted his entire time to his official duties and enjoys the reputation of being one of the most faithful as well as efficient office-holders in the county.

In March, 1903, Mr. Buenz was united in marriage with Miss Amanda Paulsen, who was born in Grand Island, Nebraska, the daughter of John Paulsen, janitor of the city hall at Grand Island. Mrs. Buenz is a graduate of the Grand Island High school and is a member of the English Lutheran church. Mr. and Mrs. Buenz have two children, a son and a daughter, both in school. The former, Harold, a youth of fourteen years, is doing well in his classes, as is his sister, Helen, who is ten years old.

Mr. Buenz is by nature genial and companionable and thus has identified himself with a number of fraternal and social organizations. These include several well known German organizations more or less musical in character, and the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Elks and the Eagles, and for six years he served as secretary of the last named order. Mr. Buenz is generous and benevolent and always may be depended upon to do his part in support of local charities.

ROY H. DAVISON.—One of Hall County's native sons who has found it convenient to remain here and is making good use of his opportunities is the subject of this record,

who is successfully carrying on farming pursuits in Center township.

Roy H. Davison was born on his father's farm in this township, April 3, 1891, the son of Henry Davison, a retired farmer now living in Grand Island, a sketch of whom will be found on another page of this history.

The boy was reared on the farm, educated in the public schools and when he became a man wisely chose the occupation with which he was familiar and is now operating two hundred forty acres belonging to his father.

October 10, 1910, he was united in marriage to Miss Ella Jane White, a native of Iowa, and a daughter of Porter and Mattie White, who now reside at Alda, Nebraska. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Davison has been blessed with two children: Ralph L. and Paul I.

Mr. and Mrs. Davison are active members of the Methodist church and are highly esteemed young people of their community.

JAMES E. LYLE, county clerk of Hall County, Nebraska, most acceptably fills this important public office. The county clerk's duties are often arduous and very frequently the business of his office brings him close to his fellow citizens as an individual, and thus not only is his ability an important factor, but personality also. In the county clerk's office in Grand Island is found order and efficiency, together with the courtesy that facilitates business and leaves agreeable memories.

James E. Lyle was born in Adams County, Illinois, January 10, 1870. His parents were James and Mary M. (Haggerty) Lyle, the former of whom was born in Ireland and the latter in Kentucky. After their marriage they settled in Adams County, Illinois, where they resided until 1873 when they removed to Missouri, and both died in that state. Of their family of ten children the following survive: John, a rural mail carrier since leaving his farm, lives in York County, Nebraska; May, the wife of J. W. Miller, lives in Missouri; James E.; and Arthur, a resident of Arizona. The father of the above family was a Republican in politics and a member of the Presbyterian church. The mother belonged to the Christian church.

Three years old when his father sold his Illinois farm and bought another in Missouri, Mr. Lyle has no memories of his native state. He attended the district schools near his home in Missouri and remained on the farm until about eighteen years old. The death of his father four years prior to this, placed heavy responsibilities on his shoulders. After leaving

home he learned to be a telegraph operator and this led to his coming to Nebraska, in 1892, as an operator and agent on the Burlington railroad, being so occupied until 1910, having come to Grand Island in 1903. In 1911 Mr. Lyle came into the office of the county clerk of Hall County as deputy where he continued in that capacity until 1916, when he was elected county clerk. He has had considerable experience in the political field and is an ardent Republican.

Mr. Lyle married September 1, 1897, Miss Effie A. Scovill, who was born in Hamilton County, Nebraska. Her father, the late Senator D. A. Scovill was a prominent and influential man in Hamilton County for many years. He served as sheriff of Hamilton County and later as a member of the Nebraska House of Representatives and still later as a member of the upper house of the General Assembly. Senator Scovill died in Hamilton County. His widow survives and makes her home with her daughter Mrs. Lyle.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle have four children: Albert, at the time of writing a soldier in the United States army, is in the training camp at Camp Humphreys, Virginia; and Luella, Helen and Mildred, all of whom are in school. Mr. Lyle and his family are members of the Congregational church. He is identified fraternally with the Odd Fellows, in which organization he has passed three chairs, and with the Woodmen of the World, in which he is clerk of the local camp. Always an active and public spirited citizen, since the inauguration of military and charitable agencies in relation to the World War, Mr. Lyle has been an indefatigable worker and has cheerfully and unselfishly given his energies to the work along government appointed lines and is secretary of the local war board. His patriotic example has had much to do with the great success in Hall County of the various war projects and activities.

Mr. Lyle is a member of board of education now serving his second term.

GUSTAVE SIEVERS'S record as sheriff of Hall County for three successive terms, is highly creditable both to himself and to the county. He commands universal respect from the law abiding element for official efficiency, but in addition because of his personal integrity and patriotic citizenship. Since the age of eleven years he has belonged to the United States. He was born in Holstein, Germany, July 29, 1858. His parents were Henry and Wilhelmina (Starken) Sievers.

Henry Sievers was born and reared in Germany and there learned the carpenter trade and became a thoroughly skilled workman. In 1869 he emigrated with his family to the United States and in the following year removed to Omaha, Nebraska, where he worked at his trade until 1871, when he took up a homestead in Howard County. He was one of the earliest settlers there and the family went through many unavoidable pioneer hardships that form a part of early settlement in any section. They lived on the Howard County homestead for many years and then came to Grand Island and here both parents of Sheriff Sievers died. They were faithful members of the Lutheran church. After becoming a citizen Henry Sievers for a number of years voted with the Republican party, but in later life he was a Democrat. Of his six children the following survive: Louisa, the wife of Fred Rohling, a retired business man of Grand Island; Caroline, the wife of Henry Paustian, who is a farmer near Denver, Colorado; and Henry, who lives retired at Long Beach, California.

Gustave Sievers was not satisfied with his educational acquirements secured in boyhood, and after his father had settled in Nebraska and work on a farm became his portion, he took over the matter of educating himself, diligently applying himself as he found opportunity, to books of a practical nature, with the result that he is a man of wide information on varied subjects. Although much of his life has been devoted to agricultural pursuits, he has been deeply interested in politics since he was twenty-one years old and experience has brought him judgment in this field. His sympathies have always been with the aims of the Democratic party and in all his political life he has been intensely loyal to this organization. In January, 1912, he was appointed sheriff of Hall County and approval was shown of his administration of the office by his thrice being elected to it. He is a member of various patriotic bodies and is a member of the local draft board. Sheriff Sievers maintains his home in Grand Island but he owns a valuable farm in Hall County.

Sheriff Sievers married January 25, 1883, Miss Annie Wichman, who was born at Madison, Wisconsin. Her father the late Joseph Wichman, was born in Germany and in early life came to the United States settling in Wisconsin in 1850. In 1873 he moved with his family to Howard County, Nebraska, and there took up a homestead that continued to be the home of himself and wife until she passed away at the age of ninety years. He

survived her, passing away at the age of ninety-seven years. Sheriff and Mrs. Sievers have three children, namely: Alma, who resides with her parents, the widow of Martin Erickson, but now the wife of John Irvine of Howard County; Clara, the wife of John Frauen, of Merrick County, Nebraska; and Joe, who has served as deputy under his father, lives in Grand Island. Although home affairs and political duties have pretty well absorbed Mr. Sievers's time and attention for some years, the claims of fraternal life have interested him to some degree. He was one of the charter members in the organization of the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Grand Island and belongs also to the Elks.

FREDERICK MATHIESEN, who is in the employ of the Union Pacific Railroad, in the car repairing department, is a native of Hall County. The Mathiesen family came to this section of Nebraska at a very early day, and its representatives from then until the present, have been people of industry, thrift and sterling character.

Frederick Mathiesen was born in Hall County, Nebraska, November 14, 1896, a son of Frederick and Sophia (Luth) Mathiesen. The father was born on the homestead in Hall County which his father secured, July 13, 1867, spent his life on the place as a farmer, passing away August 17, 1906. On September 15, 1894 he married Sophia Luth, who was born in Iowa. Her parents were Frederick and Minnie (Ronfelt) Luth, natives of Germany, who came to the United States in 1868. The seven surviving members of the eight children of the Ronfelt family, all live within or near Hall County, Nebraska. The parents of Mr. Mathiesen had five children, four of whom are living, namely: Frederick, Harry, Arnold and Otto. Two years after Mr. Mathiesen's death, his widow was married to Edward Stuhr, of Grand Island, and they have two children, namely: Viola, who was born July 4, 1910; and Eddie, who was born November 21, 1912.

Frederick Mathiesen lived on the old family homestead, until the age of twenty, when he found employment on farms in the neighborhood. He was busy as a farmer from the close of his schooldays until 1918 when he went to work in his present position. Like his father in many ways, he has the same political opinions and gives support to the Democratic party. As a young man of fine character, he has many friends in Washington township. He married Miss Blanche McIntyre, of Omaha.

WILLIAM SUHR, an active citizen of Grand Island, as county attorney, has an official record behind him that emphasizes the fact that he is a very able and conscientious member of the bar of Hall County. Mr. Suhr is yet a young man and his professional advance has been rapid, considering the competition he has faced at Grand Island, where the bar has many recognized legal lights.

William Suhr was born in Crawford County, Iowa, January 31, 1886.

He attended the public schools in Crawford County, Iowa, and in 1901 was graduated from Westside high school. Already he had made choice of a profession, but as circumstances did not at that time open the way for continued study of the law, the young man accepted employment in a hardware and furniture store. He afterward traveled for two and half years for the Simmons Hardware Company. Subsequently he studied law in the Nebraska University and also pursued special courses in the University of Michigan. He was admitted to the bar in 1914 and entered into practice at Grand Island, which city has continued to be his home ever since. Intelligently interested from early manhood in public questions, Mr. Suhr identified himself with the Democratic party and as a candidate of this organization, was elected county attorney in the fall of 1916. He has applied himself very closely to his professional duties and has won the approbation and entire confidence of his fellow citizens. He has numerous social and fraternal connections. He is a member in Lodge No. 33, A. F. & A. M. and Lodge No. 604, P. P. O. E., both in Grand Island.

FRED A. BUCHFINCK, who is a progressive and enterprising young farmer of Hall County, has lived on the old homestead in Lake township all his life. He was born in Hall County, Nebraska, May 25, 1898, a son of August and Anna (Niemoth) Buchfinck, who now live retired at Grand Island.

August Buchfinck, father of Fred A., was born in Russia and was fourteen years old when he came to the United States. In 1873 he came to Grand Island and found work with a farmer and the \$83 he earned the first year was his start in business. During the second year he was paid \$12 a month and thereby he was able to buy a team of mules, using these within another year he had a paying job working for the railroads. He helped build the Burlington road from Hastings west to Utah and also was employed on the Oregon Short Line. He then took a homestead in Grant

County of which he is still owner, together with his homestead and sixteen sections, having in Hall County 320 acres, in Merrick County 480 acres, and 320 in Howard County. His industry during his active years was unceasing, and his business judgment remarkable. He is one of the directors of the Grand Island State Bank and has other interests. He married Anna Niemoth, who was born at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and of their ten children, the following survive: Clara, who is the wife of Albert Beyersdorf, of Lake township; Freda, who is the wife of Paul Beyersdorf, of Leat, Nebraska; John L., who lives in Grant County, married Grace Wright; Fred A., who farms in Lake township; and Amelia, Arthur and Myrtle, all of whom reside at home.

Fred A. Buchfinck had superior educational advantages. After completing the public school course in Hall County, he entered Midland College, at Atchison, Kansas, and later spent a year in a military academy at Kearney, since which time he has been devoting his energies to agricultural pursuits in Lake township.

On February 16, 1918, Mr. Buchfinck was united in marriage to Miss Rose L. Torney, who is a daughter of John and Katie (Stadler) Torney, of Kearney County. They are members of the Lutheran church. He belongs to the Farmer's Union. Mr. Buchfinck is very well thought of, and he and wife have a pleasant social circle.

JOHN F. MATTHEWS, principal of the Grand Island High school is a well known educator of Hall County and an upright citizen in every relation of life. With some individuals, school teaching is looked upon as a kind of helping hand to be engaged in for a more or less limited period while awaiting opportunities along other lines, but fortunate it is for the youth of the country that there are men in the profession whose every energy is engaged and whose greatest ambition is to competently point the way to solid educational attainment. An educator of this type guides the destinies of the high school in Grand Island.

John F. Matthews was born at Kennard, in Washington County, Nebraska, November 27, 1870. His parents were John A. and Agnes (Connolly) Matthews, the former of whom, now a resident of Grand Island, was born in Brooklyn, New York, and the latter, now deceased, was a native of Ireland. They were the parents of four children: Thomas P., in the real estate business at Grand Island;

John F.; Catherine and Agnes, the former a bookkeeper and the latter a stenographer. In 1869 the father of Professor Matthews located at Kennard, Nebraska, and for many years afterward was a railroad man. He is an honored veteran of the Civil War, having enlisted in 1861 in Company E, Seventy-seventh New York, in the unit known as the Excelsior brigade. He was wounded during the advance on Petersburg and subsequently was captured by the enemy and for six months was incarcerated in Libby prison.

It is possible that Mr. Matthews can not remember a time when he was not interested in school work, for he became a student early and in 1888 was graduated from the Grand Island High school. His choice of a profession was quickly made and from that time to the present, Grand Island has benefited through his earnest efforts as a school teacher. Since 1897 he has been principal of the high school, which, as an educational institution, reflects great credit on the city, its many graduates finding themselves well prepared for the various careers to which their tastes and talents direct them, all of which, in modern days, demand a sound educational foundation.

In no sense of the word is Mr. Matthews a politician, but he is a wide awake, progressive citizen and as such takes an interest in civic affairs, casting his vote with the Democratic party. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen and with the Knights of Columbus, in the latter order he has served both as grand knight and district deputy. In many representative educational bodies his intelligent co-operation has been invited, particularly in county institute work. He has been one of the instructors at Kearney, and for the past six years he has been treasurer of the Nebraska State Teachers' Association. The family as a whole belong to the Roman Catholic church.

BENJAMIN J. CUNNINGHAM, a leading representative of the legal profession in Grand Island, has been located in the county seat for almost a decade and is thoroughly identified with public interests. He has built up a fine practice that has secured him honorable consideration from bench and bar as well as the confidence of the community in his integrity as well as his ability.

Mr. Cunningham was born in Wood River, Hall County, Nebraska, November 22, 1888. His parents are Michael J. and Catherine (Meade) Cunningham, retired residents of Wood River. The father was born in Nova

Scotia, August 23, 1849, and the mother in Ireland, February 2, 1850. Their marriage took place in Lowell, Massachusetts. In 1878 they came to Hall County, and the father bought a farm near Wood River and that continued to be the family home until 1913, when removal was made to the village. The family consists of five children, namely: Joseph H., a farmer and stockman near Wood River; John C., in the stock commission business at Omaha; Mary, who resides with her parents; Edward L., in the commission business at Omaha; and B. J.

B. J. Cunningham had public school advantages and was graduated from the Wood River High school in 1906. His training in the law was secured in the Creighton Law School, Omaha, from which he was graduated in 1910. He entered into practice in Grand Island, where he shortly afterward found professional encouragement and as time went on became well and favorably known not only in the law but likewise in the political field. In 1912 he was elected county attorney on the Democratic ticket and was re-elected in 1914, and on three occasions he has been elected chairman of the Democratic executive committee of Hall County. His parents have always been faithful members of the Roman Catholic church and he belongs also to this religious body. Fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Columbus, the B. P. O. E. and the F. O. E.

FRANK E. SLUSSER was born in Jasper County, Iowa, July 11, 1868. His parents were Rev. F. M. and Nancy (Yocum) Slusser. His father, who was a Methodist minister, was an early settler in Jasper County, being a native of the state of Pennsylvania, who came west at an early day to locate west of the Mississippi River. Both parents died in Iowa.

F. E. Slusser obtained his early school training in Jasper County and spent his boyhood on a farm. In 1887 he came to Nebraska and two years later secured a position as clerk in the First National Bank at Wood River, in that same institution he worked his way steadily upward, serving as assistant cashier, vice-president and then president. The First National is one of the soundest institutions in the county, with a capital of \$40,000, and surplus \$40,000, and average deposits of \$350,000. Additionally, Mr. Slusser has banking interests at other points, being a member of the board of directors of the State Bank at Clarks, in Merrick County, and also of the Citizens State Bank at Archer, in the same county.

In politics Mr. Slusser is a sound Republican. In the fall of 1902 he was elected county treasurer and was re-elected in 1904. He owns considerable property, mainly farm lands, and at present devotes his time largely to handling real estate.

Mr. Slusser married in 1914 Miss Gussie Towne, who was born at Grand Island, Nebraska, and they have one daughter, Elizabeth Ann. Mrs. Slusser belongs to numerous social bodies and is a member of the Episcopal church. Mr. Slusser was reared in the Methodist Episcopal church and has always continued in this connection. He is a member of Masonic bodies, Blue lodge, Royal Arch and Knights Templar and is a Shriner, and while residing in Wood River was master of the Blue lodge. He belongs also to the Elks and Odd Fellows and takes an interest in business and political organizations of the city and county.

HON. JAMES R. HANNA, was elected judge of the District Court of the 11th Judicial district of Nebraska in 1904. During eighteen years previous to that he had been engaged in the practice of law at Greeley. In a judicial capacity for fifteen years it has been his business to discern the actions and purposes of men, and it is generally recognized by practitioners and litigants that the Judge is well informed on procedure and inspires confidence in the prompt and impartial administration of justice. He is also widely known in financial circles. He is president of the Greeley State Bank, of the Brayton State Bank, and of the Nebraska State Bank of Grand Island.

Judge Hanna was born at Vinton, Iowa, February 21, 1861, a son of Alex and Rose (Watson) Hanna, natives of Wooster, Ohio, both of whom are deceased. The parents removed to Iowa in 1857, took up land in that state, and there passed the remainder of their lives in agricultural pursuits. The father was a Republican. Mr. and Mrs. Hanna belonged to the Presbyterian church, in the faith of which they reared their six children, of whom five are living: Belle, a teacher in the Presbyterian College at Abingdon, Virginia; J. W., a retired farmer of Vinton, Iowa, and president of the Farmers Savings Bank of Garrison, that state; W. H., vice-president of the Peoples Savings Bank of Vinton; Judge James R.; and Dr. H. H., a physician and surgeon of Waterloo, Iowa.

James R. Hanna received his early education in the public schools of his native com-



JAMES R. HANNA

munity, following which he attended Cornell (Iowa) College, graduating in 1884. For several years he was a student of law at Vinton, being admitted to practice in Des Moines, in 1886. Beginning his professional career in Vinton, in 1887 he removed to Greeley, Nebraska, where he entered upon a successful career in the law. Like all young lawyers, and especially those who have no large financial backing, he was forced to go through a probationary period, but his, because of his fine abilities, was shorter than many others, and so rapidly did he come to the forefront that when he was only twenty-six years old he was elected a member of the State Legislature from Greeley County. During the next eighteen years he continued in practice, gaining prestige, prominence and reputation in his profession. In 1904 he was elected judge of the District Court of the 11th Judicial district of Nebraska, a position which he has continued to hold. His record on the bench is one of the best. With all his years of experience with the delinquent element of human society, while it has sharpened his insight into the faults and guile of mankind, Judge Hanna has preserved and constantly manifests a kindliness and sympathy in his dealings with litigants that make him one of the most esteemed judges in the state. His unflinching common sense saves him from the pedantry of law, and having been a close and thorough student under the impetus of his own determination, he has become fully and practically equipped to meet any emergency within the scope of his judicial duties.

Judge Hanna married in 1888 Lora Chaffin, who was born at Richmond, Indiana, daughter of J. W. Chaffin, a native of Ohio, a soldier during the Civil War, and later a newspaper man. To this union there were born two children: Helen, who attended Doane College at Crete, Nebraska, and State University at Lincoln, who resides at home with her parents, and Donald C., who graduated from the Kearney Military Academy, and took two years of work in Grand Island College, and who before the signing of the peace armistice was at the officers' training school in Camp Dodge, entering in July, 1918. The family belongs to the Presbyterian church.

Judge Hanna is a member of the Knights of Pythias and has served as chancellor commander in that body. He has always been a Republican. His standing in financial circles is one that compares favorably with his judicial record, and in addition to being president of the institutions enumerated at the opening of this review, is a director in the State Bank

of Omaha. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of Grand Island College, and of the Board of Directors for the local Y. M. C. A.

ARTHUR L. JOSEPH. — In the comparatively short but uniformly progressive career of Arthur L. Joseph, of Grand Island, several personal traits are quite noticeable. Among these may be mentioned versatility of talents combined with thoroughness of preparation and depth of legal knowledge. A practitioner of this community since 1909, he has steadily advanced in his calling and in public prominence. At the present time he is capably discharging the duties connected with the office of city attorney.

Arthur L. Joseph was born at Polk, Nebraska, September 26, 1885. He is a son of Fred J. and Minnie (Schoeder) Joseph, both natives of Germany. His parents, who came to the United States as children, were married in Iowa, and in 1879 came to Nebraska. His father purchased land in Polk County, where for a number of years he was engaged in successful agricultural operations. The parents are now retired from active labors and make their home in Grand Island, where they are highly respected residents and devout members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Joseph is a supporter of the Democratic party. Of the five children of this worthy couple, four are living: H. J., who is engaged in farming on the homestead in Polk County; Arthur L.; Meta M., the wife of Henry Fraderking, a farmer of Merrick County, Nebraska; and Sophia, who makes her home with her parents.

After attending the public schools of Polk County, Arthur L. Joseph was sent to Concordia College, at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This was followed by a law course of three years in the University of Nebraska. He successfully passed his examination before the local board and was admitted to the bar in 1909, at which time he commenced practice in Grand Island, which has since been his place of residence and the scene of his advancement to a position of prominence among the younger lawyers of Hall County. In his capacity of city attorney of Grand Island he has evinced a broad knowledge of law and equity, a conscientious regard for the rights of all classes of litigants and fine executive capacity in the dispatch of business. Like other live and progressive men, he has some business connections, but his chief interests lie in his office and his practice and no other matters are allowed to distract his attention from them.

He has also been actively interested in politics and is accounted one of the younger leaders of the Democratic party in his adopted city. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masons and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in the latter has passed through all the chairs and is a member of the Grand Lodge.

Mr. Joseph married September 26, 1912, in Grand Island, Miss Matilda G. Shilling, of Scotia, Nebraska. Mrs. Joseph is well known in social circles of Grand Island, and is an active member of Trinity Methodist Episcopal church.

SAMUEL C. HUSTON, has been engaged in the real estate, loan and general insurance business in Grand Island for over thirty years. He has been a resident of Hall County since boyhood and has had much to do with the substantial development of this section of Nebraska, being identified with many leading interests in Grand Island. Mr. Huston was born in Lake County, Ohio, October 11, 1861. He is one of a family of five and the only surviving child of his parents, Cyrus and Rhoda (Taylor) Huston. Both were natives of Ohio, where their parents had been pioneer settlers. The paternal grandfather of Mr. Huston was Samuel Huston, a native of England, and the maternal grandfather was Samuel Taylor, who was born in Ireland.

Mr. Huston was eleven years old when he accompanied his mother, after the death of his father in Ohio, to Nebraska. This was in 1872 and in 1874 she settled in the comfortable house in Grand Island that Mr. Huston still occupies as his residence. His father had been a farmer and a man of some importance in Lake County, a member of the Masonic fraternity, a supporter and member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a Democrat in politics. Before coming to Grand Island Mr. Huston had attended school at Leroy, Ohio, and after completing the public school course in Grand Island, he spent two years in an Episcopal college at Nebraska City, Nebraska. His earlier working years were spent on a farm but he had the commercial instinct that led him into trading in grain and afterward, for five years was a clerk in a store. About that time he became associated with his present partner, J. E. Dill and together they conducted a store for three and a half years. In 1887 the firm of Dill & Huston was formed to deal in real estate, loans and insurance. The business of this firm has steadily grown and is now the leading one of the kind in Hall County. Both members of the firm are known

to be sound, reliable business men who count as an asset their just reputation for business integrity.

In 1887 Mr. Huston married Miss Anna A. West, who was born in Maryland. She is the daughter of John W. West, who came to Grand Island in 1874 and is still active in the grain business here. Mr. and Mrs. Huston have four children, three sons and one daughter, as follows: Samuel E., an engineer, who is in the employ of the United States government at Portland, Oregon; Forrest L., engaged in farming three miles southwest of Grand Island; Ella, the wife of Theodore Rembolt, of Pendleton, Oregon, an employe of J. C. Penny, who conducts a chain of stores; and Paul, a student in the Grand Island High school. Mr. Huston and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In his political views he is a Republican.

GEORGE D. HETZEL. — By reason of his long connection with the real estate business and because of the extent and importance of the transactions with which he has been identified, George D. Hetzel is justly accounted one of the leading realty men of Hall County. Nearly forty years have passed since he came to Grand Island, and during this long period he has held a prominent and respected place in business circles, while he has been no less esteemed as a citizen, and as a man who has won his own way to success from modest beginnings.

Mr. Hetzel was born at Wheeling, West Virginia, October 7, 1844, a son of Charles F. and Regina (Bayha) Hetzel, the former a native of Baden, and the latter of Wurttemberg, Germany. The parents were married in New York City and for a short time resided in Wheeling, where the father was a successful business man and from there made his way with his family to the vicinity of Davenport, Iowa, where he purchased a farm upon which he resided until his death. Both he and his wife passed away on their old farm. They were respected members of their community. Mrs. Hetzel was a member of the Lutheran church. In politics the father was a Democrat. Of their eleven children, seven still survive, George D. being the only resident of Nebraska.

George D. Hetzel was educated in the district schools and at Davenport, Iowa, and his career in business was started there as clerk in a dry goods store, about the close of the Civil War. He was only twenty-five years of age when he began to notice the field opening

for success in the real estate business, and began operations in realty in Davenport. In August, 1879, he came to Grand Island, Nebraska, where he established himself in the hardware business, but in the meantime continued to deal in real estate. After sixteen years he disposed of his hardware interests in order to give his entire time and attention to real estate and insurance matters. He has long been handling Canadian lands as a specialty, and is the owner of much valuable property in Canada. His business standing is of the best, and this, like his fortune, has been built up through absolute integrity and straightforward dealing.

Mr. Hetzel married February 6, 1873, Miss Louise Keating, who was born at Cincinnati, Ohio. They are the parents of three children: Lulu, the wife of W. H. Baird, connected with the Larowe Construction Company, builders of sugar refineries and pulp driers, and has two children, — William Britton and George H.; Frank A., formerly with the Cudahy Packing Company, but now connected with the firm of Ferd-Haak Company, large manufacturers of cigars, as a partner, married Theckla Haak; and George D., Jr., farming and sheep raising on a large scale in Manitoba, Canada, married Florence Harrison of Grand Island. Mrs. Baird is a graduate of the Grand Island High School and of Oberlin College, and Frank A. and George D. Hetzel Jr., are graduates of the Grand Island High School and of the Nebraska State University.

Mrs. Hetzel and her three children are members of the Episcopal church. Mr. Hetzel is a Democrat in his political views. His fraternal affiliation includes life membership in the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Knights Templar of the Masonic order. He is also a member of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

REV. JAMES A. DUFFY, bishop of the Grand Island Diocese of the Roman Catholic church, ably and effectively fills a position of great responsibility. Bishop Duffy has reached this high office through thorough preparation, wide experience and natural qualifications. Aside from his executive achievements, his ministrations have not only benefitted, directed and comforted the large congregations in his charge, but have always been a recognized influence for law, order and humanity over the entire diocese outside the church.

James A. Duffy was born in the United States, in the beautiful city of St. Paul, Minnesota, September 13, 1873. His parents were James and Nora (Shiely) Duffy. The father

was a native of Ireland and the mother was born in New York, and both died at St. Paul. Of their family of eight children there are five survivors. The father was a stonemason by trade and became a contractor in stone construction.

First in the parochial schools and later at St. Thomas Seminary in St. Paul, which is now the College of St. Thomas, the future bishop pursued his studies along the lines laid out for Catholic clergy. After his graduation in 1899 and ordination to the Priesthood, Reverend Mr. Duffy was appointed assistant at the Immaculate Conception church in Minneapolis, and continued as such for three years, then for two years had charge of a church in Le Sueur, Minnesota. During the next eight and a half years he was assistant under his friend Bishop Keane, in the Cathedral in Cheyenne, Wyoming. In 1913 he was appointed the first bishop of the diocese of Kearney, with residence in Kearney, from which city he came to Grand Island in 1916, when the diocesan see was changed on account of a difference in railroad facilities.

Bishop Duffy has forty-two parishes under his charge, his diocese extending over thirty-four counties. He has always been greatly interested in the work of the Knights of Columbus and feels proud of their wonderful humanitarian achievements during the World War.

THEODORE P. BOEHM, a prominent citizen of Hall County, Nebraska, was born in Grand Island, March 17, 1875. While united public effort is doubtless the greatest force in the development of a community, a most essential factor is the solid, well informed, dependable business man who labors not only in his own interest but with the wider vision of a good, reliable citizen. Grand Island has such men and some of these are native sons. A representative example is found in Theodore P. Boehm, who for a number of years was an efficient and trustworthy public official of the county.

The parents of Mr. Boehm, George and Catherine Boehm, were natives of Germany who came to the United States in childhood. They were married in the city of St. Louis, Missouri, and they became the parents of six children; one died in infancy; Mrs. Buechler, of Grand Island; Mrs. C. H. Menck, deceased; Theodore P.; Fred J., cashier of a bank at Columbus, Nebraska; and Adolph T. The father learned the brewing business and after leaving St. Louis went to Omaha, where he was foreman and manager for Fred Krug's

brewery. The father came to Grand Island in 1870 and operated his own brewery here during the remainder of his life. He died here at the early age of thirty-six years. He was a Democrat in politics and belonged to the Lutheran church. His widow, the mother of Theodore P. Boehm, subsequently was married to Andrew Ott and three children were born to that union, two of whom survive: Otto O., head salesman at the Wolbach & Sons Clothing department; and Walter, who is employed in the Union Pacific shops at Grand Island.

Theodore P. Boehm had excellent educational training, attending the public schools, Grand Island College and Lincoln Normal University. His first business experience was as a clerk in a grocery store in Grand Island. He was ambitious and this led to his taking a civil service examination which enabled him to take a position in the Grand Island post office, and for the next four years he was a clerk in the general delivery division. At that time he was appointed a clerk in the office of the county clerk of Hall County. He served in this capacity for four years, during this time winning the confidence of his associates and officials generally and making many warm personal friends. He was then elected county treasurer and served two terms, having been elected the second time without opposition. Public approval was still further evidenced by his election later to the office of county commissioner where he served two years on that board. In the meanwhile, when he retired from the office of county treasurer, he embarked in the real estate and insurance business. In these lines he has become one of the leading men of the county. During the past year he has done also a large land business in northeastern Colorado. He still takes a hearty interest in politics, believing this to be the duty of citizenship. He was manager for Hon. Silas R. Barton, Republican, in his campaign for Congress. Mr. Boehm has done his part in forwarding war work and is well qualified to do so as he was a soldier himself in the Spanish-American war. At present he is serving as a member of the Grand Island school board.

Mr. Boehm married, June 20, 1901, Miss Evelyn Scott, who was born at Hardy, Nebraska, a daughter of Edward Scott, an old settler and farmer of Nuckols County. They have three children: Kenneth S., Kieth S. and Theodore P. The family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Boehm is a member of the Modern Woodmen, of the Elks and of other local organizations.

REV. AUGUST W. HEIMES, pastor of St. Mary's Cathedral in Grand Island, has been a resident of this city for only four years but in that time he has made a deep impression on his church and on the community which ought not to be overlooked. Father Heimes was born in Westphalia, Germany, September 3, 1877. His parents were Frank and Theresa (Deutenberg) Heimes. They came with their children from Germany to the United States in 1880, settled in the city of St. Paul, Minnesota, where the father was engaged in the grocery business until his death. He was an educated man and for twenty-four years had taught school in his native land. Of his seven children four are living.

Father Heimes was the youngest of his parents' family being but three years old when he was brought to America. He early evinced a desire for religious life and with this in view his educational training began in boyhood to prepare him for the priesthood. His preparation for the office was completed in Josephinum Seminary, Columbus, Ohio, following which he was ordained June 10, 1904. His first assignment was as assistant priest in the Catholic church at O'Neill, in Holt County, Nebraska. Six months later he took charge of the church at Ewing, Nebraska. Father Heimes made a fine record there and remained two and one half years, going then to the church at Saint Libory, Nebraska. From there he was called to St. Mary's cathedral, Grand Island. Father Heimes has always shown religious zeal together with a large measure of executive ability. His labors in Grand Island are warmly appreciated. In addition to looking after the affairs of his large parish, Father Heimes directs the church school and each one of the one hundred and sixty-five students strives for his approval, realizing that he has a worthy example in the faithful priest. He takes deep interest in the activities of the Knights of Columbus.

CHARLES B. FREEMAN, whose widely extended operations in real estate have made him a somewhat conspicuous figure in this field, has been a resident of Grand Island since 1911 and of the state of Nebraska since he was seven years old. He has not always been in his present line of business although he has made it remarkably successful, farming, handling grain and dealing in agricultural implements having engaged his attention for many years.

Mr. Freeman was born in Potter County,

Pennsylvania, September 29, 1865. His English ancestors came to America more than 200 years ago and the name is yet well represented through New England and its border states. His great-great-grandfather served in the Revolutionary war and three of his uncles served in the Union army in the Civil War. His parents were J. W. and Eliza (Rodgers) Freeman, both of whom were born in the state of New York and from there removed to Potter County, Pennsylvania, where the father carried on farming for many years. In 1872 he came with his family to Nebraska settling in Howard County and was a farmer there until his life closed. He was a man of sturdy character, honest in his convictions and upright in his life. He was a Republican in his political views and both he and Mr. Freeman's mother were members of the United Brethren church. They had three children: Henry B., who resides on his fruit farm near Los Angeles, California; Sarah, deceased, was the wife of T. N. Bennett; and Charles B.

He attended the country schools in Howard County and later the city schools in St. Paul, Nebraska. Thus Mr. Freeman had good educational opportunities. He assisted his father on the home farm and remembers when he would haul a load of wheat from Howard County to Grand Island, unload and accept a place to sleep in the livery barn where his horses were stabled and return next day. This was quite an undertaking and a responsible business transaction for a boy to carry through satisfactory. For about twenty years Mr. Freeman followed farming, always being interested in grain, and afterward went into the agricultural implement business in Howard County. When he came to Grand Island in 1911 he embarked in the real estate business and now has a branch office at Brule. He operates mainly with personal capital and does business on a large scale. During the past two years he has made a specialty of dealing in western lands, but is also profitably interested in farming in western Nebraska.

Mr. Freeman married, in 1891, Miss Eva Matheny, who was born in western Pennsylvania. Her father came to Howard County, Nebraska, in the 'eighties. Mr. and Mrs. Freeman have three children: Harry B., who resides in Adams County, Nebraska; Myrtle B., the wife of L. A. Miller, who is a farmer near Bruner, Nebraska; and Cora May, who resides with her parents. Mr. Freeman and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. While he is an earnest Republican in his political views, first of all Mr. Freeman is a good citizen, and every movement looking toward

the preservation of law and order in his city, county, state, finds in him a hearty supporter.

ADDISON E. CADY, banker and a representative business man of Grand Island, bears an old and honored name in Nebraska, one that has been identified with important and far-reaching business enterprises for many years and with political affairs for more than a quarter of a century.

Addison E. Cady was born in Nebraska, a son of Addison E. and Nellie E. (Hessler) Cady, natives of Wisconsin. The father was born at Watertown, December 7, 1853, and died at St. Paul, Nebraska, October 14, 1918. In 1880 he came to Colfax County, Nebraska and for the next five years conducted a newspaper at Schuyler. In 1885 he removed to St. Paul, Nebraska, where he organized the First National Bank of St. Paul, becoming the first president of the institution. He was an able man, well informed in the banking field. Both Elba and Dannebrog, Nebraska, are indebted to him for the institutions that supplied much needed financial assistance in the early struggle for development. As long as he deemed it advisable he retained his interest in these institutions but had sold them before he died. He was a man of wide vision and versatile talents, a power in politics in the state for many years and was put forward by the Republican party as its candidate for Congress and even for governor after long and statesmanlike service in both houses of the Nebraska state legislature. While a resident of St. Paul he organized a wholesale grocery company and later organized a branch at Grand Island, the entire concern being operated as the Nebraska Mercantile Company of which he was the first president. Later he assisted in the founding of the Nebraska State Bank at Grand Island and was serving as first president of the institution at the time of his death. His two children survive: Adnelle, who is the wife of George Pyne, a merchant at St. Paul, Nebraska, and Addison E., who is vice president of the Nebraska State Bank at Grand Island.

Addison E. Cady received his early educational training in the public schools and then entered the Shattuck Military Academy, at Faribault, Minnesota, from which institution he was graduated in 1901, when he returned to St. Paul and entered high school, from which he was graduated in 1903. He then interested himself in the wholesale grocery business at St. Paul and continued until 1910, when he came to Grand Island in the same business and remained with the Nebraska Mercantile

Company until 1915. In 1916 he became vice-president of the Nebraska State Bank and since that time has devoted himself closely to its interests. July 15, 1919, the Nebraska Loan and Trust Company was organized with J. R. Hanna, president, A. E. Cady, vice-president and secretary, A. J. Guendel, vice-president, E. R. Guendel, treasurer, and B. T. Cunningham, attorney, with a capital of \$50,000. Mr. A. E. Cady has the active management of this new concern.

In 1908 Mr. Cady was married to Miss Lucile Kotick, who was born at St. Paul, Nebraska, a daughter of Joseph Kotick, a general merchant and a pioneer of Howard County. Mr. and Mrs. Cady have one son, Addison E. (III), a bright school boy of seven years. Mr. Cady was more or less active in the Republican party but has never accepted any political honors beyond service on the state central committee. He belongs to lodge No. 80, B. P. O. E.

CLAUS THEO. JESSEN, proprietor of the leading drug store in Grand Island, is one of the city's representative business men. More than that, he is probably the best linguist in the state for he has a thorough knowledge of eight languages and converses in each with great facility. His educational training along other lines has been effective and the choice he made of pharmacy as a profession was because of a natural leaning toward the field of chemistry.

Mr. Jessen was born in Denmark, April 25, 1860. His parents were Claus T. and Anna (Petersen) Jensen. The former was born in Schleswig and was educated in the university of Copenhagen and until 1863 remained in that city as a teacher in the royal household. In the war of 1863-4 he served as an officer in the Danish army and then went to Kiel, Germany, and took a course in theology, entering the ministry of the Lutheran church, in which communion he continued until his death. Of his six children five survive, but Claus T. Jessen is the only member in the United States.

On account of his father being so erudite a man, Mr. Jessen had encouragement and stimulation in his effort to equal his father's scholarship. He proved an apt pupil along many lines and became especially proficient in languages and dialects and has found this knowledge of great advantage to him. He was graduated from the School of Languages at Haddersleben in 1881, and from the university of Magdeburg, Saxony, Germany, in

1882. The military law then came into play and he served in the German army for one year. In 1884 he came to the United States. He was at that time practically without capital and even worked as a day laborer after reaching Grand Island, but he had heard very often in his distant native land that America was the land of opportunity and he has lived to prove it. In the course of time he became a clerk in a drug store in Grand Island and the learning of the business was not much of a task to one whose faculties had been so well trained, and in 1908 Mr. Jessen bought the store and has conducted it ever since. His business success is well deserved for it has been built up by his own efforts. Although interested in all that concerns Grand Island, Mr. Jessen is not connected with any other business enterprise than his own.

Mr. Jessen married, in 1889, Petra Schorrrup, who was born at Sheffield, Illinois. They have had the following children: Phosia, the wife of John Gaber, a traveling salesman for Armour & Co., living in Sheridan, Wyoming; Norma, the wife of William Hehnke, of the Hehnke-Lohmann Company of Grand Island; Charles T., who, during the World War served in a medical unit in the American Expeditionary Force in France, inherits his father's talent in the acquisition of languages, being conversant with four; Vera, Emily, William and Tetra, all of whom are at home. One other child died in infancy. Mrs. Jessen died January 5, 1916. She was a faithful member of the Lutheran church. Mr. Jessen is a Democrat in politics and fraternally is identified with the Danish Brotherhood.

FREDRICH R. MANDEVILLE was born in Laporte County, Indiana, October 21, 1864. His parents were Dr. Daniel B. and Elmira (Talmage) Mandeville, both of whom were born in the state of New York. A short time after their marriage they removed to Laporte, Indiana, where Dr. Mandeville, for twenty years was in the practice of medicine. In 1879 Dr. Mandeville removed to Seward and retired from professional life. He was an ardent Republican in politics and was a brave soldier in the Union army during the Civil War. The patriotic character of the family is indicated by the fact that his father and three brothers, Jacob, Jerry and Rineer served in the army.

Dr. and Mrs. Mandeville had three children of whom Fredrich R. and Carrie are living. Carrie is the wife of Frank Pickrell who is a

section foreman at Seward for the C. B. & Q. Railway. The subject of this sketch was raised on a farm in Laporte County, Indiana, and obtained his education in the district schools. After coming to Nebraska he continued to work on the farm until 1886. He determined to see more of his native land. He went to California and afterward recrossed the continent to New York. He seems not to have been satisfied in the far east nor with the far west. He returned to Nebraska and went into the saloon business in Grand Island. He was in this business seventeen years in Seward, four years in Red Cloud and three years in Grand Island. He was appointed chief of police of Grand Island in May, 1917. As chief of police he stands for law and order and for the enforcement of law at all times and under all circumstances.

In 1900 Mr. Mandeville married Miss Emma Hill of Seward. Mrs. Mandeville's father, Mr. James Hill, is a pioneer and farmer, a liveryman and hotel manager, a man of wide acquaintance and substantial business connections. They have two sons, Harry and Fredrich. Mrs. Mandeville is a member of the Congregational church and is much interested in local charities. From early manhood Mr. Mandeville has been identified with the Republican party and has been a loyal defender of its principles and candidates. He is a member of lodge No. 604 B. P. O. E. at Grand Island.

WILLIAM F. TILLEY is successfully engaged in farming and conducting a nursery in Lake township. He was born in Otsego County, New York, June 28, 1873, being but an infant when brought to Hall County, Nebraska, by his parents, Adin D. and Maria A. (Perkins) Tilley, a record of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. His boyhood days were spent on the farm and his early education was acquired in the public schools, this being supplemented by a two years' course in Grand Island College. In early manhood he took up farming and for five years was in partnership with his brother George A. Later he associated himself with his father in the nursery business, having continued in this to the present day, conducting a nursery enterprise on a part of the old homestead. He is also part owner of a quarter section of land in Lake Township which he devotes to farming purposes.

In Hall County, March 1, 1900, was solemnized the marriage of William F. Tilley and Miss Floy Wilcox, a native of Kansas. Her

parents were Milton and Harriett (Foote) Wilcox who came to Hall County many years ago, their home being established at Grand Island, where the father became a salesman for the Rock Springs Coal Co. He was a man of fine education and while living in Kansas served as superintendent of schools at Beloit, Kansas. The mother of Mrs. Tilley is still living, a resident of Grand Island.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Tilley has been blessed with four children, namely: Ralph, Vera, Mildred and George, all of whom are still under the parental roof.

The family are members of the Baptist church and Mr. Tilley is a Republican in politics. Though not an aspirant for public honors he has the best interests of the community at heart and capably filled the position of township clerk for two terms.

The name has been an honored one in the county since pioneer days and the family are held in the highest esteem wherever known.

GUY L. HARRISON.—One of the most important interests of the city of Grand Island is the business conducted under the name of the W. H. Harrison Company. This business, founded by the late Hon. William H. Harrison, has since his death been conducted by his sons Guy L. and Fred L. Harrison, the former of whom is president and general manager. Like his late father, Guy L. Harrison is a man of marked business talent, of prominence in public life, and of great popularity in his community. Through his own abilities he has won a substantial place for himself in commercial and industrial circles, and, while he came into a business already established, he doubtless would have made a success had he been called upon to build up a business of his own.

Mr. Harrison was born in Table Rock, Nebraska, June 19, 1882, a son of William Henry Harrison, a review of whose career will be found elsewhere in this work. His education was secured in the public schools of Grand Island, and after his graduation in 1901, he entered his father's employ, continuing in close association with his father, in whose later years he assumed many of the burdens of management. At the time of the elder man's death he became the leading official in the concern, which was incorporated for \$25,000, in 1914. A general lumber business is done throughout the county, the concern also deals in coal, and in addition owns a well-equipped planing mill, where all manner of woodwork is done. Mr. Harison is president and general



W. Harrison

manager of the company, while Fred L. Harrison is secretary and treasurer and manages the coal department. Mr. Harrison is a member of the Elks Lodge No. 604, of which he is past exalted ruler, and belongs to Ashlar Lodge No. 33, A. F. & A. M. He supports the Republican party in elections.

On September 3, 1909, Mr. Harrison married at Grand Island Miss Anna M. Hershey, daughter of James B. Hershey, who came to Hall County a number of years ago and passed the rest of his active years in farming. Mrs. Harrison is a member of the English Lutheran church. Mr. Harrison is the leader of the Third City Municipal Band, of which organization his father was the founder.

HON WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.

—In the measure that a man proves the broadness and sincerity of his character, and his sense of the heavy responsibility devolving upon him, both relative to his private interests and those of the public, does he deserve and achieve lasting success. Preparedness and efficiency for whatever life brings, are valuable assets in the formulation of character and the accumulation of the evidences of material prosperity. Without a sane, sound outlook on life, no man can hope to produce upon others that impression so desirable in order firmly to establish permanent prosperity, a fact that some individuals never learn. Others recognize it from the first, and their careers are full of big accomplishments, and public-spirited actions, that lend themselves to produce the light in which the community regards such citizens. Such a man was the late Hon. William Henry Harrison, whose many achievements in both business and public life established his name for all time as one of the most distinguished, as he was one of the most beloved, residents of Grand Island.

Mr. Harrison was born in Morris, Grundy County, Illinois, May 19, 1860, and was one of eleven children born to his parents, the others being: Joel D., of Grand Island; Frank A., of Lincoln; Charles E., of Mason City; Thomas J., of Julesburg, Colorado; J. H., of Ravenna; Elliott, of Cairo; Mrs. Martha Smith, of Mason City; Mrs. Edith Heywood, of Cairo; Mrs. Carrie Trover, of Friend; and Miss Eugenia, of Cairo. He was six years of age when his parents removed to Nebraska, the family home being on a farm in Pawnee County, where the lad attended the district schools. This training was later supplemented by a course in a business college at Saint Joseph, Missouri. His first work was on the

home farm, but at the age of sixteen years he entered commercial affairs by securing a position as clerk in a drug store in Table Rock. One year later he entered the industry in which he was to make such a great success when he began work in a lumber yard in Table Rock, and a short time thereafter was promoted to the position of manager. He established a home and family of his own September 14, 1881, when he married in Table Rock Miss Emma E. Jones, daughter of David and Margaret (Williams) Jones, who were born and married in Wales. He resided for a time in Pennsylvania upon first coming to the United States, and in 1860 removed to Nebraska, from Wisconsin, locating at Table Rock. Mr. Harrison's father-in-law, who was originally a shoemaker, in later years turned his attention to farming.

In 1884 Mr. Harrison removed with his family to Grand Island, where he was placed in charge of the S. R. Howell Lumber Company headquarters, a capacity in which he supervised the operation and management of forty-five retail lumber yards throughout the state. A few years later, when the Howell Company withdrew from Nebraska territory, Mr. Harrison purchased three of the yards, including the one in Grand Island, and was actively engaged in the lumber business until within a short period before his death. In the organization of the lumber dealers of Nebraska, Mr. Harrison's executive ability placed him at the front. Whether a question of policy or a plan of entertainment was being considered, his opinion almost always met with the unanimous approval of his associates. Lumber men who were in close touch with him, personally, and in his official capacity as president of the Nebraska Lumber Dealer's Association, paid the highest tribute to his ability, judgment and personal magnetism, which made him a favorite wherever known.

Mr. Harrison always took an active and prominent part in public life and politics. In 1881 and 1882 he was a member of the city council of Grand Island, in which body he made his influence distinctly felt. In 1895 he was elected a member of the State Legislature from his district, and was the Republican floor leader. In 1903 he was elected to the State Senate, representing Hall and Howard counties, and was elected president of the Senate, being head of that body in reality as well as by virtue of his position, nominally. He was an excellent organizer, played a great part in giving to the people of the state an improved revenue law and later was one of the progressive leaders of Nebraska. It is



MR. AND MRS. ELI A. BARNES

said that if all of the bills for whose passage he was responsible had borne his name, the public could see, as those whose business it was to watch the inside workings of the legislature saw, that W. H. Harrison was the master mind in both sessions. The clearness with which he analyzed political conditions made him an invaluable advisor for public officials, campaign committees and newspaper writers. He knew what the people were thinking about, and it was his political philosophy that it was wise to give them as near what they wanted as it was safe to do. In 1898 Mr. Harrison was appointed postmaster of Grand Island, and served in that office until 1902. During the time he was postmaster he took his political life in his hands and went to the state capital to assist in preventing the Legislature from carrying out a corrupt bargain in the naming of senators. He lost the postmastership as a result of this courageous fight, but succeeded in bringing in a new era in the politics of the state and made the sacrifice with the greatest willingness and good nature.

Mr. Harrison was fraternally affiliated with the Masons, Odd Fellows, Elks, and M. W. A., in all of which he was prominent and popular and held a number of important offices. He took an active interest in music, was the founder of the Grand Island Band, and he and his sons, all performers, formed a complete orchestra. He was likewise a most enthusiastic admirer of the game of baseball, participated largely in the management of the Grand Island team during the season of 1912, and every player who came in contact with him became his friend. He had a discriminating literary taste and was a lover of good books. His large library was a favorite gathering place for young people, with whom he maintained the warmest friendship, and his advice and help were accepted gratefully by this circle of young friends as well as by his large number of intimate friends, throughout the state. For some time prior to his death, Mr. Harrison had not been in the best of health, but his recovery seemed certain because of his rugged constitution. Having gone to Omaha for a medical examination, he was seized November 15, 1913, with a stroke of apoplexy, and his death occurred the following day. In commenting upon his death one of the daily papers said: "His best epitaph is the love which they who knew him feel for him. This love is written more deeply and more permanently than if 'twere cut in stone."

The five children of Mr. and Mrs. Harrison are as follows: Guy, in charge of the W. H. Harrison Company; Fred, who is connected

with that concern; Ray who has the Willard Battery Station in Grand Island; Florence, the wife of George D. Hetzel, now living in Canada; and Reed, who entered the United States service October 4, 1917, and is assistant director of the 355th Infantry Band, Headquarters Company, France.

ELI A. BARNES, one of Grand Island's best known and most highly respected citizens, has spent almost a half century in Hall County and has been identified with much of its substantial development, being greatly interested in agricultural progress as well as in business affairs in this city. Mr. Barnes is an honored survivor of the Civil War, in which his gallantry won official recognition and ever since the organization of the Grand Army of the Republic, he has been a member and has been commander and senior vice commander of the organization of Nebraska.

Mr. Barnes was born in Chemung County, New York, September 14, 1837, of old Empire state and Holland ancestry and of Revolutionary stock. His parents were Jesse and Rachel (Swartwood) Barnes, and his paternal grandfather, Abraham Barnes, who was born and died in New York. Jesse Barnes was born in Sullivan county, New York and died in Chemung County in 1857. His vocation was farming but he became prominent in local politics and distinguished himself as a first lieutenant of artillery in the war of 1812. In Chemung County he served in the office of town clerk and at the time of his death was superintendent of the county almshouse. He married Rachel Swartwood, who was born in Chemung County, New York. She was the daughter of Peter Swartwout, to give the name its orthography in Dutch, who came very early from Holland to the colonies serving as a quartermaster-general in the Revolutionary war. The mother of Mr. Barnes remained in New York after she became a widow until 1862, when she removed to Illinois and from there to Cedar Falls, Iowa. She was a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Of her large family of thirteen children many grew to vigorous maturity but at the time of writing Eli A. Barnes has but one surviving brother, George W., who has been in the agricultural implement business at Waterloo, Iowa, since before the Civil War; and one sister, Mary E., who has been twice married and is now a widow, first to Theodore L. French, and second to Hiram F. Lane.

Eli A. Barnes obtained his education in the district schools and Ithaca Academy, now

Cornell University. He then engaged in farming until August 25, 1863, when he enlisted for service in the Civil War and was orderly sergeant of Company G, Ninth Iowa Cavalry, and rose to higher rank before the close of the war. He removed to Illinois, in which state his mother was living, and there married February 22, 1865, Miss Nancy E. Crego, who was born in New York state. Mr. and Mrs. Barnes have been blessed in many ways and both enjoyed entertaining their friends on the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding, February 22, 1915. Mrs. Barnes is a member of the Episcopal church and is interested in the many charitable movements of the times.

Mr. Barnes came to Hall County, Nebraska, March 8, 1872, securing a homestead and resided on the same for thirteen years and then came to Grand Island to embark in a bond, insurance and pension business, which he continues with the exception of the bond feature, which he gave up in 1909. He is a notary public. He has been a prominent official of the State Board of Agriculture and served as its president from 1895 to 1896 and has been a member of the board for twenty-two years. In Grand Army affairs he has been commander of Lyons post, of which he is the present quartermaster, and has, as noted above, been senior vice commander and commander in the state. For years he has been conspicuous in Masonry in Nebraska. He is a member of Ashlar lodge No. 33, A. F. & A. M.; Deuel Chapter R. A. M.; and Mt. Lebanon Commandery No. 6, Knights Templar, and is past high priest and past eminent commander. He has taken fourteen degrees in the Scottish Rite, is a life member of all the bodies and is the oldest Shriner in Hall County.

FRED L. HARRISON. — Among the energetic and progressive young business men of Grand Island, who has proved his ability, judgment and thorough knowledge of affairs is Fred L. Harrison, secretary and treasurer of the W. H. Harrison Lumber Company. Mr. Harrison has passed his entire business career in connection with this enterprise and has built up a large and influential acquaintance in coal and lumber circles of the state, in addition to which he is widely and prominently known as a frernalist.

Mr. Harrison was born at Table Rock, Nebraska, October 9, 1884. He is a son of the late William H. Harrison, a review of whose life will be found elsewhere in this volume. He received his education in the graded and

high schools of Grand Island, whence he was brought as an infant by his parents. When he was able to start on his business career he joined his father and brother Guy L. in the W. H. Harrison Company, which had been founded in 1901. When his father's health failed, he and his brother assumed many of the responsibilities of management, which they took over in full when the founder died in 1913. The business was incorporated in 1914 for \$25,000, and at that time Guy L. Harrison became president and manager, and Fred L. Harrison secretary and treasurer and manager of the coal department. He has since continued in these offices. The company does a general lumber business throughout the county of Hall and the territory surrounding Grand Island, deals extensively in coal, and owns an up-to-date planing mill, where all kinds of wood work is done. The concern is also owner of a large plant at Cairo, this state. Like his father and brothers, Mr. Harrison is a musician. He is one of the most prominent Elks in the state, being past exalted ruler, past state president and past district deputy of the Elks for Nebraska. In politics he is a staunch Republican.

Mr. Harrison married September 16, 1912, at Kaukauna, Wisconsin, Miss Josephine M. Kline, of Kaukauna, Wisconsin, a daughter of Jacob J. Kline, who was formerly a manufacturer of paper at Kaukauna, but is now retired. They are the parents of one son: William H., Jr.

RAY L. HARRISON. — Many of the successful business men of Hall County, and this applies practically to those of the younger generation, have found their opportunity for success in the automobile business and in its various allied interests. The phenomenal growth of this industry has called forth the services of young, alert, enterprising men, capable of a quick grasp of innovations and new ideas. For the labors of this class there have been presented desirable rewards. Among the men of Grand Island who have profited by their ability to recognize opportunities and their ability to foresee developments, is Ray L. Harrison, manager of the Willard Battery Station, and distributor of the Willard batteries for seven counties.

Mr. Harrison was born in Grand Island, Nebraska, December 12, 1886, a son of the late Hon. William H. Harrison, a review of whose career will be found on another page of this work. His early education was gained in the graded and high schools of Grand Is-

land, from the latter of which he was graduated in 1905, and following this he took a course at the State University, where he was graduated in civil engineering in 1909. Returning to Grand Island, for six months he was employed in an architect's office, but this did not prove congenial, and he turned his attention to the garage business, conducting an establishment of this nature for five years. During this time he had seen the possibilities in the battery business, and eventually established himself as proprietor in a small room eight by twelve feet. In order to embark in business, he was compelled to borrow \$275. He was soon clear of indebtedness and began to enlarge his establishment, building an addition of sixty-five feet, which included his battery station and his repair shop. In 1917, so large had his business grown, he purchased a lot forty-four by sixty-six feet, on which he erected a modern building, fashioned according to his needs. Since that time the business has continued to grow and it will soon be necessary for him to secure larger quarters. Mr. Harrison conducts this business, which has been built up entirely by himself, as a Willard Storage Battery Station, in addition to which he is distributor for seven counties in Nebraska of this high class article. His business is accounted one of the most prosperous in Grand Island. Much of its success is due to the fact that Mr. Harrison is always improving himself and his knowledge, his most recent graduate work being of a practical nature—a course in the Willard Storage Battery factory.

Mr. Harrison married March 2, 1917, Miss Elizabeth Pepper, a daughter of William Pepper, an old-time resident of Hall County, who for many years was engaged in agricultural pursuits. He is now city street commissioner of Grand Island. They have one son, Ray L., Jr. Mrs. Harrison is a member of the English Lutheran church. He is exalted ruler of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and past chancellor commander of the Knights of Pythias. In politics he is a Republican, but he has found little time for political matters or public affairs, his entire attention having been engrossed by his business.

HENRY SCHUFF.—As Grand Island has become, year by year, a more and more important commercial and railroad center, its business has naturally increased and its transient population has become of a magnitude which has been a constantly growing tax upon the capacity of its hotels. This tax has in

large measure been relieved, if not entirely eliminated, by the improvements and enlargement of the Palmer House, the proprietor of which has shown his confidence in the city's development. To the traveling public which has had occasion to visit Grand Island, any introduction to the name of Henry Schuff would be entirely superfluous. As proprietor of the Palmer House he has proved himself a genial boniface, in business circles he is known as a man of good ability and of the strictest integrity. In public positions of prominence he has shown himself a citizen who entertains high ideals of public service and who has discharged the duties of citizenship accordingly.

Mr. Schuff was born in Burlington, Iowa, August 7, 1861. He is a son of Anton and Barbara (Scholtz) Schuff, natives of Germany. They came to the United States in 1853, settling in Burlington, where Mr. Schuff followed the trade of cabinet maker, and there the parents passed the rest of their lives, dying in the faith of the Lutheran church. They were the parents of six children, of whom all were school teachers at one time in their lives, and five are living. Henry was the only one to come to Hall County. Ellen was for years a lecturer in the Lutheran church, and for eighteen years has been a missionary of that denomination in India; Mrs. Pauline Callahan is the wife of a Nevada lawyer; Mrs. Caroline Hardy is a widow and resides in California; Mrs. Bertha Sidel is the wife of a retired farmer of Fort Scott, Kansas; and Anna is deceased.

Henry Schuff received his education in the public schools of Burlington, Iowa, and after his graduation from the high school entered the woodworking department of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad. In 1882 he came to Nebraska and entered the train service of the Union Pacific, and during the six years that he was thus employed accumulated a small capital which, in 1888, he invested in the cafe business at North Platte. In 1894 he disposed of his interests there and came to Grand Island. In 1907 he purchased the Palmer House, which he has since conducted with much success. He built his present cafe in 1910. His house has become very popular among those of the traveling public who appreciate real comfort, and excellent cuisine and attentive service, and who know that their every requirement will be attended to gladly and intelligently. Mr. Schuff is a Republican in politics. In 1905 he was elected mayor of Grand Island, in which capacity he served until 1911. During

his terms the greater part of the city's improvement was inaugurated. The street paving was started during his administration, under which also there was started the electric light plant. Many other improvements are directly traceable to his work and influence. Mr. Schuff is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and is prominent in Masonry, having reached the Scottish Rite, and being a Knight Templar, in addition to which he belongs to the Shrine. He has been particularly active in York Rite Masonry, and has passed through all the chairs in the Chapter and Knights Templar.

Mr. Schuff married July 15, 1884, Miss Hannah Barbara Weil, who was born at Franklin, Iowa. To this union there have been born three children: Lester F., who is his father's manager in conducting the Palmer House; Fred H., who attended the preparatory school in Mercerville, Pennsylvania, and entered the United States service at Camp Cody, New Mexico, in April, 1917. He was ordered before the board thirty days later, and secured his second lieutenantcy, was soon made first lieutenant and so commissioned in September, 1917, joining the 134th Infantry. His division arrived at Liverpool, England, October 24, 1918. It is now in Germany with Army of Occupation. Henry F., the other son, is a student in the Grand Island high school.

GLENN JONES, vice-president and general manager of the Nebraska Mercantile Company in Grand Island, is a thoroughly experienced man in this line of business. He has been identified with the enterprise for thirty-six years. From schoolboy days he has been connected with grocery interests and few men have a wider knowledge or more just conception of the many factors belonging to this important field of trade.

Mr. Jones was born in Galesburg, Illinois. His parents were Aaron L. and Rebecca (Glenn) Jones, both of whom were natives of Ohio. His father was a soldier in an Ohio regiment in the Civil War and after his honorable discharge, removed to Illinois, where he engaged in farming until 1871. He came with his family to Nebraska in 1882. He homesteaded in York County and remained on the farm until his death which occurred in July, 1916. The mother of Mr. Jones died in York in December, 1893. They were estimable people in every relation of life and were faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Of their five children the following are living: L. B., office manager of the Ne-

braska Mercantile Company in Grand Island; Glenn; and Myrtle, the wife of L. D. Scott, of Casper, Wyoming, a sheep raiser, owner of Hound Hurst Ranch, fifty-six miles north of Casper.

Glenn Jones attended the common schools and began his business career as a clerk in a grocery store in 1882, applying himself so faithfully to detail work that he gained rapid promotion and some years later became manager of a large grocery department in one of the business houses of Lincoln. In 1899, in association with G. M. Southmayd, he embarked in the grocery business in Omaha, Nebraska, under the firm name of the Jones-Southmayd Company, which enterprise prospered and was incorporated. About nine years later, these partners sold their interests in the jobbing grocery company and Mr. Jones became manager of one of the largest Sioux City jobbing grocery houses, where he continued until February 1911. He then acquired Mr. Waldo's holdings in the Nebraska Mercantile Company in Grand Island and became vice-president and general manager. His sound knowledge of business conditions and business participation for so many years make him not only a safe guide in his own particular line, but a dependable counsellor in other fields.

Mr. Jones married in February, 1895, Miss Mary Houston, who was born in Iowa and is a grand-niece of Gen. Sam Houston, a noted statesman of another generation. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have one daughter, Genevieve, who is a graduate of the National Kindergarten College, Chicago, Illinois, and a kindergarten teacher in Grand Island. Mr. Jones and family belong to the Presbyterian church, of which Mr. Jones is president of the board of trustees; he is also president of the local Young Men's Christian Association and a member of the board of directors of the state association. In his political views he is a Republican and fraternally is identified with the Elks.

THOMAS P. MATTHEWS.—That the important business enterprises of Grand Island are in the hands of competent men is very generally conceded, and perhaps it is no secret that along some lines and in some cases, unusual ability is shown. Without depreciating any other prominent business man here, attention may be called to Thomas P. Matthews, now a large dealer in city real estate, whose mercantile success through many years has given proof of the business acumen he possesses. More than that he is a self-made man,



GLENN JONES

from boyhood having that pride of personal independence that made him self reliant.

Thomas P. Matthews was born at Brooklyn, New York, August 1, 1868, a son of John A. Matthews, a biography of whom is found in this work. His educational advantages were those afforded by the common schools until he was thirteen years of age when he became a wage-earner. His first employer was S. N. Wolbach. He soon learned business details and applied himself closely and faithfully to the interests of those for whom he worked, thereby gaining their confidence and good will. These are assets not to be overlooked when a young man of twenty-one embarks in business for himself. Mr. Matthews at that age became a general merchant and in the interval of twenty-one years from then until he retired from that line in 1910, he had owned and conducted sixty-eight stores. At the time he sold his interests he had a store in Falls City, one in Harvard, one in Giltner, Nebraska, and for five years he was in the book and stationery business in Grand Island. Mr. Matthews then turned his attention to dealing in real estate, first in association with others, but since 1913 he has been alone. He has been exceedingly successful, giving attention mainly to local lands and business property.

Mr. Matthews married in 1896, at Oskaloosa, Iowa, Miss Eva Mason, who is a daughter of Isaac Mason, an early settler there and later a coal dealer. Mr. and Mrs. Matthews have three daughters, Mary, Eva and Rose, all of whom are attending school. The family belongs to the Roman Catholic church. Mrs. Matthews died December 2, 1918. In the political field Mr. Matthews has been more or less active as circumstances seemed to warrant, for a number of years, zealously supporting the candidates of the Democratic party. He has not often accepted political honors for himself although for one year he served as deputy revenue collector of the Fifth District. He is a man of generous habit and of broad sympathy and these qualities were recently illustrated when, during the influenza epidemic, he turned over his property, the Brewster Hotel, at Grand Island, for the city to use free as a hospital for the unfortunate victims of what has proven in private homes in many cases an almost uncontrollable malady. Mr. Matthews does not pose as a philanthropist but his fellow citizens honor him for this humanitarian action.

RUFUS M. GEER, secretary of the Geer Company, dealers in lumber and operators of

a planing mill in Grand Island, has been identified with this business ever since his school days ended. He is thoroughly informed in the lumber and affiliated industries. Mr. Geer was born in Grand Island, Nebraska, February 13, 1884. His parents are Lewis T. and Anna (Merton) Geer, mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

Rufus M. Geer obtained his education in the public schools of Grand Island and ever since has been associated with his father in the lumber business. He married, February 22, 1908, Miss Marian Anyan, a daughter of William and Mary Anyan, well known residents of Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. Geer have three children, Nathaniel, Thaddeus, and Donald, aged respectively, six, four and two years. Mr. and Mrs. Geer are members of the Congregational church and take a sympathetic interest in its activities. In politics he is a Republican but is liberal-minded as a citizen when public movements for the benefit of the entire country call for loyal effort. For many years he has been identified with Masonry and is a member of Askelon Lodge No. 133 A. F. & A. M., Grand Island.

FRED H. JASPER, whose attention for some years has been devoted to manufacturing, came to Nebraska in early manhood and has been so well satisfied with this state that the most of his business ventures have been within its borders. His handsome residence in Grand Island is one of the most comfortable and attractive in the city. Mr. Jasper has thus proved his belief that for both business and home Nebraska is thoroughly satisfactory.

Fred H. Jasper was born in Germany, October 11, 1879. He is the son of Fred and Louise (Biene) Jasper, natives of Germany where their parents died. They came to the United States in 1885 and settled at Avoca, a barber by trade, is also in the insurance of burning brick. They are members of the Lutheran church. There were five children in the family: Fred H.; Margaret, the wife of John Reimer, of Walnut, Iowa, a painter and decorator by trade and at present the operator of a motion picture theatre; Henry, a barber by trade, is also in the insurance business in Minden, Iowa; Anna, the wife of Roy Powers, a printer by trade, lives at Oakland, Iowa; and Otto, who is a traveling salesman, lives in Grand Island.

Mr. Jasper received his educational training in the schools of Avoca, Iowa; and after leaving the high school he worked at the bar-

ber's trade, then was a clerk in a local store for some time. He was ambitious for a wider field of business, however, and found an opening with the Kregg-Elliott wholesale shoe house of Omaha, serving four years as a traveling salesman for that concern. He then became salesman for the next three years for the John Gund Brewing Company. Following this Mr. Jasper accepted an offer from the P. J. Bowlin Company, wholesale liquors, of St. Paul, Minnesota, two years later going with the Krugg Brewing Company and continuing until Nebraska became dry territory. In 1913 he came to Grand Island for this company as manager and agent. Since then he has been engaged in the manufacturing of beverages for the wholesale trade, sales being made throughout the country.

Mr. Jasper married, in June, 1907, Miss Emma Shilling of Avoca, Iowa. They have two children, Pauline and Frederick, aged respectively, ten and three years. Mr. Jasper has never entertained any political aspirations, business engaging his time and attention, but he is identified with the Republican party and is always ready to co-operate in general public-spirited movements. He is a member of a number of fraternal and social organizations, these including the B. P. O. E., the F. O. E. and the L. O. M.

ALBERT J. DENMAN, who occupies the very responsible position of manager for the American Beet Sugar Company, at Grand Island, is a representative of one of the old pioneer families of Hall County. The Denman name was established in this county as early as 1869, when his grandfather, William Harrison Denman, a native of Ohio, secured a homestead claim, on which he lived until the time of his death, and this old homestead is still in the family.

Albert J. Denman was born January 11, 1881, on a farm in Hall County, five miles south of Grand Island, and is a son of John W. and Ida M. (Huhn) Denman, whose record appears elsewhere in this volume.

Albert J. Denman remained in school until he was graduated from the Grand Island Business College at the age of twenty years. His first business position was with the Granger Fruit Company through one season, when he went to Norfolk, Nebraska, where he was employed in a beet sugar factory one year and was then transferred to the Grand Island factory of the American Beet Sugar Company at Grand Island, first as timekeeper, then as bookkeeper and on January 1, 1913, he became

manager of the plant and since then has devoted the greater part of his time and attention to affairs pertaining thereto. He has a large force under his supervision in the various lines, while outside business has, in the past few years, more than doubled in volume.

On April 4, 1904, Mr. Denman was united in marriage to Miss Augusta Giese, a daughter of Henry Giese, a pioneer of this state, now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Denman have two daughters: Gertrude M. and Florence, both of whom are attending school. Mr. Denman and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In fraternal circles he is active in the order of Elks and also in the Eagles, being trustee of the latter lodge at Grand Island, and an esteemed lecturer and esteemed loyal knight in the former organization. In politics he is identified with the Republican party.

A. C. MENCK. — One of the well known business men of Grand Island is A. C. Menck, general merchant, who has been identified with this city all his life. His every effort, under all circumstances, has been to add to the prestige of Grand Island. This he has done by encouraging progress along business, social and educational lines.

Mr. Menck was born in Grand Island, Nebraska, April 19, 1866, and is a son of Christian Menck, a sketch of whom appears in this work. He obtained his education in the schools of Hall County and began his business career in the capacity of clerk in a Grand Island dry goods store. He had thorough and practical training and in 1902 embarked in the mercantile business here on his own account. Mr. Menck has demonstrated his business ability in the upbuilding of an extensive trade. His customers come from different parts of the county. Experience has proved that here their wants in carefully selected dry goods, notions, boots and shoes, may be supplied very satisfactorily. Mr. Menck has made merchandising his life work and his judgment may be depended upon as to quality of his goods, while his business integrity is above question. He is the owner of his commodious store and has other property.

Mr. Menck married in 1890 Miss Linnie Elliott, a daughter of Martin Elliott, a substantial farmer of York County, Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. Menck have three sons, namely: Roy, in business with his father; Ray in the radio department on a transport, in European waters; and Arthur, an electrician now detailed on the U. S. battleship Lousiana. In

politics Mr. Menck has always been identified with the Democratic party. At present he is a member of the city council of Grand Island, in which body his excellent business judgment and public spirit make him exceedingly valuable. He belongs to the A. O. U. W. and the Liederkrantz, a German society.

LEWIS T. GEER.—Those who lead in business circles in Grand Island are not as a rule men who have gained their positions of independent fortune and public confidence in any other way than by steady, persevering industry and in recognition of citizenship responsibility. An example easily cited is Lewis T. Geer, founder of the Geer Company, widely known in the lumber industry, who came to Grand Island in 1880, with his fortune yet to make. The important enterprise that he has built up testifies to the sturdy qualities he possesses. Mr. Geer is an all round useful citizen, able in business and active and earnest in public affairs.

Lewis T. Geer was born in Washington County, New York, February 12, 1856. His parents were Nathaniel and Eliza (Clark) Geer, of Connecticut, his father a grandson of Welcome Geer, also born in Connecticut, who in 1826 was a captain of artillery in the state militia. The Geer family came very early to the New England colonies and owned lands from the crown. The parents of Mr. Geer moved from New York to Ottawa, Illinois, where Nathaniel Geer was engaged in farming pursuits. Of his ten children there are six yet living. He was a Democrat in politics. He and his wife belonged to the Episcopal church.

Mr. Geer received his educational training in the Illinois schools and then went to Prairie City, Iowa, where he learned the carpenter trade under his uncle, David Geer, and he continued to work as a carpenter in Iowa from 1873 until 1876, when he returned to Illinois. In the meanwhile, however, he had accompanied his uncle to Boulder, Colorado, passing through Grand Island, and after returning to work at his trade in Illinois he pleasantly recalled the people and surroundings of the Nebraska village and this resulted in his deciding to come to Grand Island and establish his permanent home. He reached here March 3, 1880 and began at the bottom of the industrial ladder that he has so successfully climbed. He continued work at his trade during a number of years and then, in March, 1894, established a contracting business which he operated until 1908 under the firm name of Geer

& Harrison. In that year the business was incorporated as the Geer-Harrison Company. On August 17, 1913, the firm suffered an almost complete loss by fire. In the spring of 1914 business was resumed, under incorporation as the Geer Company, Lewis T. Geer being president. The business has grown to wide proportions. The company handles lumber, owns and operates a planing mill and sells coal, lime and builders' hardware and other commodities of the trade.

Lewis T. Geer married November 23, 1881, Miss Anna Merton, who was born at Merton's Landing, Wisconsin. She is a daughter of Andrew Merton, who came to the United States in 1847 settling in Wisconsin, taking up land and giving his name to Merton's Landing. At the time of his death at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, he was register of deeds of Winnebago County. Mr. and Mrs. Geer have had four children, three surviving: Effie E., Rufus M. and Russell L. Mrs. Geer and the children are members of the Congregational church. In politics Mr. Geer is a sturdy Republican. At present he is serving as supervisor on the county board and in Grand Island he has served on the school board and also in the city council from the First Ward. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity.

For twenty-five years he has been an active worker in the building and loan association. Mr. Geer has a document showing a transfer of a piece of land in Connecticut to one of his ancestors, Nathaniel Geer, dated January 2, 1776. Miss Effie is a member of the Colonial Dames and the D. A. R. A man named Howland, a passenger on the Mayflower is among the ancestors of the Geer family.

EDWARD L. BALLENGER, who is one of the best known men in the Union Pacific yards at Grand Island, was born near Mattoon, Coles County, Illinois, July 7, 1862. His parents were James and Mary (Thompson) Ballenger. His father was a native of Illinois and the mother was born in Indiana.

In 1871 the parents of Mr. Ballenger came to Seward County, Nebraska, where the father took a homestead, living on the claim ten years. They now live at College Place, near Walla Walla, Washington. They were the parents of five children, namely: Edward L.; Lillie, who is the wife of R. C. Dunham, of Portland, Oregon; Charles, who died at the age of twenty-two; Flora, who is the wife of Austin Salesberry, of Portland, Oregon; and Harry, a railroad man of Grand Island.



L. T. Green



Edward L. Ballenger accompanied his parents to Nebraska and was reared on a farm until the age of eighteen. In 1889 he entered the employ of the Union Pacific Railroad as a switchman and for thirty years has continued to fill this responsible position. Mr. Ballenger is accounted one of the substantial men of Grand Island, and capably served two years as a member of the city council.

Mr. Ballenger was united in marriage to Miss Myra Wilkinson, who was born at Athens, Pennsylvania, and is a daughter of Henry and Clara (Toles) Wilkinson. The father was a native of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and the mother was born in Green County, that state.

Mr. and Mrs. Ballenger have a son, Earl, who is also in the employ of the Union Pacific Railroad. He married Miss Sina Hansen and they have a son, David Earl, a bright little lad of seven summers.

In politics Mr. Ballenger is a Republican. He is a Royal Arch Mason and belongs to the Royal Highlanders and the Order of Railway Trainmen. Mrs. Ballenger is a member of and an active worker in the Episcopal church.

HARVEY B. ROUSEY.—However admirable the objects of fraternal organizations, in the sense of the voluntary association of men promoting their common interest, business or pleasure, and however ample their finances, those that make a most promising beginning could not long exist without able business management. This is a practical age and the most worthy benevolences have to be as carefully adjusted as have the accounts of the honest banker. Therefore, a position that involves responsibility as does that of grand recorder of such a nation-wide fraternal order as the A. O. U. W., is no sinecure although one of great distinction. This office in Nebraska is filled by Harvey B. Rousey, one of Grand Island's most highly respected citizens.

Harvey B. Rousey was born in Morgan County, Illinois, March 9, 1863. His parents were William and Jane (Gunn) Rousey, both born in Morgan County, to which section their parents had come in 1832. On the maternal side, Rev. Alexander S. Gunn was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal faith being the father of one preacher and the grandfather of three. William Rousey removed to Clay County, Nebraska, in 1879 and purchased land near Edgar for \$10 per acre. It is now held at \$200 per acre. For many years he was engaged in farming but at the time of his death was conducting an agricultural imple-

ment business at Edgar. He was a man of sturdy character and fine principles, serving as a county commissioner of Clay County for a number of years; liberally supporting educational and religious institutions, particularly being interested in the work of the Methodist Episcopal church. He had six children as follows: Harvey B.; Eli M., a farmer near Hamlet, Nebraska; Benjamin F., connected with a hardware store at Kearney; James, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church in Omaha; W. E., in the hardware business at Alliance, Nebraska, and is mayor of that city; and Bertha, the wife of Harry Caldwell, who resides on the old Rousey homestead.

Harvey B. Rousey completed his high school course in Edgar, Nebraska, and later a business course in a commercial college in St. Joseph, Missouri. For eighteen years Mr. Rousey engaged then, more or less continuously, in educational work and for six years was in the newspaper business at Edgar. In 1891 he became interested in and united with the A. O. U. W., and in January, 1909 he came into the office of the order in Grand Island serving six years as bookkeeper. For two years he was deputy grand recorder. During the two following years he was bookkeeper for the Augustine Printing Company, and on July 1, 1917 accepted his present office.

In 1885 Mr. Rousey married Miss Millie F. Shipley, a native of Illinois. They have four children; A. L., a dental surgeon at Walthill, in Thurston County, Nebraska; and Ruth Iva and Ivan, all at home, the last being twins. Mr. Rousey and his family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church and for some years he has been superintendent of the Sunday school. In his political views he is a Democrat.

JOHN HARDERS, who belongs to an old and highly respected family of Hall County, extended mention of which will be found in this work, was born in Hall County, October 25, 1888. He obtained a good education in the public schools and upon finishing his education engaged in farming, a pursuit he has followed all his life.

On November 30, 1915, Mr. Harders was united in marriage to Miss Lora Thomsen; they have one daughter, Viola Marguerite. The parents of Mrs. Harders were Peter and Minnie (Bushman) Thomsen, natives of Germany. For twenty years before retiring to Abbott, Nebraska, they lived on their farm near that town, where subsequently both died, the father at the age of fifty and the mother



GEORGE W. CARR FAMILY

at the age of forty-seven years. They were well known and highly respected people.

Since coming to his farm of 120 acres, situated on section 17, Harrison township, Mr. Harders has devoted himself closely to his business and has spared neither time nor money in making improvements. He engages in general farming and stock raising, being quite particular to have the best grade of stock. His energy and enterprise are meeting with very satisfactory results. Both he and wife belong to the Lutheran church. In politics he is a Republican and as a wide awake, intelligent citizen, keeps well posted on national matters as well as on movements that promise to be beneficial to Hall County.

GEORGE W. CARR, one of Grand Island's substantial citizens, has been a resident of Nebraska since 1878. He brought from his Indiana home not only a well merited reputation for business integrity, but undeniable proof of loyal, honorable service in the Civil War. For more than a quarter of a century he lived on his homestead in Buffalo County. In 1907 he came to Grand Island where he had made investments, and since 1909 has been operating here rather extensively in real estate.

George W. Carr was born at Sardinia, Decatur County, Indiana, March 20, 1846. His parents were William and Jane (Standford) Carr, the former of whom was born in New Jersey. He was a son of David Carr, who served in the Revolutionary war. William Carr owned a farm in Decatur County and also was a shoemaker by trade. He was a member of the Baptist church. When the Republican party was organized he united with that political body. He was twice married, his second wife being Jane Standford, who was born in Pennsylvania. They both died in Indiana. To this marriage the following children were born: Eliza, the widow of Abraham Reves, lives near Hayden, Indiana; George W.; Margaret Ann, who is the widow of Lorenzo Darniger, a soldier in the Civil War, lives near Hayden; Hester, the wife of Charles Eastman, a veteran of the Civil War, and both died at Aurora, Nebraska; and Julia Frances, who died at the age of seven years.

George W. Carr was reared on his father's farm and had but few educational privileges in boyhood. In fact he is mainly self educated, having studied while in the army. He first attempted to enter the service in the Eighty-second Indiana regiment in August,

1862, but was refused on account of his youth, but on August 28, 1863, one year later, he was accepted as a member of the Seventh Indiana cavalry and during his subsequent service of two years and six months, he participated in seventeen engagements, included in which number were the following: Iva Hills, Grand Gulf, Hollow Springs, Mississippi, Kansas, Osage, and Little Blue in Missouri, Arkansas, White Springs and Memphis, Tennessee. The regiment during this time brought to a close the career of several noted desperadoes. After the war Mr. Carr returned to Indiana and there he farmed. He was a member of a threshing crew, worked as a carpenter and for six years was a coal miner. About this time he decided to come to Nebraska and on October 28, 1878, reached Buffalo County. He homesteaded there for many years living a busy and contented life on his fine farm which he developed into a valuable property. He sold this place advantageously in 1907 and located in Grand Island. He is a Democrat in political faith and while living in Buffalo County served in local offices and for a long time was a justice of the peace. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Mr. Carr married February 3, 1867, in Jennings County, Indiana, Miss Hannah Jane Everhart, who was born in Scott County, Indiana. She is a daughter of John Barr and Huldah (Graves) Everhart. The father of Mrs. Carr was born in Carroll County, Ohio, and the mother in Genessee County, New York. They located in Indiana in the thirties. Mr. Everhart was a carpenter by trade and built one of the church edifices in Scott County. During the Civil War he was an assistant quartermaster of the 4th Indiana Cavalry and captured by the enemy at the battle of Lookout Mountain, and died shortly after exchanged, having been in Libby prison nearly three months where he nearly starved to death. Of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Carr the following survive: Ida, the wife of William Everhart of Grand Island; Cora, the wife of Hon. L. L. Hile, a member of the state legislature from Buffalo County in 1896-1897; E. Arthur, a prominent physician at Lincoln, was a member of the state board of health for years and is grand commander of the Odd Fellows in Nebraska; Nellie Gertrude, a graduate of Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago, is engaged in practice at Fairmount, Nebraska, is the wife of Dr. M. H. Deffenbaugh, who is with the American Expeditionary Force in France as surgeon; Jesse Myron, a graduate of Bennett College, Chicago, is a

prominent physician and surgeon at Stockton, California; and E. Fred, who is also a graduate of Bennett College, is engaged in practice at Stapleton, Nebraska. Mr. Carr and his family belong to the Baptist church.

JOSEPH J. KLINGE, who is interested in one of the exceedingly important business enterprises of Grand Island, being vice president and manager of the Central Storage Company, is well known both in Hall and Howard counties, having spent almost his entire life in Nebraska.

Mr. Klinge was born in Pennsylvania, December 30, 1866, a son of Gottfried and Theresa (Jennemann) Klinge. His parents were born, reared and married in Germany, emigrating to the United States in 1866. In August of that year they settled in Pennsylvania and their eldest child was born in December following. Of their seven children only three are living, namely: Joseph J.; Gene, the wife of George Toeky, a railroad man at Grand Island; and H. J., who was in a soldier's training camp in the United States, during military preparation in 1918. He left soon after the signing of the armistice for France. The father of this family was a blacksmith by trade but after coming to the United States was a railroad man working at this occupation until he was seventy years old, when he was pensioned. His death occurred November 1, 1915. All his life he had been a faithful member of the Roman Catholic church, as is his widow. In his earlier years of American citizenship, he was a Democrat but later became a Republican. The beloved mother of Mr. Klinge still lives in Grand Island. She is now seventy-nine years old but in good health. She is an estimable woman, kind and generous. In addition to rearing her own family, she cared for two nephews, Fred and Thomas Hook, the former of whom is with the American Expeditionary Force in France, and the latter in an American training camp.

Joseph J. Klinge attended the public schools in Grand Island, to which place his parents came when he was two years old. At first in his business career, he worked on a farm and then went to St. Libory, Nebraska, being engaged there in a hardware and saloon business for nine and a half years, also taking an active part in Republican politics of that town. He served as county commissioner of Howard County for two years. He has also been school treasurer and a member of the county board of supervisors. In 1901 he came back

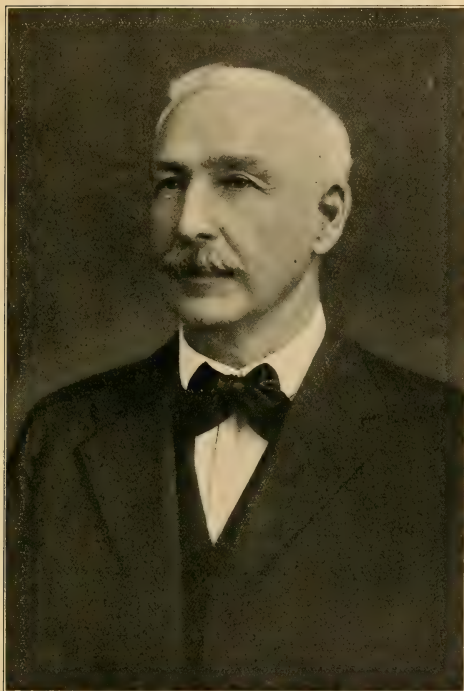
to Grand Island and engaged here in the saloon business until 1915. In 1917 the Central Storage Company was organized at Grand Island; Mr. Klinge bought a large block of the stock being elected vice president and manager of the concern. It is an important enterprise operating with a capital of \$20,000.

Mr. Klinge married first Lena Eberhart, who died seven months later. His second marriage was on May 1, 1894, to Mary Roepker, who was born in Illinois. They have two children: Marie, who lives with her parents; and Joseph J., who is a machinist having lived in Omaha for a time but has now returned to Grand Island, being engaged at his trade, and will make this his permanent home. He married Anna Krouse and they have one child, Dorothy. Mr. Klinge is a member of the Catholic church and gives liberally in support of its various benevolent causes. He belongs to a number of social and fraternal organizations. These include the F. O. E., the I. O. M., the Sons of Herman, the German Liederkranz and the Plattsdeutsch-Verein.

WILLIAM HENRY THOMPSON is one of the most widely known and highly respected citizens of Nebraska, having been a resident of Grand Island for more than thirty-eight years.

A native of Ohio, Mr. Thompson was born at Perrysville, Carroll County, December 14, 1853. His parents were Eli and Eliza (Kirby) Thompson, both natives of Ohio, where they were married and where they made their home until 1864 when they became residents of Fayette County, Iowa. Here the mother passed away January 2, 1881, and eight years later the father came to Nebraska and secured a homestead in Custer County where he made his home until his death which occurred February 3, 1903. The grandfathers of W. H. Thompson were of Scotch descent the representatives of very early families in the city of Baltimore, Maryland. The paternal grandmother of our subject was of Holland Dutch descent, while the maternal grandmother was of Irish extraction.

Mr. Thompson acquired his early education in the public and select schools of Fayette County, Iowa. This was supplemented by a course in Upper Iowa University at Fayette, Iowa. In the fall of 1875 he and his brother John R. enrolled in the law department of the State University at Iowa City. At the end of two terms their savings, earned by working on farms, railroading and teaching school were



W. H. THOMPSON

nearly exhausted. It was decided that in order to earn money to pay their way through school one of them should open a law office and accordingly this was done. W. H. took charge of the law business of Thompson Brothers, lawyers, at Brush Creek, now Arlington, Iowa, while John R. continued at school and graduated. He then took charge of the office and W. H. took up his studies where he had left off the year before, graduating in the spring of 1877. In the fall of 1876 he had been admitted to the bar by Judge Granger, who later became a member of the Supreme Court of that state. In 1878 the brothers decided that one of them should attend to their practice while the other should look up a more desirable location. In February, 1879 an office was opened in Grand Island, Nebraska, which was conducted by John R. until June 1881, when he was joined by his brother; this partnership continued until January 1892 when John R. became judge of the District Court. It will be seen that for forty-three years W. H. Thompson has been continuously in the practice of his profession and during the thirty-eight years of his practice at the bar of Hall County he has transacted a very large volume of legal business. His practice has extended to all courts of the state and to the Federal Courts, and on account of his ability as a lawyer and his standing with the bar he has commanded the respect of the courts and the members of his profession. The assiduous and unrelaxing attention which he gives to his clients and the thoroughness with which he prepares his cases have been strong elements in his success and he is known as one of the best trial lawyers of the state.

Mr. Thompson has always been a Democrat. In 1886 he was elected county attorney for Hall County and served one term, refusing to be a candidate for re-election. In 1890 he was nominated for Congress in the "Big Third" district which then comprised all of the state north of the Platte River except Douglas and Sarpy Counties. He has been a delegate to nearly every state convention since he has resided in Nebraska. He was delegate-at-large to the Democratic National Convention in 1892, and was chairman of the Nebraska delegation, and was an ardent supporter of Grover Cleveland, the nominee of the convention for president. He was delegate-at-large to the Democratic National Convention in 1896 at Chicago, and was a warm supporter of William Jennings Bryan, and was chosen National Committeeman. He was also delegate-at-large to the National convention at Kansas City in 1900 and again at St. Louis in

1904. He was defeated for delegate to the Denver Convention in 1908 which nominated Bryan, but took an active part in the convention through courtesy of the Nebraska delegation. He was delegate-at-large to the convention at St. Louis in 1916 which nominated Woodrow Wilson for the second term and was a member of the notification committee. He has been an enthusiastic worker in his party and played an important part in its management. In 1900 he was candidate for United States Senator to succeed Senator Thurston. In 1902 he was a candidate for governor against Mickey but was defeated by a small majority. From 1895 to 1899 he served as mayor of Grand Island and has always been an advocate of those things which he thought were for the best interests of his home city and state.

At West Union, Iowa, September 7, 1879, was solemnized the marriage of William H. Thompson and Miss Nettie I. Hutchinson, a native of Michigan but reared in Iowa, and who for a time attended the school taught by her future husband. Her parents were John and Martha Hutchinson, her father being an attorney in good standing and county recorder while his daughter was his deputy at the time of her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have had four children: Edith L., became the wife of Wallace E. Porter and died August 31, 1904; Mattie died in infancy; Grover married Lena Neitfeldt, and is operating a ranch in Wyoming; Lloyd G., married Aimee Ruth Schwyn, and is a lawyer of Grand Island.

The family are members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Thompson is a member of several fraternal organizations, including the Modern Woodmen of America, B. P. O. of Elks and others.

Mr. Thompson has recently been appointed by Governor McKelvie a member of the building committee for the erection of the new state capitol. In this as in all other positions in which Mr. Thompson has been placed he can be depended upon to do credit to himself and to the people whose interests he serves.

RUDOLPH W. BOCK, whose grocery interests in Grand Island are important and whose high standing as a citizen is universally recognized, is serving in his fourth consecutive term as a member of the city council. Mr. Bock was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, April 13, 1870. His parents were H. H. and Magdalena Margerita (Bock) Bock.

In 1879 H. H. Bock with his son Adolph,

came to the United States and to Nebraska and located in Grand Island. He was a man of education and sought employment in the schools and for many years taught what was known as the Stolley school in District No. 1, Hall County. Later in life he went farther west and became the owner of a fine fruit farm in Oregon. He was a member of the Lutheran church. He had four sons, one of whom died in Germany. Adolph accompanied him to America and was a clerk for a number of years in the old O. K. store in Grand Island and died here. In 1880 the mother of Rudolph W. Bock brought him and his older brother, Alvinus, to America to join the father at Grand Island. Alvinus was a clerk for the old firm of Veit & Roeser and for five years was in the grocery business with his brother Rudolph W. He is now head clerk for Frank Olson, in Grand Island.

Rudolph W. Bock had been in school for four years before coming to the United States, after reaching Nebraska he continued his studies in Hall County. His first employer was Oscar Roeser who gave the boy work and he continued as a clerk in Mr. Roeser's grocery store for ten years, leaving this position to become a traveling salesman for the McCord-Brady Company but after four years went back to Mr. Roeser as his manager. Later he embarked in the grocery business in Grand Island in partnership with his brother Alvinus, under the style of Bock Brothers. On April 13, 1910, he purchased his brother's interest; since which time he has been the owner.

Mr. Bock married, in 1890, Miss Sadie Merchant, who was born in Wisconsin, a daughter of William W. Merchant, a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Her father had moved to Wisconsin after serving three years in the Civil War. He took up a homestead and died there, but the mother of Mrs. Bock died in Kansas. They were members of the Presbyterian church. Mrs. Bock was educated in Ithaca and Ironton, Sauk County, Wisconsin. She taught school for one year in her native state and one year in Nebraska. She is a woman of culture and refinement. Mr. and Mrs. Bock have no children of their own but they reared little Mary from the age of two years to beautiful womanhood and she is now the wife of Allen Nevius, who is associate editor of the New York Evening Post.

Mr. Bock has long been an important factor in Republican politics in Grand Island and in his fourth campaign as alderman was elected without any opposition, a pretty fair

demonstration of the general esteem in which he is held by his fellow citizens. He has served on the police board and at present is on the board of health and has given generously of his time and means in the recent epidemic of influenza, that has been prevalent at Grand Island as in many other cities. He is a Royal Arch Mason and both he and Mrs. Bock belong to the Eastern Star. He is identified also with the Elks, the United Commercial Travelers Association, the A. O. U. W., the Eagles, the Plattsdeutsch-Verein, the Liederkrantz and the Royal Highlanders; in the U. C. T. being a member of the Supreme Council.

JAMES ELMER DILL, one of the essentially vital and representative business men of the city of Grand Island, has been a resident of Hall County since the days of his early youth and has found here ample opportunity to achieve distinctive success. Bringing to bear exceptional initiative and executive ability, he has won and maintained precedence as one of the leading exponents of the real estate and insurance business in this favored section of the state. As one of the loyal, progressive and valued citizens of Grand Island he is fully entitled to recognition in this history.

Mr. Dill was born near Wilmington, Delaware, on the 3d of November, 1863, and in that same fine old commonwealth were born his parents, Robert N. and Annie (Griffith) Dill, the latter of whom passed her entire life in Delaware and the former of whom was a resident of Grand Island, Nebraska, at the time of his death, both having held membership in the Methodist church. Robert N. Dill was a Democrat in his political proclivities. Of the four children who survive the honored parents the eldest is Sallie E., the wife of Chas. H. Ford, a representative farmer near Greeley, Colorado; James Elmer, the subject of this review, was the next in order of birth; Robert J. is a prosperous contractor in Grand Island; and J. Frank was a successful candy manufacturer in Greeley, Colorado. In his native state Robert N. Dill became a successful contractor and there he continued his residence until 1879, when he came to Grand Island, Nebraska, and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He became one of the strong and honored citizens of Hall County, living to be nearly seventy-three years of age at the time of his death.

James E. Dill is indebted to the schools of Delaware for his early educational discipline being a youth of sixteen years when he

came with his father to Grand Island. Here he soon found employment as a clerk in a grocery store, and he continued his activities in a clerical capacity for a period of six years, within which he had gained valuable experience and fortified himself for independent business enterprise. He was for four years associated with Samuel C. Huston in the conducting of a confectionery business in Grand Island. At the expiration of this period the two ambitious young men established themselves in the real-estate business, under the firm name of Dill & Huston, which is still retained,—their effective business alliance having continued during a period of fully forty years, within which they have advanced to a position of prominence and influence in the handling of farm and city property and have built up a large and prosperous enterprise. This is now one of the oldest real-estate firms in the city of Grand Island and its reputation for effective service and honorable dealings constitute a valuable asset, the while the firm stands as an authority in real-estate values in this section of the state throughout which its transactions have been wide and diversified. As a consistent adjunct of their real-estate enterprise they have developed a representative business as underwriters of fire insurance, with a large and appreciative clientage. Special attention is also given to the extending of financial loans upon approved real-estate security, and in each of the three departments of its business the firm stands as one of the foremost in Hall County.

While he is essentially and emphatically a business man, Mr. Dill has always shown deep and loyal interest in all things touching the civic and material welfare of Hall County and the city of Grand Island. Although he has had no ambition for the honors of public office, he accords staunch allegiance to the Republican party and is well fortified in his convictions concerning governmental policies. He is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias, and is a member of the Nebraska Home Guards and he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church.

In the year 1888 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Dill to Miss Jessie G. Gardner, who was born in the state of Ohio. They have two children: Lucy A., the wife of Charles D. Husted, of Lincoln, Nebraska; and Helen, who is a member of the class of 1919 in the Nebraska State University, at Lincoln.

FRANK IVER OLSEN, whose numerous business interests make his name well known in Grand Island and elsewhere, is a leading grocery merchant of this city, having been trained in the business by his late father. He was born in Grand Island, Nebraska, September 21, 1876, a son of Jens and Kristine (Iverson) Olsen.

Jens Olsen, who was an honorable business man of Grand Island for over a half century, who died here June 20, 1912, was born in Wurstenburg, Denmark. Emigrating from that country he came to Nebraska and settled in Grand Island in 1866. He had learned carriage and cabinetmaking in his own land but after coming to Nebraska worked here as a carpenter and contractor. He was a man of sound business judgment and much enterprise. In 1893 he established a grocery store in Grand Island and in 1897 admitted his son Frank to a half interest partnership. Some years after coming to Grand Island he married Kristine Iverson, a native of Schleswig, Denmark, who came to this country in 1868. She proved an admirable helpmate and without doubt much of his early prosperity was caused by her help, careful industry and frugality. It is remembered how grateful early travelers, both by wagon and train through Grand Island, were over the opportunity to buy such wholesome articles of her own preparation as coffee and cookies, when no public accommodations for food had yet been conveniently established. Mrs. Olsen still resides in Grand Island and is very highly esteemed. She was reared a Lutheran but is now a devoted adherent of the Seventh Day Adventist church. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Olsen: Frank Iver and Anna. The latter is the wife of John Jacobson, a wealthy farmer and hog-raiser near Marquette, Nebraska.

Frank Iver Olsen continued in school until he completed the high school course and then associated with his father in the grocery business; he progressed rapidly, having had entire charge of his present large store since 1899 and in the main has always been a successful business man. He has the natural trading instinct and as his operations have been carried on along many lines, there have been some reverses, but as a rule, his plans have turned out advantageously and his undertakings have not been disappointing. At the present time Mr. Olsen owns tracts of land in nineteen states, and in Grand Island. Aside from his grocery business he is interested in hardware and is one of the owners of the Grand Island Tin Company.

Mr. Olsen married, in 1902, Miss Maude E. Denman, who was born on a farm near Alda, Nebraska, a daughter of A. C. Denman, a wealthy farmer of that section. Mr. and Mrs. Olsen have three sons: Frank E., a youth of sixteen; Alfred A., yet in school; and Donald E. Mrs. Olsen and the children attend the Congregational church. Mr. Olsen is a Republican in his views on public questions, and fraternally is identified with the Odd Fellows and the Danish Brotherhood. He stands among his fellow citizens as an able, upright business man representative of the best interests here.

JAMES E. HANNA, the well known hardware merchant on Fourth street, Grand Island, came to Hall County, Nebraska, in 1888, and has been a resident of this city for twenty-three years. He is not only an enterprising and successful business man, but is also a leader in civic matters. For the past ten years he has served as a member of the city council.

Mr. Hanna was born in La Salle county, Illinois, September 1, 1855, the eldest of five children born to Alexander and Amanda (Graves) Hanna, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. They were married there and early in the fifties removed to Illinois, where the father of Mr. Hanna engaged for some years in farming, before he removed to Kansas, where he lived till his death. He was a veteran of the Civil War, having served two years in that struggle. In politics a Democrat, on that party ticket he was elected to the important office of county supervisor while living in Illinois. The mother of Mr. Hanna passed her last years in Grand Island. One son, Joseph, died in this city, January 12, 1919. The two surviving daughters are: Cora, in the millinery business at Chicago, and Maggie, the wife of J. T. Long, who is in the real estate business at Creston, Iowa. The parents were members of the Presbyterian church.

James E. Hanna attended the county schools and worked on his father's farm in Illinois. In 1888 he came to Nebraska and bought a farm in Hall County on which he resided until 1896, when he came to Grand Island. For some years he continued manager for the Woodruff Coal & Lumber Company. Afterward he established his present hardware store in association with his son Ralph.

Mr. Hanna married in 1877 Miss Etta Day, who died shortly after coming to Nebraska. Three sons were born to them, namely: Arthur,

who operates the home farm north of Grand Island; Ralph, in business with his father; and Frank, who died at the age of twenty-one years. Mr. Hanna married a second time, in 1900, Miss Reta Holmes, who was born in Illinois. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics Mr. Hanna is an independent thinker and voter. He belongs to the order of Maccabees, being an important man in this city.

HANS P. HANSEN, proprietor of one of the leading grocery houses of Grand Island, has been established here for over fifteen years, building up, in the meanwhile, a solid reputation for business integrity. While largely devoting himself to grocery interests, Mr. Hansen has had sufficient enterprise to find an additional profitable business in another direction.

He was born in Merrick County, Nebraska, June 27, 1874, the elder of two children born to Niels and Carrie (Petersen) Hansen. His one brother, Linnie M., is deceased. The parents of Mr. Hansen came to the United States from Denmark, in the late sixties, came west, and on reaching Nebraska located in Merrick County on a homestead. The father died on his Merrick County farm, which the mother still occupies. He was a quiet, industrious man with no political ambitions but he declared his views in voting with the Republican party. He was a member of the Lutheran church as is also his widow.

The country schools in Merrick County provided Mr. Hansen with a satisfactory general education and he later supplemented this by taking a course in a business college at Grand Island. For a number of years the operation of the home farm engaged his attention although he also worked at butter-making for some time. In 1903 he came to Grand Island and embarked in the grocery business and now has a very extensive trade. He was one of the first business men here who saw the possible advantage in selling automobiles as a side line and for about five years has made the handling of the Reo cars a feature of his business, being exceedingly successful.

Mr. Hansen married May 8, 1899, Miss Etta McClenithan, who was born in Vermont but married in Grand Island. They have two children: Opal, who assists in her father's store; and Juanita. Mr. Hansen is identified with a number of fraternal organizations of well known stability, among these being the Danish Brotherhood of America, the Royal

Neighbors, the Modern Woodmen and the Odd Fellows. In all public matters pertaining to the best interests of Grand Island he is ever ready to give help and earnest coöperation, but he has always preferred to remain independent of political party ties.

JULIUS P. F. LESCHINSKY.—While Grand Island has gladly and sensibly accepted and forwarded the development of its many practical business houses, it has not been unmindful of other things. It recognizes the influence borne by true art in the cultural education of the people. Thus so talented and widely experienced a photographic artist as Julius P. F. Leschinsky feels perfectly at home here, and since locating permanently in this city, through his fine work has given a great impetus to art in his own as well as other lines.

Mr. Leschinsky was born in Deutsch Eylau, West Prussia, December 21, 1860. His parents were Frederick and Augusta (Dombrowsky) Leschinsky, who were born and died in West Prussia. The father was an architect and builder. To his first marriage but one son was born, Julius P. F. To a second marriage eight children were born, one of whom, Max, is a merchant in Loup City, Nebraska.

In 1880 Mr. Leschinsky came to Grand Island, Nebraska. He had attended the high school at Loebau, Germany, and had already had some business experience as a clerk and bookkeeper. He was variously engaged during the first year after coming here, then secured a school to teach being engaged thus for three years in Merrick County. During vacations he occupied himself as a bookkeeper and in studying photography, toward which his artistic talent inclined him. In 1884 he opened his first studio. Not as yet well enough known, he did not have sufficient capital to carry on a business for himself, therefore seven months later he closed the studio, and for some months worked in other studios in Nebraska and also in Kansas. He then purchased a portable studio, carrying on business in Washington and Greenleaf, Kansas, and later at Harvard, Nebraska, operating successfully for two years. He then brought his portable studio to Grand Island, occupied it for four years but when opportunity came he moved into the studio formerly occupied by Mr. Murphy. In the meanwhile the fame of his artistic work spread abroad and in 1894 he was able to build the front portion of his present fine studio and since then has been compelled because of patronage, to enlarge the original studio to fully five times its early

capacity. In 1915 he opened an art shop in Grand Island, where lovers of art may gratify their taste for the beautiful. He has been one of the prime movers in photographic organizations in Nebraska. For years he has been signally honored by many representative bodies. He was one of the organizers of the Nebraska Photographers Association and three times was its president. For a quarter of a century it was conducted as a Nebraska body exclusively, but has been amalgamated with similar organizations in Missouri and Kansas. On numerous occasions he has received gold and silver medals for his perfection in photography. He is also a member of the National Photographic Association of America and on one occasion was elected a delegate to the same. Mr. Leschinsky married, September 30, 1888, Miss Minnie Doll, who was born in New York, a daughter of Carl Doll, who was born in Schleswig-Holstein. He came to Grand Island in the seventies, to engage in work as a cabinetmaker. Mr. Doll had served three years as a soldier in the Union Army during the Civil War. Two sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Leschinsky: Oswald Frederick Carl, born in Grand Island, July 21, 1889, now in business with his father; and Armand Julius Paul, born in Grand Island, March 16, 1893. His brave young life went out in France, October 19, 1918. He studied in the Grand Island schools and also took a course in the Baptist College. Entering the National army at Camp Dodge, Iowa, May 28, 1918, he was sent with the American Expeditionary Force to France, where after exhibition of soldierly qualities which brought a beautiful tribute from his commanding officer, Capt. H. M. Baldrige, Battery F, 338th Field Artillery, he succumbed to pneumonia. He was greatly beloved in Grand Island. Mr. Leschinsky is a member of the Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen, the Maccabees, the Fraternal Aid Union and the Liederkrantz and has been president of the last named organization.

OSCAR ROESER, the head of a widely known mercantile house known as the Bee Hive store, which he erected from small beginnings, has been a resident of Grand Island for over forty years.

He was born in the township of Tittabawassee, Saginaw County, Michigan, January 4, 1852. His parents were William and Theresa (Vasold) Roeser, both of whom were born in Germany. They came to the United States in 1849 and 1850 respectively, being



JULIUS LESCHINSKY AND FAMILY

married in Michigan. They purchased government land in Saginaw County in 1850 for \$1.25 per acre. It was timber and had to be cleared to be used for farming. He cultivated a part of his land, and after the railroad was built, in 1864, Mr. Wm. Roeser laid out and platted his entire farm, establishing thereon what is now the flourishing little town of Freeland. In 1852 he started in the mercantile business, beginning on a very small scale in one of his living rooms. Being situated on the banks of the Tittabawassee River, about fifty per cent of his customers were Chippewa Indians, who usually travelled in canoes on the river. After the coming of the railroad he built a new store and enlarged his business, supplying many neighboring lumber camps. Of the family of ten children seven sons and one daughter survive, the two in Hall County being Oscar and Albert, the latter a salesman for agricultural implements in Grand Island.

Oscar Roeser obtained his education in the public schools and assisted his father in the store and with the farm. In 1876 he taught school for one term, thereby earning the money to enable him to buy a railroad ticket to Grand Island. (In those days western railroad fare was five and six cents per mile.) He arrived there May 15, 1877 and soon secured employment as manager of the lumber yard belonging to his uncle, Fred Hedde. He continued there for four and a half years. In the fall of 1881 he embarked in the grocery business in a small way in partnership with Louis Veit, under the firm name of Veit and Roeser. This business was continued until 1886 when the partnership was dissolved. Mr. Roeser then started the Bee Hive store, where he has built up a large retail grocery and chinaware business, in which he is now assisted by his two sons. Since 1886 he has occupied the same quarters at No. 115 West Third Street, one of the city's business landmarks.

Mr. Roeser married, in 1884, Miss Minnie Stolley, who is a daughter of the late William Stolley, a pioneer settler of Hall County. He was one of the first children born in the county. The father of Mrs. Roeser died in 1912, but the mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Roeser have three children; two sons and one daughter: Emil F., manager of his father's store, married Frieda Detlefsen and they have two sons, Herbert and Erwin; Oscar F., who went to France with the American Expeditionary Forces, April 28, 1918, as a member of the 89th Division, Three Hundred and Fifty-fifth Infantry, was wounded

in the hand in November, 1918, during the battles of the Argonne Forest; and Elsa O., who resides at home.

In his political views, Mr. Roeser is a Republican. In 1900 he was elected county supervisor and served continuously for five and a half years, having been chairman of the building committee during the construction of the fine Hall County courthouse, and chairman of the board when the building was first occupied. He belongs to several organizations of a social nature at Grand Island and has been a director in the Liederkrantz for many years; also a director of the Commercial Club and president a number of times of the Retail Merchants' Association.

WILLIAM I. BLAIN.—The development of some lines of business in Nebraska has been the natural result of climate, demand and opportunity, and this applies particularly to the horse, mule and cattle industry, which represents heavy capital investment and the enlistment of shrewd, astute business men to conduct affairs. This has become a source of great wealth to Hall County, and probably no section in the state can show more substantial results. One of the men largely interested and of wide experience, is William I. Blain, organizer and general manager of the Blaine Horse, Mule & Cattle Company of Grand Island.

William I. Blain was born in Pella, Marion County, Iowa, June 1, 1874, the fifth in a family of eleven children, nine of whom are living. His parents were William C. and Susan Elizabeth (Hays) Blain, natives of West Virginia. They were brought to Iowa in childhood, grew up and married there, coming to Custer County, Nebraska, in 1887. Both died in this state. They belonged to that great body of good people who lived quiet, simple, useful lives, worthy of emulation in their sincerity and unselfishness.

After completing his public school course at Mason City, Nebraska, William I. Blain assisted on his father's farm, an occupation he followed until 1897, when he went into the horse business at Staplehurst, Nebraska, later at Schuyler and still later was active in the business in Denver. In 1911 he came to Grand Island and became identified with the Grand Island Horse & Mule Market where he has been auctioneer since its start. In October, 1915, Mr. Blain founded the Blain Horse & Mule Company, which has also handled cattle since 1917 and now operates as the Blain Horse, Mule & Cattle Company,

with a capital of \$15,000. N. L. Troelstrup is president of the company, W. W. Witherly is secretary and treasurer, and Mr. Blain is general manager. A general commission business is done and the future looks favorable for a still greater volume than ever before.

Mr. Blain married March 24, 1894, Miss Jennie M. Crouse, who was born in Seward County, Nebraska, and is a daughter of D. W. Crouse, who was one of the earliest settlers in that section, locating permanently in Seward County long before any railroads had been constructed. Mr. and Mrs. Blain have had five children: Otto L., Frank K., Velma, Harry and Ethel, the latter dying in infancy. Mrs. Blain is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal church in Grand Island. Mr. Blain gives his political support to the Republican party but in matters of general importance in seasons of national stress, he holds a liberal mind and works for the general good. For many years he has belonged to the Masonic fraternity.

HENRY J. VOSS, cigar manufacturer at Grand Island, may be named as a substantial business man and representative and dependable citizen. He is well known in Hall County and has served two years as a member of the board of county supervisors, on which he has shown excellent business judgment and commendable public spirit.

Mr. Voss was born in Holstein, Germany, June 24, 1862. His parents were John and Katherine (Hermenson) Voss, natives of Germany, from which country they came to the United States, settling in Grand Island, Nebraska, in 1881. John Voss was a general laborer at first but through industry acquired capital which he invested in land and from then until his death he was engaged in farming. Both he and his wife were members of the Lutheran church. They had three children, two daughters and one son: Margaret, the wife of John Paulsen, of Grand Island; H. J.; and Lena, the wife of Fred Soll, who is in the clothing business at Baker, Oregon.

After his school period was over, Mr. Voss engaged in farming until 1885, when he came to Grand Island and began the manufacture of cigars, to which he has since devoted his attention. From time to time he has expanded the scope of his business until now it is one of large proportions, his factory turning out from 300,000 to 500,000 cigars a year. On account of the excellence of his product he finds a ready market and there is a particularly

heavy demand for his leading brands, the Examiner, the A O D, and the 1900.

Mr. Voss married, in 1887, Miss Emma Wulf, who was born at Keil, Germany, and was brought to the United States by her parents when two years old. Mr. and Mrs. Voss have had the following children: Lena, who married Brewer Beck, of Grand Island; they have one child, Evelyn; Fred, a railroad man; Clara, who died at the age of seven years; Harry, who is married and has one daughter, Ruth; Ella, a bookkeeper; Anna, who married Charles Westphal, a railroad man, has one child, Lorine; Gustave, a mechanic with an automobile concern; Lola, employed in a leading Grand Island store; and Mable, Leona, Raymond, Margaret and Dorothy, all of whom are at home. Mr. Voss and family attend the English Lutheran church in Grand Island. The children are much interested in the work of the Sunday school. In politics Mr. Voss is a Democrat and somewhat active in his party and, as mentioned above, is one of the county supervisors. Fraternally he belongs to the order of Eagles, the T. P. A., the Sons of Herman, the Liederkrantz and the Platts-deutschen, and was for many years president of the last named organization.

MAX JACOB VOSS, whose activities in dairy farming have brought him success and standing as a substantial citizen of his community in Hall County during recent years, is the owner of a property in Mayfield township that has been a family possession since 1872. It was in that year that his father, Fred Voss, a sketch of whose career appears on another page of this work, came to the United States from Germany, took up his residence in Hall County, where the greater part of his subsequent career has been passed. He still resides in the county and is in the enjoyment of a comfortable competence, gained through a long career of industry.

Max Jacob Voss was born at St. Libory, Howard County, Nebraska, April 5, 1883, a son of Fred and Wibke (Krone) Voss. He received his education in the public schools and in his youth and young manhood assisted his father in the cultivation of lands in Howard and Hall Counties, so that his training was entirely along agricultural lines. When it came time for him to adopt a vocation of his own and to enter upon his independent career, he selected farming and dairying as his occupations, and now is farming 200 acres of good land in Mayfield township, which belongs to his father, a part of which is the original

homestead secured by his father in 1872. Of recent years Mr. Voss has given more and more of his attention to dairy work, and now has a fine herd of thirty-five head of cattle, but while he has built up an extensive and profitable business in this connection, he is also engaged to some extent in general farming. His improvements are modern in character and in his work he expresses a tendency toward progressiveness. His standing as a business man is an excellent one and the quality of his citizenship has never been questioned. Mr. Voss is independent in his views upon political matters, and his religious faith is that of the Lutheran church. He has never felt the need of fraternal connections to round out his enjoyment of life.

Mr. Voss was united in marriage with Lillian Young, a native of Fairfield County, Ohio, daughter of S. Young, who is engaged in general farming in that county. They have no children of their own, but are rearing an adopted son, Joe.

JUDGE JOHN RICHARD THOMPSON was one of the prominent citizens of Grand Island where for more than thirty-six years he was a leading lawyer and served as judge of this district for three consecutive terms.

Mr. Thompson was born at Perryville, Ohio, August 6, 1850, a son of Eli and Eliza (Kirby) Thompson, both natives of Carroll County, Ohio, where they were married and where they made their home until 1864 when they became residents of Fayette County, Iowa. Here the mother passed away January 2, 1881, and eight years later the father came to Nebraska and secured a homestead in Custer County where he spent the remainder of his days, passing away February 3, 1903.

John R. Thompson attended the district school from three to six months each year until he was eighteen years of age. He then attended Upper Iowa University at Fayette, Iowa, but never completed a full course as he was dependent upon his own resources to defray his expenses, which he did by working upon a farm and teaching school. In 1875 he entered the law department of the University of Iowa at Iowa City, graduating in 1877, under the instruction of W. G. Hammond, a most able teacher, then chancellor of the University, and founder of the law department. He then joined his brother, W. H. Thompson, and engaged in the practice of law in their home town, Brush Creek, now Arlington, Iowa, where Thompson Brothers had opened an office the year before to earn the money

needed to defray expenses to complete their law studies. In February, 1879, John R. opened an office in Grand Island, Nebraska, while the brother remained in Iowa. In June, 1881, W. H. came to Grand Island and the partnership continued until 1892, when John R. Thompson was elevated to the bench of the district court of the eleventh judicial district, consisting of eleven counties, where he served three successive terms of four years each. His decisions were always fair and impartial and he was held in the highest esteem by members of the bar and by all with whom he came in contact. After this he continued the practice of his profession until his death, September 29, 1915.

October 24, 1880, Mr. Thompson was united in marriage to Miss Lizzie A. Pryse, of Iowa City. She passed away December 8, 1888. Judge Thompson was again married July 25, 1900, to Sarah A. Jones, of Iowa City, and her death occurred in Grand Island eleven years ago. Of the first marriage were born five children: Callie E., wife of Dr. A. H. Farnsworth; Grace, the wife of Julius Jones, of Grand Island; Catherine, the wife of William Pyne, mayor and editor of a newspaper at Wendell, Idaho; John P., a ranchman of Holt County, Nebraska; and Elizabeth, the wife of Benjamin Musser, of New York.

Judge Thompson was a member of and liberal contributor to the First Methodist church of Grand Island, and a member of several fraternal organizations. He served the city and county as attorney and stood for all those things that helped to make for the betterment of the community. The city is indebted to Judge Thompson for the beautiful public park known as "Pioneer Park" as it was largely through his persistent agitation that this tract was set aside as a park instead of being platted and sold for residence properties.

JOHN H. PAULSEN.—It may not be such a difficult matter to get ahead in the world when one has a host of friends and a full pocket book, but to gain position and public confidence without such help, and in a strange country and after early manhood has passed, indicates the possession of sterling personal qualities. The people of Grand Island know this well in the case of John H. Paulsen, who came here thirty seven years ago and for twenty of these years has continuously filled the office of keeper of the city jail.

John H. Paulsen was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, December 11, 1850, the only child of Henry and Mary Paulsen, whose



JUDGE J. R. THOMPSON (deceased)

entire lives were passed in Germany. They were members of the Lutheran church. John H. attended school, then learned the cigarmaker's trade, an occupation he followed for small wages until he was thirty-two years old, when he decided to come to the United States where industrial opportunities were greater. He reached Grand Island, Nebraska, January 6, 1882 and at once found employment at his trade. He worked as a cigarmaker until 1887. As he took advantage of every opportunity that presented itself for the exercise of industry, material success was inevitable. About 1895 Mr. Paulsen was appointed city jailor and has continued in office notwithstanding many changes in the city administration.

Mr. Paulsen married March 24, 1878, Miss Margaret Voss, who was born in Holstein, Germany, a daughter of John and Katherine (Hermenson) Voss. Her parents came to Grand Island in 1881. Mrs. Paulsen has one brother, H. J. Voss, of Grand Island; and a sister, Mrs. Lena Soll, of Baker City, Oregon. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Paulsen: Gus, sexton of the Grand Island cemetery; Anna, the wife of Henry Sievers, now retired and living in California; Amanda, the wife of Richard Buentz, recorder of deeds in Hall County; Alvina, the wife of Henry Paustian, of Denver, Colorado; Harry, a salesman with the Nebraska Mercantile Company; Albert C., a soldier in France with the American Expeditionary Force, enlisting April 30, 1918; Mata, employed in the county recorder's office; and Alma, who resides at home. Mr. and Mrs. Paulsen are interested in Christian Science and attend the church of that belief in Grand Island. In politics Mr. Paulsen maintains party independence, and fraternally he is identified with the Low German Society.

JOHN McLELLAN, one of Hall County's most influential citizens, is a member of the Nebraska state legislature, and is prominently identified with lumber interests in this state. He is a native of Scotland, but since the age of five years has lived in the United States, coming first to Hall County, Nebraska, in 1884.

Mr. McLellan was born September 11, 1864, a son of James and Helen (Kelly) McLellan, natives of Scotland, who came to the United States to settle on an Illinois farm in 1869. The mother of Mr. McLellan died there, at the age of seventy-five years. The father died while visiting a brother in Oklahoma, being then eighty-three years of age. Of their nine children the following are living: Agnes,

the wife of Wilford Fulk, a farmer in Illinois; William, a retired farmer residing in Grand Island; Peter, a farmer in Illinois; John; and James, who lives in Illinois. The father was a member of the Presbyterian church, was a Republican in politics, and for sixty years was a member of the Masonic fraternity.

John McLellan attended the public schools in Illinois. In 1884 he came to Hall County, Nebraska, but two years afterward accepted work on a ranch in Montana. A year later he returned to this state to enter a business college in Omaha, from which he was graduated in 1888, when he returned to Montana to accept a place as bookkeeper, retaining this position for about four years. He remained in Montana until 1903, engaged in mining and merchandising, then came back to Hall County and during the following four years engaged in farming and cattle feeding. In 1908 he removed to Alda to embark in the mercantile business, and in 1910 he organized the Alda Lumber Company, of which he is president. In 1912 he organized the Abbott Lumber and Grain Company and was president of that concern until it went out of business. He still continues active in the lumber industry and also maintains his interest in his farm properties.

Mr. McLellan married December 18, 1892, Miss Mary Belle Juhnke, who was born at Knoxville, Tennessee, a daughter of August L. and Lamara Ellen (McCloud) Juhnke, the latter of whom was born in Tennessee and died in Hall County in July 1918. The father of Mrs. McLellan was born in Germany. He married in Tennessee and with his wife came to Hall County in 1872, having served in the Civil War as did also his father, Carl Juhnke, who took up a claim in Hall County. The parents of Mrs. McLellan came to Grand Island in 1878 and the father still lives here. He was one of the first conductors on the Union Pacific Railroad.

Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. McLellan: Agnes, born near Helena, Montana, is a graduate of the Alda schools and is bookkeeper in the First National Bank; Myrtle, born at Gibbonsville, Idaho, married Russell Haldeman and they live on a farm in Hall County; John, who attended the Baptist College for two years, enlisted for Red Cross work in France but the armistice was declared before he was called into service; he was born in Butte, Montana; and Paul Edward, who was born at Alda, Nebraska, is in school. Mr. McLellan and family are members of the Presbyterian church. In politics he is a Republican and in November, 1918, he

was elected a member of the state legislature, his majority being far beyond the votes cast for the other candidates. He is a Knight Templar Mason and belongs to the A. O. U. W., in which order he has been interested for twenty-two years and at present is treasurer of the local organization. He was a member of the Supreme body in Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana. Mr. McLellan and family removed to Grand Island in July, 1918.

DAVID KAUFMANN, a widely known, highly respected and prosperous business man of Hall County, carries on several mercantile enterprises here, of which he is the founder. Mr. Kaufmann's success as a merchant is the result of industry coupled with good judgment. He started into business with but small capital, but has always been a careful buyer and able financier. He has made courtesy and the pleasure of customers important features of his business system. Hence it has followed that within the last thirteen years he has been forced to enlarge his quarters and increase his stock to accommodate a constantly increasing trade in Grand Island, and has also established a store in Kearney.

David Kaufmann was born in Germany, October 8, 1875. He attended the Gymnasium (high school) in his native land until he was graduated at the age of fifteen years. He was employed immediately after graduation as a clerk in a dry goods store in Elberfeld. From 1891 to the present he has been actively engaged in buying and selling goods except for one year when he served in the German army in 1903. When the opportunity presented itself he came to America. During the eight months he remained in New York he did such work as he could without being familiar with the English language, then came from New York City to Grand Island in March 1904. During the following two years he was employed by S. N. Wolbach, as a window trimmer. In 1906 he started into business himself establishing his five and ten cent store, and has continued in this line of merchandising ever since. For reasons above stated Mr. Kaufmann has made a success of his undertaking and he stands well not only with the purchasing public but also with his trade competitors because of his honorable methods.

Mr. Kaufmann is unmarried. He is a member of the Hebrew congregation. In politics he is identified with the Republican party. Fraternally he is an Elk and belongs to the Commercial Club, of which he served as president. He has co-operated most efficiently and

earnestly with his fellow citizens in Red Cross work.

WALKER HAINLINE. — One of the flourishing business establishments at Grand Island is the Hainline Laundry, which has been developed from a very small beginning into one of the indispensable enterprises of the city. It represents the result of courage, unusual industry and perseverance, and from its start has remained the property of one family.

Walter Hainline, proprietor of the Hainline Laundry, was born in Pettis County, Missouri, January 14, 1878. His parents were Thomas M. and Mary (Bivins) Hainline, both of whom were born in Kentucky. The mother, who lives at Grand Island, was born August 3, 1854. The father, who died November 23, 1918, was aged sixty-nine years four months and twenty-one days. Thomas M. Hainline resided in Missouri after marriage being engaged in teaming and hauling wood and coal. Not satisfied, however, with conditions there, in March, 1888, he came with his family to Grand Island, where he found employment in a laundry but his wages were not sufficiently ample to supply the needs of a growing family. He was fortunate in that he had a sensible, cheerful, willing wife and she also went to work in the laundry, leaving the domestic affairs in the care of the children. In 1889 Mr. and Mrs. Hainline decided to start a laundry of their own. They had little capital but they had strength and industry, and it is doubtful if the fine work now turned out by the present laundry's modern patented machines, can surpass the careful hand work that first went out from the little Hainline laundry. It was in those days that Walker Hainline delivered and collected laundry on foot. In 1893 the Hainlines moved to North Platte to start a small laundry there and during the seven years they remained there were able to accumulate a small capital. In 1901 they came back to Grand Island opening a laundry in the building which is now the St. James hotel. Prosperity now smiled upon their efforts and in January, 1905, they erected their present fine modern laundry and thoroughly equipped it. Thomas M. Hainline retired from the business in 1914 and now Walter Hainline devotes his main attention to it, having a department equipped for dry cleaning, as one of the features of the new building. Walker Hainline had fewer educational opportunities in boyhood than many of his companions, but he has never regretted the discipline

that taught him industrious and frugal habits when young. He gave his parents valuable assistance and his entire business career has been identified with laundry interests. Of the family of nine children, four died in infancy, the others being: William, a barber at Grand Island for twenty years, died in 1903 and is survived by a daughter, Hazel; Clara Belle, the wife of Patrick Cornfield, died in July, 1917, leaving two children, Florence and Reuben, live at St. Paul, Minnesota; Josephine, the wife of Wood White, an engineer on the Union Pacific for almost forty years, has one son, Major A. White, who is a student of medicine in Stanford University; Walker; Margaret, who was married first to William Grandlove, had two children by that marriage, Mary and Covert. Her second marriage was to C. C. Hainline, who is manager of the shoe department of the Miller & Paine store. They have one son, Jack.

Mr. Hainline married, June 10, 1908, Miss Anna Naylin, who was born at Auburn, Illinois, a daughter of Peter and Katherine (Carey) Naylin, natives of Ireland. He was a railroad man but they lived for three years on a farm near Wood River, Nebraska. Mr. Naylin is deceased but Mrs. Naylin lives at Grand Island. Mrs. Hainline is a member of the Roman Catholic church. Mr. Hainline is prominent in the order of Elks, of which he is a trustee at Grand Island and is past exalted ruler of Lodge No. 604. He was reared in the Methodist Episcopal church and votes with the Democratic party as did his father.

ADOLPH W. STERNE.—Almost every line of business is creditably carried on in Grand Island. Larger cities might be proud of so complete an establishment as the clothing house of Adolph W. Sterne, because it is a leader in its line in Hall County. Mr. Sterne is an experienced man in the clothing industry having been engaged in this line in this city for the past thirty-one years.

Adolph W. Sterne was born in Germany, the son of Albert and Henrietta (Strouler) Sterne, both of whom passed their lives in the Fatherland. The father was in the grain business. They had eight children, four of whom came to the United States and four others are yet in Germany. Those in America are: Benjamin, a retired resident of Chicago; Mrs. Pollock, a widow, has a home in Chicago and one at Long Beach, California; Mrs. Simmons, a resident of Chicago; and Adolph W., came to the United States in 1879.

Adolph W. Sterne resided with his brother

at Clinton, Missouri, from 1879 until 1887, when he paid his first visit to Grand Island. In the following year he settled here permanently, becoming associated with the well known merchant, J. A. Woolstenholm, with whom he remained until January, 1918, when he bought the business. Since then he has enlarged and expanded it until he now has the best assorted and largest stock of clothing and furnishings in Hall County.

Mr. Sterne married, in 1891, Miss Nettie Woolstenholm. They have two children: Alice L., the wife of R. H. Thurston, the owner of a ranch in Box Butte County, near Hemingford, Nebraska, and Mable Henrietta, a member of the faculty of the Nebraska State University. Miss Sterne is known over the state for her ability as an organizer. Domestic science and home demonstration are her particular lines of work in which she has been successful. Mr. Sterne is active in Republican politics, having been a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1908. In local affairs he is earnest and public spirited having served as a member of the city council from 1902 to 1908 assisting in much useful civic legislation. He is a life member of the Grand Island Masonic lodge.

PURLY ALLISON DENNON, proprietor of the Grand Island Model Laundry in Grand Island, belongs to one of the pioneer families of Hall County. For many years Mr. Dennon was connected with the Union Pacific Railroad and became widely and favorably known in several capacities.

He was born in Ross County, Ohio, January 12, 1861, the son of George W. and Jane (Motts) Dennon. They were born, reared and married in Ohio and from there removed to Illinois and then to Nebraska, homesteading in Hall County in 1878. The father served as a soldier in the Civil War, passing away in Grand Island in 1915. Mr. Dennon's mother survived until 1918. They had eight children, those living being the following: P. A.; J. W., a farmer in Cherry County, Nebraska; T. S., who operates a dairy in Grand Island, and C. C., with the Union Pacific Railroad in Grand Island. In politics the father was a Republican. During the Civil War he served in the Union Army and as a veteran belonged to the Grand Army post in Grand Island.

Mr. Dennon obtained a district school education following which he learned the harnessmaking trade but afterward became a railroad man, a vocation he followed twenty-four

years with the Union Pacific system as car inspector and seventeen years as foreman. In 1905 he embarked in the laundry business in Grand Island, organizing the Grand Island Model Laundry Company, of which he is president. The business is operated with a capital of \$30,000. The company has commodious quarters at Nos. 220-222 East Third street, where all modern laundry equipments have been installed.

Although his laundry business engaged much of his time Mr. Dennon turned his mechanical ability to use as well. He learned the watch maker's trade and jewelry business, engaging in business in this occupation for six years, but when the United States entered the World War he responded to his country's call for men, enlisting in the navy January 28, 1918 as machinist mate first class, serving until discharged February 18, 1919.

Mr. Dennon married August 27, 1882, Miss Nellie Buzza, who was born in Illinois, a daughter of Stephen Buzza. Mrs. Dennon's father came to Hall County in the early eighties to become a farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Dennon have had three children, two of whom survive, namely: Nellie Myrtle, the wife of W. L. Stockinger, a machinist with the Union Pacific, and they have two children, and Purly Sumner. Mr. Dennon was reared in the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics he has always been a Republican and fraternally he belongs to the Grand Island lodge of Odd Fellows.

AUGUST MEYER, recognized as one of Grand Island's leading merchants, is the proprietor of a fine jewelry store. Mr. Meyer has built up his large establishment from humble beginnings and has succeeded because of his expert knowledge gained through thorough training, and has the confidence of the community because of honorable and up-right business methods.

August Meyer was born in Switzerland, June 13, 1858, his parents being John and Verena (Gut) Meyer, who spent their entire lives in Switzerland. They had fourteen children but only three sons came to the United States: Robert, deceased; Gotlieb, with his brother in the jewelry store in Grand Island, and August. The father was a watchmaker by trade, a vocation followed by four of his sons. He and his wife belonged to the State church of Switzerland.

August Meyer gained his schooling in his native land, following which he learned his trade before coming to the United States in

1881. His brother was in the jewelry and watch business at Plattsburg, New York, where August was employed four years before coming to Grand Island. He was practically without capital and may be said to have worked his way up to his present affluence from a bench, his industry receiving a just reward as time passed on. Mr. Meyer still gives his main attention to his store although public affairs, to some extent claim a part of his time, his fellows citizens having elected him a member of the city council, where he served six years. In his political views he is a staunch Republican.

In 1881 Mr. Meyer married Miss Elizabeth Egg, also a native of Switzerland, and they have three sons: Robert, with his father in the store; August H., who studied electrical engineering in the state university at Lincoln, is general manager of the Bryan-Marsh Electric Company, Chicago, and Ernest J., who is first lieutenant of his company which has been with the American Expeditionary Force in France since January, 1918. As a member of the National Guards he also saw service on the Mexican border. Mr. Meyer and his family are members of the Presbyterian church.

EDWIN W. HURST, proprietor of the Hurst Sash & Door Company, has been identified with the business interests of Grand Island since 1903. Through well developed methods and strict recognition of commercial integrity, he has achieved a large degree of business success.

Edwin Wardell Hurst was born at Cadillac, Wexford County, Michigan, in August, 1880. His parents were T. B. and Jennie (Lyman) Hurst, both of whom are deceased. They were natives of Pennsylvania removing from that state to Michigan in 1875 where the father was engaged in the lumber industry. They had six children of whom the following survive; Florence, the widow of L. C. Reber, lives in California, Elizabeth, the widow of H. L. Harrison, a resident of Portland, Oregon, and E. W., who belongs to Grand Island. The parents of this family were members of the Presbyterian church. The father was a Republican.

Mr. Hurst's educational opportunities included high school advantages at Madison, Wisconsin, and one year in the university of that state. Following the close of his school days, Mr. Hurst engaged in the manufacture of sash and doors, for a time in Chicago and later in Kansas City. For eight years he was a commercial traveler over Nebraska, but in 1903 he settled permanently in Grand Island.



FRED VOSS AND FAMILY

In 1915 he established his manufacturing plant here and devotes the greater part of his time to the management of affairs connected with it. The Hurst Sash & Door Company does an exclusive jobbing business, the products being distributed throughout Nebraska, Wyoming, Colorado and Montana.

In 1906 Mr. Hurst married Miss Minedith Calvin of Chicago. They have no children. Mr. Hurst is a Republican in his political views, and fraternally he belongs to Lodge No. 604, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

FRED VOSS.—An illustration of the rewards obtainable through a life of integrity and persistent endeavor is found in the career of Fred Voss, now one of the substantial citizens of Mayfield township. When he first came to the United States, forty-seven years ago, Mr. Voss had practically nothing with which to begin life in a new country. Through the exercise of his native industry and the application of good management to his work, he has made a success of life and is now owner of a valuable farm of 280 acres, situated in section 23.

Fred Voss was born May 1, 1846, in Holstein, Germany, and made his home in his native land until reaching the age of twenty-six years. He had the advantages of a public school education. The family finances were very modest and, there seeming to be little chance for him to acquire independence in the land of his birth, he decided to try his fortunes in the United States. Arriving in Hall County in 1872, he found himself under necessity of seeking whatever honorable employment he could find, being engaged at various occupations, principally farming, for others, until he had acquired sufficient funds to purchase a small property. This furnished the nucleus for his present splendid farm of 280 acres, which is located in section 23, Mayfield township. It is under a high state of cultivation, its productiveness having been developed through scientific treatment of the soil, while the use of power farm machinery and modern methods have contributed to Mr. Voss's success. Today he is accounted one of the substantial general farmers of his community and a man of intelligence and enlightened views on a number of subjects. In his political views, he takes an independent stand. Fraternal connections have held out no attractions for him. With his family, he belongs to the Lutheran church.

The first wife of Mr. Voss, with whom he

was united in Germany, died in 1877, and left one child: Lena, who is now the wife of Otto Dickman. In 1880 Mr. Voss was united in marriage with Wibke Krone. Four children were born to this union: John, who is deceased; Max, is married and a farmer of Mayfield township; Chris, in the United States mail service, at Omaha; and Harry Herman, who is engaged in general farming in association with his father.

RAYMOND D. KINGSBURY.—There are few lines of business more essential to the comfort and health of a community than that carried on under the name of plumbing, and Grand Island is fortunate in this direction. Few cities of its size have better plumbing or heating service than is supplied by the Grand Island Plumbing Company, of which Raymond D. Kingsbury is president. He was born in Fillmore County, Nebraska, November 24, 1876. His father, Castello Kingsbury, was a native of Illinois, living there until after the close of the Civil War, when he removed with his family to Nebraska to settle in Fillmore County. He now lives retired in Portland, Oregon. He served three years in the Union army as a member of the Sixty-fourth Illinois volunteer infantry, being wounded at the battle of Shiloh, this injury making hospital treatment necessary. He belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, is a Republican in his political views, and is a member of the American Order of United Workmen. He married in Illinois, Mary Mott who was born in that state and died in Nebraska in 1910. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. They had four children, three of whom are living, namely; Raymond D., president of the Grand Island Plumbing Company; Mildred, the wife of Coy Burnett, an attorney in practice at Portland, Oregon, and Maud, who resides in Portland where she is a professional nurse.

R. D. Kingsbury completed his educational training in the state university at Lincoln, from which he was graduated in 1901, after which he was connected for several years with the Burlington Railroad in the capacity of civil engineer. In 1904 he came to Grand Island with the intention of embarking in business and shortly afterward bought his uncle's plumbing establishment. The business was incorporated with a capital of \$11,000, under the name of the Grand Island Plumbing Company, with Mr. Kingsbury as president, and D. O. Beckmann secretary and treasurer. Since incorporation the scope of the business

has been yet further extended, so that today the concern is one of Grand Island's important enterprises. Although Mr. Kingsbury owns a ranch situated in Wyoming, he devotes the most of his personal attention to his Grand Island interests.

Mr. Kingsbury married, in 1904, Miss Ruby D'Ment, who was born in Iowa. They have two children: Carol and Carita, both of whom are attending school. In political sentiment Mr. Kingsbury has always been a Republican. He is a Knight Templar Mason and belongs to the Mystic Shrine. Mr. Kingsbury is a liberal contributor to benevolent objects and with his family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church.

HERMAN NELSON, the head of the Nelson Lumber & Supply Company of Grand Island, is recognized as one of Grand Island's most enterprising business men. He came here practically without capital and has built up a fine business entirely through his own industry, and the success which has attended his efforts is well merited.

Herman Nelson was born in Denmark, January 23, 1880, the fifth in a family of six children born to his parents, Lars and Caspara Nelson. His father died on a little farm in Denmark, on which his mother yet lives. They had the following children: Jens P., who has resided in Nebraska for thirty-three years, lives on a farm north of York; Lars and Marie, twins, the former of whom was accidentally drowned fourteen years ago, and the latter who is the wife of T. Norgard of Denmark; Edward, who resides with his mother in the old country; Herman, who came to Grand Island in 1906; and Casper, who is engaged in the grocery business, also remains in Denmark. The father of this family was a man of importance in his district, having held the political office of inspector of one and one-quarter miles of coast along the North Sea, for a quarter of a century.

As a boy Herman Nelson assisted in working the home farm and also was an aid to his father in watching and guarding the coast. He had common school advantages and then attended the high school from 1897 until 1898, at the same time working as a carpenter's apprentice, thereby learning a trade that he has found exceedingly useful. In 1902 Mr. Nelson came to the United States, soon finding work on the Great Northern Railroad, being employed prior to coming to Grand Island, in bridge building at Clancy, Montana. After reaching this city in 1906 he went to work for

Geer and Harrison where he remained one and a half years, then worked one year for Kruse Brothers, following this employment he began a contracting business of his own. In 1913 he organized the Nelson Lumber & Supply Company, which deals in lumber, coal and planing mill products. Their trade territory covers the state of Nebraska.

Mr. Nelson married in Denmark Miss Eliza Anderson, also a native of that country. They have three children, Lars, Sarah, and Norman. Mr. Nelson and his family belong to the Lutheran church. He votes with the Democratic party and is a member of the school board. Fraternally his associations are with the Danish Brotherhood and the M. B. A.

JOHN H. TRENT, vice president of the Nelson Lumber & Supply Company of Grand Island, has been a resident of Nebraska since he was eighteen years old, his parents being among the pioneers of 1882 in Hall County. The Trent name has been an honorable and respected one in this section ever since, although its founders here have passed away.

John H. Trent was born in Menard County, Illinois, February 24, 1864. His parents were Williamson and Lydia A. (Jones) Trent, both of whom were born in Menard County, where the father was a substantial farmer for many years. Mr. Trent and his father were both born in the town of Old Salem, the home of Abraham Lincoln, the father was a personal friend and associate of Mr. Lincoln in early days. The west called Williamson Trent, however, and in 1882 he came to Hall County, Nebraska, and here the rest of his life was spent. In addition to farming he worked at bricklaying. He was a Democrat in politics. Both he and wife belonged to the Methodist Episcopal church. A family of six children were born to Williamson and Lydia Trent. Of this family four are living: Alice, the wife of O. H. Ereyly, a retired farmer living at Hershey, Nebraska; John H., a representative business man of Grand Island; Clarence, who carries on a confectionery business at Hershey, Nebraska; and Ned, who conducts the New York Shining Parlor at Wichita Falls, Texas.

John H. Trent attended the public schools in Illinois and after coming to Nebraska spent one year in the high school at Doniphan. His earlier years were passed on a farm. After this he learned the blacksmith trade following which he came to Grand Island in 1895. He continued to work at this occupation until 1913, a period of twenty years. In that year he became interested in the organization of the Nel-

son Lumber and Supply Company, becoming vice president of the concern, which has proved a very successful business enterprise. It has grown to large proportions under able management, having formerly had lumber interests at Phillips and at present owns a concern at Cairo. Mr. Trent began life on his own account with but little capital, but has made steady progress and now owns, in addition to the interests above indicated, five quarter-sections of land in western Nebraska, valuable tracts in Colorado, and lands in Hall County.

Mr. Trent married, in 1887, Miss Laura Fairbank, who was born in Pennsylvania. They have no children. Politically he has always been affiliated with the Democratic party.

WILLIAM JOHNSON, well known and highly respected in Hall County, has lived within its confines since 1887. He is an expert blacksmith having worked continuously at his trade in Grand Island. By his industry he has not only set a commendable example, but also he has accumulated a comfortable fortune.

William Johnson was born in Denmark, January 23, 1860. His parents were Hans and Kittie Johnson, who passed their lives in Denmark. They were members of the Lutheran church. Of their five children, William was the only one to come to the United States. He attended school in his native land but as his father earned only the wages of a general laborer he had few advantages and from early boyhood cherished the hope of sometime coming to America. His opportunity came in 1881. When he reached the United States, he settled at Lansing, Michigan, where he found work in a blacksmith shop. Following this occupation he enlisted in the United States army following the vocation of a soldier for the next five years during the Indian troubles in Montana, California and old Mexico.

When released from the army, in 1887, Mr. Johnson came to Grand Island, to work as a blacksmith for C. E. Lykke, with whom he remained for eighteen years and then became associated with John H. Trent. Later he purchased a half interest in the business that he had assisted to establish.

Mr. Johnson married in 1886, Miss Katie Benson, who was born in Tennessee and died at Grand Island, June 5, 1915. Five children were born to them as follows: Robert, employed in a printing office at Kansas City; Lloyd, with the American army in France, having served as a blacksmith in an engineer corps for the past eighteen months; Archer, a machinist; Marie, the wife of James Byard,

an aviator connected with the Great Lakes training station, and Hazel, who resides with her father. Mr. Johnson and his family are members of the Roman Catholic church. There are many reasons why Mr. Johnson should take a deep interest in public affairs, and during the years of strife now happily ended, he was active in helpful ways wherever he found opportunity. In politics he is a Democrat.

LUDWIG ALBERT ZUEHLKE, the efficient and enterprising manager of the Hord Grain and Coal Company of Grand Island, has had a considerable amount of experience in other business lines, where he demonstrated his capacity to handle large interests. He was born in Germany, September 26, 1874.

The parents of Mr. Zuehlke were Ludwig and Augusta (Henkle) Zuehlke, natives of Germany who emigrated to the United States, reaching Hall County, May 10, 1883. The father bought land from the railroad company on which the family resided for a number of years before the father retired from active life and moved to Grand Island. Here both father and mother died. Of their twelve children eleven are living, two of whom are in South Dakota, the other nine being distributed in Hall, Merrick and Holt counties, Nebraska. The parents were members of the Lutheran church.

Ludwig Albert Zuehlke was reared on his father's farm and attended school in a little white building situated seven miles north of Grand Island. For eight years after finishing his education he followed farming in Howard County, then homesteaded in the Rosebud reservation, in Boyd County, being one of the first white settlers to venture into that section at a time when Indians were to be seen every day. Three years later after selling his homestead he came to Grand Island, locating here in 1906, after which for some years he was engaged in a grocery business. He then took charge of the Hord Grain & Coal Company, of which he has since been manager.

Mr. Zuehlke married, October 1, 1892, Miss Johanna Barth, who was born in Merrick County, Nebraska. Her parents came to Nebraska in 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Zuehlke have four children: Martha, Minnie, Harry and Arthur, all of whom live at home. The entire family belongs to the Trinity Lutheran church, situated on East Second street, Grand Island. Mr. Zuehlke is considered a valuable citizen, one who is strong in his support of law and order and liberal in benevolent movements.

He has never been ambitious; for political honors but is loyal in his support of his Republican friends.

HENRY HARRY, well and familiarly known as Colonel Harry, is a virile and progressive young man who has proved himself strong and resourceful in facing the responsibilities and problems that he has encountered in the developing of a well-established reputation as one of the reliable and popular business men of Hall County. He has been in the most significant sense the artificer of his own success. His advancement has been won through earnest and well ordered endeavors, the while he has at all times commanded inviolable place in popular confidence and good will. Colonel Harry is one of the versatile, successful and popular exponents of the vocation of auctioneer, and in this field his able services are much in demand throughout this section of the state. His residence and business headquarters are maintained in Grand Island.

Henry Harry was born in the fine old province of Westphalia, Germany; the date of his nativity was August 18, 1880. He is a son of Henry and Caroline (Kurling) Harry, who were born and reared in that same province but emigrated to the United States in 1884. The death of Mrs. Harry occurred within that year. She was born in 1856. Henry Harry, Sr., who now resides near Chapman, Merrick County, has been actively engaged in farm enterprises since 1900. He is one of the substantial and valued citizens of that locality. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and his religious faith is that of the Lutheran church, of which his wife likewise was a devout communicant. Of their two children Henry, Jr., of this review, is the elder, and the younger, Fred, in engaged in farming, at Chapman.

Henry Harry, Jr., was about four years old when his parents came from Germany to America and established their home in Howard County, Nebraska. The father later removed to Merrick County, where he now resides. In the public school of St. Libory, Howard County, Henry Harry, Jr., acquired his early educational discipline, being reared to the sturdy service involved in farm life. Thus it naturally came about that his initial activities of independent order were those of a farm worker, in which connection he found employment by the month, after having run away from home for the purpose of thus proving his self-reliance and independent spirit.

Finally he was enabled to engage in a farm enterprise for himself. Energy and good judgment brought him success during the period of years that he was farming an entire section of land, in Hamilton County.

Reverting to the circumstances of the childhood of Colonel Harry, it is to be noted that his parents were in such limited financial condition that when they set forth for the United States they had not sufficient money to justify them in bringing their two little sons, who were cared for by a friend of the family until the father could make provision for their coming two or three years later. When about eighteen years of age Colonel Harry found employment on the farm of a German in Hamilton County. His employer was more given to indulgence in ardent spirits than to fair and reasonable treatment of his employes, and thus it came about that after working three days, at a wage of fifty cents a day, young Harry was discharged. With his little sum of three dollars, earned by hard work, he set forth to find another job. At Aurora he rented a room for twenty-five cents and paid an equal amount for his breakfast. To conserve his little sum of money, he went without dinner and supper that day. He went in turn to every farmer who hitched his team in the village and asked for work. Finally one man informed the youth that he had a brother who needed a man, and though Harry was only a boy he found employment with this brother, with whom he remained as long as the latter required a man for such farm service. For a year thereafter he was employed by a farmer named Schuster, and from his wages for that year he spent only seven and one-half dollars—the greater part for shoes and overalls and the remainder in the remarkable profligacy implied in his paying fifty cents for admittance to the Ringling Brothers circus, with five cents for the redoubtable circus lemonade and five cents for sausage,—which constituted his dinner on that momentous occasion. With his savings Mr. Harry purchased a corn sheller, but in its operation he met with negative financial success. Finally he went to Giltner, Hamilton County, where he engaged in the livery business, besides opening a dance hall in his livery barn. Through this dual enterprise he made several hundred dollars, and with this capital he rented 640 acres of land. In his vigorous activities as an agriculturist and stock-grower on this land he was successful, and while he was thus engaged he conducted his first sale in the capacity of auctioneer. So successful was he in this sale that there came insistent demand for his services as an auction-



Mrs Henry Harry

eer, and eventually he found it expedient to adopt auctioneering as his vocation. He has become one of the best known and most successful auctioneers in this part of the state and his genial personality, coupled with his fair and honorable methods, have not only gained to him a wide circle of friends but have insured also to his splendid success in his chosen field of service. Of the scope and importance of his "professional" business an idea is conveyed when it is stated that in the winter of 1917-1918 Colonel Harry conducted two hundred and thirty-eight auction sales, from which he received in individual fees as high as two hundred and thirty dollars. His reputation as an auctioneer has far transcended mere local limitations, which is shown by the fact that he has been called upon to conduct sales not only in diverse sections of Nebraska, but also in Wyoming, Montana, Colorado, and at St. Joseph, Missouri. Within the period of independent career Colonel Harry has owned a number of good farm properties in Nebraska. In Hall County he now owns a well improved and valuable landed estate of three hundred and sixty acres, for which he paid \$14,000. He began life without money or influential friends, but by his own energy, initiative and well ordered endeavors he has achieved large and worthy success, together with unqualified popular esteem.

That a man who has thus marked the passing years with successful personal activities should also have full appreciation of civic duties and responsibilities, is a foregone conclusion. Thus Colonel Harry is always ready to lend his cooperation in the furtherance of measures projected for the general good of the community, and he has also been especially loyal and liberal in the support of the various patriotic war agencies that have marked the nation's participation in the great world war. He has had no desire for political activity or public office, but gives staunch allegiance to the Democratic party. In a fraternal way he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Travelers' Protective Association. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran church. As an auctioneer Colonel Harry is retained continuously as salesman for the Grand Island Horse & Mule Company, at an annual salary of \$5,000. From his general services as an auctioneer he also receives substantial returns. The Colonel is a worker, a thinker and a successful business man, and his many friends fully realize that he is accounting well for himself and to the world in all of the relations of life.

The 17th of October, 1906, recorded the marriage of Colonel Harry to Miss Bertha Stratmann, who was born and reared at Grand Island, her father, Frederick Stratmann, having been for a number of years engaged in farm enterprise in Hall County and having thereafter established himself in the agricultural-implement business in Grand Island. Colonel and Mrs. Harry have two winsome daughters, Dorothy and Virginia, both of whom are now attending the public schools of Grand Island.

WILLIAM F. KREHMKE, a representative citizen of Hall County, and a substantial business man of Grand Island, has been in the meat business here for almost twenty years. He is held in high regard in business, and enjoys equal confidence in political circles.

William F. Krehmke was born at Grand Island, Nebraska, September 28, 1881. His parents were William and Caroline (Krehmke) Krehmke, both of whom are deceased. They came to the United States from Holstein, Germany, in 1869, being pioneer settlers at Grand Island, where the father engaged in a manufacturing business. He became a citizen and identified himself with the Republican party. There were five children in the Krehmke family all of whom were sent to school and reared in the faith of the Lutheran church. Of these William was the fourth in order of birth, the others were: Christ, a railroad man at Grand Island; Freda, the wife of Henry Horstman, a painter at Grand Island; August, living in Sparta, Nevada, has a large transfer business; and Minnie, the wife of John Rathman, a farmer in Kimball County, Nebraska.

William F. Krehmke attended the Grand Island public schools and afterward worked on a farm in Hall County for seven years, and for two years rode range in Kansas. He then returned to Grand Island to embark in his present business, his first shop being located on Second Street. In 1906 he sold that shop and in 1912 he moved to the commodious quarters he now occupies on North Pine street where he carries a heavy stock; making a specialty of fine meats.

Mr. Krehmke married, October 4, 1911, in Grand Island, Miss Emma Conow, who was born in this city. They have two children; a six year old daughter, Evelyn, and a son, William Lyle, who is about one year old. Mr. and Mrs. Krehmke are members of the English Lutheran church. He is identified with both Masonic and Odd Fellow fraternities

having held the office of vice-grand in the latter. He has long been very active in Republican political circles; serving for some years as a member of the city council, first by appointment and later by election. Personally he is very popular, a fact Hall County demonstrated when he was the Republican candidate for the state senate, in 1916, by giving him a remarkable vote. The district is normally Democratic but he carried his county by over one thousand votes being defeated by only three hundred votes. He is of genial temperament, is social in his instincts, and is one of the hearty supporters of the old German athletic societies of the city.

WILLIAM McLELLAN, who has spent many busy years in Hall County, now lives retired in Grand Island, where he is highly esteemed. He owns a large amount of property in the county. It is his privilege to direct the development and improvement of 1,560 acres of fine land. Mr. McLellan is a member of the board of directors of the Commercial State Bank.

William McLellan was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, January 4, 1860, a son of James and Helen (Kelly) McLellan, who were born, reared and married in Scotland. In 1866 James McLellan came to the United States locating in Illinois but early in the following year returned to Scotland to live there until 1869, when he came back to Illinois where he was occupied as a farmer and miner. In 1870 he was joined by his wife and six children. The mother died in Logan County, Illinois, while the father passed away in Krebs, Oklahoma. They had nine children of whom the following survive: Agnes, the wife of Wilfred Fulk, a retired farmer living in Lincoln, Illinois; William, who lives retired in Grand Island, Nebraska; Peter, living on a farm in Illinois; John, a resident of Hall County; and James, a farmer in Illinois. The parents of the family were members of the Presbyterian church.

William McLellan attended school in Scotland and later in Logan County, Illinois. Prior to coming to Nebraska he worked by the month on a farm but after reaching Hall County in September, 1883, entered the employ of William Gilchrist, being employed on his farm through that fall and the following winter, when he rented a tract of land from Mr. Gilchrist which he operated for five years, when he bought an eighty acre farm of his own. After that, Mr. McLellan devoted himself industriously to farming and stock raising, and as his methods met with success he gradually

acquired additional land until in the course of years he has become a large landed proprietor. This has not come about without persistent industry and the exercise of business acumen of a high order. Others might not do so well in the space of thirty-six years, but Mr. McLellan has proved that it can be done, having honestly advanced from the status of a poor farm laborer, to that of an affluent citizen whose name is an asset to any financial institution with which he may be associated.

Mr. McLellan married in February, 1885, Miss Alice Juhnke, a native of Tennessee, a daughter of Carl Juhnke, who was born in Germany. He settled in Hall County in 1873 and died here. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. McLellan, of whom the following are living: James, resides on a farm two miles west of Grand Island; Rebecca, the wife of Henry Thomas, a farmer west of Grand Island; Albert, who resides on the home farm, married Mary Kelly; Ada, the wife of Walter Layman, a farmer near Alliance, Nebraska; William, with the American Expeditionary Force in France; and Jennette, a student in the Grand Island high school. Mrs. McLellan died March 9, 1904. In politics Mr. McLellan is a Republican. He belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and has taken the advanced degrees in Masonry and is a Shriner.

THOMAS H. FRITTS.—Long before the world had any conception of the mighty uses to which electricity might sometime be applied, there were scientific investigators who gave close study to everything pertaining to this force as then known, and thereby made the discoveries that have been so revolutionary in almost every line of activity. It was about a quarter of a century ago that Thomas H. Fritts, well known in Grand Island, became interested in the electrical business, which interest has continued to the present day. He is vice-president of the Central Power Company of Grand Island. Thomas H. Fritts was born in Lyons, Burt County, Nebraska, November 3, 1872, a son of Gideon and Martha A. (Cockrell) Fritts. They were born and married in Ohio, moving from there to Burt County, Nebraska, in the early sixties. The father acquired land on which he lived until his death in 1912, which occurred at the age of eighty-four years. The mother still lives on the old home place. Of their seven children the following survive: William J., who lives on the old homestead in Burt County; Mary, the wife of F. O. Eckleen, a retired citizen of

Lyons; Sylvia, the wife of E. B. Senter of Omaha; Thomas H., who has lived in Grand Island for the past thirteen years; and Arcelia, who lives with her mother in Burt County. Gideon Fritts was one of the founders of the Presbyterian church in Burt County and the first organized meeting was held in his house. He gave liberally for church purposes and was one of the largest donors to the church which yet stands on East Main street, Lyons. In his political convictions he was a Democrat. Before coming to Nebraska as a permanent resident, he had been a soldier in the Civil War and as long as he lived was a rigid supporter of temperance, law and order.

Mr. Fritts had common school advantages and then went to work as an apprentice in the electrical business in South Omaha continuing in that line for several years, afterward becoming manager of the South Omaha Electric Light and Power Company. Following this an interval of two years passed when he was otherwise engaged but he returned to the electrical business and for five years had charge of a plant at Wayne, Nebraska. In June, 1906, he came to Grand Island and became manager and vice-president of the Central Power Company, in which he is financially interested. His time is largely taken up with the duties of this position as he has charge of all the company property in seventeen towns in Nebraska, which are supplied electrical power by this concern.

Mr. Fritts married in March, 1891, Miss Josephine Higley, who was born at Decatur, Nebraska, a daughter of Lewis D. Higley, who settled in the early eighties, in Burt County. Mr. and Mrs. Fritts have two children: Victor, connected with the Western Electric Company, Chicago, and Bernadine, the wife of Robert F. Pfeiffer, who is manager of the Central Power Company's plant at Kearney, Nebraska. Mr. Fritts is an earnest and public-spirited citizen but is not unduly active in politics. He is an independent voter. He is identified with Lodge No. 604 Elks in Grand Island.

JOHN KNICKREHM, a substantial and respected citizen of Grand Island, came here with his family about thirty-two years ago. Through industry he rapidly advanced his fortunes, and for the last twenty-one years he has been at the head of a business of his own.

John Knickrehm was born in Holstein, Germany, one of a family of six children born to his parents, John and Anna Knickrehm, who passed their lives in the old country. The

boy was reared on a farm but desiring greater opportunities came to the United States, the only member of his family to emigrate from the native land, soon after reaching America located at Grand Island, in 1887. At first he accepted any work that he could secure to obtain money, shoveling many a load of coal. Later he worked in a lumber yard and then found employment in a grocery store, in which he was engaged continuously until 1898. In that year he embarked in the grocery business for himself, starting in the building he has occupied to the present time, on the north side of the city, where he has built up a substantial patronage.

Mr. Knickrehm married, in Germany, in 1884, Miss Christiana Dohrn. They have two sons, John and Carl, both of whom are with their father in the store. Mr. Knickrehm and family belong to the Lutheran church. He has always taken a good citizen's interest in the welfare of Grand Island and twice has served as a member of the city council, during both terms earnestly supporting useful civic measures. He is independent in his political views.

CHARLES T. McELROY, a representative business man of Grand Island, and a prominent, useful and loyal citizen, was born at Middlesex, Vermont, April 30, 1873, but became a resident of Nebraska when only two years of age, being the only child of Frederick A. and Jenette (Thornton) McElroy, both of whom are deceased. They were natives of Vermont and from there removed to Omaha, in 1875, and from there to Richland, living in the latter place during the grasshopper visitation. In 1876 the family came to Grand Island. While living in Richland, the father of Mr. McElroy was a railroad section foreman. After coming to this city he was made a car inspector, being in the employ of the Union Pacific Company for thirty-two years. The paternal grandfather of Mr. McElroy was William McElroy, whose ancestors came from Scotland. The maternal grandfather, Charles Thornton, who was born at Moretown, Washington County, Vermont, was a direct descendant of Matthew Thornton, one of the signers of the immortal Declaration of Independence.

To the excellent public schools of Grand Island, Charles T. McElroy is indebted for his sound educational training. After his school days were over he accepted a position as clerk in a dry goods house and thus became self supporting. Later he became associated

with the Yellow Front shoe store, where he served as a clerk for twenty-one years, then acquired an interest in the business. This interest he sold in 1911 to enter a different line, becoming a member of the firm of Winger & McElroy, in the culvert and sheet metal business. When this concern was organized as a stock company, in 1914, the present name of the Grand Island Culvert & Metal Works was adopted. This has become one of Grand Island's important business enterprises, being amply financed and ably managed.

Mr. McElroy married, in July, 1901, Miss Bertha T. Guiou, a daughter of William Alfred Guiou, who came to Grand Island in 1891 and engaged in the lumber business. Mr. and Mrs. McElroy have four children: Tom, Frances, Robert and Elizabeth, all of whom live at home. The family belongs to the Episcopal church and both Mr. and Mrs. McElroy have been very active, particularly in all that pertains to the church music, Mr. McElroy being a member of the first vested choir.

Mr. McElroy is a member of the Spanish-American War, and has heartily and conscientiously entered into the various patriotic movements that the World War brought to the watchful attention of loyal Americans. He has military rank as a first lieutenant in the Home Guards, has served on the Liberty Loan committees, and is a member of the State Council of Defense. His political views make him a zealous Republican and for a number of years he has been actively interested in local political questions and has been committeeman of his ward. He is a member of the fraternal order of Elks, while in Masonry he has been advanced to high position, being a Knight Templar and a Shriner, past high priest and past eminent commander.

HENRY W. LOCKE, one of the younger business men of Grand Island, devotes himself closely to his rapidly growing photographic business, which he has maintained since 1915. He has shown himself enterprising, industrious and reliable, and has many personal as well as business friends in this city.

Henry W. Locke was born in Prussia, August 1, 1890, a son of William and Anna (Pfautsch) Locke, natives of Prussia, the latter of whom died in 1902. Mr. Locke has a younger brother, Otto Locke, who served in the German army during the World War. The father of Mr. Locke carries on an extensive plumbing business in Prussia, giving employ-

ment to twenty-five men. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

After his period of school attendance was over in the elementary and high schools, Henry W. Locke entered the college from which he subsequently was graduated, after which he served four years in the navy and was then in the merchant marine service. This led to his attending a school of navigation and the securing of his license as an officer in the merchant marine. In 1911 he came to the United States landing at New York, in which city he remained for a time before coming to Nebraska. In 1915 he opened his photographic studio in Grand Island, and the artistic excellence of his work has made a favorable impression, bringing merited prosperity.

In 1915 Mr. Locke married Miss Marie Lohmann, who was born at Grand Island, Nebraska, a daughter of Fred Lohmann, who is associated with Herman Hehnke in the hardware business in this city. Mr. and Mrs. Locke have two children: Frederick and Herbert. The family attends the Lutheran church. Mr. Locke is a Knight Templar, a member of the Elks, a Thirty-second degree Mason, and a Shriner. He gives his political support to the Democratic party.

MATTHEUS RAUERT.—An unusually interesting story might be made, if details were known, of the life of Mattheus Rauert, who is one of the wealthy retired citizens of Grand Island, for it would tell of the steps by which a poor boy, early left fatherless in a strange land, made his way from the humblest circumstances to real affluence. Mr. Rauert is known and respected all over Hall County, where he has spent the greater part of his life.

Mattheus Rauert, like his parents, was born in Holstein, then a part of Denmark, November 2, 1853. Their names were Jack and Anna (Madiensen) Rauert, and four others of their children are living: Nicholas, who lives at Grand Island; James, who also lives retired at Grand Island; Jack, a citizen of Idaho; and George, who resides in Praire Creek township, Hall County. In Denmark the father followed the business of fitting straw roofs on houses, but when he came to the United States with his family, in 1866, and immediately to Hall County, it was with the intention of becoming a farmer. He was taken ill, however, and died that year, leaving his family without any resources except what mother and children could provide for themselves. It was a hard situation to face, but

the mother was a woman of resourcefulness and great strength of character, and she had trained her children to be thrifty as well as industrious.

Mattheus Rauert had limited educational advantages in his native land and later some schooling in Hall County but settlers were few in the early years and opportunities for and kind of social life were meager. The boy played with Indian children and grew to understand their language and ways. Mattheus was engaged in the retail meat business at Grand Island for four years but realized the opportunities offered by agricultural pursuits and bought a farm. He has always been a good business man and from the first was successful in his agricultural operations, which was ably demonstrated by the fact that before he retired he had become the owner of 720 acres of finely improved land, together with his handsome residence in Grand Island, in which he now lives.

December 3, 1878, Mattheus Rauert was united in marriage to Miss Elsie Sieck, who was born in Germany, October 6, 1853, whose parents were natives of Germany. To Mr. and Mrs. Rauert four children have been born: Charles, who, with his brothers, August and Richard L., carry on farming on the old home place, and Minnie, who is the wife of Fred Moller. Mr. Rauert has witnessed the great changes that have come in farm life, machinery taking the place of the horse and ox teams of the early days.

CHARLES J. PALMER, who is an enterprising and prosperous business man of Grand Island, and an active and reputable citizen, was born in this city, July 10, 1882. He is the son of Hiram J. Palmer, a sketch of whom will be found in this work.

Charles J. Palmer attended the public schools of Grand Island and later had further educational advantages in the Baptist College. He has always been industrious, starting into business in boyhood and pursuing different lines as opportunity offered in his home surroundings. He then went to Oklahoma, where he remained for a number of years. During that period he was interested in raising thoroughbred Poland China hogs. In 1905 he returned to Grand Island to become manager of an independent telephone company. He established the Palmer Delivery Company and since February, 1916, he has done a heavy ice business, probably having the largest trade in this necessary commodity in Grand Island.

Mr. Palmer married, July 15, 1904, Miss Olga F. Stolley, who is a daughter of William Stolley, a very early settler in Hall County. Mr. and Mrs. Palmer have three children: Lillian, Grace, and Richard Hiram, both daughters being in school. Mr. Palmer has always subscribed to the principles of the Republican party. He is a member of several fraternal organizations, belonging to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 604, Grand Island, and the Loyal Order of Moose.

CHARLES I. McALLISTER, active in business circles at Grand Island, belongs to an old and prominent pioneer family. He was born in Grand Island, July 23, 1882, a son of Robert Henry and Mary (Frasier) McAllister, and a grandson of William McAllister, who was one of the earliest settlers in Merrick County. It is a part of local history that William McAllister was instrumental in establishing old Fort Sour Kraut, which was a haven to which the pioneers hurried when there was danger from the Indians. Late in life he removed to Grand Island and died there.

Robert Henry McAllister, father of Charles I., was born in Iowa, being a young child when his parents brought him to Nebraska. He was reared on his father's pioneer farm in Merrick County, from which he came to Hall County and settled in Grand Island where he engaged in building and contracting, erecting many of the first structures in this city. Later he was in the well digging and pump business. In 1883 he established the hardware business which has been carried on by the family up to the present time. He was not only an enterprising business man but was also active in civic affairs, and was a member of the city council for nine years. In politics he was a Republican; in religion an Episcopalian, and fraternally he belonged to the Masons, the Odd Fellows and the A. O. U. W. His death occurred in Grand Island in July, 1917. He married in this city Mary Frasier, who was born in Indiana. They had four children: Robert, in the hardware business in Grand Island; Charles I., in the hardware business here; Wray, the wife of J. F. Egan, a traveling salesman for Swift & Company, and Mable, the wife of Walter Knically, who is in the real estate business at Hastings, Nebraska.

Charles I. McAllister obtained his educational training in the Grand Island schools. Afterward he entered his father's hardware

store, being trained there along commercial lines, continuing until he enlisted for service in the World War, to receive his military training at Camp Pike, Arkansas. He was honorably discharged December 14, 1918. With his mother and brother Robert, he owns the hardware business established by his father. In politics he is a Republican, and fraternally belongs to the local lodge of Elks.

ROBERT N. McALLISTER, part proprietor of the leading hardware store at Grand Island, and president of the Hardware Association of the State of Nebraska, is one of Grand Island's active and influential business men. He has been identified with this line of endeavor since early boyhood and his election to the office of head of the representative body in the state, indicates the esteem in which he is held by his associates.

Robert N. McAllister was born in Grand Island, Nebraska, July 9, 1881, a son of Robert H. and Mary (Frasier) McAllister. His father was born in Iowa and his mother in Indiana. Robert H. McAllister was brought to Nebraska in childhood by his father, William McAllister, who was among the first pioneers in Merrick County, securing a homestead there when many Indians yet remained in that section. Robert H. McAllister became a man of prominence and capital in Grand Island, where he resided for many years, passing away in July, 1917. Of his four children, Robert N. was the first born.

Mr. McAllister obtained his education in the public schools and began to assist his father in the hardware store in boyhood, his father encouraging him in thrifty habits by paying a slight wage. Robert invested his savings in a building and loan association. In 1904 he became his father's partner and since the latter's death, the business has become the joint property of Robert N. and Charles I. McAllister and their mother. It is one of the largest hardware houses in Hall County.

On May 17, 1916, Mr. McAllister married Miss Rhoda D. Campbell, who was born in Pennsylvania. Mrs. McAllister belongs to the noble sisterhood of trained nurses and recently, during the influenza epidemic, rendered invaluable professional service in Grand Island. As a captain of Company M, Fifth Nebraska National Guards, Mr. McAllister served on the Mexican border from July 14, 1916, to February, 1917. He is a Royal Arch Mason, an Odd Fellow and has represented his lodge at the Grand Lodge, and an Elk.

He is a Republican in politics and has always taken an active interest in home affairs, at one time accepting the position of chief of the fire department. He has represented the hardware state body in conventions in four states, Arkansas, Florida, Iowa and Colorado.

HARRY A. CAREY, a progressive and substantial business man of Grand Island and an expert in watch and jewelry repairing, came to this city in 1903 and since that time has been identified with this trade, having become the senior partner in the well known firm of Carey & Nietfield. They have a large, well stocked jewelry store, an efficient repair department and their judgment is relied on when jewelry values are under consideration.

Harry A. Carey was born at Walnut, Pottawattamie County, Iowa, in 1882. His parents are W. A. and Rose (Woods) Carey, who reside at Walnut, his father being a retired farmer. Of their three children, Harry A. is the oldest, the others being: Pearl, the wife of Victor Kreitz, of Des Moines, Iowa; and Gladys, the wife of Otto Hennings, a farmer in Pottawattamie County, Iowa.

Mr. Carey had public school advantages, being graduated from the Walnut High School in 1899. He was permitted to choose his own vocation and as he had a natural leaning toward mechanics, he decided to learn watch-making and for that purpose entered a watch factory at Peoria, Illinois. From there he came to Grand Island in 1903 and for the nine succeeding years worked for the well known jeweler, Max Egge. In 1912 Mr. Carey formed a business partnership with W. D. Nietfield, an association which has been continued along expanding lines ever since, under the firm style of Carey & Nietfield.

Mr. Carey married in 1903, Miss Edith Broughton, who was born at Walnut, Iowa. They have two daughters, Martha Janette and Mary Jane. In politics Mr. Carey is a Republican and is always prepared to defend his convictions but has never been active in public matters. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and also is a member of the Elks.

JOHN SASS, who worthily bears an old Hall County name, has spent almost his entire life here, although he was born in Wyoming, May 10, 1871. He was the second child in a family of nine, his parents being Detlef and Eliza (Kuhl) Sass, natives of Germany. The mother of Mr. Sass still survives, residing today on the old family homestead

in Hall County. The father, a sturdy pioneer, came to Nebraska in early manhood, being one of the first nine men to settle in Hall County. He was married here and then removed to Wyoming, where the following five years were spent. On his return to Hall County he took up a homestead two miles southwest of Grand Island. He remained on that place for a number of years, devoting himself to its improvement. His death occurred in Oregon. During life he voted with the Democratic party, and with his wife belonged to the Lutheran church.

John Sass attended the Grand Island schools, and having an inclination toward commercial life, attended a business college for two terms. For a number of years, however, he devoted himself to agricultural pursuits, living on the farm. In the meanwhile he was wide awake to business opportunity and later accepted the management of the Third City Bottling Works which he has conducted with marked success to the present time. He has also had much to do with the rapid growth of the automobile industry in Hall County, and for some time has been very successful in handling, as agent, the Chevrolet cars. This encouraging prosperity has led to a recent business undertaking by which he has become district agent for twenty counties for the incomparable Allis-Chalmers Tractor, with the expectation of vigorously carrying on his activities in the near future.

Mr. Sass married in June, 1916, Miss Minnie Schirkofsky, who was born in Germany, a daughter of William Schirkofsky, who now lives in Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. Sass have no children. He is prominent in the councils of the Democratic party in Hall County and in 1915 was elected supervisor and was re-elected in 1917, an office he still efficiently fills. He belongs to the Sons of Herman, to the Liederkrantz and the Low Dutch Society.

KRANK O. KUNZE.—In Frank Kunze, proprietor of a fine hardware business in Grand Island, is found a self-made man, one who has built up his fortunes through his own unassisted efforts, which, as many men will testify, is not an easy thing to accomplish. It requires courage, industry and often the closest economy to get even an appreciable start in life, and those who do succeed should be given much credit when compared with those who have advanced under easier circumstances. Mr. Kunze has always been a busy man and has been connected with several

lines but since 1914 has devoted himself exclusively to the hardware trade.

Frank Kunze was born in Saxony, Germany, May 29th, 1874. His parents were Julius and Caroline (Esche) Kunze, also natives of Germany, who spent their lives in their native land. They reared seven children of whom Frank and Reinhardt were the only ones to come to the United States. The latter is a substantial farmer in Hall County. The brothers were ambitious, attended school and worked on their father's farm in Germany. In 1894 Frank Kunze came alone to the United States immediately locating in Grand Island. For the first two years following he worked at such odd jobs as he could find and afterward was employed for three years on a farm. Subsequently he was engaged by Fred Roth as a barkeeper remaining with him four years before he embarked in the saloon business for himself, remaining in the retail liquor business in this city for the next nine years. In 1911 Mr. Kunze purchased the hardware store of Rudolph Pistorius and immediately began to add to his stock, open up new lines of trade, a policy he has continued and now has the satisfaction of knowing that in five years he has increased the volume of his business fully 200 per cent.

Mr. Kunze married, in 1904, Miss Louisa Engel, who was born in South Dakota, a daughter of August Engel, who came to Hall County in the early days, driving an ox team. He worked at the carpenter trade in Grand Island for some years and then went to South Dakota prospecting for gold and while there Mrs. Kunze was born. Later he returned to Grand Island and now lives with Mr. and Mrs. Kunze, who have two children: Clayton, who is eight years old, and Hazel, aged six years.

Mr. Kunze is a sound Republican but has never been willing to accept a public office other than in a fraternal organization, serving eight years as secretary of the Sons of Herman, and at different times has held the office of president of the Liederkrantz Society. He is a member and liberal supporter of the Lutheran church.

LOUIS E. UPPERMAN, an enterprising business man and dependable citizen of Grand Island, has been a resident of Hall County for many years, ably assisting in the development of prominent enterprises here, one of these being the implement business in which he was associated with George A. Leiser.

Louis E. Upperman was born in Miami

County, Ohio, August 26, 1856, the son of Conrad and Caroline (Baumgarten) Upperman, both of whom were born in Germany. The mother was brought to the United States by her parents in childhood, while the father came later in young manhood. After reaching America he conducted hotels at Piqua and St. Mary's, Ohio. Mr. Upperman's mother died when he was eighteen months old, in consequence he was reared by his maternal grandfather, Frederick Baumgarten. His one sister, Emma, is the wife of John Mader, a farmer in Hall County. The parents were members of the Lutheran church.

Mr. Upperman attended the district schools when he was a boy but had no unusual educational advantages. He grew up on his grandfather's farm but was ambitious and started out for himself working by the month on farms until 1880, when he came to Hall County, purchasing school land. During the seven years he lived on this farm he endured the usual hardships of that early day and perhaps it was the realization of the necessity of good water for stock that turned his attention to the well and pump business. At the end of seven years in the country Mr. Upperman removed to Grand Island, engaged in the pump business which prospered and gradually began the handling of farm implements, subsequently entering into partnership with George A. Leiser. The firm name was Upperman & Leiser; the business had expanded until they had one of the largest houses in their line in the country. They erected a commodious and convenient building, with dimensions of sixty-six by one hundred and ten feet, two stories high with full basement using the entire structure. Having acquired a comfortable competency by industry and a successful business career, Mr. Upperman retired from active participation in business in 1919.

In 1881 occurred the marriage of Louis Upperman to Miss Amy Haynes, who was born in Ohio. They have one daughter, Lillie, who resides with her parents. Mr. Upperman and family belong to the Congregational church. In politics he is a Republican, and fraternally is an Odd Fellow.

J. B. PIZER, one of the leading merchants of Grand Island, has, through resistless energy and remarkably good management, within a space of eight years built up one of the largest mercantile concerns in Hall County. Before coming to this section he had been identified with the same business interests in

other sections, having been a reputable and successful merchant for fifteen years in Hastings.

J. B. Pizer was born in Russian Poland, in 1866. His parents were Samuel and Rachel (Winlekman) Pizer, both of whom were born in the same province as their son and there the mother died. In those days the father was a man of means, having a large farm, keeping a store and lending money. Of the twelve children in the family six came to the United States, of whom four survive: Julius, who may be the wealthiest man in Lincoln County, a merchant, banker, ranch owner and stockman, living at North Platte; Simon, a merchant at Sargent, Nebraska; Peter, a business man of Detroit, Michigan; and J. B., who resides in Grand Island. Sol and Philip Pizer, older brothers, came to the United States prior to 1898, the former having served in the Russian army throughout the Russo-Japan war. He emigrated to the United States but three years later returned to Russia. At the outbreak of the World War he again entered the Russian army and the last time his American relatives heard from him, he was held a prisoner of war in Germany. They have little hope that he is still living after life in a German prison camp. When Philip Pizer came to the United States he soon located in Waxcohe, Texas, where he engaged in merchandising until his death.

J. B. Pizer was but eighteen years of age when he left Poland alone to carve a career for himself in the United States. He knew nothing of the English language but had been carefully instructed in the Hebrew schools as his people belonged to the old order of the Jewish synagogue. With the quick intelligence that marks his race, Mr. Pizer rapidly assimilated knowledge, learning to accommodate himself to American customs. He settled first at North Platte, Nebraska, where he engaged in merchandising, going from there to Arcadia, where he conducted a store for three years, moving then to Sargent, where he was in the same business for the next three years. Mr. Pizer then embarked in the mercantile business in Hastings, purchasing the Davis store already established. He made a specialty of dealing in clothing, conducting a large and satisfactory business during the next fifteen years. Later he added ladies' wear to his other lines. This store is now conducted by Mr. Pizer's son. After looking over the business field for a short time at Portland, Oregon, Mr. Pizer came back to Nebraska, buying in 1910 the M. Aven & Co. "Ready-to-Wear" store, since which time he

has enlarged his quarters and expanded his stock until he now carries an extensive line of desirable goods conforming in every way to modern accepted styles.

Mr. Pizer married, in 1890, Miss Fannie Stock, of Detroit, Michigan, who died in 1895, leaving two children: Philip, who has charge of the Hastings store, and Mildred, who lives at home. Mr. Pizer married a second time, in 1898, Miss Hattie Stricker, of Denver, Colorado. One son, Joseph, was born to this union, who is associated with his father in business, having just returned from a military school at Ann Arbor, Michigan. Mr. Pizer and his family reside in their handsome residence on Walnut street, Grand Island. They belong to the Jewish congregation. In politics he is a Republican, and fraternally is identified with the Elks, and the Modern Woodmen.

GEORGE J. BAUMANN, one of the oldest residents of Grand Island, was born and reared in this city, having been concerned in business enterprises here for many years. He has, also, served most acceptably in public office. Few men are better known in this section and none have a higher reputation for trustworthiness. Mr. Baumann is proprietor of the leading undertaking establishment at Grand Island.

George J. Baumann was born in Grand Island, Nebraska, March 24, 1873, a son of Henry and Martha (Preiss) Baumann, who came from Germany to Grand Island in 1866, being married here and reared a family of nine children: August, assistant post master of Grand Island for a number of years; George J., who lives in Grand Island; Oscar and Herman, twins, both of whom are in the drug business, the former at Lincoln and the latter in Grand Island; Nora, residing with her mother in California, is engaged in the millinery business; Anna, assistant auditor for a creamery company, lives in California; Henrietta, associated with her sister in business, also lives in California; and two children who died. The father of this family was a tailor in Grand Island who died here when his children were yet young. He was a member of the Catholic church.

The early death of his father placed heavy responsibilities on George J. Baumann in boyhood, and in order to meet these he worked industriously at various occupations, among them selling newspapers. Later he entered a photographic studio to learn the business, in which he continued for twenty-five years; subsequently he conducted a store for two

and a half years before accepting a position as commercial traveler for two years. Upon leaving the road he invested in an installment furniture house, buying the outstanding contracts, a business he conducted with marked success for three years. In 1913, in partnership with F. M. O'Malley, he engaged in the undertaking business, subsequently purchasing Mr. O'Malley's interest, and in September, 1917, formed his present partnership with F. G. Evans. They conduct an excellent undertaking business. Mr. Baumann is a registered embalmer, having attended the Des Moines School of Undertaking.

In November, 1904, occurred the marriage of Mr. Baumann and Miss Jaunita Metcalf, who was born at Laramie, Wyoming. Her father, A. J. Metcalf, is now a resident of Grand Island but formerly was engaged in the cattle industry in Wyoming. Mr. and Mrs. Baumann have four children; Alfonso, John, Mary Juanita and Henry Bruce. The two older children are attending school. Mr. Baumann and his family are members of the Catholic church. In politics he is a Democrat. He has always felt the responsibility of citizenship, responding cheerfully to public demands upon his time, having served in local offices and has been both coroner and deputy coroner of Hall County. He belongs to the Yeomen, the Royal Highlanders, the Elks and the Knights of Columbus, being financial secretary of the last named organization.

ALFRED ANDERSON, veterinarian, has been engaged in the practice of his profession at Grand Island for a decade having built up a substantial reputation in this branch of medical science. His patronage comes from all over Hall County and on many occasions he has been of the greatest service to stock and cattle raisers.

Alfred Anderson was born June 17, 1874, in Seward County, Nebraska, a son of George W. and Anna R. (Kesselring) Anderson. They were natives of Pennsylvania, born, reared and married there, but desiring a wider field in a new country came to Nebraska, reaching Seward County in 1874, where the father took up a homestead, living on original grant until his death, having been for many years in very comfortable circumstances. He was a Republican in his political views and served in such public offices as road overseer, belonged to the order of Odd Fellows and was a faithful member of the United Brethren church. The mother of Dr. Anderson now lives in Seward. They had fifteen children,

seven sons and eight daughters, Dr. Anderson being the tenth child.

Dr. Anderson attended the public school named after his father, situated in the country two and a half miles west of Seward. He spent his earlier years on the farm and then took charge of the Seward Cereal mill, operating the same for seven years. In 1907 he entered the Kansas City Veterinary College as a student, being graduated from that institution in 1909, immediately coming to Grand Island to establish himself in his chosen profession.

In 1900 Dr. Anderson was married to Miss Mary Sanders, who was born at Bee, Nebraska. In politics Dr. Anderson is a Republican, and fraternally he belongs to the Elks and the Modern Woodmen.

EDWARD FRANCIS YOUNKIN.—The wholesale produce business is an essential part of a modern commercial life. To conduct it profitably, aside from the heavy initial investment, a dealer must possess a large amount of business wisdom, including a knowledge of the fluctuating markets of the world. An extensive enterprise of this kind is carried on in Grand Island by Edward F. Younkin, who is a heavy buyer of general produce which he ships both east and west. Like many another successful business man of today, Mr. Younkin has been the unassisted builder of his own fortune.

Edward F. Younkin was born in Davis County, Iowa, December 20, 1868. His parents were Moses and Fannie (Turner) Younkin, natives of the Keystone state, who in their youth came to Iowa where they met and were married. They had twelve children; three of the six survivors live in Grand Island; Edward F., William S. and Albert T. The parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. The father belonged to the Masonic fraternity and was a Republican in politics. He died on his farm in Iowa.

The country schools of Davis County, Iowa, provided Mr. Younkin with a fair working education, and he remained on the home farm until he was twenty-one years of age, when he went to Kansas and there became interested as buyer and shipper of poultry, working in this industry for different firms for five or six years. Realizing the profits to be made in this line, about 1901 Mr. Younkin embarked in the business for himself but prior to 1903 was a transient buyer of car load lots throughout Nebraska and Kansas. When Mr. Younkin came here

in 1903, he determined to make this city his headquarters because of the excellent shipping facilities afforded. In 1904 he embarked in a general produce business as a wholesale operator. Since then he has built up an immense concern, regularly shipping car load lots to New York City and to San Francisco. As his interests expanded Mr. Younkin needed assistance and now has his two brothers associated with him in the wholesale house. They both live in Grand Island.

Mr. Younkin married in 1903, Miss Gertrude Crawford of Grand Island, a daughter of G. S. Crawford, one of the older residents of this city, who conducted a meat business here for a number of years. Mr. and Mrs. Younkin have two children: Edyth and Thoe!, both of whom attend the public schools. Mr. Younkin is a Republican in politics but has always found his business too engrossing to permit acceptance of any public responsibility beyond that carried by every loyal and public spirited citizen. He belongs to the order of Elks and to the Liederkranz, in Grand Island.

ALBERT McLELLAN.—While in point of years Albert McLellan has experienced only a short career in comparison with many others whose biographies appear in this work, his life thus far has been a successful one and the quality of his accomplishments would seem to indicate that he is in a fair way to become one of the substantial citizens of his community. At this time he is engaged in general farming on a tract of 320 acres of valuable land in Center township, and in addition has met with well-merited success as a breeder of thoroughbred Holstein cattle.

Mr. McLellan is one of the native sons of Hall County who have made good in their home community, having been born on the farm of his father, William McLellan, March 29, 1890. A review of the life of the elder man appears on another page of this work. There were six children in the family: James, who is a Hall County farmer; William, Jr., who has just returned from service in the army in France, and who is also engaged in farming in Hall County; Albert; Rebecca, Mrs. Thomas of Hall County; Ada, Mrs. Layman, of Amherst, and Jeanette, who resides with her parents.

The public schools of Hall County furnished Albert McLellan with his educational training, while that for his life work came under the guidance of his father and through experience in performing the duties of the

home farm. When he took over the management of his present 320-acre property, it was with knowledge that thoroughly fitted him for the important and difficult task that lay before him, and he has since been able to compete with other agriculturists in a manner that makes a favorable comparison justified. His farm is highly productive as to the general farming division of his activities, and has good improvements and substantial buildings. As a breeder of thoroughbred Holstein cattle he keeps an exceptionally good grade of stock, and also raises sheep. Mr. McLellan is a Republican voter and a member of the Masonic order.

On December 31, 1913, Mr. McLelland was united in marriage with May Kelley, daughter of Louis and Fanny Kelley, natives of West Virginia and early settlers and farming people of Hall County.

HARRY C. LYONS, identified with the Grand Island Hide & Fur Company of Grand Island, of which he is general manager, has been a resident of this city for over a decade and has been active in its business affairs. Mr. Lyons is an experienced man in the hide and fur trade, an industry in which he has been interested since the close of his school days.

Harry C. Lyons was born in Johnson County, Kansas, October 16, 1881, the son of John J. and Jennie (Shrieves) Lyons, both of whom were born in Illinois. They came to Kansas when young, being married in the Sunflower State. They had the following children: Leslie J., an attorney in Kansas City, Missouri; Albert H., a general merchant of Brewster, Oklahoma; Mamie, the wife of Jacob Beutlespacher, a tailor of Muskogee, Oklahoma; Jessie, the wife of Porter Spalding, county assessor of Muskogee County; Chester, in the transfer business at Oakland, California; Harry C., who resides at Grand Island; and Ruth, the wife of James Forgen, vice-president of the Railroad Trainmen's Union in California. The parents are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. The father, who is now a resident of Oklahoma in the Indian service for the government, was formerly a farmer and newspaper man, serving for two terms as county clerk of Johnson County, Kansas, being elected on the Republican ticket.

Mr. Lyons attended the public schools in Johnson County and in boyhood made himself useful as a clerk and delivery boy, but secured his first settled position when he entered a

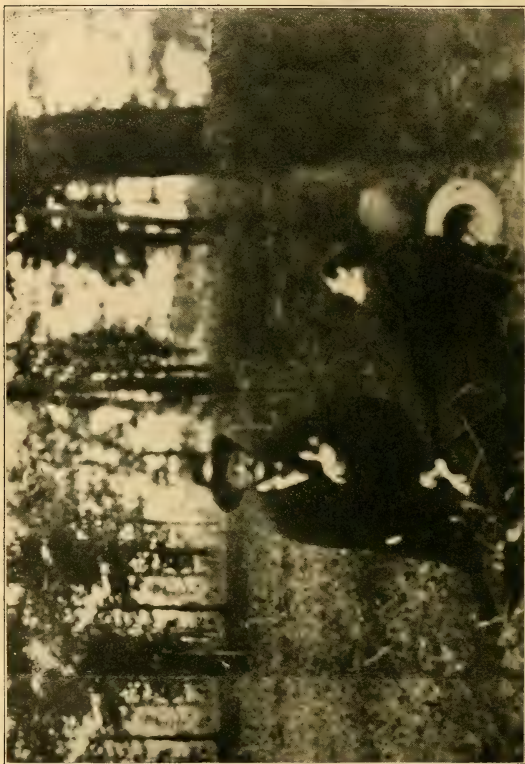
hide house at Topeka, Kansas, January 6, 1901, where he remained one year before going to Saint Joseph, Missouri, where he engaged in the hide business for five years. On September 30th, 1908, he came to Grand Island to assume the management of the James C. Smith Hide Company, becoming a member of the firm. In September, 1918, he purchased the controlling interest in the company which is now incorporated and operated under the style of the Grand Island Hide & Fur Company.

Mr. Lyons married January 1, 1906, Miss Myra Barthold, of St. Joseph, Missouri. They have three children: Bernice Jennie, Manette Calista, and Virginia Ruth. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Lyons is a Mason and a Republican.

OTTO LEO MATTKE.—The mercantile interests, particularly in the grocery line, are well taken care of in Grand Island. One of the thoroughly experienced men in this trade is Otto L. Mattke, who has devoted many years to grocery interests. Mr. Mattke is senior member of the firm of Mattke & Gorman, general grocers.

Otto Leo Mattke was born in Germany, August 5, 1875. His parents were Herman and Lena Mattke, who came to Hall County, Nebraska, in 1883. The father was a brick-mason by trade and assisted in the construction of many of the valuable buildings here, while in dull times he worked as a section hand on the railroad. He was honest and industrious and acquired a competency. His death occurred in Grand Island in 1915, at the age of sixty-eight years. He had five children: George, a machinist with the Union Pacific in Grand Island; Herman, round-house foreman for the Union Pacific in Grand Island; Otto, who lives in Grand Island; Anna, the wife of Charles Stiller, a machinist of this city, and one child who died in infancy.

Otto L. Mattke left school when but twelve years of age to earn a living; for three years being employed on farms near Archer, Nebraska. He then helped his father for two years in the latter's work on the railroad, following which he went to Cleveland, Ohio, where he worked in a machine shop during the administration of President McKinley. His parents were in Grand Island, however, and Mr. Mattke returned to Nebraska, being employed for five years as a clerk in the grocery store of Henry Reese. Subsequently he worked for C. F. Heck for the same length



Ruben P. McCutcheon on the battlefield fifty years after the battle was fought. The man lying down is Mr. McCutcheon; the man on one knee is his comrade, George Kirkpatrick.

of time but severed this connection to become associated with H. N. Glover and subsequently bought Mr. Glover's interest and has continued at the same place of business with a partner, the present name being Mattke & Gorman. They carry a large and well assorted stock of staple and fancy groceries while their prices are always satisfactory to their many customers.

Mr. Mattke married Miss Stacia Weinrich, who was born in Germany. Her people came to this country at an early day. Her father was a carpenter. Mr. and Mrs. Mattke have had four children: Margaret, employed in the Grand Island National Bank, is a very capable business woman; Harry, who died at the age of six months; Arthur, who is fourteen years old, attends school, and Edward, who is in his sixth year. Mr. Mattke and his family are members of the Catholic church. Like his father before him, Mr. Mattke votes the Republican ticket. He belongs to several well known fraternal organizations and these include the Maccabees, the Liederkrantz and the Plattsdeutschen; he is also a member of the Commercial Club and Retail Merchants' Association.

RUBEN P. McCUTCHEON — Civil altruism and national patriotism were effectively exemplified in the career of the gallant soldier of the Civil War whose name heads this sketch. Ruben P. McCutcheon was born in the state of Indiana in 1838. He grew up inured to the hardships incident to a new country such as Indiana was at that day. A young man of twenty-three years at the outbreak of the War of the Rebellion, Mr. McCutcheon, with other youths of his acquaintance responded to Abraham Lincoln's call for volunteers to preserve the integrity of the Union. Following is the personal account of the young soldier's life and experiences in the army:

"As an explanation of the annexed photograph, will go back to Evansville, Indiana, August 10, 1861, when George Kirkpatrick and myself with many others, enlisted in Company A, 42d Indiana Infantry, for three years, or during the war. We were with the Regiment in all its battles, skirmishes, etc. Our command belonged to the Army of the Cumberland. On the 19th day of September, 1863, we met the enemy under General Bragg at Chickamauga. At that time we were in the 14th Corps, with General George H. Thomas, Commander. We supported our bat-

tery all day Saturday. Seven horses were killed within fifty yards of us, and how many men, I can not say, but they were lying around in all shapes. We rested all night on our arms, and at daylight marched to the extreme right, where we met Longstreet's men. We sent out skirmishers across the Lafayette road. They were soon driven in. The fight was on in earnest. After firing into the enemy many shots, our army fell back. I saw them coming about two hundred yards away, and I thought I would give them one more shot. Just at that moment a musket ball hit me in the left hip, crashed through the bone, and there it stopped, and it is there to this day. I fell down and George Kirkpatrick ran to me to get me out of that terrible hail of bullets. He got down to cut the cartridge box off of me, when a bullet passed through both his arms, and cut the front of his shirt off.

"I then told him to run and save his life, that he would be killed if he remained, and that I was done for anyway. He left me and served to the end of the war, and was wounded five times. In fifteen minutes the enemy were passing over me. They were very kind to me, the officers giving me water from their canteens. In the afternoon the enemy lifted me into their ambulance and took me to their field hospital, where there were six hundred and thirty wounded. They very tenderly laid me on the ground. I was the only Yankee there, and I was a show for the country people. They came for miles to see a live Yankee. I lay there about two months, then was put on the cars and taken to Atlanta, Georgia, and put into a military prison with four or five hundred wounded Federals, and remained there three months, all the time on my back.

"I was exchanged February 20, 1864, at Rossville, Georgia. There were thirty of us all badly crippled. We were hungry and nearly naked. When we saw the United States flag for the first time in five of six months, there was a shout went up of joy that we had at last got to God's country again. Some of them prayed, some swore and others cried. We were now safe. I was sent home on crutches and have been a cripple ever since. Fifty years after the battle I got a letter from the comrade (I thought he was dead all this time) telling me to meet him at Chickamauga on September 20th. We met, went to the battle field, found the place where we were both wounded fifty years ago. We placed ourselves on the ground in the same position and place we were in on that terrible morning of September 20, 1863.

"The foregoing is an account of our experi-

ence in battle and duties of a private soldier, but the half can never be told. We simply did our duty as American citizens."

The picture of Mr. McCutcheon and comrade, shown here, was taken on the battlefield fifty years to a day after he was wounded there.

While still residing in his native state Mr. McCutcheon married Amanda Inglehart and to this union eight children were born, seven now living: Clara, the wife of John Kramer, lives in Oakland, California; Belle, the wife of C. W. William, resides in Hamilton County; John E. and George, both live in Grand Island, the former now holding office as sheriff of Hall County; Walter W., a farmer near Nelson, Nebraska; Oliver E., an implement dealer in Deer Park, Washington, and Frank W., a clerk in a clothing store in Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. McCutcheon were ambitious for their children and determined to seek wider fields and broader opportunities in the west. They heard of the great fertility of Nebraska, emigrating to this state in 1874. Here the young members of the family recieved the advantages afforded by the public schools during their youth while they lived at home on the homestead taken up by the father soon after his arrival in Hamilton County. Mr. McCutcheon was a man of high ideals, indomitable energy and having given loyal service as a soldier of the Union was soon enrolled as one of the pioneer exponents of farm enterprise in this section. He was a man of good judgment, keen foresight and a leading member of the Republican party in his county for many years which is demonstrated by his service on the board of county supervisors. After gaining a comfortable competency he retired from active participation in farm work enjoying his sunset years, however, on the old homestead where he passed from life in 1917, honored and respected by his associates and friends. Mr. McCutcheon's wife still resides in Hamilton County.

C. H. GOTTLIEB HEIDKAMP, one of the highly respected and substantial residents of Grand Island, has been a resident of this city since 1883. Through his industrious efforts, good judgment, frugality and common sense, he has become the owner of valuable real estate.

C. H. Gottlieb Heidkamp was born in Westphalia, Germany, January 15, 1865. His parents were William and Louise (Franke) Heidkamp, natives of Germany, where the mother died in 1912. In earlier years the

father lived on his little farm and may yet reside there with five of his seven children. C. H. G. and William, who is dead, were ambitious boys, desired a broader future than was offered in the old country and emigrated to the United States to seek their fortunes.

Mr. Heidkamp attended school in his native land before coming to the United States. He reached Grand Island July 27, 1883, and at first worked on farms in Hall County by the month. He had already worked at the blacksmith trade in Germany and in 1884 worked at the same for a short time in Minnesota but returned to farm work awhile; later resuming blacksmithing. In 1892 he started his shop in Grand Island, in partnership with Edward Krall, an association which has continued to the present time. They carried on blacksmithing and wagon repair work, having a reputation for prompt service and excellent workmanship. Considering the fact that Mr. Heidkamp started with nothing, it reflects credit on him that in competition with others he should have done so well. He owns considerable property, a part of which is a new modern apartment house.

Mr. Heidkamp married, November 15, 1889, Miss Lena Senkbeil, a native of Prussia, who died in Grand Island, October 1st, 1901. They hay four children: George F., who worked at the carpenter trade in Omaha for five years prior to entering the army training camp in Michigan; Alma, who lives at home; Ella, who is employed in a Grand Island store, and Martha, a student in the high school. The family belongs to the Lutheran church. Mr. Heidkamp casts his vote with the Republican party.

HARLEY M. WATSON, an enterprising young business man of Grand Island, has entered the modern field of industry which includes everthing pertaining to automobiles, making a specialty of tires and batteries. He was born in Hall County, Nebraska, July 31, 1888, the son of Levi O. and Elzora (Rickard) Watson. Mr. Watson's father was born in New York while his mother was a native of Illinois, where they were married. Coming to Nebraska in 1872, they passed the remainder of their days in this state. Mr. Watson died in 1904 and Mrs. Watson on March 4, 1918. Of their six children the following are living: Fred and Harley, twins, the former of whom lives on a farm and the latter in Grand Island; Hugh, a resident of Seattle, Washington; and Bertha, who is the wife of Floyd Sprague, a farmer in Merrick County, Nebraska. Levi

Watson and his wife were members of the Baptist church. When he first settled in Illinois Mr. Watson engaged in teaming in Chicago, but upon coming west to Hall County he took up a claim, remaining on his farm of eighty acres until his death. He was a Republican in his political views, and he belonged to the Odd Fellows and the order of United Workmen.

Harley M. Watson attended the country schools of Hall County while working on his father's farm until he was sixteen years of age. Coming to Grand Island while still a youth he began to work for the Union Pacific Railway Company as coach cleaner, an occupation he followed three years. Following this he accepted a position with T. B. Jeffery Automobile Company being employed by that concern a year. Upon his return to Grand Island he started a business of his own, beginning in a small way in a barn, where he set up a plank for a work bench. Starting as a machinist and automobile repairer he has by thorough, honest business transactions and business judgment built up a fine business and now handles batteries and tires in a well equipped and convenient place at 114 East Second street, and in addition has another automobile tire and battery store at York, Nebraska.

In 1915 Mr. Watson married Miss Annie Katzberg, who was born at Prosser, Nebraska. They have one son, James Watson. Mrs. Watson is a member of the Lutheran church. He has never been very active in politics but is a wide awake citizen and a Republican voter.

JOHN E. McCUTCHEON, sheriff of Hall County, Nebraska, not only commands the confidence of his fellow citizens as is indicated by his election to this important public office, but he also enjoys their esteem. They have seen him pass from industrious boyhood to useful manhood and during all these years he has been dependable in every relation of life.

John E. McCutcheon was born in Vanderburg County, Indiana, May 3, 1867. His parents were Ruben P. and Amanda (Iglehart) McCutcheon, both of whom were born in Indiana. They came to Nebraska in 1874, spending some time in Hamilton County, but in 1875 took up a homestead in Hall County, where the father of Sheriff McCutcheon died in 1917, at the age of seventy-nine years. He was a man of sterling character, of good judgment and public spirit. During his life he was a leading Republican in the county, serving

a number of years on the county board of supervisors. He was a veteran of the Civil War, having served three years in the Forty-second Indiana volunteer infantry and was wounded in the battle of Chickamauga. The mother of Sheriff McCutcheon resides in Hamilton County. They had eight children seven of whom survive: Clara, the wife of John Kramer, lives at Oakland, California; Belle, the wife of C. W. Willman, resides in Hamilton County; John E. and George, both of whom live in Grand Island; Walter W., a farmer near Nelson, Nebraska; Oliver E., a hardware and implement dealer in Deer Park, Washington, and Frank W., a clerk in a clothing store in Grand Island.

As soon as his school days were over, Mr. McCutcheon went to work for Robert Taylor, on the largest ranch in Hall County, remaining there for twenty-two years, having entire charge of the livestock. Ranching has been his chief occupation all through life. He has been an active factor in Republican politics; was elected sheriff of Hall County on November 5, 1918, on the Republican ticket.

Sheriff McCutcheon married in 1890 Miss Nevada Sprinkle, who was born in Effingham County, Illinois, a member of one of the old pioneer families of that section. They have five children: Irma, who resides with her parents; Neva, employed in the offices of the Western Union Telegraph Company; Edna, the wife of Ray W. Sutton, lives at home while her husband is serving with the American Expeditionary Force in France; Elva, who is employed in a local business house, and Margaret, who is pursuing her studies in the Grand Island High school. Sheriff McCutcheon was reared in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which the entire family are members.

LUTHER F. FARNSWORTH, who may claim the distinction of being the pioneer, in point of time engaged in the drug business in Nebraska, is a member of the oldest drug firm in Grand Island. Mr. Farnsworth learned his business in the old, thorough, practical New England way, and had many years of experience in drugs back of him when he came to Grand Island. From the first he has been one of the city's most esteemed citizens.

Mr. Farnsworth was born at Norfolk, in St. Lawrence County, New York, March 27, 1852. His parents were Edwin and Mary (Stone) Farnsworth, the former of whom was born in New York and the latter at Middlebury, Vermont, where they were married. Of

their six children, Luther F. was the third born. The other survivors are: Allen, a resident of Chicago, Illinois; Albert H., a retired farmer, resides at Kent, in the state of Washington, and George Edwin, in the service of the government, lives at Farley, Massachusetts. The father of Mr. Farnsworth was engaged in agricultural pursuits all his active life. For a time he and his wife lived in Grand Island but later they went to Washington, both passing away in that state. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Luther F. Farnsworth attended school in Vermont until he was graduated from the Middlebury high school, after which he taught school for two years. He was only thirteen years old when he had his first clerical experience, but it was some years later that he entered a drug store as a clerk with the determination of learning the business. He remained with the one firm for the next eighteen years, leaving it then to come west and soon after reaching Grand Island bought the drug store with which he has since been connected, being in partnership with H. P. Tucker for twenty-seven years. The firm of Tucker and Farnsworth is a synonym for honesty in business and reliability in drugs.

In 1874 Mr. Farnsworth married Miss Delia Pearson, who was born at Lewis, New York. They have three sons: Albert H., a physician in Grand Island; T. L., a dental surgeon in practice in Broken Bow, and Earl E., a practicing physician and surgeon at Grand Island.

Luther F. Farnsworth has always given encouragement to civic enterprises regulated by law and order, and has been particularly concerned in educational advancement. For six years he has served as a member of the school board. He is a Republican in his political opinions. For many years he has been a Mason and from his youth has belonged to the Methodist Episcopal church.

ALBERT ETTING, for many years a progressive and useful citizen of Grand Island, came to Nebraska in 1887, and from then until his death on March 29, 1908, demonstrated his ability as a business man, winning the confidence and esteem of all who knew him.

Albert Etting was born in Jackson County, Iowa, October 9, 1857. His father was a farmer and after his short school period was over, he engaged in agricultural pursuits in Jackson County where he remained until 1887, when he came to Hall County, Nebraska. Here he was associated in the milling business

for many years with Henry Glade in which concern his widow still retains an interest. He further showed business enterprise by erecting a candy factory which proved a profitable investment in Grand Island. Mr. Etting conducted the business successfully until his death and Mrs. Etting retained her interest in the property until the plant was destroyed by fire.

Mr. Etting married in August, 1881, Miss Rose Felderman, who was born in Dubuque County, Iowa, a daughter of John and Rebecca (Glade) Felderman, both of whom were born in Germany. Mr. Felderman was a successful farmer in Iowa, where he lived until his death in 1909, the death of his widow occurred September 14, 1912. They had seven children and of the five survivors two reside in Nebraska, Mrs. Etting and a sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Kraker, whose home is in Clatonia, Gage County, Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. Etting became the parents of six children: Amanda, the wife of Clayton Flower, who is in the insurance business in Grand Island; Alma, the wife of Lester Schuff, who conducts the Palmer House in Grand Island; Lee E., who entered the National army for service in the World War, June 15, 1918; Norval E., with the American Expeditionary Force in France, in the supply division, left the United States, January 10, 1918; Florence, who resides at home, and Irma, who is a student in Kemper Hall, Kenosha, Wisconsin. Mrs. Etting is a member of the Lutheran church as was Mr. Etting. Mr. Etting found his chief recreation in hunting. He was a good shot with a gun and for years maintained a camp on an island which he owned in the Platte River, spending several weeks there every spring for many years. He was a Republican in politics and was prominent in civic affairs, serving two years as a member of the city council, in which body he always labored for the best interests of Grand Island.

EARL E. FARNSWORTH, M. D., a representative physician and surgeon of Grand Island, is held in high regard in his professional capacity and in universal esteem personally. He belongs to that rapidly increasing body of close-thinking medical men who are strong advocates of physical training and regulated athletics for the preservation of health. Dr. Farnsworth may be said to have exemplified in his own person the value of his theory. He has been in active practice in this city for a decade.

Dr. Farnsworth was born at Middlebury, Vermont, May 24, 1881, a son of Luther F.



Albert Etting

and Delia (Pearson) Farnsworth, whose biography will be found elsewhere in this volume.

Earl E. Farnsworth had educational training in a private school before his parents removed to Grand Island, where he was graduated from the high school in 1899, when he entered the Nebraska State University in Lincoln where he continued a student until 1902. The following year he attended Cornell University, receiving the degree of A. B. in 1903. He then went to Denver where he was interested for a time in newspaper work. Always fond of out-door life he enjoyed "roughing it" in the mountains for about twelve months, in the meanwhile working in a supply store in a high altitude region. Upon his return to more civilized life he was associated with the International Mercantile Company, an auditing company; in the interest of this concern he was located in New York City for eight months. Returning then to Nebraska he studied pharmacy at Creighton College, Omaha, Highland Park, and Des Moines, Iowa, where upon completing his course in pharmacy he was graduated with first honors in a class of seventy-nine in an examination before the state pharmacy board of Nebraska. Later he took up the study of medicine at Harvard College, from which institution he received his medical degree in 1912, having for four years passed all his vacation time in hospital work. During his last collegiate year he lived at the Massachusetts General Hospital. On his return to Grand Island the doctor became associated with his brother Dr. Albert H. Farnsworth, a partnership which still continues. They control a very heavy practice, Dr. Earl Farnsworth specializing in diagnosis and diseases of women and children.

Dr. Farnsworth married in 1912 Miss Jessie Kistle, who was born at Le Mars, Plymouth County, Iowa. They have one son, William Kistle, who was born July 6, 1914. Mrs. Farnsworth excels as a musician and from 1909 until 1911 attended the New England Conservatory of Music at Boston. They are members of the Presbyterian church. In his views Dr. Farnsworth is a Democrat. He is a Knight Templar Mason and belongs to the Shrine, and is also identified with Lodge 604, Elks, in Grand Island. He yet maintains his valued membership in his old Greek letter fraternities of Nebraska and Cornell Universities, the Phi Delta Theta and Phi Rho Sigma, in 1911 being a delegate to the National Fraternal convention held at Omaha. While Dr. Farnsworth has always been, as mentioned above, a lover of athletics, and wholesome

sports, it was on the tennis courts that he made a national reputation. For several years he held the state championship in Nebraska, and has been champion in nine different states and owns many trophies testifying to his skill.

LEO PHELAN, M. D. — Perhaps the carefully protected citizens of Grand Island sometimes ask each other, if not well informed, to what benign influence during the past ten years have they been indebted for improved sanitation, rigid methods of inspection, thorough isolation of contagious cases and use of preventive and protective measures in times of epidemic, without remembering that they have, in Dr. Leo Phelan, an able, experienced, scientific physician as city health officer. Dr. Phelan has been publicly, privately and professionally, a useful citizen since he came here.

Dr. Phelan was born at Ottawa, Canada, October 7, 1863, the twelfth child in a family of thirteen children born to John and Margaret (McCarthy) Phelan. The mother of Dr. Phelan was born at Richmond, Canada, in 1823, and died in 1899. The father was born in Queens County, Ireland, in 1814, and died in Canada in 1879. Besides Dr. Phelan, three of their surviving children live in Nebraska: Mary, the wife of John Goodall, a retired farmer of Omaha; Edward, a wealthy contractor and real estate dealer in Omaha, and Alice, the wife of Michael Shirley, a contractor and real estate dealer in Omaha. The parents were members of the Roman Catholic church.

Leo Phelan attended the public schools and Ottawa University, from which he was graduated in 1886 as honor man of the class in philosophy. Subsequently he entered Queens University at Kingston, Ontario, and again was honor man of his class in anatomy. From this institution he received his medical degree in 1890. For a few months after graduation he was associated with his brother, Dr. Daniel Phelan, at Kingston, then became a member of the faculty of the Sioux City Medical College, Sioux City, Iowa, where he lectured for seven years, conducting a private practice at the same time. He then went to Ackley, Iowa, which meant a country practice. During the six years he remained there he frequently visited Chicago for graduate work in the Chicago Post Graduate School. A new field of usefulness opening up led him to Ann Arbor, Michigan, for graduate work in preparation to assume charge of a hospital which interested parties proposed to build for him. Reverses came to them before this project was

carried out, and Dr. Phelan remained in Ann Arbor for two and a half years. On January 8, 1907, he came to Grand Island where he has a lucrative practice, standing high in his profession, as specialist of surgery.

Dr. Phelan was united in marriage in 1898 to Miss Theresa Kidd, who was born at Toronto, Canada. Mrs. Phelan is a daughter of the late Joseph Kidd, who was in the salt and lumber business. He removed to Sioux City, Iowa, in 1898 and died there. Dr. and Mrs. Phelan have four sons: Gerald, a member of a medical corps in the United States navy; Redmond, employed in Grand Island; Edward J., who is in school, and John F., a school-boy. Dr. Phelan and his family are members of the Roman Catholic church. He has long been active in the Knights of Columbus, in which he is a grand knight. Politically he is a Democrat. In addition to being the watchful health officer of the city, for a number of years he has been school physician. As far as he deems wise Dr. Phelan advocates all moderate forms of out-door sports. During his university days he was a leader in both base ball and foot ball and often carried off the honors. He is an active member of both state and county medical societies.

VIRDEN E. EVANS.—The automobile business has received its full share of recognition from the progressive people of Hall County, an astonishing number of the latest models being owned and enjoyed. Perhaps the favorite make for all purposes is the Ford automobile, which has been ably exploited here for several years by Virden E. Evans, who is president and general manager of the Glass-Evans Auto Company of Grand Island.

Virden E. Evans was born near Red Oak, Iowa, April 21, 1883, and is the only child of his parents, John W. and Maggie (McMullen) Evans, the former of whom was born in Ohio and the latter in Illinois. They are members of the Presbyterian church. The family resided in Iowa, where the father was a farmer for a number of years. In 1914 they came to Grand Island and since then Mr. Evans has been employed in the plant of the Glass-Evans Auto Company. In politics he is a Democrat and fraternally is identified with the Modern Woodmen.

After attending the grade schools in Howard County, Nebraska, Virden E. Evans spent four years in the Normal college at St. Paul, Nebraska, and then accepted the responsible position of cashier of a bank at Cushing, Nebraska. In large measure he had

his own way to make in the world and his success has come about because of his high character and sense of responsibility. Young as he was, he satisfactorily filled the office of bank cashier for five years. Possibly his purchase of a comfortable Ford car in 1908 served to turn his attention to the great possibilities for an enterprising young man in the automobile industry and he began his venture in 1909, continuing as cashier of the bank, however, for one year longer. He was then induced to accept the favorable proposition of the Ford people to take charge of an agency in Grand Island. Since that time he has been one of its prosperous business men. The Glass-Evans Auto Company was organized in 1915 being incorporated for \$100,000. Mr. Evans as indicated above, is president and general manager. In April, 1918, the company erected what is undoubtedly the finest garage in this part of the state—a three-story building with every modern equipment and appliance known in the industry. The company has prospered from the first and at present is doing business estimated at \$500,000 annually.

Mr. Evans married in 1905 Miss Lida Paulsen, who was born at Dannebrog, Howard County, Nebraska. They have two sons: Gordon and Clayton, both of whom are attending school. The family belongs to the Presbyterian church. Mr. Evans is a Democrat in politics and a loyal party man but cherishes no political ambitions. A progressive, enterprising, reliable business man, he has found a hearty welcome in Grand Island and has proved his worth.

JOHN B. GLASS, secretary and treasurer of the Glass-Evans Auto Company, is identified with one of the most prosperous of Grand Island's modern business enterprises. He is a native of Nebraska, born in Howard County, August 14, 1883, the son of John and Lizzie (Lutz) Glass, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania.

The name of Glass is an honored one in Howard County, where John Glass settled and homesteaded after his honorable discharge from the Union Army, where he served through the Civil War. During the greater part of his life he engaged in agricultural pursuits but in 1888 he took charge of a hotel at Cushing, Nebraska, which he conducted until his death in 1890. His wife died in the same year. They had eight children, John B. being the fourth in order of birth. He has three surviving brothers and one sister: Louis, who conducts a hardware business at Wol-

bach, Nebraska; Joseph, who follows the carpenter trade at Grand Island; W. J., who is in the automobile business at Grand Island, and Catherine, the wife of A. J. Shrack, who is in an electrical business at Aberdeen, Idaho. The parents of this family were faithful members of the Roman Catholic church.

John B. Glass obtained his educational training in the public schools of Howard County. He assisted his father on the home farm for a time and afterward was employed for three years in the Bank of Cushing, Nebraska, from there coming to Grand Island in 1911. In the same year he became interested in a general automobile business here in partnership with V. E. Evans, under the firm name of the Glass-Evans Auto Company, which has developed into a large enterprise with a promising future.

In 1914 Mr. Glass was united in marriage with Miss Carrie Anderson, who was born in Howard County, Nebraska, a daughter of Mads Anderson, who homesteaded there. Mr. and Mrs. Glass have two sons, Edsel and Donald, aged respectively four and two years. Mrs. Glass is a member of the Lutheran church. Mr. Glass was reared in the Catholic faith. He has never been very active in politics but votes with the Republican party on every public question.

EDWIN C. BURGER, one of Grand Island's progressive young business men, belongs to one of the oldest pioneer families of Hall County, his family having founded the thriving town of Doniphan where Edwin was born, April 26, 1885. His father, George A. Burger, was born in Pennsylvania, in August, 1850, and died at Doniphan, Nebraska, in 1914. The mother of Mr. Burger, Mrs. Rosa A. (Peabody) Burger, was a native of the state of New York; she was married at Doniphan and still lives there. Of their three children two survive; Edwin C. and Mable, the latter being the wife of A. C. Pentico, a ranchman near New Castle, Wyoming. The late George A. Burger was well and favorably known in Hall County, having been a resident for fifty years, coming here in 1864, at which time he operated a pack train. He secured a valuable homestead near the town of Doniphan, to which place he removed in 1872. He was a Democrat in politics and served on the county board of supervisors for nine years.

After his graduation from the Doniphan High school in 1902, Edwin C. Burger spent one year as a clerk in the store of his uncle, Wm. J. Burger. He next took a commercial

course at Creighton College, and a course in pharmacy at Creighton College, where he was graduated in 1904. He had other business experiences before coming to Grand Island, having been employed one year by the Nebraska Clothing Company in Omaha, and had live stock and automobile interests for a time at Doniphan. In 1914 he located in Grand Island as sales manager for the Class-Evans Auto Company. This company was incorporated in 1915, at which time he became sales manager and vice-president. At the present it is one of the growing concerns of Grand Island and Mr. Burger devotes all his time to its affairs.

On August 1, 1907, Mr. Burger married Miss Mamie Phillips, who was born in Nebraska, a daughter of Fred and Cornelia (Adams) Phillips, the latter of whom died in 1909. The father of Mrs. Burger was one of the earliest druggists at Hastings, Nebraska, but in 1887 he retired from active business, locating on a farm situated west of Doniphan. He now resides with Mr. and Mrs. Burger. They have two children: Helen and Bernice. Mr. Burger belongs to the Elks, the U. T. C. and the T. P. A.

ELIZABETH M. CUNNINGHAM, the able superintendent of schools of Hall County, Nebraska, is particularly well known at Grand Island where for some years her earnest work as an educator has been acceptable. Miss Cunningham is a native of Nebraska, born near the capital city, the youngest daughter of William Cullen and Anna Hulda (McQueen) Cunningham.

The parents of Miss Cunningham were born in Pennsylvania and were reared and married there. After removal to Lincoln, Nebraska, the father engaged in business as a commission merchant. In 1907 he came to Grand Island and his death occurred here in 1909. He was a man of sterling character, honorable in business relations and just and conscientious in social and family life. He was a Republican in his political views, was long identified with the Masonic fraternity, and was a presiding elder in the Scotch Presbyterian church. The mother of Miss Cunningham lives at Grand Island. They had six children, as follows: Mary Radcliffe, the wife of Judge Howard Kennedy, of Omaha; Thomas J., a commercial traveler for Granger Bros., of Grand Island; Francis Jane, the wife of J. L. Cleary; Nancy Rohrer, the wife of R. E. Davis; Elizabeth McQueen, who is county superintendent; and one child is deceased.

Well trained in the public schools and a graduate of the high school, Miss Cunningham pursued her studies along more advanced lines in the state university at Lincoln. In memory of those pleasant days she still maintains her interest and membership in the Greek letter sorority, the Kappa Kappa Gamma. In 1907 she came to Grand Island as a teacher in the public schools and has engaged continuously since then in this educational field, for four years being principal of the Jefferson school. In March, 1918, she was appointed superintendent and in November, 1918, was elected county superintendent of schools for four years.

ALBERT H. FARNSWORTH, M. D., whose name for seventeen years has represented professional skill, business integrity and civic usefulness in Grand Island, was born at Middlebury, Vermont, May 14, 1875. He belongs to a well known family in Hall County, being a son of Luther F. Farnsworth, of whom specific mention is made on other pages of this volume.

In his native city Albert H. Farnsworth took a thorough course in the public schools. After the family came to Nebraska he entered the state university in Lincoln where he pursued his studies through his sophomore year. A period spent as a clerk and student in his father's drug store was exceedingly helpful as preparatory to entering Hahnemann College, Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1900; the same year he entered the Cook County Hospital as an interne remaining there until 1902, on February 9th of that year coming to Grand Island to establish an office. Dr. Farnsworth is a general practitioner of medicine and surgery. He has taken work at the Mayo clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, and in clinics at Boston, Massachusetts, and Chicago, Illinois, to perfect himself in all the new technique and latest discoveries of medical science. Although still maintaining his quarters in his original office, his equipments, however, are entirely modern. In addition to a heavy city practice, he has patients in all adjoining towns.

In August, 1903, Dr. Farnsworth was united in marriage with Miss Callie E. Thompson, who was born at Grand Island, a daughter of Judge J. R. and Elizabeth (Pryse) Thompson a record of whom will be found elsewhere in this volume.

Dr. and Mrs. Farnsworth have three children, a daughter and two sons: Elizabeth, Frederick Thompson and Albert Henry, the

youngest being an infant of fourteen months. Dr. and Mrs. Farnsworth are members of the First Methodist Episcopal church. He belongs to the Odd Fellows and the Elks and professionally is identified with the County, State and American Medical societies, and has served one term as vice president and one term as president of the Hall County Medical Society. For the last five years he has been surgeon for the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad at this point. In politics the doctor is a sound Republican, but he has never accepted any public office except that of health officer.

DANIEL C. BROWN, a popular man engaged in the cigar and tobacco business in Grand Island and owner of a billiard hall, who enjoys the best of the city's patronage, has resided here for sixteen years. He came to Grand Island from a wider field, in which he had been a busy worker for many years. Like many another youth, he began early to be self supporting, and his steady habits, industry and fidelity to interests intrusted to him, led him to very important and responsible positions.

Daniel Brown was born in the city of Philadelphia, January 18, 1859, the son of David F. and Hannah E. (Anderson) Brown, natives of Pennsylvania. Of their four children, Daniel C. alone survives. During the Civil War the father of Mr. Brown was commissioned to buy horses for the United States government, at Baltimore. In January, 1869, he removed to Galesburg, Illinois and during the five years spent there, he worked in the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad shops. In 1874 he removed to Omaha, where he engaged in sign painting and in lettering the Union Pacific coaches in the Union Pacific yards, having considerable talent in his sign work. Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. They died at Omaha.

Daniel C. Brown attended school in Galesburg, and two years afterward had further advantages in Omaha. His first independent and responsible office was that of deputy postmaster at Missouri Valley, Iowa, where he remained five years. On August 16, 1879 he became connected with the Pacific Express Company, and on January 12, 1883, he began service as a United States Mail carrier in Omaha. He continued to hold this position under the government for ten years. Mr. Brown carried the first special delivery letter ever transmitted through the mails in Omaha, and as interesting in the light of present mail



DR. A. H. FARNSWORTH

facility extension, he shows that first envelope on occasions. He was made the first president of the Letter Carrier's Association at Omaha. Mr. Brown returned then to the express service, in which he spent eighteen years and four months as messenger on express trains. He retired from the railroad and on July 9, 1903, he came to Grand Island, not with any idea of retiring, but of engaging in a quiet business that would not isolate him from friendly companionship, for he had led too active and busy a life to feel that he could be contented in idleness. At first he was associated with a partner in the management of a billiard room but established his own billiard, cigar and tobacco business on January 14, 1910.

Mr. Brown was united in marriage in 1902, with Miss Lucy Irvin, who was born at Sidney, Iowa. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In his political views he is a zealous Republican. He belongs to the order of Elks, and for many years has been active in Masonic Blue Lodges. Mr. Brown has been more of a traveler than many of his fellow citizens, having visited thirty-eight of the states of the Union.

HENRY J. LORENTZEN, who has been connected with business interests of Grand Island for many years, was born in the city of New York, September 30, 1869, the son of Jacob J. and Elizabeth (Mundt) Lorentzen.

The parents of Mr. Lorentzen were born in Holstein, Germany, but emigrated to the United States when young and were married in New York, where Jacob J. Lorentzen worked first as a carpenter and later engaged in contracting. Subsequently he came to Hall County, Nebraska, and bought a tract of school land which was situated six miles north of Grand Island. His death occurred in 1898 but his widow survives and still lives on the old homestead. They had five children, Henry J. being the second born. The other survivors are: Jacob J., who operates the old homestead farm; Christina, a widow who lives with her mother, and Amanda, who resides at Los Angeles, California.

Henry J. Lorentzen attended school in Hall County and remained at home assisting on the home farm until he was sixteen years of age, when he became a clerk for the firm of Withers & Cole, of Grand Island, two years later becoming a clerk for a shoe firm, where he continued for three and a half years. He then entered the employ of H. H. Glover, with whom he was associated sixteen years. At the end of this period he bought the shoe de-

partment and has engaged in a mercantile business of his own ever since.

In 1894 Mr. Lorentzen was united in marriage with Miss Louise Vieregge, who is a member of a prominent family of Grand Island. They have one daughter, Alma. In politics he is an independent voter. He belongs to the Sons of Herman and the Leiderkranz.

ARNY E. NAGELSTOCK, one of the dependable business men and successful mercants of Grand Island, has been identified with the mercantile trade ever since his school days ended. This training proved invaluable to him when he started out for himself, and his later success has still further been brought about by his courteous manner and reliability of his goods.

Mr. Nagelstock was born at Black Creek, Wisconsin, April 17, 1880, one of a family of four children born to his parents, Charles and Sophia (Fisher) Nagelstock, who were natives of Austria but emigrated to the United States when young, the mother being brought by her parents. They now live in comfortable retirement in Fremont, Nebraska. The father is a Democrat in politics, and both are members of the Jewish congregation. Aside from Arny E., they have two other living children: Edwin, a dealer at Fremont, in ready-to-wear clothing, and Gertrude, the wife of Joseph Heller, who is in the meat business at Oconto. The youngest of the family, Sidney, was killed in an automobile accident, at Fremont, Nebraska, in August, 1914. The father was a dry goods merchant in Wisconsin and also at Ironwood, Michigan, before he retired from business.

Arny E. Nagelstock was given excellent educational opportunities and in 1898 was graduated from the Bessemer (Michigan) high school. He then served as a clerk for his father until he engaged in business for himself in Fremont, in August, 1910. Although still owning his business in Fremont Mr. Nagelstock desired a wider scope for his energies and in January, 1913 he came to Grand Island to open a first class store in ready to wear garments, which because of their reasonable price, fine quality and good style, has developed into a most satisfactory business.

Mr. Nagelstock is unmarried. He is a Scottish Rite Mason and belongs to the Shrine. He is identified with the Elks and Knights of Pythias. In politics he supports the Democratic policies. He has shown a public-spirited interest in local affairs and has been

elected president of the Commercial Club, of which organization in Fremont he was formerly treasurer.

DAVID H. CARSON, M. D., a distinguished physician of Grand Island, specializes in the treatment of the eye, ear, nose and throat, has won an enviable reputation with the public as with his professional colleagues. For the past ten years he has successfully practiced his profession in this city.

Dr. Carson was born at High Forest, Minnesota, December 21, 1876, a son of J. A. and Nettie (Hart) Carson, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Minnesota. They are residents of Wolsey, South Dakota, where they settled in 1883, and until he retired the father was engaged in mercantile pursuits.

Dr. Carson spent his boyhood days in Minnesota and South Dakota, acquiring his early education in the public schools of Wolsey, South Dakota. He then entered the State University of South Dakota, at Vermillion, where he pursued a scientific course receiving the B. S. degree in 1900. Deciding upon a medical career he matriculated at the John A. Creighton Medical College at Omaha, Nebraska, graduating with the degree of M. D. in 1905. For one year he served as interne in Saint Joseph's Hospital, Omaha, and from there located for the practice of medicine at Dietz, Wyoming, where he remained two and a half years. Subsequently he opened an office at Council Bluffs, engaging in practice for two and a half years but on the 10th of April, 1912, came to Grand Island, where he has continued to the present time, having formed a partnership with Dr. J. E. Higgins, under the firm name of Higgins and Carson. Both physicians are specialists in eye, ear, nose and throat diseases and are most successful in the diagnosis and treatment of that nature.

Dr. Carson united in marriage with Miss Gertrude Smith, a native of Nebraska, a daughter of George M. and Mary (Reynolds) Smith who are now residents of Hershey, Nebraska.

Dr. Carson and his wife are members of the Methodist church. In politics the doctor is a Republican and at the present time is a member of the city board of health. His professional associations are with the State and County Medical Associations and he has served as president of the latter. For two years he was secretary of the Council Bluffs Medical Society. He is a member of the medical staff of St. Francis Hospital of Grand Island and

holds an enviable position as a physician. In matters of citizenship he measures up to the full standard.

ARTHUR A. SCHUSTER, whose well kept cafe and confectionery store attracts heavy patronage at all times because of the superior quality of the goods offered, came to Grand Island eighteen years ago and through industry and enterprise has built up a large and profitable business. Coming to Nebraska with the pioneers of 1885 he has never seen any good reason since to seek a home elsewhere and today is one of Hall County's solid and representative men.

Arthur A. Schuster was born in Middleton, Dane County, Wisconsin, March 31, 1865, the son of Henry and Ida (Rahl) Schuster, both of whom were born in Germany. The mother of Mr. Schuster resides in her comfortable home at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, having reached her seventy-eighth year. The father died on the old home place in Dane County in 1909 at the age of seventy-six years. Of their five surviving children, Arthur A. is the second in order of birth. The others are: Augusta, the widow of Charles Niebuhr, of Madison, Wisconsin; Laura, the wife of Charles Milbrock of Madison, Wisconsin; E. E., a dental practitioner in Milwaukee, and Henry, who is in the employ of the government as a meat inspector. In 1859 the parents of Mr. Schuster came to Wisconsin and the father bought a farm in Dane County. He was a man of education and at first taught school but later devoted much of his time to the nursery business, with which he was well acquainted. He produced such fine fruit that he frequently carried off prizes, having been awarded the first prize on grapes at the St. Louis exposition. He helped to install the first lodge of Odd Fellows in Middleton and was secretary of the same lodge for fifty years. He served in many political offices, was a sound Democrat and prominent in all movements that concerned the welfare of Dane County.

Arthur A. Schuster attended the public schools and was graduated from the high school in Middleton. Following this he worked on the home farm for four years, then tried railroading for two years and in 1885 reached Schuyler, Colfax County, Nebraska. The next year he spent on a farm but left to accept the offer of a clerkship in a cafe and bakery with opportunity to learn the confectionery business. He remained with C. H. Chase for twelve years. Later was

manager of the grocery store of Henry Fulton for three years and still later, for two years was with the Wells Grocery Company. In 1901 Mr. Schuster came to Grand Island to establish his own confectionery store, which he has expanded as business has demanded, having continued in the same line to the present time.

In 1903 Mr. Schuster married Miss Matilda Jungbluth, who was born on a farm near Schuyler, Nebraska. They have one daughter, Mildred, the wife of Elmer Scott, who has a satisfactory position in a sugar factory at Fort Collins, Colorado. Mr. and Mrs. Schuster are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics he is a Democrat and has served on the board of supervisors of Hall County for four years. For thirty-one years he has been a member of the Odd Fellows. He also belongs to the Elks, the order of Ben Hur, the A. O. U. W. and the Knights of Pythias.

JOHN ELLSWORTH, proprietor of an extensive greenhouse in Grand Island, does business all over Nebraska in cut flowers and flower and vegetable plants, and is one of the most experienced men in the business in the state. Aside from its financial aspect Mr. Ellsworth is devoted to his vocation, finding in it the pleasure and compensation that accompanies congenial work.

John Ellsworth was born in Bloomington, Illinois, November 22, 1866, the eldest of five children born to his parents, Allen and Barbara Ellen Ellsworth, the latter of whom was born in Pennsylvania and now resides in Lawton, Oklahoma. Allen Ellsworth was born in Vermont, came to Grand Island in 1899 and died here in 1908, at the age of sixty-seven years. He was married at Downs, Illinois, and from that state enlisted for service at the beginning of the Civil War and during its long duration suffered both wounds and imprisonment. He was wounded at the second battle of Bull Run and at the siege of Vicksburg was captured by the enemy and was incarcerated in the Confederate prisons of Belle Isle and Libbey. He survived these distressing military experiences and upon returning home went into the nursery business, which he conducted on a still larger scale after moving to Hutchinson, Kansas, in 1873. In 1899 he came to Grand Island and here started a greenhouse in partnership with his son John. It was greatly enlarged in 1900 and in this he continued to be interested until the end of his life. He was a Republican in politics and

belonged to the Masonic fraternity. Aside from John, the other children of the family are: Emma, the wife of B. M. Parmenter, an attorney living at Lawton, Oklahoma; Elmer, who conducts a shoe business at Hutchinson, Kansas; Allen, an employe of the Union Pacific Railway, and Julia, who is the wife of Guy C. Robertson, cashier of the First National Bank of Lawton.

John Ellsworth started out in life on an excellent educational foundation, having high school advantages and a course in a business college. After that he became associated with his father in the greenhouse business, at first working at home during the summers and as a clerk in a store in the winters. In April, 1900, the business was greatly enlarged in Grand Island and Mr. Ellsworth has devoted his entire attention to it ever since. He has 60,000 square feet of glass in his greenhouses, which are fitted in a thoroughly modern way for the satisfactory production of flowers and handling of cut flowers, and for the growing of vegetable plants. He sells as many as 500,000 cabbage plants alone annually. He is prepared to take care of every branch of the florist's business.

In 1887 Mr. Ellsworth was united in marriage with Miss Dovie Breazeale, who was born at Centerville, Iowa, and died in Grand Island in 1900. She left one daughter, Katheline, the wife of W. C. Crosley, of New Castle, Wyoming. Mr. Ellsworth's second marriage took place in November, 1908, to Miss Freda Senner, who was born at Sabetha, Kansas, a daughter of Louis and Maria (Scoby) Senner. Her father was born in Germany and died on his farm in Kansas. Her mother lives with Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth in Grand Island, she having been born in Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth have three children: Pauline, Jack and Leo, all of whom attend school. In politics Mr. Ellsworth is a Republican. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and to several beneficiary societies.

WILLIAM T. ENGLEMAN, M. D., who occupies a place high in the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens, both lay and professional, has been established in the practice of medicine and surgery at Grand Island for over a decade. Dr. Engleman was born at Des Moines, Iowa, December 25, 1879, the eldest of a family of twelve children born to his parents, Ephraim B. and Sallie (Stadden) Engleman.

The early Englemans in America came

from Holland and settled in colonial days in New England. There the grandfather of Dr. Engleman, Tobias Engleman, was born December 17, 1817, and died in Michigan, September 13, 1883. Ephraim Engleman, father of Dr. Engleman, was born in Pennsylvania, November 15, 1847, and is a highly esteemed resident of Grand Island, having lived retired for some years in his comfortable residence at No. 1403 West Second Street. He was married on February 27, 1879, in Pennsylvania, to Sallie Stadden, who was born in that state September 21, 1854, and died at Grand Island, October 7, 1913. Her father, William Stadden, was born September 12, 1820, and died November 18, 1895. Dr. Engleman has the following brothers and sisters: Mable Stadden, who is a teacher in the public schools of Grand Island; Emma Jane, who is the wife of Stephen McGavran, a fruit farmer in California; Ella Mary, who lives with her sister Mable; David Leroy, who operates the old homestead farm situated five miles northwest of Grand Island; John Ireland, assistant science teacher in the State Normal school at Kearney; Sarah Lillian, who lives with her brother on the old homestead; Edwin Earl, a captain in the National army, has been stationed at Camp Dodge, Des Moines; Oliver Milton, a rancher living on his claim near Crook, Colorado; Grace Irene, a teacher at Grand Island; Clarence Alvin, who lives at Abbott, Colorado, and Herbert James, who, as a member of the American Expeditionary Force, arrived in France, October 13, 1918. He entered his country's service in June, 1918, soon after his graduation from the high school, having been president of his class.

The parents of Dr. Engleman came to Nebraska in April, 1884. The father first bought 160 acres in Hall County and subsequently added land and continued to live there until 1907 when he came to Grand Island and has filled the office of deputy city assessor for the past three years. Formerly he was assessor of his township for a number of years and for twenty years was a school director in District No. 30. For fifteen years he served as secretary of the M. B. A. local lodge. He is a leading member of the First Methodist church.

After completing his high school course, William T. Engleman spent some time in the hardware business, in Hastings, Nebraska, Des Moines, Iowa, and Lincoln, Nebraska, and then took a course in the Baptist College at Grand Island. On September 3, 1902, he entered upon educational work and taught school for two years in Hall County, follow-

ing which he entered Creighton Medical College, from which he was graduated May 1, 1909. He immediately entered into practice in Grand Island, making a specialty of internal medicine and obstetrics. He is a member of the leading medical organizations of the country, including the American Medical Association, and for four years served as secretary of the Hall County Medical Society.

On June 30, 1909, Dr. Engleman married Miss Elizabeth Minerva Travis, who was born while her parents yet lived in their primitive sod house on their homestead in Hamilton County, Nebraska. Her parents were Frank and Emily (Buzza) Travis. Dr. and Mrs. Engleman have three children: Earl and Elmer, twin sons who were born July 28, 1910; and Evalene, who was born February 12, 1915. The doctor and his wife are members of Trinity Methodist Episcopal church and active in its various benevolent movements. In politics, like his father, Dr. Engleman is a Republican. He belongs to the A. O. U. W., of which he is Grand Medical Examiner and is local examiner also for the order of Ben Hur and the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York.

WILLIAM D. NIETFELD, one of the enterprising young business men of Grand Island, is one of the proprietors of the leading jewelry store in the city, which is situated at No. 102 West Third street. A heavy and carefully selected stock, which includes precious stones, is carried, repairing is done, and orders for special pieces of elaborate or of simple design are carefully and satisfactorily attended to.

William D. Niefeld was born at St. Paul, Nebraska, August 5, 1891, the second in a family of five children born to his parents, Henry and Louise (Kruger) Niefeld, who were natives of Germany. When they came from the old country in 1883 they settled at St. Paul, Nebraska, where for thirty years the father was in the retail liquor business. In 1906 he removed to Grand Island to engage in the wholesale trade here until Nebraska passed the no license law, when he turned his attention to real estate. In politics he is a Democrat and fraternally is a member of the Elks and the Eagles. He is a member and has always been a liberal supporter of the Lutheran church. Besides William D., his children are: Laura, the wife of W. A. Godfrey, a soldier in the American Expeditionary Force now in Europe; Otto, a second lieutenant in the training camp at Kearney,

California, plans to adopt a military life; Elsie resides at home, and Lillian is a student in the high school.

After completing the high school course in 1909, Mr. Niefeld entered the jewelry store of Max Egge, as clerk and apprentice in Grand Island. In 1910 he completed a course in the Bradley Horological school, Peoria, Illinois, after which he went to Elgin, Illinois, where he took a practical watchmaking course. Upon his return to Grand Island, in partnership with Harry A. Carey, he bought the old established jewelry store of Max Egge. The business prospects of the firm are very bright. Mr. Niefeld is at present exalted ruler of the local order of Elks and belongs also to the Eagles, the Knights of Pythias, and the Masonic order.

On January 31, 1917, Mr. Niefeld was united in marriage with Miss Thelma Larison, who was born at Lincoln, Illinois. They have a daughter, Harriet Orcutt, born January 27th, 1919. They are members of the Episcopal church.

HERMAN L. STRATMAN, who conducted a wagon-making shop and dealt in agricultural implements at South Wheeler Avenue, Grand Island, was one of the city's well known, reliable business men. Steadfast and practical, Mr. Stratman was a type of the useful everyday citizen and in the quiet pursuit of his business set an example of industry that many of the younger generation might profitably follow.

Herman Leopold Stratman was born at Grand Island, October 18, 1878. His parents were Henry and Charlotte (Spethman) Stratman, the former of whom was born in Germany in 1850. The latter was born at Winter-set, Iowa, and they were married in Grand Island and she still lives here. There is but one surviving member of their family of six children; Malvina, who lives with her mother. Henry Stratman came to Grand Island in 1871, a first class mechanic and a welcome addition to the town's industrial class. Like many other young men before and since, he was entirely dependent on his mechanical skill for maintenance. He set right to work and opened a wagon and blacksmith shop. He could do and do well just the kind of work most needed in the growing town at that time and he prospered and in the course of years went also into the implement business. He became a man of ample means and entirely through his own efforts. In later life he gave his political support to the independent wing

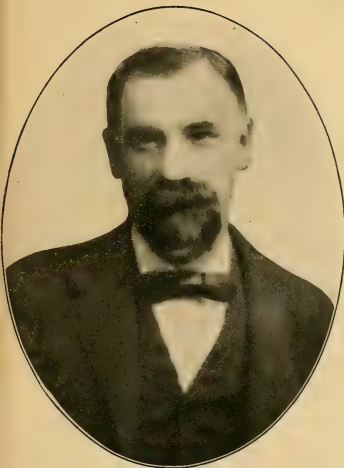
of the Democratic party. He had been confirmed in the Lutheran church and always remembered his obligations. In his death, in 1912, Grand Island lost an honest and useful citizen.

Herman L. Stratman obtained his education in the Grand Island public schools, after which he learned the wagon-making trade under his father and in the course of time succeeded his father in business. He never entertained any political ambitions but always was loyal to the Democratic party. He held the best interests of Grand Island of much importance and was ever found ready to join with others in furthering local movements that would in his opinion, be beneficial. He was a member of the order of Elks and also of the Eagles and was an ex-vice president of the latter organization. He died March 10th, 1919, having passed an honorable upright life, well deserving the confidence and trust of his business associates.

CHARLES C. PERRY.—In its display of fine musical taste, in combination with other cultural elements, Grand Island takes a leading place among the large centers of Nebraska. For years this has been the home of unexcelled musicians, as the oldest music house in Hall County is located at Grand Island. The trade in musical instruments is large and varied, Grand Island handling the most of this business west of Lincoln and Omaha. A very necessary adjunct of music establishments is the piano tuner. It requires exceptional musical gifts, native ability and technical training that enables a man to discover and remedy in an instrument the inharmonious chords that need to be attuned. Probably the best qualified piano tuner in Grand Island is Charles C. Perry, who has been identified with the Becker Music Company since 1904.

Charles C. Perry was born in McDonough County, Illinois, November 4, 1877, the eldest of three children born to his parents, F. M. and Sue Perry. Their other children are: Nellie, a trained nurse, and Cora, a draughtsman in a mechanical engineer's office. The parents are residents of Peoria, Illinois, in which state they were born. The father is in the insurance business. He is a Republican in politics. Both parents are members of the Universalist church.

In boyhood Mr. Perry attended the public schools and in 1898 was graduated from the Avon High school. His natural inclination even then was toward music and while working as a clerk in a clothing store for a year,



H. H. STRATMAN



H. L. STRATMAN

he took lessons in piano tuning from a private teacher. Later he had the best of training in the Boston Conservatory of Music. In 1904 Mr. Perry came to Grand Island and has followed his profession here ever since, his headquarters being with the Becker Music Company. He has never been particularly active in politics but has always cast a Republican vote. For many years he has been a Mason and belongs, also, to the Elks.

HENRY OLLIVER CONAWAY, M. D., perhaps the Nestor of the medical profession in Grand Island, has been engaged in medical practice for more than forty years. During a part of this time he has been a member of the faculty of Drake University. In this long period of professional usefulness, he has seen much progress in medical science, although its basic principles must remain the same. It has always been his fervent desire to benefit humanity to the extent of his ability through knowledge and skill.

Dr. Conaway was born in Harrison County, Ohio, January 27, 1848. He is a member of an old Ohio family that had its roots in Ireland. His grandfather was Michael Conaway, who was a soldier in the War of 1812. The parents of Dr. Conaway were Aaron and Dorcas (Busby) Conaway, who spent their lives in Ohio. The former was born in Harrison County in 1807 and died March 11, 1896. They were the parents of fourteen children, Dr. Conaway of Grand Island being the eleventh in order of birth. He and his brother, Dr. J. B. Conaway, a retired physician, are the only members of the family residing in Nebraska. Aaron Conaway was a lawyer in early life but later acquired land and led an agricultural life. He was prominent politically in Harrison County, Ohio, and for forty-five years served in the office of justice of the peace without ever having one of his decisions reversed by a higher court. Four of his sons served in the Civil War: John B., Moses, Michael and Henry Olliver. Moses was a member of the One Hundred Twenty-sixth Ohio volunteer infantry, being killed at Fisher's Hill, Virginia, September 22, 1863. Rev. Charles Conaway a cousin of Aaron Conaway, was one of the earliest circuit-riders sent out to preach by a Methodist conference in the state of Ohio. Alpheus B. Conaway is a physician at Marshalltown, Iowa, was at one time a candidate for governor of his state, also serving in the state senate from Mahaska County two terms.

Henry O. Conaway spent his boyhood years

in school at Oakdale, Ohio, but obtained his medical education in the Cincinnati Eclectic College, Cincinnati, Ohio, from which institution he was graduated in 1875. After a practice of eighteen months at Alexandria, Ohio, he went to Deep River, Iowa, and five years later removed to Des Moines, which practically was his home and field of work for twenty years. During eight years of this period Dr. Conaway was professor of anatomy in Drake University. Afterward he came to Nebraska and in 1909 he bought a drug store at Reynolds, which he conducted for a time; then sold it and removed to Phillips in Hamilton County. Five years later he came from there to Grand Island. Dr. Conaway carries on a general practice but makes something of a specialty of diseases of the eye and nose.

On May 16, 1873, Dr. Conaway married Miss Fannie Hoover, who was born at Parkersburg, Virginia, and died in 1908. Three of their four children survive: Clement Aaron, a commercial traveler, lives at Des Moines, Iowa; Josie, the wife of Jesse Rogers, manager of a tea store in Des Moines, and George, a mechanical engineer, is employed on United States government work in California. Mrs. Conaway was a graduate of the medical department of Drake University. On May 16, 1910, Dr. Conaway was married a second time to Miss Nellie Willoughby, who was born in Iroquois County, Illinois, a daughter of Winfield S. and Catherine (Crow) Willoughby. The father of Mrs. Conaway was a soldier in the Civil War. The doctor and Mrs. Conaway have one son, Clifton Laclede, who was born May 27, 1911. Mrs. Conaway is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which faith the doctor was reared. He is a Scottish Rite Mason and belongs to the Consistory at Des Moines. He is also a Shriner. In his political sentiments he is in accord with the Republican party. He belongs to the Iowa State Medical Association, of which he once was president, and to the National Medical Association.

JAMES B. LESHER.—Few men are better known in Hall County than James B. Leshner, who conducts a real estate business at Grand Island. He was one of the pioneers who reached Nebraska in the spring of 1887 and since that time has been connected with the development of this section of the state. He owns large bodies of land here and in other parts of the country, having been a very wise investor.

James B. Leshner comes of old Pennsylvania stock. He was born in Northumberland

County, Pennsylvania, March 9, 1853, the son of Daniel and Sarah J. (Van Kirk) Leshar; his grandfathers were George Leshar and Joseph Van Kirk, all of whom were born and spent their lives in Pennsylvania. The father of Mr. Leshar was born in Northumberland County in 1832, married and died there August 1, 1897. Of his thirteen children James B was the fifth in order of birth, six of the family survive. The father was a Jacksonian Democrat, as honest in his political opinions as he was steadfast in the Baptist faith.

During boyhood James B. Leshar attended the country schools. He grew up on his father's farm and followed a farmer's life in Northumberland County until he decided to venture his fortunes in the west and came to Nebraska. He was not without capital but did not immediately invest in land, his good judgment cautioning him to await developments for a time. He reached Hall County, March 1, 1887, and for two years afterward engaged in farming on rented land before he began purchasing for himself. Mr. Leshar now owns about 500 acres in Hall County and while accumulating it was for years a heavy feeder and shipper of cattle and hogs. He retired from his farm activities in 1906 and since then has devoted himself to handling real estate. Additionally he has a valuable property of 2,000 acres of timber land in Washington and is numbered among the capitalists of Hall County.

In 1879 James B. Leshar married Miss Hattie Irene Reed, who was born in Pennsylvania, the daughter of Farnsworth and Rosanna (Miller) Reed, the former of whom was a farmer. They both died in Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Leshar have three children: Gertrude, a trained nurse, resides at home; Rosa, the wife of Elias F. Star, a teacher in the University at Lincoln; and Carl A., at home after completing almost two years of military service. He was one of the first in Hall County to volunteer for over sea service as an aviator, and during a part of the time he was stationed in Paris, France.

Mr. Leshar is a Democrat in his political opinions but is inclined to be independent to some extent. He has frequently served in township offices. For some years he has been a trustee of the Baptist College at Grand Island, and has been chairman of the executive board. His only fraternal connection is with lodge No. 604 Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is a director of the Y. M. C. A. in Grand Island, a stockholder and at one time a director of the Commercial State Bank in this city.

HARRY H. LONG, who is prominent in labor circles and officially connected with many important industrial organizations, has been a resident of Grand Island for twelve years. He was born April 19, 1876, in Madison County, Iowa. His parents were John H. and Elizabeth (Freestone) Long, the former of whom was born in Ohio in 1814 and died at Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1913. He was a Republican in politics and for many years was a justice of the peace. During his active years he was a farmer in Iowa but had been retired for a long period prior to 1906, when he moved to Lincoln, Nebraska. The mother of Harry H. Long was born in Indiana in 1846, was married at Perry, Iowa, and died in Nebraska in 1908. Of the family of five children, the following are living: Harry H., who resides at Grand Island; David A., who is a farmer near St. Joseph, Missouri; and Mrs. Rose Meyers, a widow, who lives at Council Bluffs, Iowa. The parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Harry H. Long attended the high school at Aurora, Nebraska, and the Peru Normal school. He learned the trade of decorator, following this vocation at Colorado Springs, for seven years. Subsequently for eleven months he was employed at Kansas City in a government shipping office, following which he came to Grand Island. Here Mr. Long resumed work at his trade, which is a trying one on the eyes, and on account of a developing weakness, he was forced to abandon it in 1917. Since then he has devoted all of his time to the interests of labor organizations, which very generally concede his unusual business ability. He is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and is an organizer for the same; is the secretary of the Central Labor Union, and is business agent for all labor unions in Hall County. He belongs also to the L. O. O. M.

In 1902 Mr. Long was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Wickless, who was born in Iowa. They had one daughter, Marie, who died when aged eight years. Mrs. Long is a member of the Roman Catholic church. Mr. Long maintains his office in the Glover building at the corner of Third and Wheeler streets.

LUTHER MARTIN CARLSON, proprietor of the Carlson Mattress Works, in Grand Island, has demonstrated in building up this fine business, the value of industry and carefully directed effort. Mr. Carlson began life for himself with but little assistance, but the extent of his present enterprise, built up

within the space of seven years, indicates that that fact was no handicap.

Luther Martin Carlson was born in Knox County, Illinois, in 1871, the eldest of four children born to Charles A. and Hannah (Anderson) Carlson. Both were born in Sweden, emigrating from the old country, they came when young to Illinois and were married there. In 1886 they removed to Kansas where Charles A. Carlson homesteaded, taking up a tree claim which he owned until the time of his death which occurred in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1898, the same year in which his wife passed away. In early years he was a Republican but later became identified with the Farmer's Alliance party. Both he and wife belonged to the Lutheran church. Their surviving children are: Luther M., who lives at Grand Island; Alice, the wife of Theodore Jansen, of Salina, Kansas, and Walter at the head of the mechanical engineering school of the State Agricultural College in Manhattan, Kansas.

Luther M. Carlson obtained only a district school education, following which he worked on a farm and taught school until 1903 when he became connected with a mattress manufacturing firm, first as an office man and later as representative on the road. In 1912 he came to Grand Island and established himself in the mattress manufacturing business and now has an extensive plant at No. 1024 West North Front street. He manufactures and remakes all grades of mattresses, makes pillows, feather beds, renovates feathers, makes automobile tops and does automobile top repairing. While his trade territory is mainly in Nebraska, he also ships to Colorado and the Dakotas. His reputation for promptness in the matter of contracts, and the excellence of his products is wide spread.

In 1910 Mr. Carlson married Miss Lorraine Gurney, who was born and educated in Iowa. They have one daughter, Mary Louise, a little maid of two years. Mr. and Mrs. Carlson attend the Methodist church and Mrs. Carlson is actively interested in its many benevolent movements. In politics Mr. Carlson is a Democrat and an advocate of prohibition. He is not only a wide awake business man but a responsible and public-spirited citizen, and he is so recognized by his fellow citizens. He belongs to the United Commercial Travelers Association and also the Knights and Ladies of Security.

ROBERT TAYLOR is the owner of the largest tract of land in Hall County held by any individual, and his property known as

"Taylor Ranch" is the largest concern of its kind in this part of the county.

Robert Taylor was born near Pilmuir, Berwickshire, Scotland, December 9, 1847, a son of David and Eliza (Littster) Taylor, who spent their entire lives in the land of hills and heather. The subject of this record was reared in his native land and was a lad of but eighteen when he came to the United States. He spent a short time at the home of his maternal grandparents in Indiana County, Pennsylvania, but it was his desire to see more of the country. There were no transcontinental railroads at that time, so by way of the famous Nicaragua Route across the Isthmus he went to California, arriving at San Francisco in April 1867. His worldly capital consisted of what he carried in a belt. He found employment shearing sheep and the money acquired in this way was the first he earned in the United States. In the early seventies he purchased six hundred ewes and engaged in the sheep business wholly on borrowed capital, paying eighteen per cent interest but was so successful that he was out of debt in three years. Ten years later he took the trail and with his herd went to Wyoming where he was extensively engaged in sheep raising for many years. It was about 1890 that he became interested in Hall County land and is today the owner of more than nine thousand acres devoted to the sheep and cattle industry. He has the finest herd of Angus cattle in the state of Nebraska. The ranch is equipped with several hundred thousand dollars spent in improvements.

In 1896 Mr. Taylor was united in marriage to Miss Agnes Elizabeth Littlefair, who was born in England, she became the mother of four children: Mary Elizabeth, Robert Bruce, Dorothy Agnes and Grace. Mrs. Taylor passed away in Hall County and for a second wife Mr. Taylor chose Miss Annie Dover Littlefair, a native of England and a sister of the former wife.

Mr. Taylor is a member of the Episcopal church and in politics is a Republican. While residing in Wyoming he served two terms in the state senate. The extensive scale on which Mr. Taylor has conducted his affairs and the success that has crowned his efforts at once display his sound business judgment and ability, qualities which when industriously applied are bound to bring gratifying results.

ROBERT BRUCE TAYLOR was one of Hall County's sons who enlisted in the service of his country in its fight for democracy in the



Russ Taylor



Robert Bruce Taylor

World War and was one of those who were destined to make the supreme sacrifice in that cause.

Robert Bruce Taylor was born in Hall County, January 7, 1899, a son of Robert and Agnes (Littlefair) Taylor. His early education was acquired in school district number eighteen, this being supplemented by a course at the Kearney Military Academy. He was a student in the Baptist College at Grand Island when he enlisted for service in 1917. His company first located at Camp Logan, Colorado, later they were sent to Camp Greene, in North Carolina, going from there overseas. He died September 11, 1918, from wounds received in the battle of St. Mihiel. His memory will ever be cherished by his family and a host of friends for the noble cause for which his life was given and for the sterling traits of young manhood which he possessed.

(Insert Port.)

WILLIAM H. ANYAN, for many years a faithful and trusted employe of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, was well known and highly respected in Grand Island. He was born at Racine, Wisconsin, February 25, 1857, and died as the result of an accident, in the line of duty, November 6, 1918. His parents were William and Marion (Sharp) Anyan.

The name of Anyan became well known in Hall County over forty years ago, when the father of the late William H. Anyan, came here as manager of the government land office, in which he served for nine years, first under appointment of President Rutherford B. Hayes, and second under President Chester A. Arthur, in 1882. William Anyan was born at Hull, England, and in that industrial city learned the building trade. In 1852, being then twenty-six years old, he came to the United States and settled in Wisconsin and from that state enlisted for service in the Union army at the outbreak of the Civil War. He was a member of Company B, First Wisconsin heavy artillery, serving four years he was honorably discharged from military service in 1865. Following his release from the army he worked as a carpenter and builder at East Troy, Wisconsin, and Chicago, Illinois. In 1873 he removed to Gage County, Nebraska, to take up a homestead near Beatrice, coming from there to Hall County under presidential appointment in 1878. Mrs Anyan has her husband's commissions signed by the presidents named above, entitling him to receive public money and conduct the business of the land office. He was a man of high character

and was a member of the Episcopal church. He had but two children, William H. and George, both of whom are deceased.

William H. Anyan had common school advantages and in his earlier years worked on the home farm and at the carpenter trade. He entered the service of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, July 5, 1880, being employed at first as fireman and working his way up until he became engineer of a switch engine. In 1912 he received the injury that put an end to his life on the railroad and eventually caused his death. He was a kind, generous man and had a wide circle of friends.

On June 21, 1882, William H. Anyan married Miss Mary Cook, who was born in Hanover, Germany. Her parents were Henry and Catherine (Sandbury) Cook. Her father met with an accidental death when Mrs. Anyan was two years old, following which her mother brought her to the United States and Mrs. Anyan was reared in the family of an uncle, at Havana, Illinois. She had but little school training but became skilled in domestic industries and has reared her four daughters in such a way that they reflect great credit on their home training. They are: Marion, the wife of Rufus Geer; Grace the wife of Clarence R. Helber, agent at Pine Bluffs, Wyoming, for the Union Pacific Railroad; Margaret, an assistant in the office of Dr. Farnsworth, Grand Island, and Irma, who lives at home. The family attends the Congregational church, to which Mr. Anyan was a liberal contributor. He was a Republican in his political views. He belonged to the fraternal order of United Workmen. Mrs. Anyan occupies a comfortable residence at No. 304 Fourth street, Grand Island.

EDWIN A. JONES, manager of the Gas-ton Music Company of Grand Island, is well known and highly respected, being a careful, attentive and reliable business man. Mr. Jones came to Grand Island in 1903 and has been connected with reliable business enterprises since that time.

Edwin A. Jones was born at Diamond Springs, Morris County, Kansas, December 26, 1873. He attended the public schools of Chase County, Kansas, and the Salina Normal University, at Salina, Kansas. After leaving school he taught for four years. He then became acquainted and connected with the Singer Sewing Machine Company and in 1903 moved to Grand Island to take charge of the company's business at that place, remaining with the company for five years, following this he



JOHN ELLSWORTH



CHARLES F. BENTLEY

was western traveler for Tryber Piano Company five years. In 1913 he accepted the management of the Gaston Music Company and is at the present time connected with this well known establishment. Mr. Jones has kept well abreast of the times in music development and recognizes the special demands brought about in the public taste by the changed and changing social conditions. He has made it his business to see that the company has issued and handled the very best productions.

In 1903 Mr. Jones married Miss Georgia L. Collins, who was born at Hot Springs, Arkansas. They have five children: Edwin A. a representative of the Gaston Music Company; Mabelle Gertrude, a highly educated young lady, who teaches in the Grand Island High school; Estel O., who entered military service February 9, 1918, was released and returned home the following December after special taining at Princeton University; and Bertram W., who is in school. One child died in infancy.

Mr. Jones is a member of the Odd Fellow and Modern Woodmen lodges.

ALBERT V. D. HEYDE, for years one of Grand Island's active business men, has been prominent also in civic affairs. Six years he served as a member of the city council, representing the third ward, and for one year was president of this important body. Although now living retired, he has not lost his interest in what concerns Grand Island, and still retains ownership of valuable real estate in this city.

Mr. Heyde was born at Pymont, Germany, November 13, 1862, one of a family of six children born to George and Mannie (Snitker) Heyde, both natives of the Fatherland. The father of Mr. Heyde was a cigar manufacturer, and both he and his wife belonged to the Lutheran church. He died in Germany in 1886, at the age of fifty-six years. The venerable mother still lives in her old home in Germany. It may be mentioned here that her son Albert, accompanied by his wife, paid her a visit in 1913. She was then eighty-six years old. Of her four living children there are two in the United States: Albert V. D. who lives at Grand Island; and Lena, whose home is in New York.

Albert V. D. Heyde obtained his education in his native land before coming to the United States in 1883 and the year following worked as a carpenter at St. Paul, Minnesota. In 1884 he came to Grand Island, spending the winter cutting ice on the Platte river at \$1.20 a day.

After a short time he entered the employ of the Burlington Railroad as a builder when the bridge was constructed across the Platte river. For a number of years subsequently he followed a contracting business in Grand Island. During 1893-1895 he conducted a retail liquor business at Chapman, and also was in the meat business there. During 1896 he engaged in the liquor business in Grand Island, conducting a popular saloon here for many years, and then took the agency for the Dick Brothers Brewing Company, but sold out prior to his visit to Germany in 1913. In earlier days he was secretary of the Hood and Lader Company and in 1912, assisted in the organization of the Grand Island Brewing Company, of which he was president for three years and is yet a director of the company, which is a large corporation with numerous interests.

In 1887 Mr. Heyde was united in marriage with Miss Amelia Lucas, who was born in Germany, a daughter of August Lucas. Mrs. Heyde's father settled in Brooklyn, New York, when he first came to the United States, but later he took up a homestead in Merrick County, Nebraska, on which the family lived for many years. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Heyde: Anna, the wife of Jesse Calkins, who is in the employ of the government, building docks at Norfolk, Virginia; George, in the United States service as a sailor at Great Lakes; Minnie, the wife of Bliss Springer, a teacher in the commercial department in the high school at Grand Island; Ella, bookkeeper for a Grand Island business firm; Albert, who entered military service in June, 1918, arrived in France, September 2, 1918, being attached to the Sixty-seventh coast artillery, and Alice and Herbert, both of whom are yet in school. All the children have been confirmed in the Lutheran church.

In his political views- Mr. Heyde is a strong Democrat. He has long been identified with the old German societies of a social nature that have been established at Grand Island for many years. He is a member of the Sons of Herman, of which he was president four years and grand president of the State of Nebraska. He also is a member of the Liederkranz society, of which he has been a trustee.

HENRY H. FALLDORF for many years was active in business in Grand Island as a contractor, now lives somewhat retired, residing in a handsome residence on South

Locust street, which he completed in 1907. He owns valuable farm property adjacent to Grand Island and is regarded as one of the capitalists of Hall County.

Mr. Falldorf was born in Hanover, Germany, September 7, 1864, the second born in a family of three children. His father, Henry Falldorf, also a native of Germany, came to Hall County, Nebraska, in 1873, being engaged in farming until he retired to Grand Island in 1903, where he still resides, having reached his eighty-sixth year. The mother of Mr. Falldorf, Mrs. Mary (Morman) Falldorf, was born in Germany and died there in 1872. Their three children were named Fred, Henry H., and Annie. Fred Falldorf died in 1918, at the age of sixty-three years. Annie is the wife of M. Riefers, of Boulder, Colorado.

Henry H. Falldorf attended school in Germany and afterward in Hall County. He learned the stairbuilder's trade, a vocation he followed for twenty years, when he became a general contractor, and now points with pardonable pride to many handsome substantial buildings in Grand Island, for the construction of which he was responsible, among which may be named the following: the Grand Island Library building, the new Hall County Courthouse, and extensive business blocks and private residences. In addition to the local structures he also was the contractor for the exceptionally fine high school building at Norfolk, Nebraska. Recently he retired from active business, taking with him a reputation for business integrity and personal honesty.

In 1887 Mr. Falldorf united in marriage with Miss Mary Timpke, who was born at Grand Island, a daughter of Henry Timpke, a pioneer farmer of Hall County. They have had two children: Amelia, the wife of Albert Hein, a farmer in Merrick County, Nebraska, and Fred, who died at the age of thirteen. Mr. and Mrs. Falldorf were reared in the Lutheran church and attended there. In politics he is a Republican, as is his father. He belongs to the Low German social organizations in the city, and is identified also with the Masons and the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

RICHARD GOEHRING, JR., an enterprising and popular young business man of Grand Island, bears the name of his honored father, a sketch of whom is found in this work.

Richard Goehring was born in Grand Island, August 18, 1887. He was educated in the

public schools of his native city, subsequently taking a business course in the Baptist College in Grand Island. His industrial training was thorough and practical and when but twenty-three years old he became associated with such carpenters and contractors as William C. Southmann and E. J. Voss. In 1910 they built the Hedding building and other large structures in Grand Island. After disposing of his interests here Mr. Goehring went to Columbus, Nebraska, where for three years he was the manager of the lumber yards of G. H. Hoagland Company, but in 1914 he returned to Grand Island as manager of the George A. Hoagland lumber interests here. A large wholesale lumber business is carried on and great credit is due Mr. Goehring for the excellently organized system that prevails. The greater part of his time is devoted to this business although he is additionally interested in some other directions, being secretary and treasurer of the Central Storage Company.

In March, 1911, Mr. Goehring married Miss Ina Kaiser, who was born in Hastings, Adams County, Nebraska. Her father George Kaiser, was formerly an electrician for the Burlington Railroad Company and now occupies the same position with the Oregon Short Line and resides in the state of Washington. Mr. and Mrs. Goehring have one daughter, Helen, who was born August 13, 1913. Mrs. Goehring is a member of the Episcopal church. He is very popular in musical circles in Grand Island. It was mainly through his efforts that a local orchestra was organized which for many years supplied fine music for dances and other entertainments, Mrs. Goehring also being an accomplished musician. Mr. Goehring belongs to a number of fraternal organizations including the Elks, the Eagles and the Liederkranz. He is a foremost member of the Y. M. C. A. and has been earnest in his efforts to further the work of this great and helpful organization in the year just closing.

AUGUST BECKER is one of the younger generation who is making a success of agricultural pursuits in operating the old home place in Washington township. He is a native of Hall County, his natal day being April 4, 1876, a son of Fritz Becker, a record of whom will be found elsewhere in this volume.

February 27, 1901 August Becker was united in marriage to Miss Amelia Ewoldt, like her husband a native of Hall County, a daughter of Cay and Elizabeth Ewoldt, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this vol-



T. M. HAINLINE



MRS. T. M. HAINLINE

ume. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Becker has been blessed with five children, whose names are: Alfred, Matilda, Bertha, Bernard and Walter, all of whom are at home.

Mr. Becker is engaged in general farming and the raising of Poland China hogs and Short Horn cattle, both branches of his business bringing him good annual returns. His place is well equipped having been improved by his father, the barn being one of the landmarks of the neighborhood, its erection having been made more than forty years ago.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Lutheran church, and Mr. Becker is serving his school district as treasurer, holding this responsible position for the last seven years. The family are held in the highest esteem, and their friends to-day are they who have known them since childhood.

JAMES MICHELSON was one of the pioneers of Hall County and for many years was an active force in the business affairs of Grand Island. He was a native of Denmark where he grew to manhood and married. He and his wife were members of wealthy families and were both well educated. About the time of the Civil War he decided to try his fortune in America. Not as many emigrants who had only the money to pay their passage across the waters, James Michelson was well provided with capital and to add to the comforts of the family two maid servants were brought along. Arriving at Omaha he purchased an outfit consisting of a spring wagon, a team and provisions and taking his family with him located in Montana where he engaged in the sheep business. He hired as interpreter a scout and from this man learned to speak the Indian, French and English languages. After spending two or three years in Montana he returned to Omaha where he built up a blacksmithing enterprise and found it very profitable shoeing horses for the soldiers. On his way west he had passed through Hall County and was very favorably impressed with the country so he returned to establish himself in the blacksmith business at a time when both horses and oxen were brought in to be shod. When the Union Pacific Railroad was being built Mr. Michelson found it profitable to supply ties for the construction of the road. He had purchased land with trees on it and the entire supply of timber was converted into ties for the railroad company. The second hotel in Grand Island was erected by Mr. Michelson; "The Nebraska House" will be remembered by many of the

older settlers. He also followed mercantile pursuits for many years, being prosperous in all of his undertakings. At one time he was the heaviest tax payer in Hall County.

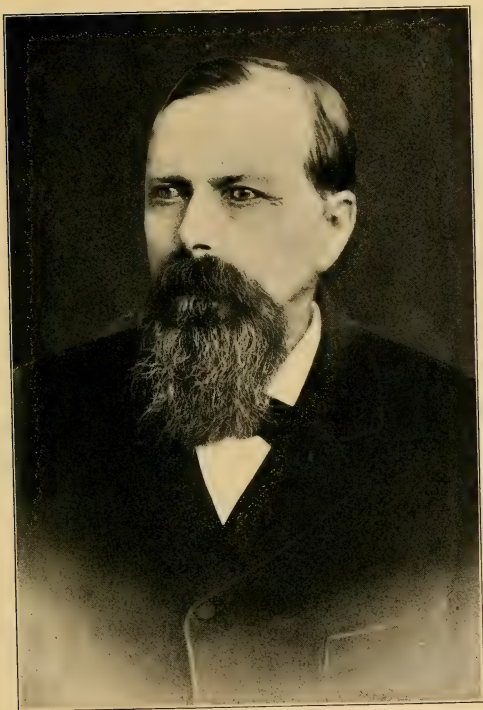
He was a Republican in politics and a liberal contributor to churches and all worthy enterprises. In his native land he had served nine years in the Danish army and fought for his country in the war with Germany. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity and exemplified the benevolent spirit of that craft in his daily life.

In this family were six children: Laurena, married Joseph Killian and is now a widow residing in San Bernardino, California; Carrie Maria, residing in California, is the widow of James Lambert, who was one of the first engineers on the Union Pacific Railroad; Anker, who passed away in 1894, was for many years a conductor on the Union Pacific Railroad; McLena, now Mrs. Wilkins, resides in Grand Island; Fred, who was born in Grand Island, in 1864, is now engaged in the real estate business in that city; and Rose Minnie, born in Idaho, is deceased.

The above record has been furnished by the daughter of this pioneer settler who accompanied the family to Grand Island. She was united in marriage to Edward B. Hirst who died in August, 1880. Of this marriage there were four children: Anker Hirst, a resident of Tulsa, Oklahoma, a machinist employed by an oil company; Fred, one of the organizers and member of the Sapho Chemical Company, died in St. Louis in 1913; Edward W., a mining promoter, also a member of the chemical company, residing at Mansfield, Missouri, and George, who had just entered college when he passed away in 1899.

January 25th, 1886, Mrs. Hirst was married to Mr. M. H. Wilkins, a native of Bristol, England. He was brought to the United States by his parents when one year old, the home being established in Utica, New York, later in St. Joseph, Missouri. Mr. Wilkins learned the machinist's trade which he followed until he retired in 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins are the parents of two children; Vina Meta, married Charles Conklin, a salesman for the Nebraska Mercantile Company, and Isaac James, a partner with his father in the management of the billiard parlors.

HERMAN C. GOEHRING, who is one of the substantial men of Prairie Creek township, Hall County, owns a large body of well improved land where he carries on general farming and stockraising. He was born in



JAMES MICHELSON

Germany, in 1865, the son of Ernest W. and Katherine (Easser) Goehring, who emigrated from Germany to the United States in 1874. The father died in 1892, when aged sixty-nine years, and the mother in 1911, at the hale old age of eighty-four years. Of their five children Herman C. was the second in order of birth, the others being: Richard; Ernest, who lives retired at Ravenna, Nebraska; Lena, a resident of Buffalo County, Nebraska, and Paul, who lives at Sheridan, Wyoming.

Herman C. Goehring was nine years old when he accompanied his parents to Nebraska where his father took up a homestead in Buffalo County, which he improved so that his farm was one of the finest in this locality. He was a well educated man and believed in the principles of the Socialist party as they were understood in his day. He was a faithful member of the Lutheran church. Herman C. Goehring had attended school in Germany and had further educational advantages after coming to Nebraska. He remained in Buffalo County until 1913 when he sold his interests there and removed to Hall County, purchasing a well improved farm of 160 acres, to which he has added from time to time until he now owns 320 acres. He has always been careful in his farming and stockraising as a result of which he has been signally successful in this chosen vocation.

In 1893 Mr. Goehring was united in marriage to Miss Hulda Wutcler, who was born in Germany and came to the United States with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Goehring have had ten children born to them, those whom survive being: Emma, the wife of Richard Schroeder, of Hall County; Clemens, who is at home; William, who is operating one of his father's farms; Lida, who resides at home; Rose, the wife of Louis Biering, a farmer in Hall County, and Elsie, Fred, Frieda and Richard, all of whom are at home. Two others died in infancy. Mr. Goehring and his family belong to the Lutheran church. In politics he is a Republican and while living in Buffalo County served as school treasurer. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen lodge in Grand Island.

MAX GREENBERGER, a man of enterprising and progressive personality who illustrates what energy and application to business can accomplish is representative of Grand Island's prospering business men, conducting a first class tailoring establishment and haberdashery, with attractive quarters on one of the leading business streets of this city. He

has been a resident of the United States since 1883.

Mr. Greenberger was born in Hungary, the son of Samuel and Frediel (Berkowitz) Greenberger, who still live in their native land, where the father is a merchant. In 1883 he visited the United States and remained one year looking over business prospects but decided to return to Europe. Of his family of twelve children eight are living and four of these are in the United States: Samuel, vice-president of the Grand Island Culvert works; Max, in business in Grand Island; Anna, the wife of J. Berkwitz, associated with Mr. Greenberger in business, and Rose, who is a nurse and now detailed to hospital work in New Jersey. The family is of the Jewish faith.

Max Greenberger attended school in his native land, until he was twelve years old when he began to learn the tailor's trade. As he grew older he sought better business opportunities and to find them came to the United States in 1883, landing in the city of New York. He found countrymen there, and remained one year in the metropolis to become accustomed to new world methods before making his way to Omaha, Nebraska, in which city he remained until 1907, when he came to Grand Island. For one year he worked at his trade for John Alexander, then embarked in the tailoring business for himself, and, as he saw a favorable opening, added a haberdasher's stock. Being a keen business man as well as a skillful tailor, Mr. Greenberger has built up a very profitable trade connection, while his circle of friends is constantly enlarging because of his honest methods and courteous manner.

In 1905 Mr. Greenberger married Miss Flora Graetz, who was born in the state of New York. They have two children: Louise and Miriam. The family attends the Jewish synagogue and keeps up the observances of their religious faith. Mr. Greenberger belongs to the Masonic fraternity but practically takes no part in politics.

WILLIAM SHEFFEL, one of Grand Island's most respected residents and influential business men, has claimed this city as his home for the past thirty-four years. His life has been one of great industry, by which he has gained well earned prosperity.

William Sheffel was born at Baden, Germany, March 19, 1863. His parents were Jacob and Sophia (Kranmer) Sheffel, the former of whom was born in Germany in 1830,

and died there in 1903; the latter, born in 1835, died in 1905. The father's trade was that of a stonecutter. They had six children, two of whom live in the United States, these being Jacob and William. The parents reared their children in the Lutheran church. In his native land, William Sheffel attended school and then worked under his father until he was eighteen years old, learning the trade of stone mason. Realizing broader opportunities were open for young men in the new world he left his native country for that "land of promise," America, coming to the United States. For three years he worked for an aunt, who resided at Alexandria, Virginia, but decided to carve his own course and in 1885 he came to Grand Island, Nebraska, and for thirty two years engaged in stone contracting.

Since 1917 he has been in the monument business. His yards are situated on the corner of Clearburn and West Point streets. Mr. Sheffel has been concerned for over a quarter of a century in almost all of the important stone and brick construction work in Grand Island. This has been accorded to him because of his expert knowledge of stone and stone work. He has cut and placed many monuments. At the same time he has continued his work along other important lines.

In 1889 William Sheffel married Miss Mary Scroeder, who was born in Canada. Their family consists of four children: Katie, the wife of Erich Meyer of Grand Island; Carl, in business with his father, a civil engineer who has recently returned from Nitre, West Virginia where he built a power plant; Flora, who lives at home; Tillie, who also lives at home; and William, who is a student in the high school. Mr. Sheffel's first wife died in 1906 and a year later he married Miss Katie Rickman who was born in Illinois, a daughter of Christofer Rickman, a pioneer in Buffalo County. Mr. and Mrs. Sheffel have two children: Rudolph and Louis. They are attending school and both are doing well.

Mr. Sheffel was for five years a member of the board of education. Also, he served as chief of a volunteer fire department for four years, and of which he has been a member for twenty-nine years.

JULIUS REESE.—One of the few trades in which factory work has not yet been able to equal skilled hand work, is harnessmaking, and in the shop of Julius Reese, No. 215 West Second street, Grand Island, may be found some fine specimens that have been turned out by the owner. He is an expert workman and

conducts the only exclusive shop of this kind in the city, having established a general harness business here in 1902.

Mr. Reese was born September 26, 1880, at Kiel, Germany. His parents are Christian and Margaret (Kruse) Reese the former of whom was born in Germany, May 7, 1852, and the latter in October, 1852. They came to America and to Hall County, Nebraska, in 1884. The father works in Grand Island as a tailor for A. W. Sterne. He is a member of the Lutheran church, and is a Socialist in his political views. Of his five children, the following are living: Julius, residing in Grand Island; Anna, who is the wife of Louis Poff, a steamfitter in the employ of the Union Pacific Railroad in Grand Island; Elizabeth, the wife of H. B. Alexander, a machinist in Grand Island; and William who is a mail clerk in Grand Island.

Julius Reese was but a child when his parents left their native land for America, soon after which they located in Grand Island. He obtained his education in this city and afterward learned the harnessmaking trade. There is a great demand for such work as he turns out and he has prospered in his chosen business to a most satisfactory extent. Like many other Germans, he has a talent for music, belonging to bands and orchestras, and takes an active part in the Liederkranz and Plattsdeutschen social organizations. He is also a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

In 1906, Julius Reese married Miss Marie Mollie Rickert, who was born at Grand Island, her father, Jacob Rickert, was an early settler here and shoemaker by trade. Mr. and Mrs. Reese have four children: Florence, Frederick, Dorothy and Lorraine. The members of the family are identified with the Lutheran church.

ALBERT THARP.—A busy, eventful, useful life has been that enjoyed by one of Grand Island's most esteemed citizens, Albert Tharp, who came to Thomas County, Nebraska in 1887, and in 1884 established himself in business in Grand Island. Business success has attended him, and many calls to public office have indicated the confidence reposed in him by his fellow citizens. He is an honored veteran of the Civil War, and has served as commander of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic, of which he is a member.

Albert Tharp was born in Marion, Marion County, Ohio, April, 22 1843. His parents were John and Margery (McKeever) Tharp, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively.



EDWARD WILLIAMS AND FAMILY

The father was born February 9, 1808, and died August 27, 1897, in the home of a daughter, at Enid, Oklahoma. The mother passed away October 13, 1874, in Decatur County, Iowa. Of their six children, Albert Tharp is the second of the three survivors, the others being: Martha S., the wife of John Hendrickson, a retired farmer of Denver, Colorado; and Joseph, who conducts a real estate business in Davis City, Iowa. The parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In 1846 John Tharp removed with his family from Ohio to Jasper County, Indiana, where he engaged in farming until 1853, when he removed to Leon, Decatur County, Iowa, taking up government land, securing eight hundred acres for \$1.25 an acre.

In the district schools in Iowa near his father's farm, Albert Tharp pursued his studies through boyhood. He gave his father assistance on the farm until 1862, when he enlisted for service in the Civil War, entering Company I, Thirty-fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. During his three years and one month of military life, he participated in many of the great engagements of the war under leadership of many of the noted commanders. Judge Tharp can yet recall Vicksburg, Arkansas Post, Mobile, Pensacola, Fort Blakely, Matagora Island and the Red River expedition under General Banks. He served at first as a private but later was promoted to drum major. All of his company in the army died, or were killed except twenty-one. Only that number returned.

At the close of the war Albert Tharp with his brave comrades returned to their homes in Iowa, where he resumed farming in Decatur County. With a quickened perception of public affairs that the war had brought, he realized clearly the duty of public-spirited men to enter into the field of local politics, because politics everywhere was influencing public opinion and government. Having the confidence of his fellow citizens to a marked degree he was elected constable of Decatur County. During the next twelve years he served continuously and efficiently as deputy sheriff, deputy treasurer or chief of police, being elected to all offices on the Republican ticket. Since coming to Grand Island he has been tendered many public offices and has served as police judge and justice of the peace. In 1887 he went to Thomas County, Nebraska, where he found excellent land and took up a homestead, acquiring two one-quarter sections. He lived on his farm there until 1894, when he removed to Grand Island, and

afterward embarked in the real estate business, which, with little interruption, he has carried on ever since.

On July 4, 1867, Mr. Tharp married Miss Ella K. Jenree, who was born in the state of New York. To them seven children have been born: Arthur S., who is engaged in farming near Overton, Nebraska; Izora, the wife of B. I. Mewhirter, who operates a telephone system at Tacoma, Washington; Zella, the wife of M. E. Johnson, for the last-twenty-five years a passenger conductor between Edgemont, South Dakota and Alliance, Nebraska; Fred, who is an engineer on the Northern Pacific Railroad; Lou; Ella, the wife of Michael O'Brien, a farmer near Blunt, South Dakota; Floyd, who owns a ranch in Wyoming, has but recently returned from his duties in the navy at Hampton Roads, Virginia; and Hazel J., the wife of Ebert R. Potts, who lives near Wheatland, Wyoming. Mrs. Tharp is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. During 1918 Judge and Mrs. Tharp enjoyed a period of travel. They visited all their children and several states. They found all sections possess advantages but none superior to those belonging to Nebraska. Judge Tharp is one of the older members of the lodge of Odd Fellows in Grand Island.

EDWARD WILLIAMS, the leading florist at Grand Island, has been interested in this vocation throughout his entire life. His taste for flowers, and his skill in producing them are natural abilities, and, as far as he knows, not inherited. His success has been remarkable and many neighboring cities and all adjacent territory largely depend upon him for flowers and plants. Mr. Williams is located at No. 122 North Elm street, Grand Island.

Edward Williams is a native of North Wales, born at Colwyn Bay, June 16, 1877. His parents were Hugh and Catherine (Elias) Williams, the latter of whom was born in Wales in 1848 and died there in 1885. Hugh Williams was born in Wales in 1848, came to the United States in 1888, and died at the home of his son in Grand Island in 1917. This son is the only survivor of his family of five children. When Hugh Williams came to the United States he located at Utica, New York, as a contractor and builder. For three years he was superintendent for a contracting firm in that city, then removed to Denver, Colorado, where he became superintendent of the Argo Smelter Company, continuing with that organization for eighteen years. While a resident of Denver he took an important part in

civic affairs and served in the city council from a Republican ward, for some years. When he definitely retired from active life he came to Grand Island and became well known in his last years in this city.

Edward Williams attended the public schools in Utica, New York, and later the high school in Denver. In that city, with the firm of Brown & Miller, he learned the florist business, later having further training with the Wilcox firm in Council Bluffs, where he remained for five years. In January, 1899, in partnership with S. H. Brewster, he bought the Jones greenhouse in Grand Island. Five years later he purchased Mr. Brewster's interest, since which time he has been sole owner. Mr. Williams has an investment here of \$45,000. His plant covers a half block and he has 28,000 square feet of glass. Aside from it being a creditable business enterprise, it is an exceedingly pleasant place for the people of Grand Island to visit at any time of the year.

In 1898 Mr. Williams married Miss Mina Rutledge, who was born in Missouri. They have two children: Irvin and Eleanor, aged respectively eleven and seven years, both of whom are attending school. Their eldest son, Lamont, was accidentally drowned in Lake Manawa, Council Bluffs, in August, 1918, at the age of fifteen years. Mr. Williams and his family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church. He is prominent in Masonry, having received both the York and Scottish Rites, and he belongs also to the Elks. Like his father, Mr. Williams has always taken an intelligent interest in public matters, accepting at various times the responsibilities of active citizenship. He served as chairman of the Central Republican committee for one year and one year was its treasurer. For two terms he was a member of the county board, chairman one term, and under the administration of Governor Aldrich was a member of the State Fire Insurance Board.

JOHN V. REILLY, M. D.—In the wide field covered by the medical profession, there must be special lines of the vast whole that call more directly to one scientific investigation than another. Its problems seem either more difficult, more interesting or more appealing than others, and hence we find doctors of eminent learning becoming more or less specialists. Attention may be called to one of Grand Island's able medical practitioners, Dr. John V. Reilly, who, while engaging in a general practice, makes a specialty of children's diseases.

John V. Reilly was born at Auburn, New York, August 10, 1881. His parents were William H. and Ellen J. (O'Neill) Reilly, the former of whom was born in Bombay, India, and the latter in New York. Both parents and one sister and two brothers of Dr. Reilly died in 1918, the latter being: William, a Catholic priest, residing at Riverhead, Long Island; Gertrude, a resident of Rochester, New York; and Frederick J., in business at Rochester, New York, and who had charge also of his father's real estate. Of the survivors of his father's family, Dr. Reilly has two brothers and one sister, namely: Edward J., manager of the Parisian Cloak House, at Rochester; Frank, assistant corporation counsel of the city of New York; and Helen, the wife of Edward Kammer, in the house furnishing business at Rochester.

During boyhood and youth Dr. Reilly had both social and educational advantages and was thoroughly prepared when he entered Holy Cross College, Worcester, Massachusetts, where he was graduated in 1902. This was followed by his graduation in 1906 from Georgetown University, Washington, D. C. His subsequent graduate work brought graduation from Bellevue Hospital, the New York Post Graduate School, Creighton Medical College, Omaha, and King's Park Hospital, Long Island. He has done much study in other lines. He was on the staff of St. Mary's Hospital at Rochester, New York, and assistant superintendent, Amityville Hospital, Long Island, New York. Dr. Reilly has devoted much study and investigation to mental and nervous diseases.

He came to Omaha, in 1912, and after further graduate work he removed to Greeley, Nebraska. From there he came to Grand Island in May 1917. His coming added one more to the professional men of which the city may be proud. Dr. Reilly married in 1912, Miss Helen Lennon. Mrs. Reilly was born in Rochester, New York. They have two children: John V. and Helen G. Dr. Reilly and his family belong to the Roman Catholic church as did, also, his parents. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus and, also, of the Elks. A busy physician, feeling his responsibility, he finds little time to devote to politics. Nevertheless he takes an interest in all local and public affairs. He uses his influence for the welfare of the city, county and state.

GUS VALONIS, successfully conducting a first class confectionery store, at No. 314

West Third street, Grand Island, is an enterprising business man of this city. He was born in September, 1880, in Greece, where his mother yet lives. He is a son of Peter and Catherine (Kostopulos) Valonis. His father, who was a small farmer, is deceased, but on the maternal side the family is unusually long-lived, the maternal grandmother of Mr. Valonis having exceeded the century mark by some years, and her proud descendants assert that she still possesses her natural complement of teeth.

Gus Valonis is one of a family of eight children, the eldest three living in the United States, the other two being: Dick, who works for his brother Gus, and William, who is employed in the Union Pacific car shops. The father was in poor financial circumstances when his sons were young and all had to do something to help the family. Even while attending school, Gus Valonis displayed commendable anxiety to give assistance, working first as a newsboy and later as a jewelry salesman. In 1895 he came to the United States and joined an uncle in Chicago, where he worked in his uncle's store and saloon for a time, after which he worked in a fruit store in Omaha, for four years. In 1904 Mr. Valonis came to Grand Island. He soon established himself in the confectionery business, in which he has greatly prospered. His business methods are honorable, his products attractive and wholesome, and Mr. Valonis stands well both as a business man and as a citizen. He gives his political support to the Democratic party. He belongs to the Orthodox Greek church.

BENJAMIN R. McGRATH, M. D.—Scarcely enough time has yet elapsed since the tragedies of Beauvais, Chantilly, Courcy, Chateau Thierry and Argonne Forest, France, to enable the world to learn, much less sufficiently appreciate, the marvelous accomplishments of surgical science that followed. Still less does the world know as it should, of the high courage and professional devotion that led trained men of medical science into the same danger as their helpless patients, nor how often, with resolution but almost in despair, they pitted their skill against the forces of death. Seemingly impossible operations were performed whereby scores of valuable lives were saved and, through wonderful surgical work, thousands of apparently shattered men will, in time, be able to return to normal life. As yet the story is too big to tell, but who can question that it is more noble

to restore than to destroy? In the wide citizenship of Grand Island can be found eminent professional men. The one to whom most respectful attention is called at the present time, is Benjamin R. McGrath, physician and surgeon, but recently returned from medical service in the hospitals behind the battle lines in France.

Dr. McGrath was born in Jo Daviess County, Illinois, May 17, 1873. His parents were Robert and Esther (Weir) McGrath, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania, the father in 1829 and the mother in 1834. They were reared and later married in Jo Daviess County, Illinois, to which section their parents had removed in 1836. The father of Dr. McGrath was a farmer all his life and at the time of his death, in 1903, owned a farm in Carroll County, Illinois. In early political life he was a Republican but later identified himself with the Prohibition party. Both he and the mother of Dr. McGrath, were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. She survived until 1906. Of the four surviving children of the family of five, Dr. McGrath is the youngest, the others being: James E., who is a farmer near Savanna, Illinois; Charles M., who resides on his ranch near Wauneta, Nebraska, and Wilmer W., who is a practicing physician at Savanna, Illinois.

Benjamin R. McGrath obtained his education in the public and a normal training school and for seven years afterward taught school in Illinois, and for three years at Grant, Nebraska. In the meanwhile he pursued the study of medicine which he had determined to make his life work, and in 1902 was graduated from the University of Illinois. He located first in Perkins County, Nebraska, coming from there to Grand Island in 1904. Surgery from the first has always been the favorite branch of his profession, but not until 1915, when he associated himself with Dr. Woodruff, did he decide to make it his specialty, and in preparation for the same he attended clinics at Rochester, Minnesota, Chicago and New York City.

The year 1917 was a vital one to Dr. McGrath as it was to thousands of other loyal American men. Like others he put aside his immediate personal affairs and entered the active service of his country on August 27, 1917, first as a medical officer in the Medical Officers' Training camp at Fort Riley, from there entering surgical service in Bellevue Hospital, being subsequently transferred to Camp Dodge. He was then assigned to Base Hospital No. 116, which mobilized in December, 1917, and he accompanied this hospital

to France in March, 1918. He was temporarily detached from this base hospital to serve as surgeon, in an operating team to assist in the evacuation hospitals at Beauvais, Chantilly and Coincy, but returned to Base Hospital No. 116 after four months of service with the operating team. During this term he took care of patients from all the battle fronts in France, receiving wounded men from Chateau Thierry at Chantilly, and following behind the army to Coincy but returning to the base hospital just in time to receive his fellow countrymen who had suffered in Argonne Forest, where he had charge of the fracture service. He left France, January 22, 1919 and was discharged from service at Camp Dix, February 3, 1919, reaching his home February 11. Hereafter Dr. McGrath will devote himself entirely to surgery, the general practice of the firm being attended to by Dr. Woodruff and Dr. Wilmer D. McGrath.

In 1905 Dr. McGrath married Miss Susan E. Williams, who was born in Jo Daviess County, Illinois. They have three children: William, Esther and Robert, all of whom are in school. Mrs. McGrath is a member of the Presbyterian church. In his political views, Dr. McGrath is a Republican. He has served both as county and city physician, and for nine years was a member of the board of education, a part of the time being president. Fraternally he is a Royal Arch Mason and also a Knight of Pythias.

RICHARD GOEHRING, a substantial and highly respected citizen of Grand Island, owner of valuable property here and president of the Central Storage Company, was born in Saxony, Germany, March 23, 1850. His parents were William Ernst and Ernestine (Steinbach) Goehring. They were both born in Saxony and in that country his mother died. After a time his father married, for his second wife, Miss Caroline Oeser. They came to the United States in 1874, settling in Buffalo County, where the father secured a land claim on which he lived until his death in 1892. Twelve children were born to the first family of which Richard is the only survivor. Four members of the second marriage survive. His father was a weaver in his native land but after coming to this country he devoted his life to farming. He was a member of the Lutheran church.

Richard Goehring obtained his education in Germany. Coming to America in 1873, he shortly afterward reached Nebraska, where he homesteaded in Buffalo County, living on

his land several years. He removed to Grand Island and for nine years worked for Fred Hedde, who operated a store, lumber yard and elevator. During this period he made rapid progress in this business and became so thoroughly qualified in the lumber industry that he was engaged as manager of a large lumber concern, a position he filled with the greatest efficiency for many years. As a solid, dependable business man, Mr. Goehring has always been very careful concerning the soundness of the enterprise with which he has permitted his name to become associated, and his acceptance of the presidency of the Central Storage Company definitely proves the stability of this large business house.

Mr. Goehring married, in 1881, Miss Paulina Wagner, who was born in Saxony, Germany. They have had five children: Theckla, a very capable young lady employed in the office of the Central Storage Co.; Hettie, the wife of Miller Bevier, of Salem, Oregon; Richard, manager of Hoagland's lumber yards at Grand Island, and Carl and Minnie, the last named being a graduate of the University of Michigan, now a teacher of mathematics in the high school of Salem, Oregon. Carl Goehring, a graduate of the medical department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, for two years had charge of a large hospital at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and for the past year has been a captain in the medical corps of the Fourth Battery, Twenty-second Engineers. Mr. Goehring has great reason to be proud of a family that reflects so much credit on their home training and on the community. He belongs to several well known fraternal and social organizations, including the American Order of United Workmen, the Royal Highlanders and the Liederkrantz, having been connected with the last named for forty years and many times has served as its president.

ROBERT TEVIOTDALE, sole owner of one of the large and important business enterprises of Grand Island, may be cited as an example of what may be accomplished through industry and thrift. Within fourteen years Mr. Teviotdale has built up a comfortable fortune. Eight of these years have been spent in Grand Island to the great advantage of the city. He is proprietor of the Monogram Bakery, and through his first class goods, his name has become well known all over the state of Nebraska.

Mr. Teviotdale was born at Abroath, in Scotland, of old Scotch Presbyterian stock.



RICHARD GOEHRING, SR.

His natal day was September 21, 1877. His parents are Adam and Isa (Burnett) Teviotdale, who still live in Scotland. His grandparents were Adam and Julia (Rail) Teviotdale and William Burnett, old Scottish names that have been honorably known in their country for many generations.

Robert Teviotdale is the only one of his parents' family of seven children who came to the United States. He had as fair educational advantages as his father, a bookkeeper, could afford him in Scotland, and subsequently learned the bakery trade in a most thorough manner. On March 9, 1905, he reached the shores of the United States, well equipped in the way of good habits, trade and health but with little visible capital. He made his way to Council Bluffs, Iowa, where he opened a bakery which he conducted for three years. During the next three years he operated a bakery at Onawa, Iowa, for an employer. But he was ambitious, decided to work out his own career and with this end in view came to Grand Island in 1911. He shortly afterward purchased a residence property and at the same time founded what is now the Monarch Bakery. Within a short period he bought a lot and erected his present modern building which is two stories in height, with dimensions of one hundred thirty-two by forty-two feet. This was completed in 1917. In its construction, space, air, light and sanitation were considered and without doubt, it is the most up-to-date and complete building of its kind in the state. Mr. Teviotdale is a systematic business man and has not only called to his establishment the most skillful assistants possible to secure, but he has made innovations that in a way, have radically changed many of the old methods of the industry. He was the first baker in Nebraska to introduce the wrapping of bread loaves in waxed paper. In a comparatively short time his business has grown to astonishing proportions. The bakery turns out 7,000 loaves of bread a day and the excellence and wholesomeness of his product may be indicated by the fact that it is shipped to various parts of the state. Mr. Teviotdale revolutionized the baking business in Grand Island. The old methods and processes in use before he came are no longer tolerated by the awakened community. He is president of the Nebraska Bakers' association.

Mr. Teviotdale married, in 1895, Miss Mary Smart, who was born in the northern part of Scotland. Three of their six children survive: William, recently honorably discharged from the army training camp at Humphreys, Virginia, who has resumed his old place in his

father's business house, and Stanley and Ruby, both of whom are in school. Mr. Teviotdale and his family belong to the Presbyterian church. In politics he is a Democrat and fraternally is a Mason and an Elk.

WILLIAM H. SAMPSON.—The ordinary, everyday man with no inventive talent, goes about his business unconsciously profiting in a hundred ways by the inventions of others who may have more quickness of brain and magic of hand. Possibly many of the inventions that have been perfected have not been beneficial in every way to mankind, but without a large number of them, modern life would lose much in safety and general comfort. In William H. Sampson, a widely known citizen, Grand Island has an inventor who has secured patents on several appliances of great merit.

William H. Sampson was born in Menard County, Illinois, December 26, 1847, the son of John W. and Susanna (Bale) Sampson both of whom spent their entire lives in Illinois. His grandparents were natives of Kentucky and his maternal grandfather was a Baptist minister. Of his parent's family of four children, William H. was the eldest, the others being: Stephen D., associated in business with his eldest brother; Joseph Marion, a resident of Casper, Wyoming; and Mary, the wife of William Clark, of Springfield, Illinois.

William H. Sampson attended the country schools in boyhood and made the most of his opportunities, thereby fitting himself for teaching school. He assisted his father on the home farm until he was fifteen years old, taught school in Illinois for ten years and then came to Hall County, Nebraska. In 1873 he homesteaded in Hamilton County and in the spring of the following year brought his family to the new home, on which they lived for several years. He retained this farm until 1918, when he sold it to advantage. After retiring from the farm Mr. Sampson lived one year at McCook where he engaged in a mercantile business. In 1889 he came to Grand Island and for more than a quarter of a century engaged here in a general real estate business, doing much to develop Hall County and other sections of the state. Mr. Sampson has handled a large amount of valuable property and has been the means of bringing much capital to this section. He is now giving particular attention to the patent business, several of his own inventions giving promise of large future returns. He invented a feeding machine for rivets, the patent for which he received No-

vember 26, 1918. He has also patented an automobile tire that is as near puncture proof as can be manufactured, which will, nevertheless ride free and easy. This invention was put on the market in the spring of 1919.

On October 26, 1871, Mr. Sampson married Miss Clarissa Denton, who was born in Illinois. They have three children: John W., of Seattle, Washington, who is a detective and a specialist in finger print investigation; William E., who conducts a ranch near Denver, Colorado; and Goldie, the wife of Vincent Noble, a merchant in Grand Island. Mr. Sampson and his family belong to the Baptist church. He was made a Mason in 1870 and has taken many degrees. He belongs also to the Fraternal Aid Union. While never actually active in politics and always voting independently, Mr. Sampson, with his wide, practical experience, has ever been a good citizen in deed as well as in name.

CLAUS STOLLEY, who for many years was a highly respected citizen and successful farmer in Hall County, everywhere known as an honest man and good neighbor, came to the United States in 1863. He was born in Germany. August 2, 1845, and died on his farm near Cairo, Nebraska, July 19, 1910.

Claus Stolley was brought up according to the laws prevailing in his country when he was young, by which he had school training, and military experience would have followed had he remained there. He wanted, however, to live a peaceful life and be a farmer, hence he came to the United States when eighteen years of age. He had no money but he had habits of industry and good health so that when he reached Douglas County, Illinois, he found no difficulty in finding work on farms and by 1890, when he removed to Sherman County, Nebraska, he was able to buy a farm near Ashton, where he remained fifteen years improving the land and gaining a comfortable living. In 1905 he was able to sell this to advantage and then bought the farm that his widow still owns, situated near Cairo, in this County.

In 1881 Claus Stolley married Miss Theresa Peters, who was born in Germany, a daughter of John and Anna Peters, both of whom died in the old country. In company with his sister Mrs. Stolley came to the United States in 1878 and lived in Davenport, Iowa, until her marriage to Mr. Stolley. Five children were born to them: William, who operates the farm near Cairo; Claus, who was a member of the American Expeditionary Force

that landed in France November 12, 1918; Anna, the wife of Claus Grave, a farmer in Illinois; Alvena, the wife of Frank Shoopman, a farmer near Cairo; and Emma, the wife of Dorsey Coons, a farmer near St Paul, Nebraska.

In the fall of 1910, following the death of her husband, Mrs. Stolley removed to Grand Island, in which city she has many friends and is highly respected. She is a member of the Lutheran church as also was Mr. Stolley. He was a Democrat in politics but did not desire any political office. He was very industrious and saving and thus was able to leave his family in comfortable circumstances.

EMIL STOLLEY.—That no better opportunities are offered for the successful performance of agriculture and other enterprises, than can be found in Hall County, is proved by the fact that many of her native sons have chosen to remain within her borders or have returned here after having been elsewhere.

Among this number may be mentioned Emil Stolley, who was born on the William Stolley homestead, September 17, 1865. Reared on the farm, educated in the public schools, he was well prepared under the lessons of enterprise and thrift taught by his father, to take up the responsible duties devolving upon a young man. In 1884 he went to Texas and for fifteen years represented his father's interests in a cement factory. Returning to the old home he associated himself with his father and brothers in agriculture and pork packing. The old packing establishment still stands on the farm, but after the death of his brother Richard, the duties falling upon the others were too numerous to further continue that phase of the business. Mr. Stolley is now giving his attention to farming and stockraising on the old farm.

November 30, 1901, Mr. Stolley married Miss Sophia L. Lauber, a daughter of Christian and Barbara (Lutz) Lauber, who came from Crete, Nebraska, in 1889, and are now both deceased. They were homesteaders in Filmore County, coming to Nebraska in 1873.

Mr. Stolley was formerly a Democrat in politics, but is now non-partisan. For the past eight or ten years he has been deputy precinct assessor.

HERMAN WILKENS, pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Trinity church in Grand Island, is a man of scholarly attainments, deep religious convictions and pleasing social gifts.

He has practically devoted his entire life to the church, and he is not only highly regarded by the church authorities, but is esteemed and beloved by all who have come under his parochial care.

Reverend Wilkins was born in the northern part of Germany, August 27, 1871, the son of Frank P. and Magdeline (Beckedorf) Wilkens, also natives of Germany, who came to the United States and settled in Platte County, Nebraska, in 1880. The father bought a farm near Columbus, on which the family lived for ten years and then moved to Hamilton County, where both parents subsequently died. They were people of sterling worth and enjoyed the confidence and friendship of all who knew them. Of their four children, Herman was the second born, the others being: Henry, a farmer in Hamilton County; Peter, also a farmer in Hamilton County; and Magdeline, the wife of John Werth, a farmer in the above county.

Herman Wilkens was nine years old when his parents settled in Platte County, Nebraska. He attended the public schools, later a school at Concordia, Missouri, for three years, and spent three years more in study at Fort Wayne, Indiana. After that he took a course in theology in Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri, graduating in 1895, being ordained in the same year. He remained in his first charge, the church in Minden, Nebraska, for eight years, and came from there to Grand Island in 1903. He has a large and intelligent congregation here of five hundred souls, two hundred and eighty communicants and seventy-three voting members. Through executive ability he has brought the various branches of church work to a high degree of excellence, and has the satisfaction of knowing that not only in his own congregation but with citizens generally, his teaching and influence are considered indispensable as a moral influence, outside of consideration of religious bias.

In 1896 Mr. Wilkens was united in marriage with Miss Amelia Rhode, a daughter of the late Carl Rhode, a veteran of the Civil War, having served four years in the army thereby contracting disease which finally terminated his life. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkens have the following children: Erma, who with complete efficiency, fills a position in a department store at Grand Island; Alfreda, who was graduated from the high school in 1918, is a book-keeper in a Grand Island business house; Walter, who is taking a course in college at Winfield, Kansas; Clara, who attends the parochial school, and Esther, who is also in

school. While Mr. Wilkens is no active partisan in political matters, he always votes with the Republican party. The family residence is No. 512 East Second street.

PETER CONWAY KELLEY, M. D., a man of wide reputation as a surgeon, has been eminent in his profession in Hall County for a number of years and prominent in public affairs. Dr. Kelley is the founder and proprietor of the Grand Island General Hospital. He was born in West Virginia, May 29, 1870, one of six sons born to Joseph and Mary C. (Creigh) Kelley, and the only one to settle in Nebraska.

Joseph T. Kelley was born at Beech Hill, Mason County, Virginia, (now West Virginia), September 19, 1841, and is now an honored retired resident of Charleston, West Virginia. His parents were Peter C. and Mary (Woodside) Kelley, both being residents of an old Virginia section that suffered severely during the progress of the Civil War. In June, 1861 Joseph T. Kelley enlisted in Co. E, twenty-second Virginia Infantry, for service in the Confederate Army. He took part in the battles of Cold Harbour, Winchester, Dry Creek, Minoxie Junction, Fayetteville and New Market. On September 19, 1864 at Winchester, he was struck in the foot by a shell from which he was disabled for six weeks. He was captured during the battle and held as a prisoner of war six months in the Federal prison at Point Lookout, Maryland. A brave and gallant soldier, he served in the Confederate Army three years and six months. In 1865 he married Miss Mary C. Creigh, who was born at Lewisburg, Greenbrier County, now West Virginia, May 9, 1839, who died in that state in 1880. Her parents were John and Delilah (McClung) Creigh, the latter of whom lived to the remarkable age of ninety-eight years.

Peter C. Kelley had excellent school advantages in boyhood, subsequently attending the State Normal school at Huntington, West Virginia, and the National Normal University at Lebanon, Ohio, where he remained one term. He then concentrated on the study of medicine and on April 13, 1898, was graduated from the Barnes Medical College of St. Louis, Missouri. Dr. Kelley began practice at Looneyville, West Virginia, where he continued for two years and then spent some time in graduate work in the medical schools of Chicago. During the next four years he was in practice at Alda, Nebraska. The doctor then decided on a trip to Oregon and he and his wife made



P. C. Kelley M. D.

the long journey by mule team and during the next four years he practiced at Harrisburg, Oregon. Following his residence in the west Dr. Kelley visited New Orleans, Louisiana, and while there took an additional graduate course, subsequently engaging in practice for five months at Alexandria. He returned to Alda, Nebraska, to continue his practice there until 1912, when he came to Grand Island. Here he built his fine modern hospital, known as the Grand Island General Hospital, a sketch of which will be found elsewhere in this volume. That same year Dr. Kelley was elected to the state legislature and served as speaker of the house during the session of 1913.

Dr. Kelley married in West Virginia, June 19, 1898, Miss Virgie Taylor, who was born at Walton, West Virginia. They have four children: Kate, a graduate of a business college at Minneapolis, Minnesota; Daisy, a high school student; Helen, in school, and Robert Lee, who has passed his sixth birthday. Mrs. Kelley is a member of the Baptist church. Dr. Kelley belongs to the State Medical Society, Hall County Medical Society, and in 1907 was president of the latter. He is a Scottish Rite Mason. He is surgeon for the C. B. & Q. railroad and at one time served in the same capacity for the Union Pacific. He is first vice-president of the Farmer's Life Insurance Company of America, of Denver, Colorado, and is president of the State Bank of Alda, which he helped to organize. Dr. Kelley's personality inspires confidence and the esteem in which he is held is continually being evinced.

JOSEPH M. SOPER, M. D., who has been established in the practice of his profession in Grand Island since 1918, has had no difficulty in winning the confidence of the public. Dr. Soper has an honorable professional reputation behind him which justifies the high regard in which he is held in this city.

Joseph M. Soper was born at Forrest, Canada, March 27, 1880, the son of Seymour and Ellen (Cairns) Soper, the former of whom was born in Quebec, Canada, and the latter in Scotland. His father followed an agricultural life until 1914, when he retired and moved to Forrest. Of the family of five children, Dr. Soper is the only one living in the United States. After attending the public schools of Forrest, he entered the University in London, Canada, from which institution he was graduated with the A. B. degree in 1905, receiving the degree of M. D. a year later. In 1907 he came to Shelton, Nebraska, for the practice of his profession, where he

remained until 1918. He built up a large practice and still practically holds it, but he finally realized that his zone of work was too widely extended for his health, necessitating constant driving, hence he transferred his main office to Grand Island. Dr. Soper is a close student. Surgery is a preferred branch of his profession, and to perfect himself in this science he has taken graduate courses at Rochester, Minnesota.

In June, 1914, Dr. Soper was united in marriage with Miss Anna Hurley, a professional nurse, who is a graduate of St. Joseph's Hospital, Chicago.

Dr. Soper is independent in his political views. He belongs to the Elks, in Kearney, and to the Knights of Pythias. He is identified with many professional organizations, among them the Nebraska State Medical Society, the American Medical Association, and the Buffalo County Medical Society, which he served as president. He was reared in the Presbyterian church.

OSCAR WELLS, a large property owner in Grand Island is now practically retired from active participation in business. For many years he was an important factor in the grain industry, operating a line of elevators in Hall and Buffalo counties. Mr. Wells is a self made man, building up his own fortune after coming to Hall County in 1878. He was born in West Virginia, June 29, 1856, one of four children born to Levy H. and Johannah E. (Wiseman) Wells, natives of Virginia. The maternal grandfather was Jephinneh Wiseman, who was of Dutch descent, his people having settled in Greenbrier County, now in West Virginia, when they came from Holland to the United States at an early day. The paternal grandfather, Levi Wells, was born in the city of Philadelphia and removed early to Virginia. The father of Mr. Wells worked at the blacksmith trade during the greater part of his life. He was a man as sturdy in character as he was in muscle, serving in many public offices in the gift of the Democratic party, being a county commissioner at times and also was county judge. His two surviving sons are Oscar and S. F. The latter never came to Nebraska, living in West Virginia where he is engaged as a land broker. The parents were members of the Baptist church.

Oscar Wells attended both private and public schools in youth, and before coming to Nebraska taught school for two years. He joined an uncle who lived in Grand Island,

the late E. R. Wiseman, who was a pioneer lumber man here. For five years Mr. Wells was associated with his uncle in the lumber business before he became connected with Lewis Wasmer as a grain commission merchant. After the death of Mr. Wasmer, Mr. Wells took over the grain business of his former employer, expanded and developed it and in the course of years was considered a leader of this important business in this section of the state. From the time he first came to Grand Island and found his first job as a grocery boy, until in June, 1918, when he sold his last grain plant, Mr. Wells was one of the city's hardest workers. During the intervening years, as favorable opportunity came, he invested in real estate and has accumulated much valuable property at Grand Island. Much of this property has been improved and is a credit to the city.

In 1881 Mr. Wells was united in marriage to Miss Mollie Morgan, who was born in Missouri, and died in her home in Grand Island, in 1915. She was a woman of beautiful character, and was a member of the Presbyterian church. She is survived by one daughter, Florence, the wife of William Kelso, who is a clerk in the Grand Island post office. They have one daughter, Ruth. For a number of years Mr. Wells has been secretary of the Masonic lodge in Grand Island. In his political views he is independent of party ties, but has always been active in the cause of prohibition and therefore belongs to the great majority who rejoice over the suppression of the liquor traffic. Few men in the grain trade in this section are so well or favorably known as Oscar Wells.

Mr. Wells has been identified with church work for over forty years. He has been superintendent of Sunday schools and teacher for several years; is holding the highest elective office in the Presbyterian church at present. He believes that the Bible is the only rule and guide for individual as well as national life; that the church is the only great factor in making the world/a safe place to live in.

WILLIAM T. DETWEILER, cashier of the German Bank, at Millard, Nebraska, has important interests in the line of agricultural implements in Grand Island and other points in Nebraska. Practically from the bottom of the ladder Mr. Detweiler has built his fortune, and the foundation stone of his success has been business integrity.

Mr. Detweiler was born in Cumberland

County, Pennsylvania, September 8, 1867, the son of John W. and Susan (Timmons) Detweiler, both of whom were natives of the Keystone state. The mother of Mr. Detweiler resides in Osceola, Nebraska. His father served more than three years as a soldier in the Civil War, participating in many important battles. He removed to Nebraska in 1878 and bought railroad land in Polk County and later took up a homestead in Custer County. In politics he was a Republican. While his wife was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, he remained steadfast to the United Brethren faith, in which he had been reared. His death occurred in 1896, at the age of seventy-three years. Of his children, the following are living: J. O., in practice as an attorney at Omaha since 1888; A. B., president of the German Bank in Millard, Nebraska; Charles E., associated with his brother William T. in Ord and North Loup, Nebraska; Mrs. Jennie Hartzell, a resident of Pennsylvania; Mrs. David Kunkle, lives in Osceola, Nebraska; Mrs. O. E. Mickey, whose father-in-law was ex-Governor Mickey, and whose husband is president of the Osceola Bank, and William T., who has established his home in Grand Island.

William T. Detweiler obtained his schooling in Polk County, Nebraska, and through boyhood worked on a farm. At a later time he became associated with his brothers, A. B. and J. O. Detweiler, in a banking business in Millard, Nebraska, where he remained eight years and is still cashier of the institution. Close confinement made it necessary for him to seek a more active life and this led to his becoming a traveling salesman for the Deering Harvester Company. He continued with that concern until the formation of the International Harvester Company, traveling in the southeastern part of the state out of Lincoln. In 1903 he entered into business relations with the John Deere Plow Company, which were not interrupted until July 1st, 1913, when he gave up traveling in order to give closer attention to his many personal interests which had increased in volume. Mr. Detweiler is a member of the firm of Bailey & Detweiler at Ord; Bailey & Detweiler of North Loup; of Detweiler & Petersen of Burwell; of Hisen & Detweiler, in Ansley, Nebraska, and additionally, operating under his own name, has a large implement store in Grand Island which he proposes to still further enlarge.

In 1896 Mr. Detweiler married Miss Anna Peters, of Millard, Nebraska, who died November 21, 1913, survived by two children:

Wallace, a traveling salesman for the International Harvester Company, and Merwyn, completing his high school course. On June 4, 1915, Mr. Detweiler married Miss Anna Doshn, who was born in Grand Island. They have two children, Ardith and Donald. Mr. and Mrs. Detweiler are members of the English Lutheran church. He is not very active in politics but votes with the Republican party and takes a good citizen's interest in public affairs. He has an unimpeachable business reputation and is known more or less all over the state.

CARL V. WILLARD occupies a prominent place in the business world in Grand Island as secretary and treasurer of the Donald Company. He is also an active and popular citizen, serving most satisfactorily as councilman from the second ward.

Mr. Willard is a native of Missouri, born in Shelby County, August 17, 1877, the second in a family of three children born to W. L. and Maggie (Vance) Willard. The father was born in 1845, at Auburn, New York, was married at Oquawka, Illinois, came to Grand Island and went into the insurance business. He died here in 1895. He was a Democrat in politics and was a member of the Presbyterian church. The mother of Mr. Willard was born in 1847, at Terre Haute, Indiana. She now resides at Los Angeles, California, with her daughter Abigail, the wife of F. B. Reynard, secretary of the California Vegetable Union. Her eldest daughter, Frederika, the wife of Dr. E. O. Weber, lives at Wahoo, Nebraska.

Carl V. Willard remained in school at Grand Island until he completed his high school course, when he accepted a position with the Bank of Commerce as a bookkeeper, although he was only fourteen years old. Afterward he became connected with the Minton-Woodward Company, wholesale grocers and fruitiers, where he continued four years. On May 19, 1899, he became associated with the Donald Company, to which he has devoted his best business efforts ever since.

On May 16, 1905, Mr. Willard was united in marriage to Miss Meta Schourup, who was born at Grand Island, daughter of Edward Schourup, who was in the lumber and coal business in this city. Mr. and Mrs. Willard have two children: Vance, who was born May 20, 1907, and Carl Edward, who was born May 8, 1910. Mrs. Willard is a member of the Lutheran church and Mr. Willard of the Presbyterian church. He is vice president

of the Liederkranz society, and a member of B. P. O. E. No. 604, being the youngest past exalted ruler of this order to be so honored in the United States. In politics he is a Democrat but in his official position is non-partisan.

GEORGE WASHINGTON WINGERT, cashier of the Cairo State Bank, came to Hall County in the days now denominated "pioneer times," and his life here has been fairly representative of the class that has taken an important part in the development of this section of Nebraska. In the quiet, comfortable, orderly procedure of life and business at the present time in settled communities, there is little on the surface to suggest the old days of hardship, privation and constant watchfulness, but Mr. Wingert and his contemporaries remember and in an interesting way, for historical purposes, recall them.

George Washington Wingert was born in Perry County, Pennsylvania, November 1, 1857. His parents were Peter S. and Maria (Rynard) Wingert, both of whom were born in Perry County. Peter S. Wingert was a tailor by trade and followed the same in Perry County until he was thirty-five years of age when he turned his attention to farming for a time. With the intention of securing better agricultural opportunities, perhaps, for he had a family of ten children, in 1867 he moved to Warren County, Illinois, but later recognized the better advantages offered in Nebraska. Hence, in 1873 Mr. Wingert brought his family to Hall County and homesteaded, securing the east half of the northeast quarter section 20-12-10 Prairie Creek township. He resided on that place until 1877 when he removed to a cultivated tract of land near Kansas City, on which he engaged in gardening until 1881 and then returned to Nebraska. The following four years he lived one mile south of Abbott, but when Cairo began to show signs of rapid development, in 1886, he came to the new town and was an important factor here but had removed to Grand Island before his death, which occurred in 1902. For years he was active in Republican politics, had served many times on the county board and had been a justice of the peace until he was eighty years old. His wife died in 1891 and of their ten children the following are living: Mary E., the widow of Samuel Schlisler, lives at Denver, Colorado; Anna M., the widow of James T. Allen, lives at Los Angeles, California; Ida V., the wife of David Millhollen, lives in Oregon; Alice C., the widow of George Adwers, lives in Chicago; George W.,

a resident of Cairo, Nebraska; Milton C., married Roberta Calhoun, lives in Wood River, Nebraska; and Emma J., the wife of John H. Squires, lives in Canada. Those deceased are: Salmon M., who served as a soldier throughout the entire period of the Civil War; William C., who died July 6, 1907, and Jeremiah A., deceased, was the founder of the Grand Island Metal & Culvert Works. The mother of this family was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

George W. Wingert attended the country schools in boyhood and practically remained at home with his parents until he was twenty-one years old. At one time, for six months, he prospected for gold in the Black Hills, but met with so little success that he returned home. Afterward, for six months, he met with better success and came up with more adventure, as a trapper between Tredford and Seneca, Nebraska, on the Middle Loup river. In the meanwhile his father and brother had become interested in a gardening project near Kansas City and he joined them and continued until the fall of 1881, when he went into the same business one mile south of Abbott, Nebraska. In the spring of 1886 Mr. Wingert came to the new town of Cairo and was one of the enterprising early business men, opening a grocery and meat market and conducting the same in conjunction with the shipping of stock, until 1897. In that year he took charge of an elevator for Oscar Wells & Co., of Grand Island, continuing his stock shipping up to 1904, when he embarked in a grocery business in partnership with his brother, the late William C. Wingert. On account of ill health he later sold his interest to his brother and went to Denver, Colorado, where he remained one year and then returned to the grocery store, but sold out when his brother died in the following summer. Mr. Wingert became associated with the Cairo State Bank as cashier, October 7, 1907, and this confidential relation has continued ever since.

Mr. Wingert married, March 23, 1890, Miss Emma E. Travis, who is a daughter of Buckle C. and Mary (Vannetta) Travis, natives of Wisconsin, pioneers of Hall County and present residents of Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. Wingert have four children: Fern M., employed in the public schools at Phillips, Nebraska; Ida B., the wife of H. S. Brown, lives at Loup City, Nebraska; Jean B., the wife of Howard J. Finley, lives in Grand Island; and Edna B., who resides at home. As was his father, Mr. Wingert has been foremost in public affairs and is a zealous Republican. At one time he consented to be

the Republican candidate for county treasurer and lacked but nineteen votes of election in the primary.

Mr. Wingert relates many interesting stories of early days in Hall County. One of these occurred three weeks after he reached here, March 22, 1873, and made such an impression that it can never be forgotten. Every old settler of the county remembers the memorable snow storm of the spring of 1873. It happened that Mr. Wingert had "bunked" with John Mader, in a sod house, which had the big chimney of such primitive structures and the old fashioned latchstring in the door. When the boys awakened in the morning they found themselves completely buried in snow and it was with difficulty they made their way to the neighboring frame house. When the storm of three days duration was over and they endeavored to enter the sod house, they found the interior completely filled with snow that the wind had driven down the chimney and through the latchstring aperture. It might have been their fate, as it was that of many others, to be suffocated by the snow.

HENRY SCHUMACHER.—One of the men of marked business enterprise steadily active for years in the affairs of Hall County and Grand Island, is Henry Schumacher, proprietor of a large meat market here, which he conducts in a modern building at No. 113 South Wheeler Avenue, Grand Island, an enterprise in which he has been engaged since 1916. For nearly a quarter of a century he has been a resident of the county, and for a number of years has served as a city official.

Henry Schumacher was born in Holstein, Germany, October 11, 1865, the son of Henry and Catherine (Brockmueller) Schumacher, who came to the United States in 1885, settling in Iowa. The father was a hard working farmer in that state where by thrift and industry he accumulated property. He died on his farm in Iowa, February 29, 1908, at the age of seventy-eight years. The mother survived him nine years, passing away at the home of her son in Grand Island, in April, 1917, in her ninety-third year. They were parents of four children: John, a farmer near Preston, Iowa; Mary, the wife of William Barghols, a farmer near Cushing, Iowa; Henry, a resident of Grand Island, and Eliza, the widow of Henry Vohs, of Holstein, Iowa.

The German schools afforded Henry Schumacher his education after which he worked on farms until 1885 when he accompanied his parents to the United States and to Iowa.



HENRY SCHUMACHER

There he gave his father assistance and engaged in farm work until twelve more years had passed by, becoming a successful husbandman and a good judge of stock. After coming to Grand Island in 1897, he worked at various occupations before engaging in a saloon business, conducting an orderly and high class liquor store for eleven years. During this period he was prominent in city politics and helped start many business enterprises that have resulted in profit to the city. Mr. Schumacher never accepted city office except that of city jailor, in which he was an honest and faithful custodian. In 1916 he embarked in the meat business in a substantial building that he erected and owns, and now enjoys a fine line of patronage under the name of Henry Schumacher and Son.

In 1897 Mr. Schumacher united in marriage Mrs. Alvina Cornelius, the widow of John Cornelius. She had one son, Max John Cornelius, who returned to his home February 4, 1919, from military service at Camp Funston, which he entered April 1, 1918, being assigned to military police duty. Mr. and Mrs. Schumacher have four children: Olga, her father's capable assistant in his business; Frieda, Elsie and Maxine, all of whom are at home. Mr. and Mrs. Schumacher are members of the Lutheran church. They have a comfortable and attractive home at 709, West Koenig street, which was completed in 1912. He was one of the organizers in Grand Island of the Plattdeutschen, was secretary of the society for fifteen years, belongs to the Liederkrantz and the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

JOHN E. COX, whose personal popularity in Cairo and throughout Hall County is marked, has numerous interests in Nebraska, both business and political, and since 1909 he has been vice president of the Cairo State Bank. He has lived in Nebraska almost all his life and no native son is prouder of the state.

John E. Cox was born at Remington, Jasper County, Indiana, November 20, 1875, and is the eldest of the five surviving children born to his parents, James M. and Sarah J. (Tyler) Cox, both of whom were born at Plano, Illinois. James M. Cox was a farmer in his earlier years. In 1879 he came with his family to Hamilton County, Nebraska, and still makes his home in Hampton, in which city he has lived since 1885. He continues to be interested to some extent in the stock business, and for many years he has been prom-

inent in banking circles, being president of the Farmers State Bank of Bradshaw until he sold his interests there, and at present is on the directing board of a bank in York. He is well known in fraternal circles, having advanced far both in Masonry and Odd Fellowship, and he has an honorable record in Republican politics, having served two terms as state senator representing Hamilton, York and Clay counties. Of his seven children, the following are living: John E., a resident of Cairo, Nebraska; Frank H., lives in Hampton, married Cora Powers; Alice E., the wife of S. C. Houghton, resides at Hampton; Vera S., the wife of W. T. Bavinger, of Omaha, and Ralph E., a lieutenant in the United States Army, is stationed at Waco, Texas.

John E. Cox attended school at Hampton, Nebraska, and afterward spent a year in the Omaha Business College. His first business connection was with an Omaha stock commission house, where he was employed for eighteen months as a bookkeeper, after which he engaged in the elevator business with his father for a few years, in Hampton, and in the same place conducted a hardware store for one year. After selling his store in Hampton, in July, 1901, he came to Cairo to embark in an elevator and stock enterprise here, in which he continued active until 1913, when he disposed of his elevator interests. Since that time he has devoted his time variously to farming, stock dealing and banking; in 1909 accepting the position of vice president of the Cairo State Bank. Mr. Cox's farming is on an extensive scale. He has a large farm south of Cairo and a ranch near Lakeside in Sheridan county and manages both properties. He finds time, however, to be also active in the political field, having served a term in the General Assembly from Hall County, elected on the Republican ticket. In local affairs he has always shown a good citizen's interest and at present is a member of the town board. He built the first alfalfa mill in Hall County, erecting it at Cairo, and in many ways has shown business enterprise.

Mr. Cox married, November 17, 1896, Miss Dorothy C. Jacobsen, a daughter of Christian Jacobsen, a pioneer settler in York County. Mr. and Mrs. Cox have the following children: Gael M., Lucille E., Helen E., Sarah M., Ralph E., and Harold. Mr. Cox is a Mason and also an Odd Fellow.

REV. REUNE R. COON, minister, author and editor, is one of the prominent men of the Baptist church in Nebraska. He was born

at Peoria, Illinois, July 2, 1848, a son of Rev. R. R. and Emeline (McCowen) Coon. The father of Dr. Coon was born at Coontown, New Jersey, June 11, 1815, and his mother near Cincinnati, Ohio, April 6, 1820.

For sixty years the father of Dr. Coon was a minister in the Baptist church, during which time he organized six churches in addition to bearing his other responsibilities. He passed many years in churches and institutions in Illinois. At one time he was chairman of the board of trustees of Shurtleff College; was chaplain of the Illinois penitentiary, and in 1861 was a chaplain in the Union Army during the Civil War. He was the author of "The Primacy of the Jewish Race," "The Future Life," and a volume of poems. Of his five children, Dr. Coon of Grand Island, was the third in order of birth, the others being: Reuben W., now deceased, lived at Waukegan, Illinois, and served one term in the state senate; James M., a resident of Chicago, founded the National Young People's paper, of which he was editor for twenty-five years and is the author of much Sunday school literature, John J., who was a journalist, died at Flint, Michigan, and Anna M., the widow of Rev. J. C. Johnson, formerly of Chicago.

Dr. Coon attended the public schools at Alton, Illinois, and an academy, the University of Chicago and the Chicago Theological Seminary, and on class day was first prize orator. He was a member of the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity, editor of the college paper, and is entitled to the signatures of many degrees indicating high scholarship. On October 9, 1877, he was ordained to the ministry at Vernon, Michigan, where he served four years, going then to St. Cloud, Minnesota, and to Oshkosh, Wisconsin. In 1898 he came to Nebraska and served churches at Laclede, Polk, Glenville and Peru, in 1905 coming to Grand Island in order to secure educational advantages for his children. He established the Inter State Christian Herald, of which he was editor for four years, and taught rhetoric and public speaking in the Baptist College, having trained five students at one time for intercollegiate oratorical contests and enjoying the satisfaction of having first prizes taken in two instances. He is historian of the Baptist State convention and is clerk of the Grand Island Baptist association. Much of Dr. Coon's time is taken up in literary effort which finds publicity in many leading publications.

In Chicago, on November 6, 1879, Dr. Coon married Miss Eva Huntington, a daughter

of Charles B. Huntington, formerly a very prominent produce merchant of Chicago. Dr. and Mrs. Coon have four children: Raymond H., professor of Latin in William Jewell College, Liberty, Missouri, was the first Rhodes scholar selected from Nebraska; Julius M. and Jesse D., twins, both of whom are lawyers at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, being graduates of the University of Chicago, the latter acting as assistant judge at Sioux Falls, the former being superintendent of the Y. M. C. A. at Camp Funston, and Anna M., the wife of Julius R. Hickerson, a planter near Tullahoma, Tennessee. Dr. Coon, like his father, has been a lifelong advocate of temperance.

HENRY TALLMAN INGALLS, whose extensive milling interests have made his name well known for many years in Hall and other counties in Nebraska, is one of Cairo's progressive business men and is at the head of a very important modern enterprise that is conducted under the style of H. F. Ingalls & Sons. He accompanied his parents to Nebraska in boyhood and his subsequent life has been spent here.

Henry Tallman Ingalls was born in Dover, Bureau County, Illinois, the third in a family of four children born to his parents, Charles and Gertrude (Van Arsdale) Ingalls, both of whom were born in the state of New York. In early manhood Charles Ingalls moved to Illinois and engaged in farming there until 1872, when he came to Nebraska with his family. He took up a homestead in Adams County and later acquired another tract of 160 acres, both farms being now included in the city of Hastings, the latter being known as the College Addition, while the Catholic convent stands on the site of the old homestead. An interesting side light is thrown upon hardships the pioneers of those early times in the state were obliged to accept, in noting the difficulty that Mr. Ingalls experienced in the matter of transportation when he moved here. Railroad trains reached Hastings about once in two weeks and when he wished to bill his household goods to that village, he found it necessary to bill to the next station on the route. Fortunately he was saved the expense of back hauling for the engineer accommodatingly stopped the train at Hastings and put off his goods, in all probability there being no special train schedule followed closely. Mr. Ingalls shipped the first load of lumber that reached Hastings, and furthermore, he raised the first car load of wheat that was shipped from that point. He continued

to live on his land in Adams County until his death, which occurred in 1900. In politics he was a Republican and in his neighborhood he was respected and esteemed as a quiet, capable citizen. Both he and wife were members of the Congregational church. Her death occurred in 1906. Their children were: Charles, connected with the claims department of the Chicago & Rio Grande Railroad, in Denver; Gertrude, deceased, was the wife of A. L. Clark; Henry T., a resident of Cairo, Nebraska, and Mollie, the wife of A. S. Campbell, postmaster in Imperial, Nebraska.

Henry T. Ingalls attended the public schools in Adams County, the Nebraska State University at Lincoln, and a business college at Saint Joseph, Missouri. Farming was his chief employment until he was twenty-one years of age, at which time he went into the cattle business in Howard County, in which he continued for five years. From 1889 to 1892 he was in the flour milling business in Hastings, having had a year of previous experience in this line at North Loup. From Hastings he came to Doniphan, Hall County, where he operated as a grain merchant for sixteen years. In 1911 he came to Cairo and embarked in a grain and coal business, subsequently expanding and buying a flour mill, which he has operated ever since, having increased by the installation of modern equipments the mill capacity and doubled it in 1916. The mill is kept running day and night and still cannot keep up with orders. A favorite brand that has met with almost universal approval, Mr. Ingalls has named Cairo. Associated with him in business under the firm name of H. T. Ingalls & Sons, Mr. Ingalls has his son, Ray Ingalls, and his son-in-law, Harry Turner. Two millers are employed in the Cairo mill and the company owns and operates an elevator at Saint Michael.

Mr. Ingalls married, December 9, 1884, Miss Anna Wilson, a daughter of John W. Wilson, of Saint Joseph, Missouri. They have three children: Helen, the wife of Harry Turner; Marion, the wife of Robert Thompson, and Ray, who married Edna Nielson. Mrs. Ingalls is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics Mr. Ingalls is a Democrat, being active in local interests.

FREDERICK STOLLEY is one of the prominent and successful farmers and stockmen of Hall County where he has spent nearly all his life, coming here with his parents when two years of age.

He was born in Davenport, Iowa, March 26, 1857, a son of William and Wilhelmina Fredericka (Hagge) Stolley, of whom an extensive record appears elsewhere in this volume. He was reared on the pioneer farm near Grand Island and his early education was acquired in his father's home under a private teacher as there were no public schools in the county at that time. Later he took instruction under a Mr. Nogle for one year and then attended a school taught by a Polish teacher. When district No. 1 was organized he became a student there with Charles Rief as teacher.

When his school days were over he became a fireman on the Union Pacific Railroad and here he earned his first money. By carefully husbanding his earnings he was enabled to invest in land near Ravenna, Nebraska, taking up farming and residing there for eight years. He then removed to his present farm and has since carried on farming and stockraising quite extensively and is known as one of the most progressive and up-to-date agriculturists of the county.

June 1, 1889, Mr. Stolley married Miss Anna Seier, a daughter of John and Sophia (Boehl) Seier, who were early settlers of Hall County, both of whom have passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Stolley have become the parents of eight children, seven of whom are living: Minnie, William, Frederick, Clara and Herbert are unmarried and are still under the parental roof; Anna, the wife of John Rhoades of Plattsmouth, Nebraska, and Maude, the wife of Chris Nelson, of Grand Island.

Mr. Stolley is an advocate of the teachings of socialism, believing the best interests of the people can be better conserved through the principles of that organization than through either of the old political parties. He was the pioneer in promulgating the doctrines of that party in Hall County and he had converted his father to the belief before the death of the latter. Following in the footsteps of his illustrious parent he has given loyal support to those enterprises that have had to do with the upbuilding of the community. He was one of the organizers of school district number 80, and has served on the board of directors continuously since that time. He is president of the fire and tornado insurance company that his father organized more than twenty-five years ago, and the company have more than four millions of insurance on their books among the farmers of Hall and adjoining counties.



MR. AND MRS. FRED STOLLEY

C. HUGO HEHNKE, recognized as one of the enterprising business men and reliable citizens of Cairo, Nebraska, has spent almost all his life in Hall County. He was born at Wandsbek, Germany, August 8, 1877, a son of Herman Hehnke. He has a brother, Herman W. A. Hehnke, of Grand Island, in whose sketch will be found a more complete record of the Hehnke family.

C. Hugo Hehnke attended the public schools of Grand Island and later the Grand Island Business College. He learned practical business under his father's supervision and continued to be identified with his father's mercantile establishment until he assumed his present duties as manager of one of the largest general stores in Cairo. This establishment carries an unusually heavy stock of well selected merchandise, and under Mr. Hehnke's admirable management, the business is very prosperous.

Mr. Hehnke married, February 6, 1901, Miss Bertha Kindler, a daughter of E. R. and Josie (Dell) Kindler, well known residents of Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. Hehnke have five children: Josephine M., Robert H., Dorothy E., Bertha D. and Hugo M., all of whom attend school. Mr. Hehnke has not identified himself with any political party, preferring to use his own good judgment as to the merits of candidates asking the votes of their fellow citizens. He has been active in many public capacities and for several years has served with great efficiency as village clerk of Cairo and during the past year has been a member of the Hall County Food Administrative board.

ERVIN WHITEHEAD, a well known and highly respected retired resident of Cairo, Nebraska, has been identified with Hall County for more than forty years. He passed through its days of deepest discouragement, shared misfortune with other settlers, but never, like many of them, grew disheartened over the future. Mr. Whitehead, in fact, is one largely responsible for the better conditions that were evolved in time, that brought peace, plenteousness and consequent contentment to this favored section of Nebraska. Self reliance, industry, determination and a large measure of public spirit, proved helpful in his own case and he did not hesitate to use them to help others. Mr. Whitehead has served long and faithfully in many public capacities and his fellow citizens have recognized his honest and honorable efforts for the public welfare.

Ervin Whitehead was born in Herkimer County, New York, March 9, 1852. His parents were William and Sarah (Watson) Whitehead, both of whom were natives of England, where William Whitehead worked as a cotton spinner, an occupation he also followed after coming to the United States until 1857, when he became a farmer in Wisconsin on land he bought from the United States government. He was twice married and to the first union nine children were born, there being two survivors: Ervin, a resident of Cairo, and Margaret, the wife of Albert Waldron, lives in Minnesota. The death of his first wife occurred July 22, 1857. In 1862 he married at Kingston, Wisconsin, Mary A. Ryan, and they had three children: Nora J., the wife of Mr. Tiffany, lives at Aberdeen, South Dakota; Edna, who lives in Michigan, and one deceased. William Whitehead remained on his farm in Wisconsin until his health failed, when he sold out and came to Nebraska and afterward lived with his children, his death occurring at Wood River, January 30, 1892. He possessed musical gifts of a high order and organized the first band at Cairo and instructed it.

Ervin Whitehead had district school advantages in Wisconsin but his boyhood was largely given over to very practical matters connected with the operation of his father's farm and he remained at home until he was twenty-one years of age. In the spring of 1873 he came to Hall County and in the fall of that year homesteaded, securing 160 acres on section two in Cameron County, also buying forty acres of railroad land. It seemed an inopportune moment to come to Nebraska in search of a permanent home, for the memorable blizzard had just swept over this section, leaving death and disaster in its wake. At a later date Mr. Whitehead suffered from a somewhat less destructive snow storm, in which he saw his orchard demolished and the slow work of years wiped out. He lost heavily also when the scourge of grasshoppers visited Hall County, and, in fact, missed very few of the many hardships and struggles of the time.

In discouraging conditions like those mentioned above, the value of a quiet but energetic citizen can not be over estimated and Mr. Whitehead set an example by continuing his farm pursuits as normally as possible. He finally went into the business of breeding black Galloway cattle and found it very profitable. He continued to live on his homestead until 1904 when he retired because of failing health. After spending four years at Saint

Paul, Nebraska, he returned to Hall County and since then has resided in Cairo.

Mr. Whitehead married February 15, 1877, Miss Susan Bellamy, the third in a family of eight children born to George and Jane (Hodgson) Bellamy. They came from Michigan to Hall County in 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead have the following children: Lloyd H., lives on his father's old homestead, married Frances Reed; Edith, the wife of Richard Dyre, lives in Cairo; Ervin H., who conducts a garage at Cairo, married Vesta Deffenbaugh, and Ella M., the wife of Glen Roberts, lives on the ranch near Cairo.

It might be mentioned in connection with Mr. Whitehead's activities that he operated a threshing outfit every fall from 1875 until 1916, when it was accidentally destroyed by fire. In his younger political life he was a Republican but later found himself in sympathy with the aims of the Populist party. At present he is an independent voter. He has always been interested in the general welfare, and at times when many others thought only of their personal losses, he could look ahead and see the necessity of formulating stable laws and providing liberally for general education. For twenty-one years he served on the school board in Cameron township and for seven years has been a member of the same in Cairo. He served three terms as assessor of Mayfield township and two terms as supervisor of Cameron township. He belongs to the M. W. A. lodge, and attends the Methodist Episcopal church with his wife and daughter, who are members as were his parents.

WILLIAM E. PRESTON.—Wonderful changes have been brought about in Hall County since William E. Preston, one of Cairo's most respected retired citizens, came here as a home seeker in 1872. Although he had been a soldier during the closing year of the Civil War, he probably encountered as much danger and more hardships during his early days of pioneering than had been his portion while in the army. He has been a continuous resident of Nebraska for forty-seven years and has done his full part in developing Hall County.

William E. Preston was born in Wyoming County, New York, December 1, 1843. His parents were Eli and Belinda (Coleman) Preston, natives of New York. Eli Preston was a man of consequence, prominent in the Democratic party, a farmer and a lawyer at Johnsonburg and for a number of years was

county judge. Of his family of six children the following are living: Ellen, Lovila, James, Ida, and William E.

Although his early years were spent on a farm, William E. Preston had school advantages in two states, New York and Illinois. In 1865 he enlisted for service in the Civil War and took part in a few battles, frequently being in great danger but fortunately escaping injury. In 1872 he came to Hall County, Nebraska, and homesteaded, then bought eighty acres of railroad land north of where Abbott now stands, but later disposed of this land on account of failing health. Mr. Preston has vivid recollections of the great storm that was so destructive in the spring of 1873 in this section. It was of such unusual severity and so far reaching in its effects, that it occupies a definite place in every history of this section. Indians were numerous when Mr. Preston came here and frequently were guests in his home. He treated them well and never had any trouble with them. Farming was a hard proposition during those early years and the settlers had to work in many other ways in order to make a living. For a time Mr. Preston worked at the carpenter trade in Grand Island and afterward found hauling a more or less profitable industry. He hauled cedar posts and a load of piling from the Niobrara river, a distance of 110 miles, and sold them to the railroad, his first load bringing him \$78. It required a week to make the round trip, but Mr. Preston continued, receiving \$120 for his last load. He made a corral on his land with some fine cedar posts and disposed of others to a neighbor, exchanging a post for a bushel of corn. When Mr. Preston came here wolves, coyotes, prairie dogs and rattlesnakes were numerous, he sometimes killed as many as seven snakes in one day.

Mr. Preston married in December, 1873, Miss Emma Dean, who died December 24, 1917, in Grand Island. Her father, William C. Dean, was a pioneer in Hall County from Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Preston had two children: James, who lives at Metzler, Wyoming, married Florence Smith, and Susan, the widow of William Robinson. Since the death of Mrs. Preston, Mr. Preston has made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Robinson in Cairo. In politics Mr. Preston has always been identified with the Democratic party and at times has served in local offices, for seventeen years being overseer of the poor. He is highly regarded by his old army comrades and was commander of the post of the Grand Army of the Republic at Grand Island for one

year, when failing health caused him to resign the office.

MARY A. OLDFIELD, widely known and very highly esteemed in Hall County, is the widow of the late William C. Oldfield. They came to Hall County among the pioneers of 1872 and Mrs. Oldfield has resided here ever since. A woman of courage and resource, in early days she faced and overcame manifold hardships, and to her helpful energy and cheering encouragement may be attributed much of the success that finally brought to the household domestic comfort and financial independence.

Mary A. Oldfield was born near Cambridge, England, one of a family of seven children born to her parents, James and Susan Pedley. They came to the United States in 1845, the mother dying one month after landing. Mrs. Oldfield is the only member of the family living in Nebraska. One sister, Mrs. Sarah Balkar, died in Hall County in 1896. The father of Mrs. Oldfield had been a farmer in England and after coming to this country bought land in the state of New York where he continued to reside on it until his death in 1867. Mrs. Oldfield was eight years old when her parents brought her to the United States receiving her education at an excellent school near her father's farm. On August 7, 1865, she was united in marriage with William C. Oldfield, at Baldwinsville, New York. He was a farmer just returned from service in the Civil War, and they lived on his farm in Onondago County until 1872. Although he had not been wounded while in the army, his health evidently had been undermined to some extent by military exposure, and it was in the hope of regaining it that Mr. and Mrs. Oldfield determined to seek a more bracing climate and came to Nebraska, reaching Hall County in the above year. He homesteaded 160 acres, his land adjoining the present city limits of Cairo.

For the first two years after coming to Nebraska, Mr. Oldfield's health seemed to improve but the hard work entailed by the necessity of using ox-teams to break up his land and the long distances he had to travel to secure any of the comforts of life to which he had been accustomed in his eastern home, together with an unusually inclement winter caused him to break down again and to become so discouraged that he wanted to return with some other disheartened settlers, to New York. It was then that Mrs. Oldfield practically took charge of the farm and about

that time they received financial aid, being paid the proceeds from a tobacco crop they had left for sale when they gave up their New York farm. They acquired cattle and soon were in better circumstances than the average settler although they, too, at first lived in a dugout. Mrs. Oldfield relates that the way neighbors could know of each other's whereabouts, was to look over the level prairies and note where smoke was rising from chimneys. Although Mr. Oldfield never became a robust man, his health improved and he lived until 1896, in the meanwhile carrying on his farm industries successfully and taking his place among the useful public men of his township. He was a sound Republican and for several years was road overseer. He was a great-uncle of Barney Oldfield, the American automobile racer.

The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Oldfield: Frank, who is deceased; William, who lives in Grand Island, married Lola Pierce; Mamie, who is deceased; Lottie, the wife of Albert Seymour, of Grand Island; Emma, the wife of Warren Baker, of Dunning, Blaine County, Nebraska; Lucy, the wife of William Taylor, of Dunning; Ida, the wife of William Sensenay, of Wood River; Anna, the wife of Martin Lorenson, of Cairo; Charles, who is deceased; Maude, the wife of Harry Waters, of Cambridge, Nebraska, and Belle, the wife of John Solon, of Grand Island. Mrs. Oldfield is a member, as was her husband, of the Methodist Episcopal church.

WILLIAM ADELBERT THOMPSON, one of Cairo's most prominent citizens, has been a resident of Hall County for almost forty years. He came here in early manhood, and with other pioneer settlers of that period cheerfully assumed tasks and shouldered responsibilities that subsequently led to progress and development. For some years Mr. Thompson has lived retired from active participation in business, although his extensive farm and city property interests still require his general supervision.

Mr. Thompson, familiarly known as "Dell," is a native of Iowa, born in Jasper County, December 27, 1858. His parents were Wilson and Susan (Hart) (Ferrall) Thompson, the former of whom was born near Muncie, Indiana, and the latter near Cleveland, Ohio. They had seven children and two of these are living: William Adelbert, resides at Cairo, Nebraska, and Robert, resides at Newton, Iowa. There are two children of a former marriage living: Samuel C. Thompson, a res-



DELL THOMPSON AND WIFE

ident of San Diego, California, and Alta Sangfelter, a resident of Seattle, Washington. Wilson Thompson enlisted for military service during the Mexican War but by the time he reached Chicago the war was over. He was a conscientious supporter of the principles of the Republican party but never accepted a political office. For many years he was a substantial farmer in Jasper County, Iowa, and a heavy shipper of horses, cattle and hogs. When he retired, several years before his death, he visited Oregon, Washington and Nebraska, returning then to Iowa and buying city property in Newton. He died there in 1905. His widow survived until 1912. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

William A. Thompson had educational advantages in Newton, attending both the public schools and Hazel Dell, the local academy. He assisted his father on the home farm until the spring of 1881 when he came to Hall County. He bought 160 acres of railroad land, situated two miles east of the present site of Cairo. This land was originally owned by George Bussell, who lived, in early days, in a sod house just north of Mr. Thompson's present handsome residence which is made of cement blocks, planned and erected under Mr. Thompson's personal supervision. He can remember cutting grass on the land now occupied by the busy little city of Cairo. His railroad land was situated at a point then known as Easton, where he resided for six years, inaugurating many improvements, and during this time succeeded in having the hamlet made a post office station, serving as postmaster until the office was removed to Cairo, when the latter place was established. Mr. Thompson then traded his land for a hardware store in the new town and continued in the hardware line in Cairo for the next thirteen years before establishing a general mercantile business which he conducted for eight years. Since 1909 he has been practically retired, although a man who owns a large amount of city property and 1700 acres of fine farming land is still regarded as an important factor in business life. He has 420 acres in Hall County and 1286 acres in Morrill County, Nebraska.

Mr. Thompson married, March 29, 1883, Miss Harriet F. Nebergall, a daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Vanbiber) Nebergall, who were natives of West Virginia. They came west at an early day, locating in Iowa. Subsequently they became pioneer residents of Hebron, Nebraska, where they resided many years. The father died in the state of

Washington, the mother passing away at Gilead, Nebraska. There were six children in the Nebergall family: William and Philip, reside at Peudleton, Oregon; David, lives at Baker City, Oregon; Jennie E., the wife of Samuel Wheeler, of Carlton, Nebraska; Victoria, the wife of Robert McGee, of Providence, Rhode Island, and Mrs. Thompson, who met and married her future husband in Hall County. She was leading saleswoman in his mercantile establishment, assisted in conducting the store and materially contributed to accumulating their present comfortable fortune. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have four children: Loren W., married Belle Grossert; Robert R., married Marian Ingalls; Millard F., a sergeant in the United States army, now stationed at Camp Mills, Long Island, New York, and one child deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a Republican in his political views but has never been a seeker for public office. He has become one of the capitalists of this section mainly through persistent industry, careful habits and the possession of the good judgment that led to wise investments.

WILLIAM B. WAITE.—To the settlement of Nebraska many pioneers came from homes in the eastern states, where comfort and even luxury generally prevailed, and the story of early struggle and unexpected hardships here, with the subsequent coming of affluence and ease, possesses much that is interesting and that is illustrative of American energy. In this history of Hall County no better example of the above reflection can be found than is afforded by William B. Waite, whose landed possessions include 1,180 acres of rich Nebraska soil, and whose herds of cattle graze over many miles.

William B. Waite was born September 12, 1856, in Etna, Licking County, Ohio. His parents were Hiram and Sarah (Hartsell) Waite, the former of whom was born in Vermont and the latter in Pennsylvania. They were the parents of seven children of whom the following are living: Arthur H., Frank E., William B., Charles E., and Hiram H. The father of the above family died in Nemaha County, Nebraska, in 1868, but the mother yet survives, a venerable lady of ninety-two years, making her home in Beatrice. After she was left a widow, she built a house on one of the farms of her husband's estate, six miles west of Brownsville, Nebraska, where she lived until 1876 when she moved into Browns-

ville and two years later to Auburn and then to Beatrice, where she still takes part in the affairs of the Presbyterian church and enjoys social life. The father of Mr. Waite was a carpenter and wagonmaker, carrying on these trades in Ohio until 1862, when he came to Nemaha County, Nebraska, and bought three quarter sections of land near Brownsville. In the previous year he had made a prospecting trip to that section and on his return gave such favorable reports that about fifty other families joined him in 1863. They all came by wagon to settle on the beautiful Nebraska prairie. He did not live long enough afterward to reap much benefit from his investment as his death occurred as above stated, in 1868. He was a member of the Presbyterian church. In the light of recent public events Mr. Waite relates that three times his father was drafted for service in the Civil War and three times he provided a substitute. No one of the three lived to return.

William B. Waite had but meager educational advantages after coming to Nebraska. He assisted his father and later worked on his mother's farms one year after his own marriage, which was celebrated December 17, 1882, to Miss Cora McNinch. Her parents were Benjamin F. and Eliza (Kennery) McNinch, natives of Ohio and Missouri respectively, who came early to Nemaha County and acquired a farm, on which the mother of Mrs. Waite still lives. The father of Mrs. Waite died December 6, 1911, at that time being a guard at Fort Kearney. Mr. and Mrs. Waite have two daughters: Opal, the wife of Dr. Marcus Piersol, in Cairo, and Viva, who teaches school.

After marriage Mr. Waite remained to operate his mother's land until 1883. In the fall of that year with his father-in-law he went to Custer County in order to file a claim for a certain tract of land, but when they reached Grand Island on the way they learned that that claim had been taken. With the idea of securing land that would enable him to get into the cattle business, Mr. Waite went on into Hall County and filed on section S. E. one-quarter, Township 12-12 and bought 280 acres of railroad land on section 15, township 12-12, at \$4 an acre. At that time he generally made the trip on foot but early in March of the following spring he began to plan to occupy his land. He went to Grand Island and started on a walk he yet remembers. Through eight inches of snow he made the Ernest Ramsel farm where he remained all night and the next day went on to his new place to make arrangements with J. J. Brewer

to break his land, then walked back through the snow as far as the Varney farm and on the next day, through melting snow to Aurora, where he found he had worn out a pair of shoes. In August of that year he constructed his sod house, built a barn, dug a well and had a good first crop. He still owns the homestead he filed on in March, 1884, which was supposed to be the last homestead remaining in Hall County. In addition to his 1,180 acres, all broke and fenced and the most of the farms improved with buildings, Mr. Waite owns a handsome residence in Cairo. For many years he has been a heavy dealer in cattle, and in this line as in others has done well through hard work and close attention to business.

The winter of 1885-1886 was particularly stormy and on account of being in poor health, Mrs. Waite made a visit to her people in Nemaha County, and when prepared to return Mr. Waite drove five times to Grand Island to meet her only to find that the heavy snow had prevented her reaching there. On the day she did come, with her infant, Mr. Waite drove twenty-two miles in a lumber wagon through twelve inches of snow with the thermometer 28 degrees below zero. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, which Mr. Waite helped to start and he also assisted the United Brethren congregation when it held its first services in a sod house. In politics he is a Republican and has served in numerous public offices, having been road overseer, school director and county supervisor for several years. He has always taken honest interest in the welfare of Hall County and has encouraged many worthy enterprises here.

ALBERT D. TRUMBULL, whose long continued, faithful and effective service in the ministry of the Baptist church, entitles him to the esteem and affection in which he is held in Cairo and in other sections, came first to Nebraska in 1872 and settled in Hamilton County. He has been a resident of Cairo since the summer of 1916, a moral force in the community, and is, perhaps, the oldest minister in the state, both in age and years of ministerial service.

Reverend Trumbull was born October 8, 1838, in Ohio. His parents were Drayton E. and Sallie A. (Morey) Trumbull, the former of whom was born in Connecticut and the latter in Massachusetts. They were the parents of seven children, of whom Albert D. is the only survivor. They both passed away

when about seventy years old. The father of Mr. Trumbull was a farmer in Ohio, later in Indiana and still later in Michigan, where he died. In addition to farming he raised fine Devonshire cattle. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity, united with the Republican party after its formation, and both parents were members of the Baptist church.

Albert D. Trumbull attended the district schools near his father's farm in Indiana. He was thirteen years old when he was converted and his mind was turned to serious subjects. He never had an opportunity to attend a theological seminary but devoted all his spare time to the study of religious books and readily absorbed their teachings and was yet quite a young man when he was licensed to preach, at Athens, in Marshall County, Michigan, and afterward was ordained at Hesperia, in Oceanic County; becoming pastor of the Baptist church there. He continued to live on the home farm for some years, his health never having been very robust, but has held many pastorates both in Michigan and Nebraska.

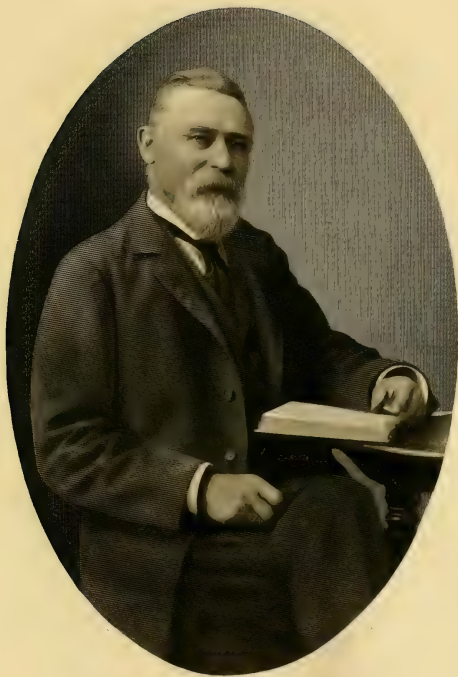
In August, 1872, Mr. Trumbull came to Nebraska and took up a homestead in Hamilton County, near what is the present site of Phillips, his being the second family to settle in that neighborhood. He lived there until the fall of 1875 when he was called to the pastorate of the Grand Island Baptist church, to which city he then removed, selling his homestead. In the fall of 1874, recognizing the need that the people of southwestern Hamilton County had for religious privileges, he went there and made preparations, succeeded in interesting the people and a church was organized in April, 1875, under the name of the Salem Baptist church, which name continues. He served that congregation as well as the church at Grand Island, for two years and then returned to Michigan for a year. When he came back to Nebraska he again became pastor of the Salem church. By that time the B. & M. Railroad had been extended through Hamilton and Clay counties and a new town was started which, by request of the people, was named Trumbull, they demanding this honor for Mr. Trumbull because of his fervent and self-sacrificing efforts in founding the first church in the vicinity. They knew that every time their pastor came to minister to them, he had to walk a distance of twenty-four miles, twelve there and twelve back to Grand Island. He realized how hard the times were for the people and while traveling as above noted and preaching twice a day on Sunday, through the week he worked at manual labor to support his own family.

Two years later Mr. Trumbull removed to a location near the present site of Cairo and organized the first church in the village and also organized the first church at Bluff Center, eight miles southwest of Cairo. For several years longer he was active in church work here but his health failed again and he went to California to recuperate, living there for eighteen months. After returning to Nebraska he preached in Madison, Madison County; in Crab Orchard, Johnson County, and in Filley in Gage County. Although, for the past twenty-five years the state of his health has prevented his accepting pastorates, it has not debarred him from active ministerial work, and even yet he gladly responds when called to supply or to assist in evangelical movements.

On October 8, 1861, Mr. Trumbull married Miss Nancy Sands, who was born at Kalamazoo, Michigan, and died at Fremont, Nebraska, in January, 1916. Two children were born to them: Albert W., who lives at Sioux City, and Drayton E., a resident of Omaha. In July, 1916, Mr. Trumbull's second marriage was celebrated when Mrs. Eva (Stanley) Brundage became his wife. She was the widow of R. D. Brundage, to whom she had been married March 15, 1879, and they had come to Hall County shortly afterward, homesteaded and remained here. Mr. Brundage was a well known and highly respected citizen and substantial farmer. Did space permit, it would be interesting to go into details concerning the many Christian enterprises with which Mr. Trumbull has been connected in the exercise of noble virtues for the welfare of his fellowmen.

WILLIAM STOLLEY.—No man ever lived in Hall County whose name was more closely connected with the early history of its settlement, and no man wielded a greater influence in the growth and development of the county than the gentleman whose name introduces this biography, who at the time of his death, May 17, 1911, had been a resident of this community for nearly fifty-four years.

William Stolley was born at Warder, Germany, April 6, 1831. His father, Frederick Stolley, was a noted teacher in the duchy of Holstein, and his mother, Abel Stuhr Stolley, was descended from a family of considerable wealth. William Stolley received his early education in his father's school, which, though only a common school, was considered of high grade in those days. At the age of sixteen he ceased attendance at this institution and took special instruction from his father, at the same time taking regular lessons in the cabinet



Wm Stollref.

making business. He acquired sufficient knowledge to construct waterproof boxes for the shipment of specimens of natural history. His brother George was a naturalist and it was the intention of William to study and travel with his brother, who had assurances of aid from the government for his explorations. In March, 1848, however, the duchies of Schleswig and Holstein rose in revolt against Danish misrule, and William Stolley in company with his brother, enlisted in the service of his country. Both were enrolled as sharpshooters, though William was not then seventeen years old. He saw service immediately after enlistment, and remained in the company until his term of enlistment expired. He did not enlist in the regular army, however, but with his three older brothers made ready to emigrate to the United States. His youngest brother, August, remained at home to care for the aged parents who died a few years later. His brother afterwards gained the very highest position as a teacher, winning a national reputation. On April 9, 1849, Mr. Stolley sailed from the harbor of Hamburg, under the Russian flag for the port of New Orleans. After an exciting voyage, the vessel having been pursued from the outset by Danish war ships, and later beaten back by storms, he landed at the mouth of the Mississippi River eight weeks after the date of his departure. Cholera was raging in New Orleans upon the arrival of the vessel, and the dread scourge attacked the little colony. Before they reached St. Louis thirty-one of the healthy and nearly all of the young passengers had died of the disease. During that voyage the future Mrs. Stolley who was then a child of twelve years, lost her mother, one brother and one sister. The party took steamer from St. Louis to Davenport, Iowa, and they arrived there almost disheartened. Here Mr. Stolley's knowledge of cabinet making stood him in good stead, and by such work he earned his first dollar in America. His inclination for natural history, however, caused him to take up that work for a time, and in company with his brother George he traveled for three years in the states of Iowa, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas and Tennessee collecting and preparing specimens for Professor Agassiz. The collections were sent to museums, in Germany principally, though some were sent to London and Paris. Feeling that he could never make a success at this work, owing to his lack of sufficient education, he returned to Davenport and became a salesman for a large lumber concern. Later he was employed in a general mercantile store

and was finally taken in as a partner, the firm being Hagge & Stolley. The concern had the largest and best trade in Davenport, and was very successful for a time, but on account of the financial crisis of 1857 was forced to assign. Though much money was owing them, they were unable to collect the larger part of it, and Mr. Stolley was thus placed under a debt of ten thousand dollars, which he afterwards spent ten years of hard labor, privation and self-denial to liquidate. That year a party consisting of congressmen and bankers in Washington, D. C., decided to form a colony along the Platte valley somewhere in Nebraska. This plan was carried out, and Mr. Stolley became sole organizer of the colony, taking an active part in looking after the welfare of the little band which settled on the site of the present city of Grand Island. The capitalists who were the promoters of the colony, under the lead of a Mr. Barrows, furnished six thousand dollars for the support of the colonists until they could raise a crop and establish themselves in business. This money was to be repaid to the company, each man of the colony agreeing to pay his share. The terms of the contract did not provide any money for clothing, and when winter set in great suffering threatened the little band unless they could receive aid. A delegate, Fred Hedde, was therefore sent to Mr. Barrows to secure from him five hundred dollars additional to be used in the purchase of clothing and blankets. The request was refused, but upon Mr. Stolley's agreeing to become personally responsible for the amount, Mr. Barrows drew his personal check for five hundred dollars, and the colony was provided with warm clothing for the winter. Mr. Stolley was afterwards released from this obligation, the company losing the whole sum which they had advanced, six thousand five hundred dollars, only three men paying their obligation. In 1857 Mr. Stolley took one hundred sixty acres as a squatter's claim in the vicinity of Grand Island, and later preempted it, which was the first claim entered in Hall County. Here he shared in all the hardships and privations incident to the early days and by perseverance and the exercise of good judgment became one of the substantial men of the county. During the grasshopper scourge of 1874, he was delegated to go to Washington to seek aid for the suffering and succeeded in securing one hundred fifty thousand dollars for the relief of the people of this section of Nebraska. Through personal appeal to Mr. Jay Gould he secured free transportation over the railroads for the ship-



MONOGRAM BAKERY, ROBERT TIVOTDALE, PROPRIETOR



MR. AND MRS. ADAM WINDOLPH

ment of all goods sent to Nebraska. The parents of Mr. and Mrs. Stolley were teachers in the old country, and realizing the experiences they had, led Mr. Stolley to take great interest in the public school system of the county. He helped to organize school district No. 1 and served as a director for forty years. He travelled all over the state organizing the State Grange and became master of the same. He always advocated the planting of trees and had much to do with the furthering of arboriculture in the state. In former years he distributed vast numbers of seedling trees best adapted to the soil and climate of Nebraska, and they now present themselves in little groves, dotting the once barren and treeless plains. The beautiful orchard and shade trees on his own farm are the result of years of patient labor in planting and caring for the same by himself and his sons. The first English sparrows in this section were twenty-five Mr. Stolley carried from New York City to his farm. He was a lover of bees and had as many as sixty stands at one time. The cannon now in the court house grounds was donated by Mr. Stolley, who secured it through a noted general in recognition of the excellence of old Fort Independence, which was located on Mr. Stolley's farm.

July 15, 1856, at Davenport, Iowa, Mr. Stolley married Miss Wilhelmina Fredericka Hagge, who was born in the same province as her husband, April 21, 1837, and came to America on the same vessel that brought her future husband to America. They became the parents of ten children: Frederick, a successful farmer and stockman of Hall County; Anna, is the wife of Emil Leonardt, residents of Cuero, Texas; Minnie, is the wife of Oscar Roeser, of Grand Island; William, is a resident of Dowagiac, Michigan; Emil, is engaged in farming in Hall County; Auguste and Richard, are deceased; Clara and Ottilie, are unmarried and reside with their mother, and Olga, the wife of J. C. Palmer of Grand Island.

This pioneer family were here at a time when the older children had for their playmates the Indians. William Stolley was always on friendly terms with the red man and learned to speak their language quite fluently, and in a history of Hall County which he wrote in 1907, will be found many Indian names which he translated into the English language.

Of the noble men of Hall County who have passed to their reward, who made sacrifices and did deeds to make the county a better place in which to live than when they found it,

no name stands out more distinctly than that of William Stolley. And while we are paying tribute to him we must not forget the partner of his life's joys and sorrows, who, if her life be spared till September, 1919, will have lived in Hall County more than half a century. We take pleasure in presenting the life record of such noble men and women and trust their life record will serve as an inspiration to future generations.

GEORGE ALEXANDER DOVE, engaged in the mercantile business in Cairo, has made his home in Nebraska for many years, always finding here many of the good things of life, and in the main, intelligent, prosperous and contented people as associate citizens.

George A. Dove was born in Allen County, Ohio, May 8, 1856. His parents were Reuben and Elmira (Crepes) Dove. The father was born in Virginia and remained there until eighteen years of age, when he went to Ohio, engaged there in farming and stockraising, and died there in 1861. Although not able to enter the Union army at the outbreak of the Civil War, he was so patriotically active in soliciting volunteers, that he brought on an illness that terminated fatally. He was an ardent Republican, was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and belonged to the order of Odd Fellows. The mother of George A. Dove was born in Ohio and died there in 1892. Of the family of four children, George A. is one of the two survivors, the other being Mrs. Inez Brown, who lives in Ohio.

George A. Dove had educational advantages, first in the excellent schools of Westminster, Ohio, and later in a college in Adrian, Michigan. The death of his father placed responsibilities on him very early, and he was only sixteen years old when he began farming for himself. He remained in Ohio until the fall of 1879, when he removed to De Witt County, Illinois, where he resumed agricultural pursuits and continued until the fall of 1889, when he came to Hall County, Nebraska, to buy land, and since that time this state has been his preferred home. In the spring of 1908 he went to Morrill County, where he invested in land, which he still owns, and remained on the same until 1916, when he came to Cairo. Here he embarked in a general mercantile business and has built up a trade that is entirely satisfactory, keeping his unusually varied stock attractively arranged and selling it according to honorable business methods.

On September 1, 1880, Mr. Dove united in

marriage with Miss Callie Slick, the only surviving child of Thomas H. and Hannah (Monnett) Slick. Mrs. Dove had one sister, Minnie. Both parents of Mrs. Dove were born and reared in Ohio. Her father was a farmer, a merchant, a banker, and was quite prominent in Republican politics in his locality. Mr. and Mrs. Dove have the following children: Laura, the wife of Howard Hulett; Walter V., married Anna Scanlon; Claude H., married Catherine Stahl; Cassius N., married Esther Glau; and Earl W., resides with his parents. Mr. Dove has always been in sympathy politically with the Republican party but has never desired to accept official responsibilities, although at all times being ready to co-operate with his fellow citizens in matters of public moment. He is conscientious in his support of worthy charities. He and his family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church.

RUDOLPH GUHL, one of Grand Island's well known and highly respected retired business men, has been a resident of this city for thirty-six years and knows its history by heart. In a business way he has been intimately associated with its best citizenship and on friendly terms with its most distinguished men. His reminiscences of earlier people and events are authentic and interesting.

Rudolph Guhl was born October 25, 1847, near Luet Kenwisch, Wittenberg, Germany. His parents were John J. and Elsabe (Stendel) Guhl, the father a native of Germany and the mother of France. The father's business was farming but undoubtedly he was a man of superiority because he served as mayor of his city for forty years, and had other official duties. Both parents died in Germany. Of their three children, William died in Germany; Mrs. Wilhelmina Heinrich still lives in Germany, while Rudolph resides in Grand Island. He attended school in Germany before coming to the United States in 1864, landing on June 24. The following five years he lived with his brother-in-law, at Cincinnati, Ohio, working as a cigarmaker and barber. In 1883 he came to Grand Island, and for fifteen years was employed by John Zink, then embarked in business for himself, which he conducted until 1918, when he retired.

In Toledo, Ohio, October 1, 1872, Mr. Guhl married Miss Ottelia Linenfelzer, born April 6, 1855, at Oesteringen, Baden, Germany. Her parents were Pius and Paulina (Milch) Linenfelzer, who settled in Monroe County, Michigan, after coming to the United States. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Guhl:

Annie, the wife of Horace Jones, of Omaha; Louisa, the wife of Wallace Quest, of Upton, New York; Arthur, who resides with his family in Toledo, Ohio; Minnie, the wife of Otis B. Mills, of South Dakota; William, living at Horton, Kansas, married Emma Hohenstine; and Ellen, the wife of George Gaver, lives at home. Mr. and Mrs. Guhl are active members of the English Lutheran church in Grand Island, and Mrs. Guhl is a member of the Degree of Honor lodge. In politics Mr. Guhl is a Republican.

FRANK EUGENE BLAUVELT. — Perhaps no family at Cairo is better known in business circles or more highly respected than the Blauvelts, who are substantial people here. The head of the family, Frank E. Blauvelt, is prospering as a producing merchant, while Mrs. Blauvelt and their competent daughters, own and operate a first class restaurant and confectionery store. Mr. Blauvelt has spent almost his entire life in Nebraska.

Frank Eugene Blauvelt was born in Jones County, Iowa, April, 15, 1871. His parents were Elijah S. and Elizabeth (Horton) Blauvelt, natives of New York, both of whom are deceased, the father died in Nuckolls County, Nebraska, February 11, 1902, and the mother at Hardy, Nebraska, September 1, 1898. They had eight children and of the six surviving Frank E. is the only one living in Hall County. The parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. The father was a Democrat in his political opinions. By trade he was a bricklayer. Before moving to Iowa he served three years in the Union army during the Civil War. Although he was never wounded or taken prisoner, he had many thrilling escapes. On one occasion while driving an army ambulance, he was closely pursued for twelve miles by a guerilla band, and when he at last reached safety at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, three of his four horses fell dead. In 1873 Elijah S. Blauvelt came to Nebraska, homesteaded and secured a tree claim in Franklin County, living on his 320 acres for six years. After one year he engaged in work at his trade, in Blomington, then moved to Nuckolls County, where, during the rest of his life he was engaged mainly in brick mason work and farming.

Frank E. Blauvelt was nine years old when his parents moved to Nuckolls County, where he later had common school advantages. He remembers very well the wild conditions that prevailed in those early days there, and relates many exceedingly interesting occurrences. In-

dians were very often seen and deer and buffalo were so numerous that Mr. Blauvelt, in describing the droves of deer, can think of nothing better to compare them to, as they rushed over the prairies, than the rough waves of a great sea. Sometimes these wild creatures, both antelope and buffalo, would seemingly try to escape from civilized surroundings, but occasionally they would be tempted into some settler's barnyard and trouble would inevitably ensue. Mr. Blauvelt recalls an occasion when he was young, when his father had gone to town, a distance away, for provisions, his mother being left with the task of doing the evening "chores." When she went about these duties she found a buffalo among the herd of domestic cattle. As soon as she advanced the wild animal would threaten her and finally she used the usual distress signal to her neighbors, running up a white flag. This brought speedy assistance and the buffalo was killed.

After Mr. Blauvelt left the farm he went to Custer County to engage in the harness and saddlery business at Callaway, continuing there until 1916, when he came to Cairo. He recognized this a promising business point, establishing a produce line, in which he has greatly prospered, at present doing a \$15,000 annual business.

On December 24, 1895, Mr. Blauvelt united in marriage Miss Marie A. Minnich, in Trenton, Missouri. Her parents, Henry and Margaret (Eakin) Minnich, settled in Nuckolls County, Nebraska, in 1878 and bought school land. In 1895 they moved to Missouri but two years later returned to Nuckolls County, where the father died in 1899, and the mother at Casper, Wyoming, in 1918. Of their six children, Mrs. Blauvelt is the only one living in Hall County. Mr. and Mrs. Blauvelt have the following children: Ercel M., Sybil, Thelma, Nyleptha, Zane and Daphne, all of the daughters residing at home. The only son, Ercel M., who did a hero's part as a member of the American Expeditionary Force in France, has recently returned to his native land and is under treatment in an army hospital in Virginia. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal church.

EDWARD DODD, M. D. — Although Dr. Dodd has been a resident of Cairo only a short time, he has already gained the confidence and esteem of the community through personal characteristics as well as professional ability, and the hope is openly expressed that this little city will be his permanent home.

Dr. Dodd came here in 1918 with years of professional experience back of him, having spent fifteen in active practice in other sections of Nebraska.

Edward Dodd was born in Appanoose County, Iowa, August 8, 1878, the second born in a family of six children. His parents were William L. and Eda (Hinkle) Dodd, both of whom were born in Iowa, where the father of Dr. Dodd was a farmer until 1905, when he removed to White Tail, Montana, and there he engaged in ranching until his death, in 1915. He was a man of sturdy character, a Republican in politics and a member of the Masonic fraternity. With his wife he belonged to the Methodist Episcopal church. She still resides in Montana. They had the following children: Amy L., the wife of F. E. Porter, of Putnam County, Missouri; Edward, a resident of Cairo; Luther, who resides with his mother; Orpha G., deceased, and Elmer and Eva, twins, who reside at home.

Edward Dodd attended the public schools of Centerville, Iowa, and after completing his high school course, became a student of medicine in Keokuk, Iowa, and subsequently was graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in that city. During his college course he had the great advantage of being under the immediate teaching of the celebrated Dr. C. E. Ruth, for one year being his assistant in anaesthesia, and for another year being his surgical assistant. For three years Dr. Dodd engaged in practice as a member of the staff of St. Joseph's Hospital, Keokuk, being an instructor for one year in the nurses' training school as lecturer on sanitation, gynecology and obstetrics. After leaving Keokuk Dr. Dodd practiced his profession in Nebraska from 1903 until August, 1918, when he located at Cairo. For one year he served as chairman of the Howard County Medical Society, and for seven years he was district surgeon for the Union Pacific Railroad. In addition to a general medical and surgical practice, Dr. Dodd is an experienced optician.

Dr. Dodd married June 27, 1906, Miss Mary Rae Jones, a daughter of Charles W. and Elizabeth (Irion) Jones, the former of whom was born in Northampton, England, and the latter near Princeton, Illinois. They are people of prominence in Knox County, Nebraska. Dr. and Mrs. Dodd have three children: Phyllis W., Donald F., and Daniel E. Dr. Dodd has been active in all patriotic movements during the past few years and in 1917 he volunteered for the World War in his professional capacity, but was not accepted for



EDWARD DODD, M.D.

active service because of physical disability. In no sense a politician, nevertheless he keeps thoroughly abreast of the times in public affairs and has the courage of his convictions.

WILLIAM STOEGER, a well known and most highly respected citizen of Cairo, is also one of Hall County's heaviest land owners, and individually with his brothers he has valuable holdings in other sections. He has built up his ample fortune through farming and stockraising.

William Stoeger was born March 30, 1860, in Hendricks County, Indiana, the third member of a family of eight children born to his parents, John and Mary (Billmeyer) Stoeger, both of whom were born in Germany and came to the United States in 1854 and 1852 respectively. At the time of their marriage, the mother of Mr. Stoeger was the widow Kemptar with two sons, Lawrence and Charles, both of whom are deceased. To her second marriage, to John Stoeger, besides William the following children were born: Philip, who lives near Cairo, Nebraska; John who lives near St. Michael, Nebraska; Mary, who is deceased; Elizabeth who is deceased; Frank, who is deceased; Henry, who formerly lived on the timber claim his father bought in Hall County, now a resident of Cairo; and Adam, who lives at St. Michael. The mother of this family was a remarkable woman in many ways. She survived her husband and three children and at the time of her death on September 22, 1918, lacked but one month and eight days of being ninety-three three years of age. To the very last she retained her mental faculties and physically was more active than many who were much younger.

John Stoeger, father of William, was a tanner by trade and he followed this work in Terre Haute, Indiana, from 1854 until 1862, when he removed to Crawford County, Illinois, and for the next ten years engaged there in the same business. In 1872 this business, as a private enterprise, had become less profitable and he sold out and moved to near Russellville, Illinois, where he engaged in farming and raising stock until the summer of 1879. In the meanwhile the second son, John, and the second daughter, Elizabeth, had developed signs of ill health that the anxious parents believed a change of climate would dissipate and that was the reason that the farm and stock were sold in Illinois and the family started on the long overland journey to Nebraska. Before they reached there, however, Elizabeth died. When Mr. Stoeger came to

Hall County he bought a timber claim of John L. Means, which adjoins the town site of Cairo. In the spring of 1892 he sold his homestead and timber claims to his sons and moved then into Cairo and lived retired until his death, which occurred February 22, 1906. He was a man of sterling character, honest and upright in all his dealings and a faithful member of the Evangelical church. His wife belonged to the Roman Catholic church. He was a Democrat in politics and frequently was elected to township offices.

William Stoeger obtained his education in Illinois and worked for his father until he was twenty years old and afterward up to the summer of 1882, on other farms, the general wage being \$17 a month. In the spring of 1883, in partnership with his brother John, he bought a flock of sheep and the partnership in sheep raising and farming continued for four years and then was dissolved, William continuing alone as a farmer until 1892 when the four brothers in partnership bought the father's land, he having acquired and improved a large acreage, and they carried on farming and ranching together until 1900, when two of the brothers withdrew. The other two, one of whom was William, continued until 1906, when the property was all divided. William then carried on his ranch interests alone for a number of years, selling the last of his horses in the fall of 1918, when he rented the ranch and retired to Cairo. He owns more than 2,000 acres of land and the Stoeger brothers together own several thousand more acres in the state. Additionally, Mr. Stoeger owns land and town property in Texas; he is a stockholder in the Ravenna (Nebraska) State Bank, and is on the directing board of the Cairo State Bank.

On November 14, 1898, Mr. Stoeger married in Cairo, Miss Mary Feldmayer, daughter of William and Anna (Leopold) Feldmayer, who were pioneers in Buffalo County, Nebraska, in 1882, and died on their farm in Garfield township. Mr. Stoeger is a prominent Democrat and served two terms as assessor of South Loup township and for the past ten years has been supervisor. He is a past grand in the Cairo lodge of Odd Fellows. He has had many ranching experiences and lost many cattle in the great storm that came upon this section in January, 1888.

EDWARD H. BAKER, engaged in the concrete construction business in Grand Island, belongs to an old Nebraska family and was born at Columbus, Nebraska, July 28, 1875.

His parents were Edward H. and Zilda (Senical) Baker, the former of whom was born at White Pigeon, Michigan, and the latter in Montreal, Canada.

The earliest member of the Baker family in Nebraska, was an uncle of Edward H. Baker of Grand Island, who settled on Silver Creek in 1858, when his nearest neighbor was seventeen miles away. Mr. Baker's father came to Platte County, Nebraska, in 1866, but his mother had located in the city of Omaha in 1853. She died November 16, 1906. Prior to the Civil War, the elder Edward H. Baker lived in St. Joseph County, Michigan. He enlisted in the Union army, August 30, 1862, at Freeport, Illinois, and served three years, being mustered out as corporal of his company, June 19, 1865. His company, locally known as "Young's Lions," was detailed when the war closed for such important work as taking charge of supplies and of Confederate paroled prisoners. When he came to Platte County in the following year, he homesteaded and lived on his one hundred and sixty acres until June 18, 1887, when he came to Hall County, which remained his home until his death which occurred February 27, 1916. For the last eleven years of his life he had been engineer for the Soldiers and Sailors Home. In politics he was a Republican, and both he and his wife were members of the Baptist church. Of their seven children, six are living. Edward H. is the youngest. The others are: Mrs. R. G. Isdell, who lives in Grand Island; Alfred J., who resides in Grand Island, is agent for the American Beet Sugar Company; Mrs. Frank Smock, of Colorado Springs; Mrs. A. J. Knipe, who lives at Seattle, Washington; and Ray R., with a medical unit in the American army in France.

Edward H. Baker attended the public schools of Grand Island. Upon finishing his education he started to work in a concrete construction business. After nine years in the employ of others, Mr. Baker established a concern of his own in 1905, and has done well, usually keeping six men employed. He has built up a trustworthy reputation that extends all over Hall County.

At Wood River, Nebraska, December 7, 1904, Mr. Baker married Miss Mary J. Nelson, a daughter of Sylvester and Amanda J. (Hargis) Nelson, who came to Hall County in 1887 and lived in Wood River. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have five children; Mrs. Bert Miller, who lives at Elm Creek; Mary J., who is Mrs. Baker; Olivene, wife of J. Ven Roberts of Florida; Oscar E., a soldier in France, a member of Company C, 318

Engineers, Sixth division; and Elmer S., who lives in Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. Baker have an adopted daughter, Helene E., who was born February 23, 1917. Mrs. Baker is a member of the Baptist church. In politics Mr. Baker is a Republican and keeps well informed on public matters as he is justified in doing, but he has accepted no public office except membership on the city school board. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and belongs also to the Elks and the Odd Fellows, in the latter organization having passed all the offices in the local lodge. Mr. Baker is held to be one of the sound, dependable business men of Grand Island.

VIRGIL R. EVERHART.—To assemble together iron, copper, brass, aluminum, rubber and wood and make that necessity of modern life, the automobile, was a great achievement, and yet, without proper care and repair, this great triumph of mechanism would be practically useless. To give this scientific care and to have at hand proper accessories, many young men have entered this line of business, finding it exceedingly profitable. At Grand Island, Virgil R. Everhart has been financially interested in automobiles, tires and accessories, throughout his entire business life. He is located in his own building, No. 110 East Second street.

Mr. Everhart was born in Grand Island, Nebraska, August 31, 1893, the son of William S. and Ida M. (Carr) Everhart, both of whom were born at Hayden, in Jennings County, Indiana. Until the last three years, when he became associated in business with his son, Virgil R., the father was a railroad man. The family home has been in Grand Island for thirty years. In politics he is a Democrat, is a member of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, and both his father and mother belong to the Baptist church. Three of their four children are living: Virgil R., of Grand Island; Verna, the wife of Frank Ludvik, of Hartwell, Nebraska; and John, who resides with his parents.

Virgil R. Everhart was educated in Grand Island. After spending three years in the high school he accepted a position in the garage of the Harrison and Reed Automobile Company, Grand Island, in order to learn the business in which he has continued to the present. Since May, 1915, it has been operated as a private concern. He handles all the standard tires, all first class accessories, and does expert repairing. His business standing and reliability are unquestioned.

On July 5, 1916, Mr. Everhart married Miss Kizzie M. McGuirk. Her parents came to Hall County in 1906, where her father, Andrew McGuirk, was accidentally killed on the railroad two years later. Her mother, Mrs. Sarah (Davis) McGuirk, resides in Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. McGuirk have five children: Kizzie and Katie, twins, the former of whom is the wife of Virgil R. Everhart, and the latter resides with her mother; Andrew, who is deceased; and Clara and Edna, both of whom live at home. Mr. and Mrs. Everhart have one daughter, Florence L. He has never taken any very active part in politics in party organizations, but is a very intelligent, thoughtful young man with decided opinions to which he testifies by an independent vote. As a citizen he is ready to help measures of a public nature when they seem to promise substantial benefit to Grand Island. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias and the Elks.

JAMES H. YUND.—For almost a half century James H. Yund, one of Grand Island's substantial, representative citizens, has been a resident of Hall County. Although his business engagements have frequently called him to other sections, this has always been home. He owns valuable improved property in Grand Island.

Mr. Yund was born in Hillsdale County, Michigan, March 9, 1853, a son of George and Rachel (Stevens) Yund. His father was born in Pennsylvania, February 15, 1820, and died in Van Buren County, Michigan, November 15, 1867. His mother was born in the state of New York, August 3, 1818, and died April 26, 1911. They were the parents of seven children of whom the following are living: John S., Emma, James H., Isabelle and Ida. The greater part of George Yund's mature life was spent in Michigan, where he was a farmer. He was an active Republican politician and for several years was a county commissioner in Van Buren County.

James H. Yund had excellent educational advantages; after his common school course, he attended the high school at Decatur, Michigan, following which he was a student in Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, Michigan. A business life attracted him, and from 1876 until March, 1881, he was employed as a dry goods clerk in a large establishment in Hartford, Michigan. A change of climate at that time being decided on, Mr. Yund came to Hall County in April of that year, and in Grand Island he bought a small grocery from H. A. Bartling, which he operated until 1897, and

although that period was a season of hard times in this country, he came through without loss but not with sufficient encouragement to make him continue in the grocery line. It was then he embarked in an entirely new business, as far as he was concerned, accepting the offer of a position as traveling salesman for lumber mills. In his case, as in many others, a touch of adversity seemed the key to open the lock of the door of success, for the new work not only proved congenial but his services were of such value to the Kansas companies which employed him, that they were sensible of great loss when he accepted a similar offer from lumber companies for the mill interests of the state of Nebraska. Mr. Yund still continues his activities in this line.

At Lawrence, Michigan, December 9, 1880, Mr. Yund was united in marriage with Miss Addie Ridlon, who was born at Pa Pa, Michigan, September 28, 1861, a daughter of John N. and Sarah M. (Phelps) Ridlon, the former of whom was born at Hollis, Maine, May 16, 1822, and the latter at Parkham, Ohio, December 4, 1831. The father of Mrs. Yund was a man of much importance in civil life and during the Civil War he was an officer in the Twenty-fifth Michigan volunteer infantry, taking part in the military campaign that resulted in the capture of the noted Confederate guerilla leader, Quantrell. For six years he was on the board of commissioners of Van Buren County, and after the close of the war removed to Lawrence, Michigan, where he engaged in the mercantile business. Following this he was for twenty years previous to his death engaged in insurance business. He passed away April 23, 1916. For fifty years he was a deacon in the Congregational church at Lawrence, which he had been instrumental in building, and he had served on church building committees at other points. Mrs. Ridlon still lives at the hale old age of eighty-seven years. Of their three children, Mrs. Yund was the second born, the others being: Jennie, the wife of S. M. Hess, of Lawrence, Michigan, and Charles A., who lives at Roulette, Pennsylvania, married Sarah Cooper.

Mr. and Mrs. Yund have had four children: Sylvester G., who was born September 10, 1881, married Grace Ericson; Grace B., who was born September 15, 1883, is the widow of Henry D. Kleinkauf; Harry C., who was born August 27, 1885, married Marguerite Goss; and Henry R., born November 28, 1889, who sleeps in a soldiers' grave in the American cemetery, near Merignac-Bordeaux-Gironde, France. This youthful hero was a member of the American Expeditionary Force in France,



J. H. YUND

belonging to Company H, Three Hundred Fifty-fifth regiment, Eighty-ninth division. He received wounds that proved fatal, October 24, 1918. Mr. and Mrs. Yund are members of the Presbyterian church, he being one of the trustees. Politically he is a Republican. In 1892 he broke prairie sod for the erection of his handsome residence at No. 222 West Eighth street, and in 1909 put up the brick store building on West Third street, which is a remunerative renting property.

IRA T. HOMAN, one of Grand Island's enterprising young business men, is the junior member of the firm of Teeter & Homan, formerly of Holbrook, Nebraska, but since November 21, 1916, doing business at No. 112 Second street, Grand Island.

Mr. Homan was born at Corning, Adams County, Iowa, November 25, 1890, the son of Joseph N. and Lena C. (Knodle) Homan, the former of whom was born in Adams County, Iowa, and the latter in Ogle County, Illinois. During his active years the father of Mr. Homan followed agricultural pursuits from which he retired in 1917 and now lives at Bethany, Nebraska. He has always been affiliated with the Democratic party, frequently serving in township offices and has been county supervisor. In the Order of Odd Fellows he has been through all the local offices. Both parents of Mr. Homan are members of the Baptist church. Of their four children two reside in Hall County, Ira T. and Ollie L.

Ira T. Homan attended school at Ridgeway, Missouri, the high school at Bethany and spent one year in a business college at Grand Island. He remained with his parents until he was twenty years of age and then engaged in the mercantile business with his present partner, at Holbrook, Nebraska, under the firm name of Teeter & Homan. The firm carried on a general mercantile business there for six years before transferring their interests to Grand Island. As agents and dealers they carry on an extensive business in the Dodge automobiles and Republic trucks, their record being about 600 cars in two years, distributed over their territory of ten counties, with the same number of dealers. In addition they carry a full line of Dodge parts.

On Christmas Day, 1910, Mr. Homan married Miss Carrie C. Cooper, of Holbrook, Nebraska. The parents of Mrs. Homan were Robert and Alice (Miller) Cooper, the former of whom was a merchant and died at Holbrook. The latter resides with Mr. and Mrs. Homan, who have one child, Phyllis O., who was born

September 29, 1917. They are members of the Baptist church. Politically Mr. Homan is a Democrat and fraternally belongs to the Masons and the Elks.

LEWIS S. MOORE, D.D.S., engaged in the practice of dentistry in Grand Island for twenty-nine years, is one of the best known members of his profession in the state. Long before dentistry had received its present universal recognition as a vital necessity in the preservation of health, Dr. Moore, with the intelligence that has made him a leader in many helpful movements, lost no occasion to call attention to his own beliefs on the subject. Supplementing his own careful studies with attendance on dental conventions, he did much to arouse interest and investigation that in time led to the formulating and passage of the present dental laws in Nebraska. He has seen wonderful advances made in dental surgery in its several branches since he entered into practice, and has lived to see his own opinions as to dental therapy more than justified.

Lewis S. Moore was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, February 20, 1855. His parents were John and Sophia (Biddenger) Moore, the former of whom was born near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 3, 1816, and died in Iowa, October 1, 1905. The latter was born in Pennsylvania in September, 1822, and died in Iowa in July 1895. Of their nine children seven yet live; Lewis S. being the only one residing in Hall County. The father of Mr. Moore followed farming all his life, in a modest way and met with deserved success. He brought his family to Iowa, in 1855, driving across country to the new home in a wagon; Lewis S. being at that time an infant of eight months, his mother carrying him in her arms the entire distance of 700 miles. When she died, aged seventy-three, one of the best of women passed out of life. The father survived long afterward and he, too, was held in high regard, being always an honest, upright man, and for over forty years was a deacon in the Baptist church near his home.

Dr. Moore was educated in the public schools and in Independence, Iowa, where he studied dentistry and engaged in practice during his apprenticeship of several years. On April 1, 1879, he opened an office at Fairmont, Nebraska, where he engaged in the pursuit of his profession until April 1, 1890, when he came to Grand Island, where he has continued ever since, having a professional reputation of high standing all over Hall County.

On June 5, 1883, Dr. Moore married Miss

Lucie M. Wellman, a daughter of William and Clara (Schryver) Wellman. The father of Mrs. Moore was born in New York, May 25, 1819, and died in 1867. The mother was born also in New York, in 1825, and died January 6, 1882. Of their four living children, Mrs. Moore is the only one residing in Hall County. Dr. and Mrs. Moore have three children: L. Don, who lives at Grand Island, married Rose Erdburger; Ruby A., who lives at home; and J. Ross, who is relieving his father of many professional duties, resides in Grand Island, and married Rose Faerber. Dr. J. Ross Moore served three months in the dental department of the Walter Reed Hospital, United States army, at Washington, D. C., also three months at Camp Greenleaf, and two months at Camp Beauregard.

Dr. Lewis S. Moore belongs to the order of Maccabees and to the Odd Fellows and is quite active in the latter organization, having held all the offices in the local lodge, of which he is the present treasurer. In politics he has always been a Republican, and for six years has been a member of the school board. Both he and his wife are very active members of the First Baptist church in Grand Island.

DAVID M. GRAHAM.—In the death of David M. Graham, which occurred January 10, 1919, Grand Island lost a citizen of sterling worth, and a man who was held in high esteem both in business and social life. He had a wide acquaintance in both Hall and Merrick counties and everywhere left friends who remember his kindness, generosity and good fellowship.

David M. Graham was born in Merrick County, Nebraska, April 8, 1878, one of a family of ten children born to John W. and Mary (Gurley) Graham. Mr. Graham's parents were both natives of Scotland, from which land they emigrated at an early day, coming to the United States where the father became an early settler in Merrick County, Nebraska, a homesteader engaging in farming and also worked at the carpenter trade. His death occurred in 1896, surviving his wife just one year. Three of their children became residents of Hall County: David M., Mrs. Daisy Ewalt, and Mrs. Maud Ehlers.

Mr. Graham grew up in Merrick County, where he attended the public schools, but later took a course in the Baptist College in Grand Island. He was interested in farm pursuits almost exclusively until 1915, in Merrick and Keya Paha counties, for three years, from 1902 to 1905, being manager of a ranch in

the latter county. In 1915 he came to Grand Island, where he immediately became immersed in business, becoming manager of the Kelly Welt Company, and selling agent for the Buick, Maxwell and Oakland automobiles, with territory covering several counties. He was a hard worker and was actively engaged in business until his death.

On December 27, 1905, Mr. Graham married Miss Emma Frauen, a daughter of Marcus and Rebecca (Niehus) Frauen, who were born in Germany, but left their native land to settle in the United States many years ago and are highly respected citizens of Ainsworth, Brown County, Nebraska. All of their family of nine children are living: Mrs. Graham has one sister, Mrs. Tillie Stanley, as a neighbor in Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. Graham had two children, Marion and Madeline, the latter of whom passed away February 20, 1919. Mr. Graham belonged to the Odd Fellows, the Elks and the Moose orders, was a faithful member of the Lutheran church, and in politics was a Republican and an occasional township official.

JENS RASMUSSEN, who came from far off Denmark to the United States in 1880, has been practically a resident of Hall County since that date. He is now one of Grand Island's substantial and respected citizens, and has had much to do with the material development of this handsome city.

Jens Rasmussen was born in Denmark, September 3, 1854, a son of Rasmus and Andreyette (Sorenson) Rasmussen. The father was a small farmer in Denmark and both passed their life there. Jens is the only member of their family living at present in the United States. He had both common and high school advantages in his native land and there also learned the trades of brickmason and plasterer before leaving his native country. This was fortunate, as after reaching the United States he came to Nebraska and found work at these trades during the summer of 1880, in Grand Island, and for two and a half months of the following winter found an opportunity to attend a school in the country by working for a farmer for board and lodging. In the fall of 1883 he returned to Denmark on a visit and for business purposes; upon his return to the United States he was accompanied by a sister and another young lady, Miss Margrethe Ericson whom he married December 8, 1885. Her parents, Jens and Anna (Christensen) Ericson, came to Grand Island in 1887, where they live retired. Mr. and Mrs. Rasmussen have seven children: George R., his father's

partner in business, is a soldier in the United States army in France, a member of a hospital ambulance corps; Anna A., the wife of Floyd White, of Grand Island; Mable A., who resides with her parents; Roy W., in business at Casper, Wyoming; and Marie, Evelyn and Lorraine, all of whom are at home.

When Mr. Rasmussen settled permanently in Grand Island, he went into the contracting business for himself, in which line he has continued to the present time. His son and present partner, George R., grew up in the business under his direction and they have been associated as a firm since 1915. Among the fine buildings they have constructed in Grand Island may be mentioned the H. P. Hansen store, the Emil Rickert store and several large buildings for Mr. Wolbach. Mr. Rasmussen has always taken interest in educational progress and he has served six years as a member of the city school board.

JEREMIAH A. WINGERT, the founder of one of Grand Island's most important manufacturing concerns, in which he continued to be interested until the close of his busy life, was a member of a large family that has been more or less distinguished in Hall County for over forty years. While other members of the family followed agricultural pursuits to some extent, Jeremiah A. Wingert's predilections were in the line of mechanics, in which branch of industry he was eminently successful. Mr. Wingert established the Grand Island Culvert and Metal Works.

Jeremiah A. Wingert was born in Warren County, Illinois, in 1868, and died in Grand Island, Nebraska, September 13, 1914. His parents were Peter S. and Maria (Rynard) Wingert, both of whom were born in Perry County, Pennsylvania, where they were reared, married and lived until Peter S. Wingert was thirty-five years old. He was a tailor by trade. A rapidly increasing family led to thoughts of providing for the future in a more certain way than remuneration from his trade promised. That led to removal to a farm in Werren County, Illinois, and later to Nebraska. In 1873 Peter S. Wingert homesteaded in Hall County and the family resided for some years in Prairie Creek township. Some changes of residence were made between 1877 and 1886, when Mr. Wingert came to the rapidly developing town of Cairo, where he, as a man of high character and sound judgment, was a valued citizen. His death occurred in Grand Island in 1902, having survived his wife since

1891. Of their ten children the following survive: Mary E., the widow of Samuel Schlisler, of Denver, Colorado; Anna M., the widow of James T. Allen, lives at Los Angeles, California; Ida V., the wife of David Millhollen, lives in Oregon; Alice C., the widow of George Adwers, lives in the city of Chicago; George W., cashier of the Cairo State Bank; Milton C., who married Robert Calhoun, lives at Wood River, Nebraska; and Emma J., who lives in Canada, is the wife of John H. Squires. Those deceased are: Salmon M., William C., and Jeremiah A.

Jeremiah A. Wingert was five years old when his parents came first to Hall County and it was mainly in the Hall County schools that he secured an elementary education. He learned the tinner's trade and followed the same for a time after coming to Grand Island. He had business ambition beyond many of those with whom he associated and hence came about the establishing of the Grand Island Culvert and Metal Works. Beginning in a small way the concern rapidly grew to large proportions under his management and became a great factor in the city's industrial enterprises. He retained management of the company and was virtually its head for many years. In 1909 he consented to sell some of his interest in the plant and reorganized it under the name of the Grand Island Culvert Works with Mr. Wingert as president. After his death Mrs. Wingert disposed of her interests to the other stockholders.

On September 15, 1901, Jeremiah A. Wingert married Miss Stella Heath, who was born in Putnam County, Indiana. Her parents were H. C. and Isabel (Adair) Heath, natives of Kentucky and Ohio respectively. Both were brought to Michigan in infancy, were married in Indiana, and now reside with their daughter, Mrs. Wingert, who occupies the attractive residence that Mr. Wingert built on East Seventh street, Grand Island. Mrs. Wingert has one brother, Frank Heath, who is a civil engineer, and has one sister, Cora, the wife of Arthur Snell, employed in a bank in Denver, Colorado. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Wingert, Mildred and Helen, both of whom are attending school. Mrs. Wingert and her daughters are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically he was identified with the Republican party, and fraternally he was a Mason, belonging to the Commandery, and also a Shriner. Also, he was a member of the Odd Fellows and the Highlanders. He is recalled by his fellow citizens as an upright, honorable man in business and thoroughly dependable in all friendly relationships.



JEREMIAH A. WINGERT



CHILDREN OF MR. AND MRS. JEREMIAH A. WINGERT

CHARLES A. HOFMANN, well known in Grand Island in both business and political circles, has been a resident of this city for more than a quarter of a century. During almost all of this period he has been in business for himself as a blacksmith, starting necessarily in a small way as he had little capital, but through hard work and prudent investments gradually accumulating until at the present time he is the owner of valuable property.

Charles A. Hofmann was born January 19, 1859, near Coblenz, Germany, the only survivor of eleven children born to Anton and Henrietta (Lotz) Hofmann, who spent their lives in their native land. The father was a blacksmith by trade and evidently was a man of responsibility, as for many years he was assistant mayor of the village of Obernhof, a place noted for its fine scenery on the river Lahn. He was a politician and belonged to what was then known as the Liberal party. Until he was fourteen years old, Charles A. Hofmann attended school, then he was apprenticed to the blacksmith trade and made such good progress that when only eighteen years old he had completed his trade and went to work in a shop. A year later he was a finished workman and though only a lad of nineteen was engaged as a bridge builder in constructing bridges over the Rhine and other rivers of Germany. Subsequently he worked in the mines of his native country. From 1879 until 1882, he served in the German army, and in 1883 he came to the United States.

When Mr. Hofmann reached Nebraska he found many of his countrymen comfortably settled here and the greater number were prosperous and respected business men. He stopped for one week in Kearney before coming on to Grand Island, where he entered the employ of Henry Stratman, for whom he worked three and one-half years. Mr. Hofmann then embarked in business for himself, as mentioned above, and being an expert at his trade and honest in his business methods, soon made friends, many of whom were his patrons up to 1918, when he retired.

Mr. Hofmann married first in 1886, Miss Ella Trinke, who was born in Hall County, Nebraska. On a return voyage from Germany, January 30, 1895, the ship Elbe was wrecked in the North sea, and Mrs. Hofmann and infant son were lost. Only four of the passengers and sixteen of the crew of the ill-fated ship were saved. In 1897 Mr. Hofmann married Miss Minnie Sievers, who was the first white female child in Howard County, Nebraska, taken there by her parents when an infant. Her parents were Theodor and Cath-

rine (Sierk) Sievers. Her father built the first school house in Howard County.

Mr. Hofmann has always been intelligently interested in public affairs. While he is a strong Republican in national politics, good judgment has led him to maintain an independent attitude in regard to local matters, and the personal knowledge he has of local candidates assists him when casting his city vote. He formerly belonged to the A. O. U. W., of which he was recorder for thirteen years, and to the Liederkrantz society, of which he has been secretary for two years.

He was president of the Hook and Ladder Fire Company No. 1 for five years, for two years he has been president of Landwehr Verein.

JOHN W. DENMAN is one of the pioneers of Hall County who for many years was a leading farmer and stockman and whose industry and good judgment brought him success that makes it possible to put aside the activities of former years and is living in retirement in a beautiful home in Grand Island, surrounded by all the necessities and many of the luxuries of the present day.

Mr. Denman was born in McLean County, Illinois, November 15, 1854. His parents were William H. and Mary (Brown) Denman, the former a native of Licking County, Ohio, while the birthplace of the latter was in the state of Virginia. William H. Denman was a farmer all his life residing first in Ohio, later in Illinois and about 1856 became a resident of Nebraska and secured a homestead in Nemaha County, where he resided until 1871 when he came to Hall County and bought land, making this his home the remainder of his days.

John W. Denman was the youngest of eight children, six of whom are living: Henry C., J. H. and Joseph, all residents of Grand Island; Augusta is the wife of W. H. Dempster, of Oregon; Martha, is the wife of Hiram England, of Hamilton County, Nebraska; and John W.

The latter was a babe when brought to Nebraska and was reared on the pioneer farm in Nemaha County, acquiring his education in the public schools, later attending the State Normal at Peru. On the 25th of January, 1880, he was united in marriage to Miss Ida Huhn, a daughter of Jacob and Martha (Magee) Huhn. Mr. and Mrs. Denman have become the parents of three children, two of whom are living, namely: Albert J., who is manager of the American Beet Sugar Com-

pany's plant at Grand Island; and Minnie B., who is the wife of Walter C. Jessup of Grand Island.

John W. Denman has been a resident of Hall County since 1871 and successfully carried on agricultural pursuits until 1912 when he retired to Grand Island, although still retaining possession of a valuable farm property. Mrs. Denman is a member of the M. E. church and in politics Mr. Denman is a Republican. The family are held in the highest esteem by all who know them.

CLAUS EGGERS. — One of the representative citizens of Hall County may be found in Claus Eggers, one of Grand Island's retired business men, who came here in early days and through his own industry soon became independent. He has assisted in the development of this section of Nebraska, from the days of savage Indians and herds of deer and buffalo, to present conditions that represent comfortable living and even luxury.

Claus Eggers was born December 7, 1849, under the Danish flag, in Schleswig-Holstein. After the war between Austria-Germany and Denmark, Schleswig-Holstein was annexed to Germany, which the parents, like many other patriotic Danish people, bitterly resented. They were Hans and Margaret (Peters) Eggers. The father owned a little farm and lived contentedly until political conditions made him anxious to escape German rule, and in 1875 they left Schleswig, their old home, for that land of the free, the United States, to join their son Claus in Hall County. The father died December 14, 1885, and the mother, January 20, 1901. They have five children and of the four who are living all are residents of the United States. They are Claus and Mrs. Anna Rethmann; Mrs. Charles Guenther and John Eggers, Loup City, Sherman County, Nebraska.

Mr. Eggers attended the common schools in his native land before coming to the United States in 1869. In the winter of that year, on his way to Nebraska, the ferry boat on which he was crossing the Missouri river, froze fast and he crossed on the ice. After reaching Hall County he went to work on a farm and then on railroad construction. He remembers seeing the first year so many antelopes on the land that the present site of St. Francis Hospital could not be seen. During 1870 and 1871 great herds of buffalo could be seen at many places coming from the river as the lack of rain had caused all their secret water holes to dry up. In 1870 a gang of railroad section

men were killed by the Indians, and after that the railroad men were allowed to carry weapons for their protection. All these things caused a different mode of living than the present, but it is well for our pioneers to recall them as interesting pages in the history of the county.

Early in the eighties Mr. Eggers went into the meat market business in partnership with his two brothers, a partnership which continued until 1888. Mr. Eggers then engaged in the retail liquor business, which he followed for fourteen years, conducting a quiet, respectable place which had the approval of the community and the patronage of leading citizens. Mr. Eggers never countenanced the modern objectionable features that largely led to the adoption of the present prohibitory laws.

On April 24, 1886, Mr. Eggers married Miss Mary Nieburger, a daughter of Christ and Annie (Kramback) Nieburger, who were born in the same section of Denmark as the Eggers family. They came to the United States and settled in Clinton County, Iowa, in 1869. In the fall of 1870 Mrs. Eggers' father took a homestead in Hall County, on which they yet live. It lies four miles southeast of Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. Eggers have two sons, Otto and Henry, both of whom are soldiers in the United States army.

Mr. Eggers took out his first naturalization papers in 1870, and his second papers in 1875, having come to the United States with the intention of becoming an American citizen. He has proved the sincerity of his proclaimed intentions, and in every way is recognized as true and loyal to this country. He votes with the Democratic party in the large affairs of the nation, but in local elections uses his own judgment. For two years he has been a member of the city council. While he attends the Lutheran church he has never formally united with it, but he has been liberal to all religious bodies, and has assumed it his duty to contribute to all worthy charities that have been brought to his attention. The comfortable family residence was built in 1875 and in 1913 it was thoroughly remodeled and is now modern in every way.

STEPHEN S. HAYMAN, numbered with the 1883 pioneers of Hall County, is a prominent business man in Grand Island, where he has spent many years of a very busy life. He still owns his old homestead, secured thirty-six years ago, together with much valuable city realty, and since 1898 has been in the real estate and general insurance business.

Mr. Hayman was born November 19, 1851, at Letart Falls, Ohio, one of a family of four children and the only survivor, born to Stephen T. and Letitia (Caldwell) Hayman. The Hayman family is of old English stock. Its founders in the United States were four brothers who landed in Maryland, one of whom, a preacher of the Methodist Episcopal faith, was the grandfather of Stephen S. Hayman. He located in Ohio and there Stephen T. Hayman was born, and there he died when his son Stephen was six months old. Like his father he was of religious mind and was a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church, but his vocation was farming. The mother of Mr. Hayman was born at Wolf's Island, Kentucky, and died in Nebraska at the age of eighty-four years. Her father came to Kentucky from Ireland after the most of the family had died there of the black plague. He bought Wolf's Island and died there when his daughter was only four years old. The only relative was an aunt, who lived at Rutland, Ohio. She took the orphan child to her home, abandoning the island, the child's birthright, which was subsequently sold for taxes and at the present time is worth millions. Mrs. Hayman was reared and married in Ohio, and after the death of Mr. Hayman, married again, being united to H. P. Lawrey, a lawyer at Letart Falls, Meigs County, Ohio. Of the four children of her second marriage, two are living in Hall County: H. P. Lawrey, and Mrs. W. H. Quillen, of Grand Island.

Stephen S. Hayman completed his high school course at Racine, Ohio, in time to teach his first school when sixteen years of age, after which he took a full course in the Lebanon Normal school and thus thoroughly fitted himself for teaching, which profession he afterward followed in Ohio for several years. Having thereby impaired his health, Mr. Hayman decided upon an entire change of both climate and business. In 1883 he came to Hall County and bought a half section of land. He lost his first crops, later suffered from the low prices obtainable for his products, and during the drought of 1890, his cattle died. In the meanwhile he had taught school during the winters and thus had managed to get along. He had been graduated in penmanship from a commercial college at Poughkeepsie, New York, and in 1890 he found an opportunity to teach this art, conducting classes in the Glover building in Grand Island.

In the following fall Mr. Hayman secured the appointment as teacher in the first brick schoolhouse east of Grand Island, where he

continued his work for several years. A business opportunity then seemed to open in the Black Hills, in the wholesale fruit and vegetable line and it was while there that he first became particularly interested in fraternal insurance, and the position of state manager of the Home Forum, with jurisdiction in Oregon and Washington was offered him. He declined the offer, however, and in 1898 came back to Grand Island. Subsequently he accepted the position of state manager of the Modern Brotherhood of America, which still engages his attention. From this beginning Mr. Hayman gradually embarked in a general insurance business and the handling of real estate, much of the latter being his own property.

On November 4, 1875, Mr. Hayman married Miss Elizabeth Douglas, who was born near Ravenswood, West Virginia, a daughter of Reuben and Sarah (Stone) Douglas. The father of Mrs. Hayman was a wealthy farmer in West Virginia. He survived to the age of seventy-five years but the mother of Mrs. Hayman passed away at the age of forty-five. Mr. and Mrs. Hayman have had three children: Ora O., who resides on his father's farm; Stephen A., who owns and operates the beautiful Lyda Theater in Grand Island, and Sarah, who was accidentally killed by a gasoline explosion. Mr. Hayman is a Republican in politics and he says the nearest he ever came to political office was when he was defeated by only eleven votes for county superintendent. He attends the Methodist Episcopal church. Fraternally he is a Knight of Pythias and a Mason, his son having reached the Thirty-second degree in this order.

RICHARD A. ODUM, deputy county clerk of Hall County, Nebraska, has been a resident of Grand Island for over two decades. Although not entirely, yet in large measure, Mr. Odum has been identified with railroads throughout his business career, and he is well and favorably known in the offices of the different systems that operate through Nebraska.

Richard A. Odum was born at Benton, Franklin County, Illinois, February 13, 1876, the only survivor of two children born to Adelbert R. and Hannah (Moore) Odum, the former of whom died when the boy was only two years old. His business was farming and stockraising, for the most part in Illinois, where he owned fine land on which coal was subsequently discovered. After his death, which occurred in March, 1878, the mother left

the farm and moved to Benton where she and her son resided until January, 1891, when removal was made to Colfax County, Nebraska. At that time Mrs. Odum was united in marriage with John A. Brown. Since June, 1918, Mr. and Mrs. Brown have lived retired in Grand Island.

Richard A. Odum attended the common schools in Benton and the high school in Schuyler, Nebraska. He began his business career as a clerk in the offices of the Chicago Burlington and Quincy Railroad, at Schuyler, and after transfers to a number of other cities, came to Grand Island in 1898 remaining with the above system until 1905. From 1906 until 1910, he was associated with the Union Pacific Railroad, when he retired from railroad work, and for the following five years conducted a meat and grocery business in Grand Island. This business he sold in 1915 and for a few months afterward was again in railroad work, which he gave up when he was appointed deputy county clerk, in January, 1917. He is serving in his second term and is a very popular official.

On June 14, 1899, Mr. Odum married Miss Jennie Brown, of Schuyler, Nebraska. Her parents were James T. and Ellen (Miller) Brown, both of whom are deceased, having been old and highly respected residents of Colfax County. Mr. and Mrs. Odum have one son, Windsor A., who was born June 7, 1900, a well educated young man who still makes his home with his parents. Mrs. Odum is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which she is very active. She has been one of the leaders in the Y. W. C. A. in Grand Island and is on the board of directors of this organization. During the entire period of the World War she was indefatigable in her labors for the Red Cross. Mr. Odum also has been a leader in patriotic work and was secretary of the county council of defense. In politics he is a sturdy Republican, in church connection he is a Baptist, and fraternally is identified with the Elks.

FRANCIS CORKINS, one of the best known residents of Grand Island, came to Hall County when this present modern commercial city had but one store and three saloons to represent its business enterprises. He was a young man of twenty-five but had already seen much adventure, having just served three years in the Union Army during the Civil War. His settlement here was for permanency, not speculation, and throughout many succeeding years he was actively and

honorably engaged in business, a helpful citizen in every way. Today his friends are as numerous as his acquaintances.

The birth of Francis Corkins took place in County Cavin, Ireland, October 26, 1842. His parents were Patrick and Nancy (Carlin) Corkins, who came to the United States in 1847. They reached Illinois on their travels westward, spending one year in Chicago. The father had been a small farmer in Ireland and it was on a farm in McHenry County, Illinois, that they settled permanently, and there the father died in 1863. The mother survived until 1904. Of their seven children four are living, but Francis Corkins is the only one of the family in Nebraska and the only one of the name, the other children of the family being girls.

Francis Corkins attended the country school in his boyhood, that was situated two and a half miles from his father's farm in McHenry County, and as soon as old enough assisted on the farm. On August 4, 1862, he enlisted for service in the Union Army for service during the Civil War, and as proof of being a worthy soldier, was promoted to be corporal of his company. He was honorably discharged August 18, 1865, having escaped all serious injuries and even capture by the enemy, although close to it in the engagement at Guntown, Mississippi. Mr. Corkins then returned to his father's farm but was not satisfied to remain there, having by that time ambitions to own land for himself, hence, in the fall of 1867 he came to Nebraska. He worked for farmers in Hall County and then homesteaded near Wood River, remaining on his farm eleven years, then sold and moved into Grand Island, where he purchased a livery stable. For twenty-four years he operated that establishment, through his business capacity making it a profitable enterprise and the leading one here for many years. On March 1, 1913, Mr. Corkins retired.

On November 5, 1876, Mr. Corkins married Miss Harriet E. Smith, a daughter of George P. and Harriet N. (McGregor) Smith, her mother being a first cousin of Ralph W. Emerson. Mrs. Corkins' parents were early settlers of Hall County. Her father's death was the result of one of those unfortunate accidents that pioneer history so often records. Although seventy years old he was both physically and mentally active and enjoyed taking part in some of the farm industries. In May, 1875, he attempted alone to burn off a field of prairie grass, and when the wind suddenly veered to the opposite direction, he was caught in the flames and his death followed six

weeks later. Not having any children of their own, Mr. and Mrs. Corkins adopted a nine year old girl named Anna Bliss, who was carefully reared and subsequently married Douglas Woodman, of Denver, who is now a soldier in the United States army in France. They have one son, Wilbur Woodman, who resides with Mr. and Mrs. Corkins. The latter is a member of the Christian Science church. In politics Mr. Corkins is a Democrat. His fellow citizens have often desired him to accept public office and he served as county supervisor for two years, but otherwise he has always declined. The legislation that has abolished alcohol from the country as a beverage may have disturbed some of Mr. Corkins' fellow citizens but not himself, for never, in his entire life, has he tasted liquor, and what is still further somewhat unusual, he has never used tobacco.

CARRIE L. FRASER.—There are many well satisfied residents of Grand Island who consider the development of the public schools during the past twenty-nine years, one of the city's most notable evidences of progress. In this connection not a few will accord much credit to Miss Carrie Fraser, whose devotion to the cause of education has been the leading motive of her life since early girlhood. In 1894 Miss Fraser was made principal of the Platt school, Grand Island.

Carrie L. Fraser was born at Chatham, in the province of Ontario, Dominion of Canada, the only child born to William and Sarah E. (Huson) Fraser. Miss Fraser's father was born in Canada in 1846, and died at Chatham, where he had been in business for five years, September 8, 1872. He was identified with the order of Odd Fellows. The mother of Miss Fraser was born at Buffalo, New York. In 1877 her second marriage took place, she being united to Daniel Ferguson, a merchant in Chatham. In September, 1878, Mr. Ferguson, with his brother, came to Grand Island to take charge of the Hooper foundry, which he managed for several years, and this city has been the family home ever since. Mr. Ferguson died here in August, 1907, his widow and two daughters surviving; Grace L., who is a teacher in the public schools of Grand Island, and Flora E., who is the wife of Glenn G. Reeder, of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

In recalling educational conditions at the time of her own graduation from the high school in Grand Island, Miss Fraser pays tribute to the scholarship of Superintendent Henry Garm and his assistants, one of whom

was Mrs. T. O. C. Harrison. At that time four frame store buildings (there were no brick ones then) were used as schoolrooms, the high school being held in the German Lutheran church, but the Dodge school building was in course of erection. Miss Fraser soon took up school work and has been identified with this profession continuously for twenty-nine years, at the present time having in her classes children of her earliest pupils. When she took charge as principal of the Platt school in 1894, she had but two teachers, while now seven are employed. Miss Fraser is much beloved in Grand Island where she has always been an uplifting influence, very active as a member of the First Methodist Episcopal church, and prominent in the high school alumnae.

SAMUEL HEXTER.—One of the men who came in the early days to Grand Island, and through good citizenship greatly assisted in the remarkable development of the city, is found in Samuel Hexter, a highly esteemed retired citizen, whose comfortable home is at No. 708 West First street. For many years Mr. Hexter was active in business circles and became well and favorably known over the county.

Samuel Hexter was born in Germany, February 4, 1845. His parents were Judah and Miriam (Strauss) Hexter, natives of Germany, his mother being a sister of Johann Strauss, the great musical composer. The father of Mr. Hexter was in the grain business, a man of high character and prominent in the Orthodox Jewish church. There were seven children in the family, four of whom at one time lived in Hall County. Mrs. Sophia Rothschild and Mrs. Rosa Boehm are deceased, but Samuel and David Hexter still reside here.

In June, 1860, well educated in the schools and trained for business, Samuel Hexter came to the United States. For a short time he lived in New York City, then went to North Carolina and from there proceeded to Petersburg, Virginia, where he was practically a prisoner because the siege of the city by the Federal troops followed and he was forced to remain there until the close of the Civil War. Mr. Hexter then joined his brother-in-law, J. Rothschild, in Baltimore, Maryland, subsequently becoming his manager of stores at Aurora, Illinois, and Columbus, Kansas. From the latter place, in 1883, he came to Hall County and entered the employ of the Wolbach Bros. Company, a firm that did much

to develop Grand Island, remaining in the employ of that concern for seventeen years. Mr. Hexter then embarked in business for himself, in 1899, continuing in the commercial field for twelve years, during which time he added to the excellent reputation he already had made for honesty and good citizenship. Because of the sale of the building for other purposes, Mr. Hexter found himself obliged to close out his store in 1911, and as he had been in business for so many years he decided to retire rather than build up a new connection.

On March 5, 1884, Mr. Hexter married Miss Bertha Yost, who was born in the city of New York, a daughter of Abraham and Clara (Freund) Yost. Her father was born in Baden and her mother in Bavaria, Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Hexter have four children: Miriam, the wife of Oscar Veit, of Grand Island; Florence, the wife of Solomon Hirsch, of St. Joseph, Missouri; Maud, a teacher in the public schools, and one who is deceased. Mr. Hexter and family are prominent in the membership of the Orthodox Jewish church. In his early political life in the United States, Mr. Hexter was a Democrat, but the issues that came up during the first administration of President McKinley, caused him to change his opinions and he has been identified with the Republican party since then. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and has had the honor of twice being master of his lodge. Mr. and Mrs. Hexter remember when Grand Island was nothing but a country village, with no permanent sidewalks, no lights, no water or sewer system. Mr. Hexter has been one of the enterprising and progressive men who have helped to bring about present modern conditions.

JENS ERICKSEN, a well known and highly respected resident of Hall County, came to Grand Island thirty-two years ago and has lived here ever since. Master of several trades he has been a hard worker as well as a useful citizen. No one has had a higher reputation for business integrity.

Jens Ericksen was born at Veborg, Denmark, January 5, 1844, the son of Jens and Anna (Brundom) Ericksen, who spent their lives in Denmark, where the father was a farmer and stockman. They were faithful members of the Danish Lutheran church. Their family consisted of three children, two daughters who died in Copenhagen, and one son, who came to America, landing in the United States in 1887. Jens Ericksen attended school and helped his father on the farm

until he was eighteen years old, when he entered the army and for his reward in serving during the war with Germany in 1864, he receives a pension from the Danish government of one hundred kronen annually. He learned the cabinet-making trade in the old country and after coming to the United States, the carpenter trade, but prior to leaving Denmark he owned and conducted a general store for sixteen years. In the meanwhile Mr. Ericksen had learned much concerning the business opportunities that the great country across the Atlantic offered to men of industry, especially in its western states, and as many of his countrymen were prospering in Grand Island, it was to this place he came with his family. A ready welcome awaited men of his class, honest, sturdy, dependable, hard-working, and it is not remarkable that Mr. Ericksen prospered. In 1904 he began contracting, and as a private venture he built ten houses in the city, on which he performed practically all the work himself. These houses he owned and since then has sold all but three.

In Denmark, on May 28, 1865, Mr. Ericksen married Miss Anna M. Carstensen. They have the following children: Jens, who lives in Denver, Colorado; Mrs. Maggie Rasmussen, deceased; Walter, a business man of Grand Island; Mrs. Gertrude Alexander, who resides in Omaha; Mrs. Emma Dalgus, of Grand Island; Charles, in business at Grand Island; Martin, deceased; Ernest, who lives in Grand Island; Albert, in business in Seattle, Washington; Anna, the wife of C. Petersen, and Christ, who makes his home in Grand Island. All the children were born in Denmark except the youngest, a native son of Grand Island. The family belongs to the English Lutheran church. In his political opinions Mr. Ericksen is a Democrat.

REV. GUSTAV H. MICHELMANN.—Perhaps the Lutheran clergy in Nebraska has no more scholarly representative than Rev. Gustav Herman Michelmann, pastor of the German-English St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran congregation, on Seventh and Locust streets, Grand Island, who for the past five years has been president of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Nebraska.

Rev. Michelmann was born at Prosigk, dukedom Anhalt, Germany, July 17th, 1871. His parents were born in Anhalt, the father at Muehno and his mother at Coethen.

From 1878 to 1881 Rev. Michelmann attended the grammar school at Coethen-Anhalt.

In the latter year he became a pupil of the gymnasium of the same city. At that institution he paid especial attention to the languages, Latin, Greek, French and English. On March 10, 1891, he passed the examination, the so-called abiturium which qualifies for admission to the university. In April, 1891, he became a student of the university of Tuebingen (Wurtemberg) and registered as a student of philosophy and evangelical theology. At the close of the first semester he passed the examination in the Hebrew language. In April, 1892, he went to the university of Halle (Saxony) to continue and to complete his studies in the same branches. In the fall of 1894 he was graduated and accepted a call as private instructor from a Lutheran minister in a village of Mecklenburg. He remained there one year engaged in preparing five boys for the higher classes of a gymnasium.

Due to the fact that there were so many candidates for the ministry at that time in Germany, Rev. Michelmann resolved to emigrate to the United States of America, landing at New York City December 20, 1895, and went from there to Chicago, where he accepted a call as assistant professor in a Lutheran Theological seminary. In June, 1896, he received a call from a Lutheran congregation of Chicago, and was ordained a minister of the Gospel in September, 1897. Since that time he has served churches in the following places: Chicago, Brookville, Indiana, Oak Park, Illinois, and Grand Island, Nebraska, coming to the last named city in August 1906. In August, 1915, Rev. Michelmann accepted a call from the Grand Island College to teach German and French, at that institution, from which he received the degree of Ph.B., in 1916. In November, 1905, Rev. Michelmann became a citizen of the United States.

In Brookville, Indiana, in 1899, Rev. Mr. Michelmann married Miss Elizabeth Klemme. Five children have been born to them: Oswald C., Hans F., Margaret, Clara W. and Ilse Pearl. The oldest son is a student of philosophy in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

REV. HERMAN SCHUMANN. — There are few old-time German residents of a number of counties in Nebraska who have not heard or come under the ministrations of Rev. Herman Schumann, who now, having retired from active ministerial work, resides in Grand Island, his pleasant home being situated at No. 304 West Sixth street. As one of the pioneer preachers of the Lutheran faith,

Rev. Schumann for years traveled back and forth visiting scattered settlements and lonely farmhouses, sharing the hardships of his parishioners while helping them both materially and spiritually. In passing from one field of labor to another, he never failed to leave behind tangible evidence of his interest, and the religious bodies he then organized, in many cases were plants that have developed into the large congregations of the present.

Herman Schumann was born in Germany, February 13, 1857, one of a family of eleven children born to Julius and Anna (Dunskus) Schumann, who passed their entire lives in Germany, the father dying in 1869 and the mother in 1914. Two of their six surviving children live in Grand Island, Rev. Schumann and Mrs. Anna Freeland. From the high school in his native land, Herman Schumann entered the university at Basel, Switzerland, and was ordained to the Lutheran ministry before coming to the United States in 1885. He located first in Platte County, Nebraska, his first charge being near Columbus. In those early days he visited the three churches to which he was usually assigned, at regular intervals, driving alone over miles of prairie from one to the other, often carrying with him the consolations of religion to the sick and afflicted while at other times his advent was awaited anxiously for the celebration of a wedding or a baptism. From Platte County he removed to Fillmore county and five years later from there to Dodge County, where he resided until in 1898, when he accepted a call to Grand Island. Here he continued active in church work until his retirement in the fall of 1918. He was a faithful laborer and was instrumental in building four churches beside organizing five congregations.

At Shell Creek, in Platte County, Nebraska, Rev. Schumann married, November 18, 1886, Miss Amelia Radtke. They have the following children: Lydia, the wife of Rev. Fred Motckus, of Hastings, Nebraska; Albert, a resident of Cameron township, Hall County, married Freda Buckow; Reinhold, a farmer in Cameron township, married Opal Stewart; Emma, the wife of Leves Seddell, of Omaha; Martha, a talented musician, resides at home; Freda, a teacher in the public schools, resides at home; Ferdinand, a student in the high school in Grand Island; Hulda, also a high school student, and Rosalie, who resides with her parents.

When Mr. Schumann retired from the ministry as a profession it was from no lack of Christian zeal nor with the expectation of living entirely at ease. He has some im-

portant interests to claim his time; included in these being the management of his three farms, and looking after the affairs of the Grand Island Manufacturing Company, of which he is president. Many years ago he became a citizen of the United States. He is a Republican in his political identification.

GEORGE W. BROADWELL, who does an extensive business in Grand Island as a general contractor, is prominent in public as well as business affairs. Although not a native of Nebraska almost all of his life has been spent here and he takes much pride in the present status of this state in comparison to her sister states.

Mr. Broadwell was born in Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois, June 13th, 1868, a son of Cyrus F. and Ella A. (Goff) Broadwell. Cyrus F. Broadwell was born in Springfield and in boyhood attended school with the sons of Abraham Lincoln. He was a general farmer and raiser of stock. He removed from Illinois to Colorado, where he lived for three years and then came to Nebraska, May 8, 1871, homesteading near Lincoln. He lived in Webster County until the spring of 1887, moving then to Hall County, where his death occurred in 1894, at the age of forty-eight years. He was a member of the American Order United Workmen, and in politics was a Republican. His wife was born in St. Louis, Missouri. They had six children, George W. being the only one of the four survivors to live in Hall County. His mother makes her home with him. She remembers many interesting events of early times in Hall County. On one occasion, when she was yet a young woman, she drove a yoke of oxen all the way from Omaha to Denver, and when the family removed to Nebraska, young George W. was entrusted with the duty of driving the ox-team, which was not always an undertaking devoid of danger.

After his school days were over, George W. Broadwell worked as a farmer until he was twenty years old, when he came to Grand Island and learned the brickmason trade, which he pursued until 1897, when he became a general contractor, in which he has been very successful.

On December 25, 1889, Mr. Broadwell married Miss Minnie Balcom, a daughter of James and Elzina (Bowen) Balcom, who came to Grand Island thirty years ago and still reside here. Mr. and Mrs. Broadwell have no children. Mr. Broadwell has taken an active part in public matters and is a prominent

factor in Republican political circles. He has been chairman of his ward organization at different times and for thirteen years prior to 1917, was a member of the city board of aldermen. His efforts at all times are directed to advance the general welfare. In early days he assisted in the organization of Alexander Fire Company No. 4, and many old settlers will recall the station at Elm and Seventh streets. He belongs to the fraternal orders of the Elks, and the Eagles.

JOHN PETER WINDOLPH, for many years well known in the newspaper business in Nebraska, yet connected with the printing business, was born in Uder Kreis Heiligenstadt, Germany, January 24, 1865. His parents were John and Katherine (Kellner) Windolph, both natives of Germany.

In 1872 the father of Mr. Windolph came to the United States, the mother and children following in April, 1873. They settled in Hall County, the father buying a farm of eighty acres south of Grand Island, on which they lived ten years, then sold and bought 160 acres east of Grand Island. The father died in the same year, on September 23, 1882. The mother continued on the farm for a number of years and then removed to Grand Island, where she still resides. She is a member of the Catholic church. She remembers when the cyclone blew the first Catholic church away and afterward for some time there was no church building in this section of that denomination. She also remembers the hardships of the farmer's life in those early days including the losses of crops from hail, drought and grasshoppers. Nine children were born to John and Catherine Windolph, as follows: John P., who resides one mile east of Grand Island; Mary, who is the wife of Chris Mangelsen, of near Palmer, Nebraska; Katherine, who is the widow of Henry Eberhard, resides with her mother in Grand Island; Dora, who is deceased, was the wife of John Goettsche of Grand Island; Hedwig, who lives with her brother William in Creighton, Nebraska; William, a Catholic priest, resides at Creighton; John, who is a clerk in the post office in Grand Island, married Freda Cords; Charles, who lives on the old farm of his mother and operates it, is a twin brother of John, usually called Peter, who married Antonia Cords, and Oscar, a druggist at Humphrey, Nebraska, married Miss Burkhardt.

Fortified with a common school education, secured at Grand Island, John P. Windolph

began, April 1, 1881, his apprenticeship to the printing trade, in the office of the *Herald*, in Grand Island, where he remained several years. For some time afterward he operated a store, then was in the railway mail service, from which latter he resigned in 1888, shortly afterward starting a job printing office, which was the nucleus of a newspaper, which he founded and named the *Grand Island Anzeiger*, of which he was editor. The venture succeeded and within two years Mr. Windolph had enlarged to an eight page six column sheet, continuing to operate as such until April, 1894, when he purchased the *Herald* plant and good will, consolidating the two papers. In 1900 he bought the *Staats Anzeiger*, of Lincoln, Nebraska, which he consolidated with his other journals and continued publication until 1906, before he disposed of all his newspaper interests.

In 1907 Mr. Windolph treated himself to a vacation, spending several months in his native land. This pleasant experience he repeated in 1913 when he went to Germany accompanied by his wife. On September 9, 1887, he married Miss Amanda Rieck, a daughter of Henry and Margaret (Reimers) Rieck. The father of Mrs. Windolph died in Germany and the mother afterward married Christian Bade, both of whom are deceased. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Windolph: William, who lives in Grand Island, married Elizabeth Koch; Hugo, a resident of Grand Island, married Anna Wetzel; Peter, whose home is at Cortland, New York, was a soldier in the United States army, having just returned home from France; Clara, the wife of Albert Schultz, a meat merchant in Grand Island; Walter, who is a soldier in the United States army of occupation in Germany; Otto, at home was recently released from military training at Camp Dodge; Albert, who lives at Grand Island, and Elsie, a photographer, lives at home.

In 1896 Mr. Windolph and family moved out of the city of Grand Island to their country place of ten acres, one mile east, this being part of the old homestead. In 1908 he started a job printing office here and has operated it ever since. In politics he is a Democrat. He has never had any ambition to hold office and the only public position he ever accepted was that of moderator of schools for four terms. He belongs fraternally to the Eagles, the Sons of Herman, the Liederkrantz and the Plattsdeutschen society.

JOHN F. WALSH.—A man of many honorable achievements both in public and

business life for many years well known in Nebraska, is John F. Walsh, the retiring commandant of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, at Burkett, Nebraska. Mr. Walsh was born in Dublin, Ireland, March 31, 1846. His parents were Patrick K. and Susan (Woods) Walsh, natives of Ireland who came to the United States in 1848.

Patrick K. Walsh was a shoemaker by trade but a leader of men by nature. He was a man of education and brilliant mind, a writer of books and a welcome contributor to such well known literary journals as the *Celtic Index* and the *Irish National Magazine*. He was one of a very active group of agitators in the rebellion of 1884 in Ireland and it became expedient that he leave his country, hence his emigration to the United States when that uprising in Erin was unsuccessful. He never ceased his active interest in Irish affairs and was recognized in Ohio as a devoted worker for Ireland's freedom. His death occurred July 28, 1886, and in St. Joseph cemetery, Cleveland, Ohio, stands a monument erected to his memory by his followers. In 1862 he showed his willingness to fight for what he believed to be right, by enlisting as a private for service in the Civil War, being placed in command of a telegraph construction division and later was promoted to the rank of captain. Although he was not the type of man to shun danger and his work took him into many hazardous situations, he was never either wounded or taken prisoner. His wife died in 1891. Of their six children three are living, John F. being the only one in Hall County.

John F. Walsh was instructed in his early years by his father but later attended the public schools in Cincinnati. In 1862, when his father entered the Union army, he also endeavored to be accepted as a soldier, and twice afterward made further ineffectual efforts, but succeeded in 1864 and served until the war closed, during this time having been a prisoner of war on one occasion for two hours. He returned then to his father's house in Cleveland and completed his apprenticeship to the shoemaking trade while, for two years, he attended night schools to further his education.

Mr. Walsh then went as far west as St. Louis, Missouri, where he joined a company of fur traders whose life of adventure led them to the source of the Missouri river. In those wild regions they were attacked by a band of Indians who killed two of their party and stole their pelts. Being unable under the circumstances to resent this injustice, the fur men went down the river in skiffs as far as Sioux City and from there to Brownsville,



MR. AND MRS. J. P. WINDOLPH

Nebraska. His first marriage took place at Brownsville, and from there he went to what was then the hamlet of Humboldt, in Richardson County, Nebraska. The village at that time had but fifty inhabitants and Mr. Walsh was the first shoe merchant in the town, owning and operating his store until 1888, when he embarked in general merchandising. He was a resident of Humboldt for forty-four years and was one of the leading factors in its development. He was a member of the first city council, was on the school board for eighteen years, was post master during the four years of President Cleveland's first administration, was mayor of Humboldt, and during the early 'nineties was treasurer of Richardson County. Mr. Walsh then engaged in the banking business, in which he continued up to the time he gave way to the solicitation of Governor Moorhead to accept the position at the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home at Burkett, having been cashier of the bank for twenty-three consecutive years.

The Soldiers' and Sailors' Home of Hall County was organized October 20, 1887. It is situated on 640 acres of land and until 1913 the home was under the control of a board of Public Land and Buildings. Since then it has been under the management of a constitutional body known as the Board of Commissioners of State Institutions, appointments under this board being considered based on efficiency only. At the present time there are two hundred and forty women and three hundred and sixty men residing at the institution. The United States government allows \$100 per year for each inmate, the state providing the balance of expense. The average age of the inmates is over seventy years, and there is always a waiting list. In March, 1915, Mr. Walsh upon appointment took charge of the home as commandant, a position he has resigned as indicated by the following letter made public addressed to the board of control. After courteous preliminaries Mr. Walsh said as follows in this communication: "To the State Board of Control:

"I herewith tender you my resignation as commandant of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home at Burkett, to take effect March 15, 1919, or not later than April 1, following, for the following reasons: When I was solicited to take the position four years ago, I was given to understand that it was a non-partisan civil service proposition, and not a political football, but from reading the newspapers I learn of the petty and pernicious political activity of some members of the legislature, and the public and emphatic pronouncement of Gov-

ernor McKelvie that this administration was to be one of the ultra partisan type, I do not care to undergo the nagging and annoyance of such conditions. I must say for you, gentlemen, that I have never discovered any partisan discrimination on your part. The good of the institution seemed to be your sole object, and I consider the board of control one of the best executive departments in our state government. I will say nothing of my personal record as you have that in black and white. I heartily thank you one and all for your uniform kindness and support during my service under your jurisdiction. Respectfully submitted. J. F. Walsh."

Mr. Walsh married Miss Cora V. Layton, a daughter of Judge Layton, of Pottawattomie County, Iowa. Her death occurred July 25th, 1886; their children are all deceased. His second marriage took place November 29, 1888, to Miss Kate B. Murphy, who is a daughter of Barney and Margaret (McSweeney) Murphy. To this union the following children were born: Patrick R., who lives in Omaha; Morgan A., of Los Angeles; Paul E., whose home is Omaha; Ernest, who has been farm boss at the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, and Vinetta M., who is a skilled stenographer in the Union Pacific offices at Grand Island.

During his lifetime Mr. Walsh has been associated with men of large affairs and has been on terms of intimacy and friendship with such national characters as J. Sterling Morton, Governor Butler, Governor Moorhead, Governor Furness and Governor Poynter.

GEORGE ALBERT ENGLE, depot agent for the American Express Company in Grand Island, has been identified with this important business organization for a number of years, and was advanced to his present position because of merit. Mr. Engle has spent his life in Grand Island, and while his business associations have made him widely known, his personal demeanor has made him equally respected.

Mr. Engle was born in Grand Island, Nebraska, February 14, 1889, son of Charles and Lillie (Ruby) Engle, natives of Iowa. The father of Mr. Engle is interested in farming in South Dakota, but the mother is residing in Grand Island. Mr. Engle had one sister who is deceased. He has the following half brothers and sisters: Dora, the wife of Frank Deeds, of Mendon, Nebraska; Roy Kent, a resident of Grand Island, and Ethel,

Ruby and Oscar, all of whom reside at home.

George Albert Engle attended the public schools in his native city, immediately afterward looking about for a useful line of industry and subsequently learning the trade of plasterer and mason, in which he was more or less continuously engaged for twelve years. He then entered the employ of the American Express Company, serving first as platform man, then as teamster, next as agent, in June, 1913, becoming station agent. Mr. Engle is known to be careful, reliable and courteous and he has many friends among the home people as well as the general traveling public.

Mr. Engle married, July 4, 1910, Miss Augusta Ottomiller, a daughter of the late John Ottomiller, who died on his farm near Grand Island, in January, 1914. The mother of Mrs. Engle still lives on the farm. Mrs. Engle has three brothers and two sisters: John, a farmer in Hall County; Anna, the wife of Rudolph Reher, of Grand Island; Fred, a farmer; Henry, a soldier in the United States army; and Katie, who lives with her mother. Mr. and Mrs. Engle have had the following children: George, Ruby, Harold, Robert and Eugene, all of whom survive except Harold. Mr. Engle is a good citizen but is not active in politics.

REV. CONRAD WOELZ, who was connected with the active ministry of the Evangelical church both in Germany and in the United States for many years, is a resident of Grand Island who is held in the highest esteem. Although the weight of more than four score years rests upon him, he still responds to ministerial calls in local churches and still takes a deep interest in everything of moral import that is brought to his attention.

Rev. Woelz was born at Lautern, Wurttemberg, Germany, February 17, 1838. His parents were Jacob and Margaretha (Grimm) Woelz, who never left Germany, where the father lived to the age of eighty-three years and the mother, seventy-six years. They had six children, three of whom live, Conrad being the only one to come to the United States. The father was a weaver in a cotton factory.

After attending the local schools, Conrad Woelz was accepted as a theological student in the seminary at Reutlingen, Germany, where he completed his studies and became a minister of the Evangelical association. In 1876 he began his active labors in the Evangelical ministry, attended conferences in Switzerland and organized several churches in southern Germany. In 1883 he came to the

United States with his family, locating in Milford, Seward County, as a minister, from which place he came as a minister to Grand Island, in 1884, where he continued active in church affairs until 1890.

In Germany, May 21, 1866, Rev. Woelz married Anna M. Zeuner, who was born at Herbrechtingen, Germany, and eight children were born to them: Charles, who resides in Grand Island, married Elvina Janss; Christian, who now lives at Fort Collins, Colorado; Gottlieb, at present a resident of Longmont, Colorado; John who is at home; Lydia, also at home; Herman, who lives at Longmont, Colorado; Theodore, who died February 7, 1919; and an infant that died unnamed. There is only one grandchild in the family. The sons of Rev. Woelz developed into young men of unusual stability and business capacity, all of them being connected for years with the well known mercantile house of Wolbach & Sons. The late Theodore Woelz was engaged with this important firm for twenty years of his life, while Charles has been there sixteen years, John, twenty-two years, and Christian, Gottlieb and Herman, six, fourteen and ten years respectively. It may not be out of place to comment, in this connection, on the very evident value of Christian home training and Rev. and Mrs. Woelz may well be proud of a family so creditable in every way. The family home is at No. 1323 West First street, Grand Island.

FRANK SALLINGER, one of Hall County's well known and highly respected citizens, now lives in comfortable retirement in Grand Island, after almost forty years of active life here as a farmer. He came to Hall County in 1879 and has never felt inclined to leave, finding here land, business opportunity, good neighbors and many friends.

Frank Sallinger was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, June 15, 1848, a son of Alda and Mary (Cokenaur) Sallinger, both of whom were born in Westmoreland County. They died in Pennsylvania aged respectively eighty and eighty-seven years. The father was a farmer all his active life. He was a quiet, industrious man, honest and fair in all dealings, a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and Republican in politics.

In the country schools near his father's farm in Westmoreland County, Frank Sallinger obtained the usual education of the farmer boy of that period, laying a good foundation on which he built the higher, wider experi-

ences of life. He began to be useful on the home farm by the time he was twelve years old and farm pursuits have interested him ever since. In 1879 he left his native state and came to Hall County, Nebraska, as above mentioned, where he continued to be a farmer until 1913, when he retired and removed to Grand Island, locating in his comfortable home at No. 1836 Lafayette Avenue.

On December 31, 1871, Mr. Sallinger married Miss Margaret Kerns, who was born in Northumberland County, England, being brought to the United States when a small child, by her parents and reared in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Sallinger died in Nebraska, March 14, 1916. Her parents were natives of England from which country they emigrated. The father died on the voyage to America and was buried at sea. The mother subsequently married August Nettle. She died in Hall County. Mr. and Mrs. Sallinger became the parents of seven children, five of whom are living, namely: Charles, lives in Hall County, married Mary Miles; Edward, residing in Grand Island, married Emma Ring, who was born on her parents' homestead in Hall County; Frank, also lives at Grand Island; Jennie, the wife of William Thomas, of Hall County; and William, who lives in Perkins County, Nebraska, has been twice married, first to Maggie Benson and after her death married Katherine Nagel. Mr. Sallinger is a member of the Trinity Methodist Episcopal church, Grand Island. He has never desired to hold public office but has been interested in the development of this section as a good citizen. He votes with the Republican party.

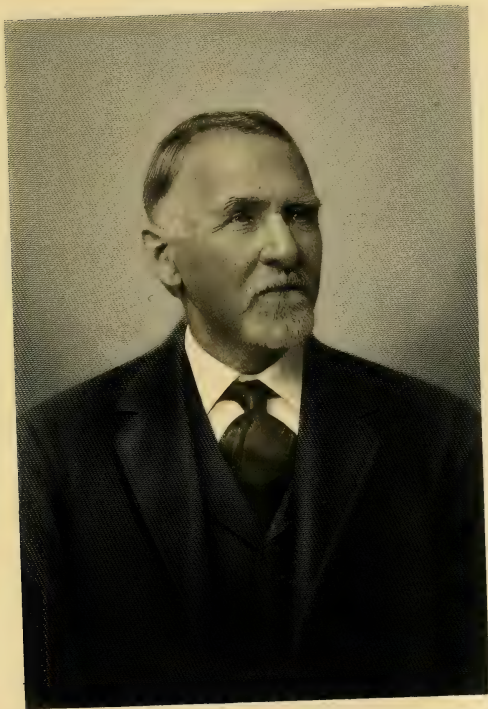
WILLIAM A. HAGGE.—The history of a community is best told in the life record of its citizens. In gathering the records for the early history of Hall County, we find that the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch is one of the three survivors of the original colony that settled on the present site of Grand Island, and at a meeting held to decide upon a name for the new town, the name finally adopted was the one suggested by William A. Hagge. It is nearly sixty-two years since that little band of sturdy German people came here and during all these years the subject of this record has been a resident of this community.

William A. Hagge was born in the village of Pratsdorf, province of Holstein, Germany, April 3, 1834, a son of Johann and Ida (Klindt) Hagge, natives of the same province.

The father, who was a school teacher, died in Germany and the mother with her family, in company with a party of neighbors started for America. They were opposed to the militarism in vogue in that country, and to escape the possibility of its young men having to serve in the army, they sought refuge on this side of the Atlantic. They sailed from the harbor of Hamburg on April 9, 1849, on a vessel flying the Russian flag, and from the start were pursued by Danish warships. The ship also encountered severe storms and after a voyage of eight weeks they landed at New Orleans. Cholera was raging at the time and the disease attacked the little band. Before they reached St. Louis several of their number had succumbed to the dread disease, among the number being the mother, an older brother and a sister of our subject. The party continued up the Mississippi River to Davenport, Iowa, and here William A. Hagge grew to manhood and became a merchant. His store enjoyed the best German trade in Davenport and he continued to prosper until the panic of 1857, and though there was much money owing him he was forced to give up the business. It was that year that a party of congressmen and bankers of Washington, D. C., planned to form a colony in the valley of the Platte somewhere in Nebraska, and Mr. Hagge became a member of the second Nebraska colony and was with them when they settled on the present site of Grand Island. Here Mr. Hagge took a homestead and a pre-emption claim and became a successful farmer. He erected the first house to be built in the neighborhood which was destroyed by a prairie fire the next year. He was the first justice of peace of this district and the first trial on record was held before him.

He has always been a Republican in politics and took an active part in all things that had to do with the development of the county. He was called to public office and served two terms as treasurer of Hall County. Later he engaged in the banking business, but for many years has lived retired, his sons under the name of Hagge Brothers carrying on the work of the farm.

October 26, 1865, occurred the marriage of William A. Hagge and Miss Caroline S. Moller, who was born in the village of Darry, Holstein, Germany, February 10, 1846. Her parents, Frederick and Katrina (Lillienthal) Moller, emigrated to America in 1857 and settled first in Davenport, Iowa, and in 1859 became residents of Hall County. They drove overland from Iowa with horse and ox teams



Wm. A. Hagge

and cast their lot with the early settlers of Washington township. They were farming people and spent the remainder of their lives here, the father passing away at the age of eighty-five and the mother was seventy-two when called to her final rest.

Mr. and Mrs. Hagge became the parents of eight children, seven of whom are living: Ida Adelia, the wife of Harman C. Petersen, of Davenport, Iowa; Emma, married F. W. Behrns and resides at home; William A., Jr., and Frederick J. are operating the old farm; August W., is a member of the firm of Hagge Brothers, and for twenty years has been on the agricultural staff of the American Beet Sugar Company; Helen M., the wife of John G. Roby, residing in Hall County; Clara, unmarried and resides at home; and Minnie, who died at the age of nineteen.

Though for several years Mr. Hagge has been bereft of his hearing and his eyesight is impaired, he still delights in recounting the reminiscences of the early days. He is one of the few remaining pioneers to whom we are indebted for the information that makes possible an authentic history of Hall County. He endured the hardships, overcame obstacles and helped to make the community a better place in which to live. Indians, grasshoppers, prairie fires and drouth were some of the trials they had to meet. On one occasion Mr. Hagge had gone to the woods for a log when he was surrounded by Indians. When they searched him a postage stamp was all they found. His resourcefulness was brought into play and when he told them that this stamp was his protection, and that if he was harmed Uncle Sam would deal harshly with them at once, they seemed satisfied and went on the way leaving him unharmed.

A full account of the trials and experiences of these early settlers will be found in the general history and the people of the county should appreciate the opportunity to have this done before it is too late. In giving space to those who are deserving especial mention, we trust the life record here preserved will prove not only an inspiration to his own family but to all future generations of Hall County.

JOHN H. WINDOLPH, one of Grand Island's well known business men and reputable citizens, bears a name that has been held in great respect in Hall County for over a half century. Mr. Windolph was born in Hall County, Nebraska, January 6, 1871, the eldest of the four children of John L. and

Mary (Magdalene) Windolph, the latter of whom is deceased. His father was born in Germany. He came to the United States in early manhood, and to Hall County, Nebraska, in 1861. An octogenarian but still vigorous in mind and body, he now lives in comfortable retirement on a part of his original homestead adjoining the city limits of Grand Island.

John H. Windolph was educated in the public schools of Hall County and the Grand Island Business College. He has been employed by his father more or less throughout his entire business life and it is recognized that he possesses decided commercial ability. He is now operating the finely improved farm of eighty acres, all that the reaching out and expansion of Grand Island has left of the original homestead which grew to a farm of 240 acres. Business streets and fine residences now occupy the rest of the land other than the home farm, it having been sold gradually after being divided in city lots. Mr. Windolph has spent his entire life in Hall County with the exception of two and a half years during which he was looking after his father's property in Oklahoma. He gives his father assistance in looking after the latter's many Grand Island interests.

January 20, 1909, Mr. Windolph married Miss Helen Krause, a daughter of W. T. and Pauline (Gebauer) Krause, who came to Hall County in 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Windolph have two children: Chester Charles and Marie Magdalene. They are members of the Roman Catholic church. In politics Mr. Windolph is a Republican. He has never accepted political office, but for five years was member of the Grand Island Fire Department, and secretary of the same as well as secretary of the Pacific Hose Volunteer Company No. 1.

SIMON NYCUM LYSINGER, a substantial citizen of Grand Island, has been identified with the city's best interests for the past twenty years, but he is still interested in agricultural pursuits, owning large bodies of valuable land in different sections, aggregating over 1,700 acres.

Simon N. Lysinger was born in Bureau County, Illinois, March 18, 1854, one of a family of seven children born to Isaac and Rachel (Sparks) Lysinger, who were natives of Pennsylvania. The father was born in 1820 and died in 1897, at which time he owned 260 acres of land in Illinois. He settled in that state in 1852 and remained there, gradually acquiring land through his industry. He was a Republican in politics. The mother of Simon

N. Lysinger was a member of the English Lutheran church. Of their three surviving children, Simon N. is the only one living in Hall County. He came to this state on March 4, 1874, settling in Hamilton County, where he took an 80 acre timber claim to which he subsequently added land by purchase until now he owns over 400 acres in Hamilton County alone. His only property in Hall County is his comfortable, commodious residence beautifully located in Grand Island, but he has 320 acres of farm land in Oklahoma, and has 1,000 acres in Oregon. Mr. Lysinger had common school advantages in Illinois, and at the age of twenty years began business as a farmer on his own account. He resided on his farm in Hamilton County managing his industries himself until 1899, when he came to Grand Island. Since then he has had his sons associated with him, two of whom have been called from the peaceful home circles to take part in the World War.

In Aurora, Nebraska, November 1, 1874, Mr. Lysinger married Miss Julia E. Lehen. The following children have been born to them: Anastasia, who lives at Grand Island, is the widow of William Harrison; Isaac L., who resides at Comstock, Nebraska, married Emma Peachon; Mary E., the wife of Albert Sprague, of York, Nebraska; Harriet H., the wife of Horton Tully, of Spaulding, Nebraska; Joseph, a resident of Kansas City; Lenora, the wife of Emmet O'Connell, of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Gertrude C., the wife of Omer Schills, of Grand Island; Bessie, the wife of Louis Ragle, of Savannah, Georgia; Evelyn, the wife of Donald Martin, of Helena, Montana; and Simon Richard and Lawrence L., both of whom are members of the American Expeditionary Force in France. Mr. Lysinger has given his children educational and other advantages and without exception, they are respected members of society. Mrs. Lysinger is a member of the Roman Catholic church. An active citizen in all that concerns the welfare of country and community, Mr. Lysinger feels better satisfied in political matters, to cast his vote according to his own intelligent judgment than to submit to the domination of any particular party.

JOHN SCHIMMER, a member of an old and important family of Hall County, has spent his entire life here and is interested in Hall County enterprises. He was born in Hall County, Nebraska, October 11, 1873, and is a son of Martin Schimmer, who is widely known as a capitalist, farmer and stockman. An ex-

tended history of the Schimmer family will be found in this work.

John Schimmer grew up on his father's farm and was educated in the public schools of Hall County and the Grand Island Business College. He is operating a farm for his father and together they are interested extensively in buying and feeding stock, annually handling about 700 beef cattle, and also turning out a car load of hogs. Their business standing in every market is the best. Mr. Schimmer is concerned also with the operation of the well known and popular summer resort, Sand Krog, which is under the able management of his sister, Mrs. Lena Scheel. Sand Krog was founded by his father in 1874 and was the first road house in Hall County.

On May 5, 1896, John Schimmer married Miss Anna Thavenet, a daughter of George and Maggie (Scheel) Thavenet, now deceased, who were pioneer settlers in Hall County. Mr. and Mrs. Schimmer have two sons: Martin and Walter, both of whom reside at home. Mr. Schimmer is not identified with any political party but is a careful, watchful citizen and casts his vote according to his own excellent judgment. He belongs to the fraternal order of Eagles, attending the lodge at Grand Island. He maintains his home at Sand Krog.

ROBERT PAGE SHIPTON. — Undoubtedly the teacher is right who declared that the greatest task in the world is the turning the soil each year for the growing of crops. The importance of farming in all its branches is thoroughly recognized in Hall County, where many of the most intelligent young men turn each year to this industry, and thus contribute to their own prosperity and the nation's wealth. One of the wide-awake, enterprising farmers of Washington township is Robert P. Shipton, who is operating a large tract of land situated on section five and meeting with deserved success.

Robert Page Shipton was born in Hall County, Nebraska, April 10, 1881, the son of Samuel F. and Lovina S. (Davison) Shipton, the latter of whom was born in Illinois, April 10, 1862. The father of Mr. Shipton was born in Kentucky, but early in life went to Illinois, and from there came to Hall County in 1879. He still owns the farm purchased when he first came here but now lives retired in Alda, Hall County. He has been more or less active in Democratic politics and both he and wife are faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church. For some years he has been identified with the M. W. A. and the

A. O. U. W. fraternal organizations. His three children are as follows: Robert P., who grew up on the home farm; Ella, the wife of Wesley Knox, of Alda, Nebraska; and Cassie, the wife of Mark Hessel, of Alda.

Mr. Shipton completed the public school course in Hall County and then spent some time in the Normal school at Fremont, following which he engaged in farming, in which business he has been interested ever since. At the present time he is operating a well improved farm that belongs to his father-in-law, Martin Schimmer, and through his careful methods is making it one of the most profitable estates in Washington township.

On March 21, 1907, Mr. Shipton married Miss Dora Schimmer, born July 19, 1878, the daughter of Martin Schimmer, who is a prominent farmer and stockman of Hall County. Mr. and Mrs. Shipton have three children: Lorraine, born March 4, 1908; Hazel, born August 21, 1909; and Samuel, born July 1, 1915. Like his father, Mr. Shipton is a Democrat, and belongs to the same fraternal orders, in addition he belongs to the F. O. E.

JOHN L. WINDOLPH.—There were not many householders in Grand Island, not more than seven or eight all told, when John L. Windolph came here over a half century ago. Fine, sturdy people they were and Mr. Windolph knew them all. For many years of an industrious life he worked for and with them in developing what has been made one of the finest cities in the state of Nebraska. This venerable and highly esteemed resident of Hall County, despite the weight of eighty-three years, can so clearly recall people and events of the long ago, that it is a privilege as well as pleasure to listen to his reminiscences. Mr. Windolph has lived in Hall County for fifty-eight years. John L. Windolph was born in the village of Buchwilde, Germany, July 27, 1836. He was one of two children born to Nicholas and Elizabeth (Bingel) Windolph, and the only member of his family to come to the United States. His father followed the trade of wool carder. After a certain period spent in the public school, John L. Windolph was apprenticed to a cabinetmaker with whom he worked faithfully and laboriously. According to the rules of the trade, he was not considered entirely competent until he had traveled as a journeyman worker for three years. He started out on a small capital but was confident of earning more

very easily, for he had become exceedingly expert as a cabinetmaker. He was about eighteen years old when he and his friend Lucas Flom, decided that they could probably do journeyman work just as profitably in America as in Europe, hence they took passage for the United States. The first city in which he worked at his trade in this country, was Sandusky, Ohio. After being employed there a few months he went to Logansport, Indiana, and a few months later to St. Louis, Missouri, and found himself on the way west.

In the meanwhile, Mr. Windolph had formed the acquaintance of Christopher Cornelius, Hans Maas and Philip Feldtman, and together they decided to look the country over with the idea of securing homesteads in the western country. They started for St. Louis and landed in Hall County, Nebraska, May 20, 1861, but went on to St. Louis and continued their inspection trip in that territory several months. Then Cornelius and Maas went to Davenport, Iowa, Feldtman went first to Fort Kearny and then to Toledo, Ohio. Mr. Windolph found no place that pleased him as well as Hall County, so he settled in Grand Island. Although at that time there was no demand for the fine finished workmanship of the cabinetmaker, the country was being settled and there was need of a carpenter and Mr. Windolph with his expert knowledge of tools, had no difficulty in turning his skill in that direction. His services were required very often to put up doors and fit window sash in the new log houses, and he was the carpenter that built the old O. K. store well remembered by the pioneers. The first slab turned out by the local sawmill was secured by Mr. Windolph and from it he fashioned a stool that he yet owns. He proved an astute business man as well as good workman, for he pre-empted 160 acres of land adjoining the village of Grand Island, of which land he still owns a small tract, the larger part of the original body having been divided into city lots and sold most advantageously. He owns several valuable building lots in Grand Island that he keeps as an investment, and also lots one and two in block seventy-nine which he has improved with store buildings.

Mr. Windolph married Miss Mary Jenne-
man, whose parents lived and died in Germany. There were four children born to them: John H., who resides on the old home place in Grand Island; Anna, married and lives at Washington, D. C.; Frank, who lives in Denver, Colorado; and Christopher, who is deceased. Mrs. Windolph passed away December 6, 1906. Mr. Windolph has always been

a faithful member, as was his wife, of the Roman Catholic church. He has never been very active in politics, not because of indifference to neighborhood progress, but because he has been a very busy man and inclined to look closely after his own business rather than that of others. He always casts his vote according to his own judgment and it is always on the side of law and order.

MRS. LENA SCHEEL.—There are many residents of Hall County who have been royally entertained at the fine summer resort, Sand Krog, on Schimmer's Lake, near Grand Island, and all of these acknowledge the business capacity and executive ability of Mrs. Lena Scheel, who with her brother John is general manager.

Mrs. Scheel was born in Hall County, Nebraska, August 3, 1882. She is a daughter of Martin Schimmer, a sketch of whom will be found in this work. Mrs. Scheel was educated in the public schools and remained at home with her parents until her marriage, in 1903 to Hans D. Scheel. He was born September 28, 1879, and died September 26, 1912. His parents were Henry and Anna (Reuting) Scheel, the former being a native of Germany and now deceased, and the latter of Pennsylvania but now lives in Grand Island. For one year after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Scheel resided in Grand Island, but in 1904 they went to Sand Krog, where Mrs. Scheel still resides and operates the summer resort. Sand Krog was founded in 1874 by Mrs. Scheel's father, Martin Schimmer, being the first road house in the county. It has always been a properly conducted resort and is beautifully located on a body of water that gives opportunity for fishing and water sports. The hotel is very popular and every summer is crowded with pleasure seekers. Mrs. Scheel is an admirable hostess and watches carefully the welfare of her guests. She has four children: Louis D., Elmer E., Henry F. and Evelyn E. Scheel. Sand Krog is situated one quarter mile west of the large stock farm of Martin Schimmer, who is one of Hall County's extensive dealers.

JUERGEN CLAUSEN, a leading citizen of Hall County and in every way a representative of its best interests, accompanied his parents to the United States, almost a half century ago. He was born September 28, 1853, in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, the son of Claus and Christina (Wresener) Clausen, natives of

the same province, where the father was a mason contractor.

In 1870 Claus Clausen decided to follow his eldest son, Peter Clausen, who had come to the United States in 1869. Emigrating from the old country the family reached America safely and traveled as far west as the Mississippi River, spending their first year at Clinton, Iowa, land and establish a settled home. To this end he took advantage of the opportunity in Nebraska and in 1871 took up a claim in Hall County. On this land he continued to live throughout his life, his death occurring May 3, 1903. His widow survived him only a few months, her death following on October 4, of the same year. They had four children: Peter, now deceased; Anna, the wife of John Schuett, of Boelus, Nebraska; Claus, who lives in Grand Island, a farmer, married Kate Lassen, now deceased; and Juergen, who lives on the old homestead in Washington township. Claus Clausen was a highly respected man, was a very successful agriculturist and stock raiser. Both he and his wife belonged to the Lutheran church. He was very enterprising and is credited with the aid of his sons, with making the first brick ever mixed and burned in Hall County. He found the clay on his own land and quickly turned it to good account. Consequently the family did not have to live in log houses or dugouts quite as long as did many of their neighbors, all having substantial brick residences built by themselves. Mr. Clausen also constructed his own windmill, possessing much ingenuity and mechanical skill.

Juergen Clausen was seventeen years old when he accompanied his parents to the United States, having attended school previously in Germany. He worked for his father until he was twenty-five years old, in the meanwhile, about 1875, taking up a homestead at Boelus, in Howard County, Nebraska. He lived on his place for a short time and then sold his claim and returned to the homestead as his father needed him. His brothers Peter and Claus determined to explore the region west of Dannebrog and if possible, homestead there. At that time the Sioux Indians were giving the settlers much trouble and United States soldiers were preventing the savages from coming south. The Clausens, however, broke through the military line, believing they could take care of themselves, but they found out their mistake when the Sioux drove them back.

Mr. Clausen remembers many interesting events of those early days and in his own life and circumstances. There are sharp contrasts between then and now. He recalls the heavy losses the settlers encountered when the grass-

hoppers destroyed entire crops of corn, oats, and potatoes, and the subsequent loss from the drouth of 1894, when cattle and stock succumbed in great numbers. In this connection he mentions the Pawnee Indians, who were yet quite numerous in the neighborhood but had never been considered dangerous. They proved beneficial at this time as they were not fastidious about their food and willingly removed all the dead animals from the farmers' fields. The lack of bridges sometimes occasioned loss to the settlers and Mr. Clausen recalls an experience of his own that was dangerous and thrilling. His father's cattle had strayed in search of herbage, to the farther side of the Platte River, ordinarily fordable on horseback, but the river had risen rapidly and was at flood stage when he crossed and succeeded in getting the cattle home. He remembers when they lived in a log house, carried on their first farming with oxen, and started their great herds with two cows. On many occasions he has gone to a neighbor for coals to start their morning fire, there being no matches. His first work away from home was done for John Oldman and his wages were \$18 a month. At that time corn brought eight cents a bushel, oats ten cents a bushel and hogs two cents a pound.

Since returning from Howard county, Mr. Clausen has remained on his father's homestead. He owns five hundred and seventy acres of land in different farms, all fenced and highly improved. His residence has every modern comfort, the commodious brick house being lighted by electricity, with motor installed that also operates a washing machine, tool grinder, churn and meat cutter, while a gasoline engine is utilized for other machinery. Mr. Clausen and his family also enjoy a handsome automobile. His farms are well stocked and he raises Duroc-Jersey hogs and Hereford cattle, making a specialty of the latter.

On October 4, 1880, Mr. Clausen married Miss Anna Wiesner, a daughter of Juergen and Catherine (Fram) Wiesner, natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Clausen have four children: Christina, the wife of Rudolph Sass, of Alda township; Christopher, who lives in Alda township, married Ida Giese; Claus, a farmer in Washington township, and Henry, recently welcomed home from France, to which country he went as a soldier with the American Expeditionary Forces. He is a sergeant in rank and served eighteen months in the Eighty-seventh division of the Three Hundred Thirty-fifth field artillery.

In politics Mr. Clausen is a Democrat. For twelve years he served as treasurer of School

District No. 4. He has been helpfully interested in many local enterprises and at present is a director in the Holsatia Fire Insurance association, which is a local body confined to Hall County farmers. He has belonged to the Lutheran church since boyhood.

HENRY RIEF.—In well deserved enjoyment of material comforts which advancing years make particularly acceptable, Henry Rief, one of Hall County's early settlers, lives on his old homestead in Washington township, which he secured over a half century ago. Mr. Rief is one of Hall County's best known and most respected citizens.

He was born in Schleswig-Holstein, October 8, 1846, away back when that province was a part of Denmark. His parents were Hans and Margaretta (Brammer) Rief, natives of Germany. The father was a weaver by trade and was able to take care of his family thereby until political disturbances with Prussia, practically ruined the weaving business. Like many others of that time and condition, he turned his eyes toward that land of freedom, the United States, and in 1869 reached this country with wife and children, the son, Henry, having come to America five years previously. The Rief family settled permanently in Hall County, Nebraska, where the father homesteaded and also bought land that has never been out of the family. He was a farmer and raised stock and lived quietly and industriously on his homestead until his death in 1892. Both he and the mother were members of the Lutheran church. She died in 1909. They had eight children, four of whom are living: Henry, who resides in Washington township; Mary, who lives at Boelus, Nebraska, is the widow of Peter Clausen; Juergen, who married Anna Bucholtz, lives in Washington township, and Emma, who lives at Council Bluffs, Iowa, is the widow of Sivert Rief. The four children now deceased, were: Margaretta, the wife of Fred Langman, was accidentally drowned in the Platte River during a flood, leaving three children, the youngest but three months old; Anna, the wife of Henry Bockman, died leaving eight children; Charles, who married Anna Sick, died in California in 1915, and William, who died in 1909, married Catherine Bifeld and was a farmer in Washington township. The late Charles Rief was a man of prominence in Hall County and elsewhere. He had been an extensive traveler as a sea captain prior to coming to the United States in 1871, having been a student of navigation in Flensburg, Denmark, and London,

England. He served a number of years as county clerk in Hall County, was a member of the school board and the examining board for teachers, then was elected to the state legislature and during his service in the general assembly worked for and secured the location of the Soldiers' Home in Hall County. He was also an author and one of his books entitled "Land and Light" has had wide circulation.

A well educated youth of observing mind, Henry Rief left Denmark at the age of eighteen years, reaching the United States in 1864, when this country was yet in the throes of civil war. He first made a home at Valparaiso, Indiana, and within three months had taken out his first papers looking to American citizenship. He enlisted for any service needed by the Federal government and cheerfully performed every duty required of him until he was honorably discharged and mustered out April 5, 1865, having been mainly stationed at Chattanooga, Tennessee. He then started westward and on reaching Chicago, found employment as a clerk and made good use of his time by studying the English language in a night school. In the fall of 1865 he went to St. Louis, then to Hannibal and to St. Joseph on the Platte on his way to Omaha. On his trip up the Mississippi he was a passenger on the same steamer that carried the fourth engine for the Union Pacific Railroad.

On the present site of the great commercial and railroad center, Kansas City, nothing was to be seen but swamp and prairie. Mr. Rief found work with the railroad construction gangs, helping to build the first two bridges for the Union Pacific Railroad over Papillon and Elk Horn rivers. He was one of a party of twenty-four that made plans to celebrate the completion of the first telegraph line between Omaha and Fremont, on December 26, 1865. They started for Omaha on hand cars, in the face of a blizzard, spending the night on the way, and when they reached the city found great trouble in getting accommodations in a boarding-house. Mr. Rief remembers the discomforts of that trip very vividly. During the rest of the winter he worked for the Union Pacific cutting wood and getting out railroad ties. The islands in the Platte River were heavily timbered and from these wood for burning and ties was secured. In those days there was little supervision of such work and large logs were left in the forests. There was a man by the name of Riddell, who took advantage of this condition and no doubt profited greatly. He owned a portable sawmill and

sawed the logs into lumber, on shares with whoever cared to bring the logs to him.

In the spring of 1866 Mr. Rief engaged in another enterprise with Peter Stuem to bring goods from Omaha. This was a considerable undertaking as the merchandise had to be transported over the military road and as there were no bridges, every river and creek had to be forded. It required about eight days to make the trip from Omaha to Hall County. In the same year he worked for a Mr. Monroe who, when he left, owed him the sum of \$180, which he obtained only through the good offices of friends, and upon receiving it loaned it to a Mr. Wiebe, who also seems to have miscalculated his ability to pay it back, but later turned over a team of oxen to Mr. Rief, who humorously says that he had to take up a homestead in order to use the oxen. He filed on a claim in 1867 and has since lived on this place, for many years carrying on general farming and stockraising. During the early days he oftentimes furnished hay and cord wood to Fort Kearney. His land lies near what was the famous California trail, a path about forty rods wide. The Pawnee Indians were numerous here when he homesteaded but he always maintained friendly relations with them and when they started for their government reservation they came by the hundred to bid him goodbye.

In November, 1869, Mr. Rief married Miss Lizzie Prahm, the ceremony taking place in Grand Island, her parents being early settlers in Hall County. Mr. and Mrs. Rief had five children: Henry, who lives at Seattle, Washington; Edwin, who lives in Adams County, Nebraska, married Amelia Siegert; Matilda, the wife of William Sievers of Grand Island; Centennial, the wife of Joseph Wehr, of Doniphan, and Lillie, the wife of Washington Sampson, of Seattle. The mother of these children died March 17, 1877. The second marriage of Mr. Rief took place June 15, 1879, to Miss Emma Fischer, a daughter of August and Louise (Hahn) Fischer, who spent their lives in Germany. Of the four children born to this marriage the following survive: Arthur, who lives on the home farm, married Gertrude Westenburg; Nellie, the wife of Charles Ericksen, of Grand Island; and Herbert, who was in the military training camp at Camp Dodge when this biography was written.

In early days in Hall County, school district No. 4 comprised territory in which there are now five schools. Mr. Rief has always been greatly interested in this district, for he taught school there and in District No. 28 for nine

years, and for ten years was a director in the former district. In his political views he is a Republican and has taken part in many a committee meeting. For eight years he served on the county board of supervisors from Washington township and for one year was chairman of the board.

ARTHUR ROBY, a substantial farmer and highly respected citizen of Hall County, has always lived on the old homestead in Washington township, where his birth took place June 5, 1878. His parents, Frederick and Johanna (Lillenthal) Roby, were born in Germany, from which country they came to the United States as young people, in 1848. They were married in Iowa and in April, 1864, came to Nebraska.

For about eight years Mr. and Mrs. Roby lived in Center township, where they kept a road house and saloon where a stage delivered mail every other day until the Sioux Indians frightened the settlers away and held up the stage service for two months at a time. Soldiers were sent from the nearest fort for the protection of the pioneers, when the frightened settlers returned to their homesteads. The people grew accustomed to the Pawnee Indians and tolerated them as they were never savage, but the mother of Mr. Roby can remember when neither life nor property was safe in this section of the county. In 1872 Mr. Roby homesteaded in section 8, township 10, range 9, and here Mrs. Roby has continued to live, one of the best known and highly esteemed residents of Washington township. In her interesting reminiscences of early days here she tells of the difficulty experienced in securing even the commonest of household furniture and utensils. The nearest trading point was Omaha and it required four weeks to make the round trip and necessarily transportation charges were high. She lamented when she could not get wash tubs, but showed her resourcefulness when no bedstead could be secured, by helping to construct one out of poles easily obtained in the surrounding timber. She mentions also the lack of deep wells and the necessity of using surface water. Nevertheless, in spite of all these hardships, Mr. and Mrs. Roby prospered, and when he passed away, on June 3, 1903, he was not only one of the substantial men of the county but was one of influence and importance. He was prominent in Democratic politics, was one of the county commissioners for some years and also was on the township school board, and additionally, for many years

was a director of the Lincoln Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Mr. and Mrs. Roby had children as follows: Gustave, who lives in Center township; Ida, the wife of Conrad Lassen, died July 15, 1913; Dora, the wife of Henry Stoltenberg of Merrick County; Nancy, born July 8, 1872, died February 6, 1873; Arthur, who lives in Washington township, and John, who married Helen Hage.

Arthur Roby attended the country schools in boyhood and has made his home on the farm which he now owns. He has 240 acres of some of the best improved land in this section, his commodious and substantial buildings comparing favorably with any farm structures in the county. He is a man of progressive ideas, hence his stock is of standard grade, his farm machinery the best obtainable and his various farm activities are carried on according to methods approved by experts who have scientifically studied Nebraska climate and soil. Intelligent farming and stockraising like this is certain to be profitable.

On April 20, 1900, Mr. Roby married Miss Margaretha Thavenet, whose parents were George and Margaretha (Scheel) Thavenet, who, when living, owned a fine homestead located just south of Grand Island, where they reared their eight children. All but two of the children live in Hall County. Mr. and Mrs. Roby have six children: Clara, who was born October 15, 1901; Nancy, who was born September 22, 1903; Olga, who was born March 3, 1905; Edna, who was born December 23, 1910; Evelyn, who was born February 19, 1915; and Roy Arthur, who was born February 19, 1918. For the past six years Mr. Roby has been a member of the township school board. In national political campaigns he supports the Democratic candidates, but in local affairs he exercises his own good judgment. In every way he is a man of high standing in his county, a good farmer, a friendly neighbor, an honest public official and a solid citizen.

GEORGE M. BAKER.—Perhaps there are few residents of Hall County who have not heard of Woodland Park, which is situated in Washington township and which, in its whole history and its present state of modern development, is one of the most interesting homesteads of the county. It comprises one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land which its owner, George M. Baker, devotes largely to the breeding of Shorthorn cattle, Poland-China hogs and Rhode Island Red chickens. On this farm will be the "Wood-

land Park Association," with golf grounds, another evidence of the vast changes that have taken place since the days of the early settlers. This is but one of his valuable holdings. Among his properties are included two handsome residences in Grand Island.

George M. Baker was born in La Salle County, Illinois, February 6, 1864, while his father was foreman in large coal mines there. His parents were Samuel and Elizabeth (Keegan) Baker, the former of whom was born in Germany and the latter in Ireland. Samuel Baker spent almost all of his life in the United States as he was only thirteen years old when he accompanied his parents here. Unusual responsibilities fell upon him almost immediately as his father died soon after landing, and the considerable amount of money and jewels he had brought with him were stolen by unknown robbers while his sorrowing relatives were attending his funeral. Samuel thus became the family breadwinner while yet a boy. He found work on boats plying on the Illinois and Mississippi rivers and finally became second officer on a large steamboat. His home was then established in the coal regions of La Salle County, Illinois, where he was soon given a position of authority by one of the big operating companies. In politics he was a Democrat. His wife died in 1880 but he survived until June, 1915. Both were faithful members of the Roman Catholic church. Of their seven children six are living, but only two reside in Hall County, George M. and Hubert, the latter making his home in Grand Island.

After securing a good common school education in La Salle County, George M. Baker started in life as a traveling salesman for a farm implement house, with which he remained three years, and then, in the same capacity, went out for the well known Omaha grocery firms of McCord & Brady and Allen Brothers, traveling continuously for these firms for twenty-five years and two days, retiring from a quarter century of service in this line with the record of never having lost a day. In the meanwhile he had been prudent in his expenditures and when he was ready to turn his attention into other channels of business, he found himself with abundant capital. He found a satisfactory investment in the First Bank of Cestos, Oklahoma, of which he was vice president for five years. He sold his interest and bought lands and livestock in Nebraska, Oklahoma and Idaho, much of which he still controls. He has two farms of one hundred and sixty acres each, in Oklahoma, which have been brought to the

highest possible state of cultivation. His present farm in Hall County is the old Windolph property, which he purchased from his father-in-law at the time of his marriage. It has pleased him to give it the beautiful name of Woodland Park, and here he and Mrs. Baker spend the greater part of the year, notwithstanding two comfortable residences await their occupancy in Grand Island. Mr. Baker intends to transform the farm into a dairy farm to be known as "Woodland Park Dairy." For some time he has not given personal attention to any of his land except a few acres, the cultivation of which gives him pleasant exercise, but all its industries are carefully overlooked, for Mr. Baker has been a keen and discerning business man for many years.

On April 15, 1891, Mr. Baker married Miss Catherina Windolph, one of a family of eight children born to Adam and Margaretta (Stender) Windolph, both of whom were natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Baker have three children: Lillian, the wife of Charles Thirifay, of Omaha; Margaretta Walburga, the wife of Joseph Power, of Grand Island; and Marie C., employed in the First National Bank, Grand Island.

In 1864 the parents of Mrs. Baker came to the United States, and after living in New York for one year, came west as far as Kankakee, Illinois, a few months later moving to Belle Plaine in Benton County, Iowa. Six months later Adam Windolph bought a wagon and team of horses and started with his family on the long journey to Hall County. When they reached Columbus they discovered that there was no bridge and hence had to cross on the ice, also being delayed in many other ways they finally landed here, on April 1, 1866, having spent four weeks on the road. Mr. Windolph homesteaded in Washington township and Mrs. Baker still has the patent from the United States government for this farm. Adam Windolph was a practical, far-seeing man and when he built his log house he built for the future and so substantially that the present attractive residence still includes a portion of the old log house plastered with clay. Seemingly no one could have a better right or reason to take pleasure in the beautiful surrounding grounds with luxuriant shade trees than Mrs. Baker, for it was with her own hands that many of these trees were set out and she and her sisters kept them alive with the water they had to carry a full half mile. She has one sister in the county, Mrs. Hubert Baker, of Grand Island.

Mrs. Baker's reminiscences of early days here are exceedingly interesting, as in vivid

language she tells of the old California trail and of Indians, of social customs and of the lack of entertainment in her childhood days. To the latter she ascribes her sometimes following the emigrant wagons as they passed by on the trail a few feet before her father's fence, on down to the fort, a few rods further, where they often stopped for provisions, and then about a mile still further to Mr. Michelson's blacksmith shop, where she could not fail being interested in seeing Mrs. Michelson, a very small woman, help with the shoeing of the horses and oxen, leather pads being attached to the latter's feet. No doubt she often looked wonderingly after the gold-seeker's wagons as they passed into the mysterious West, where hung the rainbow of hope, and probably saw many of the travelers go by again, no richer than before. Educational advantages were very limited at this early day. Mrs. Baker recalls how they finally secured a teacher, and she was able to attend school a half day a week. In a rather lonely childhood, the semi-annual coming of the Indians with their furs and moccasins to exchange for eatables, was a great event and many times she joined the dark children in their play and helped them gather the leaves and bark of the kinnikinnick (a kind of dogwood) bushes, which the Indians dried and smoked. Mr. and Mrs. Baker are members of the Catholic church. He is a Republican in politics but has never accepted any public office.

CHRIS CLAUSEN.—A visitor of a decade ago, if he were to make a second journey through Hall County, would discover many wonderful changes throughout the agricultural sections. The farmers in the meanwhile have not been asleep and many of them have been particularly wide awake, heeding the call of progress. In Washington township he might some time find himself a guest of Chris Clausen on the beautiful farm of two hundred and fifty-five acres that he and his brothers are so successfully operating. He could not long be in doubt of the value of the use of improved farm machinery and the adoption of scientific methods of agriculture. This model farm gives ample proof.

Chris Clausen belongs to one of the pioneer families of Hall County. He was born here August 27, 1883. His parents are Juergen and Anna (Wiesner) Clausen, who are highly esteemed residents of this section. The father of Mr. Clausen was born in Germany, September 28, 1853. The subject of this sketch

was seventeen years old when he accompanied his parents, Claus and Christina (Wresener) Clausen, to the United States. They lived one year in Clinton, Iowa, and then came to Hall County. In addition to his homestead, the father of Chris Clausen acquired a number of farms, becoming a man of substance and also of neighborhood prominence. Chris Clausen has been engaged in farming and stockraising since boyhood. He obtained his education in the schools of Washington township and when he started out for himself, rented the farm of two hundred and fifty-five acres of exceptionally well improved land belonging to his father which is situated on section 17, Washington township. Mr. Clausen gives much attention to raising high grade Durham cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He is not only a clear-headed, progressive agriculturist, but he is also a representative of the county's best citizenship.

On January 12, 1905, Mr. Clausen married Miss Ida Giese, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Obermiller) Giese, early settlers in Hall County. Mr. and Mrs. Clausen have two children: Anna M., who was born June 24, 1906, and Mildred R., who was born October 20, 1912. In politics Mr. Clausen prefers to vote an independent ticket. He has been treasurer of his school district for the last twelve years and in many other ways has proved useful and trustworthy.

PETER HERMAN, who owns a well improved farm of eighty acres, situated south of Grand Island, has spent the greater part of his life in Hall County. He is known as an excellent farmer, good neighbor and worthy citizen, born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, March 2, 1868, the son of Peter and Margaret (Mahlsted) Herman, both natives of Germany. The father was a small farmer there but as he saw no opportunity to better his condition, decided to come to the United States with his family and endeavor to secure some of the government land that awaited settlers in the western country. In 1869 the family reached America, soon reaching Davenport, Iowa. In that vicinity the father engaged in farming until the fall of 1871, when he came to Hall County and lived on what was known as the Hooper place for two years, then homesteaded near Wood River. He remained on that place until 1890, when he removed to a location near Saint Libory, in Howard County, purchasing land which he cultivated four years. He returned to Grand Island, where his death occurred in

1906. He had survived the mother of Mr. Herman since 1899. Of their family of six children, the following are living: John and Fred, in Grand Island; Henry, in Wyoming; Peter, in Hall County, and William, in Hall County. The father was an American citizen and gave his political support to the Democratic party. Both parents belonged to the Lutheran church.

Peter Herman was a babe in his mother's arms when his parents came to the United States. He obtained his schooling in Hall County and afterward assisted his father on the home farm as long as he was needed, when he began farming on his own account. His farm has been well stocked and all his industries here are carried on with the care and good judgment that assures success. The farmer of today is justly accounted one of the country's most important men and in the record of production that Nebraska is making, a great deal of credit may be given the sensible, hard-working farmers and stockmen of Hall County, Mr. Herman being one of these. He has devoted himself closely to his business. He has never been very active in politics, casting his ballot as an independent voter.

On February 11, 1891, Mr. Herman married Miss Delia Dibbern, a daughter of Jochem and Margaret (Weise) Dibbern, early settlers in the county who are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Herman have the following children, who have had every advantage their parents could give them: Edith, the wife of Bernie Schimmer; Albert, who assists his father; Linda, the wife of Henry Meyer; Edna, the wife of Arthur Knuth, and Martha, Josephine, Olga, Harry, Ernest and Mildred, all of whom live at home; and one who is deceased. Mr. Herman and his family are members of the Lutheran church.

JULIUS MATTHIESEN, a prosperous farmer of Washington township, belongs to one of the oldest pioneer families of Hall County. He was born at Davenport, Iowa, March 29, 1863, a son of Frederick and Anna (Hansen) Matthiesen. The first wife of Frederick Matthiesen died during the voyage from Germany to the United States. They had two children, one of whom is living, Margaret, the widow of Frederick Lillenthal.

In 1857 Frederick Matthiesen married Anna Hansen and they had seven children. The following are living: Julius, who has lived in Hall County since 1866; Laura, the wife of Bernhard Ewoldt, near Sand Krog; Ernest, a farmer south of Grand Island, married Dora

Ewoldt; and Anna, the wife of Frederick Schoel. For ten years after coming to the United States, Frederick Matthiesen conducted an express business in Davenport. From there he came to Hall County in 1866 and homesteaded in section 34, Washington township, south of Grand Island, where he resided until his death, which occurred June 14, 1914. His widow survives, being now in her eighty-seventh year. He was a member of the Lutheran church and in politics was a Democrat.

Julius Matthiesen was three years old when his people settled in Hall County in the spring of 1866. His school advantages were rather meager for several reasons, one being the lack of easy school facilities, and the other that he was needed by his father on the farm. Among his recollections of early days the Indians play a prominent part for there were many of them in Hall County at that time. When the hunting season came on he has watched them pass by the hundred on their way to the Platte River. He sometimes played with the Indian children, who were much like other children except they were always hungry and if food was not given in answer to their begging, they would boldly steal it. These Indians were mostly the peaceable Pawnees, but he remembers one occasion when the savage Sioux came down in a raid from the North, killed several white people and carried two girls off with them, but the girls were rescued by the soldiers from Fort Kearny. He remained with his father until he was almost twenty-five years old before engaging in agricultural pursuits on the farm he now owns, which comprises one hundred and eighty-eight acres. It is well stocked and finely improved. He has been very successful in his farming operations and is ranked with the substantial men of his township.

On February 1, 1889, Mr. Matthiesen married Miss Christina Gulzow, a daughter of Henry and Metha (Truelson) Gulzow, who came to Hall County in 1865. The father homesteaded in section 34, Washington township, where he died and the mother owns the one hundred and sixty acres. Of the eleven children in the Gulzow family, Mrs. Matthiesen is the eldest of the survivors, the others being: Hans, who operates the homestead for his mother, married Metha Wegner; Minnie, the wife of Diedrick Husman, of Merrick County; Emma, the wife of William Brooks, of Grand Island; Mary, the wife of William Thesenvitz, living near Alda, Nebraska; Rosa, the wife of Nicholas Werner, living near Doniphan; William, who lives at Grand Island, married Dora

Hann; and Anna, the wife of Frank Strauss, of Pine Bluff, Wyoming.

To Mr. and Mrs. Matthiesen seven children were born: Lena, now deceased, was the wife of Claud Starling; William, who assists his father on the farm; Augusta, the wife of Herman Knuth, of Pitnam, Oklahoma; Henry, who lives at Overton, Nebraska, married Emma Boltz; Julius, who married Emma Wiese; and Rosa and Lillie, both of whom live with their parents. The whole family stands well in the township where they have lived so long and where all the children have attended school. For one year Mr. Matthiesen was treasurer of Washington township, but he has never been very active in politics. He votes an independent ticket. In speaking of early days, Mr. Matthiesen tells of the coming of a young and earnest physician, Dr. Tosping, who soon found that the neighborhood was so healthy that either he would have to take his own tonics to keep alive or get to work with his hands. He chose wood chopping.

JOHN FALLDORF, carrying on farming operations on the homestead in Washington township, which is the land his father pre-empted in 1873, is well known in Hall County where the family has been held in great esteem for almost a half century.

John Falldorf was born in Hall County, Nebraska, October 8, 1884, the third in a family of five children born to Frederick and Dora (Parkman) Falldorf. The father was born in Germany in 1852 and the mother in the same county, in 1859. They were married in the fall of 1879, and all their children are living: Anna, the wife of John Heesch, of Hamilton County, Nebraska; Henry, also in Hamilton County, married Dora Schuler; John lives in Washington township; Emma, the wife of John Schuler, a farmer east of Grand Island; and Otto, who lives in Hamilton County, married Clara Neubert. When the father of this family first came to Nebraska, his business of freighting was a very important and a dangerous one. There were many hostile Indians ever ready to attack the long train of freight wagons that had to carry everything that was transported, not over the fine automobile highways of the present day, but over trails through the forests and unbridged streams. Mr. Falldorf also drove a stage for a time from the western part of the state to Sidney. In 1873 he came to Washington township, Hall County, and pre-empted land on section 2, on which he continued to live until 1910, when he retired. For a num-

ber of years he served as school moderator and director in his township and his sound judgment in school matters was generally accepted. In politics he is a Republican. He is one of the oldest members of the Plattsdeutsch society at Grand Island.

John Falldorf has always lived in Hall County. He obtained his education in the public schools and learned the principles of farming in a practical way. For some years he has had charge of his father's old farm, and being experienced and thoroughgoing, he has been very successful. He married Freda, a daughter of John C. and Catherine Hann, and they have the following children: Lillie, Raymond, Louis and Maxine. In politics he is a Republican. He belongs to the Sons of Herman and the Plattsdeutsch society.

HENRY KNUTH, whose well improved farm situated in Washington township, Hall County, shows evidences of thrift and good management, belongs to an old family of this section. Extended mention can be found on another page of this work. Mr. Knuth was born in Hall County, Nebraska, December 24, 1872, a son of Henry Knuth.

The boy was reared on his father's pioneer farm and remembers many interesting events of early days in the county, when hardships were many and comforts few. He recalls some creditable things of the Indians, also, and mentions one occasion when his brother broke his leg and an old Indian doctor was called in, who set the leg properly and treated it with his herbs so carefully that recovery was rapid. He attended one of the early schools but the most of his life until his twenty-sixth year, was spent in the cultivation of the home land. His present farm of one hundred and eighty acres has been improved with substantial buildings, and is exceedingly well stocked. Mr. Knuth breeds Shorthorn cattle and at the head of his herd has a pedigree bull, while all his other stock is up to the same high standard.

On May 16, 1899, Henry Knuth married Miss Martha Baasch, who is a daughter of Charles and Minnie (Hansen) Baasch, well known early settlers of the county. They now live retired in Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. Knuth have the following children: Rudolph, born January 25, 1900; Marie, born May 19, 1901; Emma, born October 3, 1903; Ella, born April 25, 1905; and Emil, born September 19, 1907. These children have had excellent educational advantages and are creditable representatives of Hall County's younger genera-

tion. In politics Mr. Knuth has always been a Democrat, but he has never been willing to accept a public office, although well qualified through sound judgment and practical knowledge, to serve in many capacities. He belongs to the order of the Sons of Herman and also to the Plattsdeutsch society.

HENRY A. KNUTH, one of the prosperous younger farmers of Washington township, Hall County, is a native of the county, born here January 10, 1889, and is a son of Juergen Knuth, an extended sketch of whom will be found on another page of this work. The family is an old and highly respected one of this section.

Henry A. Knuth attended the public schools near his father's farm through boyhood, and afterward remained with his parents, assisting his father until he was twenty-three years old. March 15, 1912, he was united in marriage to Miss Dora Pieper, a daughter of Henry and Anna (Paustain) Pieper, early settlers in Washington township who now live retired. Mrs. Knuth is one of a family of seven children and the second oldest of the four survivors. She has two sisters and one brother: Erna, the wife of Otto Schimmer; Hugo, married Freda Heesch; and Adele, lives with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Knuth have three sturdy little sons, namely: Raymond, Roy, and George.

Mr. Knuth is operating one of his father's farms, which lies in section 33, Washington township, where he is meeting with deserved success, devoting special attention to his fine herd of Hereford cattle. He has never taken any very active part in politics, but keeps well informed on current events. He belongs to the order of Sons of Herman and also the Plattsdeutsch society.

JOHN C. NEUBERT, a native son, a man of ample means, a heavy breeder of Hereford cattle and a factor in the sugar beet industry, has been the builder of his own fortune, beginning his business career on borrowed capital, and through thrift and industry, honesty and good judgment he has attained his present state of prosperity. Mr. Neubert was born in Hall County, Nebraska, October 22, 1874.

The parents of Mr. Neubert were John and Wiebke (Alpen) Neubert, Germans, who came to the United States in April, 1872, made their way to Nebraska and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 32, Washington township, Hall County. In the

old country the father had worked as a wine-maker and also was on a sailing vessel that plied between Burg and Hamburg. After coming to America he devoted himself to agricultural pursuits, living on his land in Hall County until his death, which occurred in June, 1906. His political affiliation was with the Democratic party, and he belonged to the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Both parents of Mr. Neubert were members of the German Lutheran church. They had nine children and of the six survivors John C. Neubert is the second in order of birth, the others being: Annie, the wife of Herman Hehnke, of Grand Island; Minnie, the wife of Edward Boltz, of Alda township, Hall County; Celia, the wife of Richard Boltz, of Alda township; Henry, who lives at Wheatland, Wyoming, married Dora Scheel, now deceased, and Marie, the wife of Otto Weise, of Alda township. The Neuberts, like other early settlers, had to face many hardships and an early experience was the great snowstorm of April 13, 1873. Fortunately the log house had been finished by that time, but so violent was the storm that the inmates soon found themselves unable to use the door and Mr. Neubert had to crawl out of the window in order to get to his tethered mules to dig them out of the snow. It was a blizzard experience never to be forgotten by those who endured it.

John C. Neubert worked for his father until he was twenty-one years old, in the meanwhile having some schooling during the winter seasons. He then borrowed a dollar and with this capital started out to shape his own career. He worked on a farm near Omaha, then went to Aberdeen, in South Dakota, where he remained a few months, going from there to Iowa, where he remained one year and then came back to Hall County to engage in the business of raising sugar beets, which occupied him for one year before he accepted a position from Martin Schimmer, at Sand Krog. In the meanwhile his industry was being rewarded and his success continued. At the present time Mr. Neubert owns two hundred and sixty-four acres of the best improved land in the county, seven acres of which he devotes annually to sugar beets. He is a breeder of Hereford cattle, and mules, a ready market always awaiting his livestock.

On December 20, 1898, Mr. Neubert married Miss Lena Hann, a daughter of John C. and Catherine (Pahl) Hann, natives of Germany. The Hanns came to Hall County with the second German colonization party in the state of Nebraska. Mrs. Neubert is



TOP—H. A., ARTHUR, HELLMUTH, HERMAN, FRED, SONS OF JURGEN KNUTH
 MR. AND MRS. JURGEN KNUTH
 RAYMOND, ROY, GEORGE, CHILDREN OF H. A. KNUTH
 ELMER, LORRAINE, CHILDREN OF HERMAN KNUTH
 MR. AND MRS. HENRY KNUTH

the eldest of the seven survivors of her parents' family of eleven children, the others being: Adelia, the wife of Adolph Gehrt of Custer City, Oklahoma; Christian, who lives at Custer City also, married Augusta Beberness; Celia, the wife of Emil Boltz, of Alda township; Dora, the wife of William Gulzow, of Washington township; Emil, who lives on the old home place, married Amanda Beberness; and Freda, the wife of John Falldorf, of Washington township. Mr. and Mrs. Neubert have eight children: Clara, Malinda, Kathryn, Frieda and Marie, twins, Glenn, Hazel and Reuben, all of whom live at home except Clara, the wife of Otto Falldorf, of Washington township. Mr. Neubert and family are people who stand well in their community. He is a member of the non-partisan league in politics but has never accepted any public office except that of school director in which he is now serving. He belongs to the Plattsdeutschen society of Grand Island.

PETER SHULTZ, who is prospering as a general farmer and is recognized as one of the reliable and enterprising citizens of Center township, Hall County, belongs to a pioneer family of this section that has been well and favorably known here for many years.

Peter Shultz was born in Alda township, Hall County, Nebraska, December 4, 1885, and is a son of John and Emma (Thomssen) Shultz, an extended sketch of the family being found in this work. His father was born in Germany but has resided in the United States since he was eighteen years old and now lives in comfortable retirement near Alda. Peter Shultz attended the public schools in the county and grew to manhood on his father's homestead. Some ten years ago he rented his farm in Center township from his father, and since then has been successfully carrying on important farm industries. He has his farm well stocked and makes use of modern farm machinery, which is his own property, and keeps well posted concerning agricultural matters generally.

In 1913 Mr. Shultz was united in marriage to Miss Theckla Stange, who was born in Germany and came to the United States in 1909 with her parents, who live at Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. Shultz have three children: John, Evelyn and Albert, aged respectively six, four and one year. Mr. Shultz is not identified with any political party but that does not indicate that he is indifferent concerning public matters, especially in Center township, where he wants good schools by

the time his bright little children are old enough to attend them, and the best of roads over which he must transport his produce and stock to market. He is a practical, sensible young man who casts an independent vote because he desires to choose public officials by the measuring rule of his own good judgment.

AUGUST REHER, a representative of one of Hall County's fine old pioneer families, owns one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land situated in Washington township, on which he carries on general farming and stock-raising. Mr. Reher was born in Hall County, Nebraska, March 15, 1882.

The parents of Mr. Reher were Christian and Christina (Kroeger) Reher, natives of Germany, where the father followed the carpenter trade. They came to the United States in the spring of 1873 and reached Washington township, Hall County, on April 17, just two days after the memorable snow-storm of that year. The father homesteaded on section 26, where he lived for a few years before removing to section 36, where he started a summer resort at a point known as Platte Krog. After a few years there he removed to section 10, Washington township, where he bought 160 acres and resided on the place until the close of his life, which occurred April 16, 1903. Two of his four children, William and August, survive. Their mother lives alternately with them, in Grand Island and on the old home farm. Mr. Reher was known as a hardworking, upright man, becoming well acquainted over a wide neighborhood during the twenty-five years he hauled cream for Oscar Roesser of Grand Island. He was a Democrat in politics and served several years as a school director.

August Reher attended the public schools. He lived at home and worked for his parents until he was twenty-one years old, when he started farming on his own account on the old home place. He has made many improvements here but has never removed the old log cabin in which his parents lived. He cultivates his land intelligently, raising the grains that do well in this soil and climate, devoting some attention to raising stock of good grade.

On September 15, 1905, Mr. Reher married Miss Lucy Aye, who was born in Hall County after her parents, Peter and Lena (Bifeldt) Aye, came here in 1882. The father of Mrs. Reher died January 13, 1916. She has two brothers and one sister: Theodore, who lives in Grand Island, married Annie Wilhelmy; Martha, the wife of August Thavenet, living

near Grand Island; and Herman, who lives with his family, in Palmer, Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. Reher have two daughters, Helen and Sadie. Mr. Reher has never taken a very active part in politics, but votes with the Democratic party. As a good citizen, he is interested in everything that promises to be of substantial benefit to his township and county.

WILLIAM HEESCH, a progressive farmer and business man of Washington township, is a member of one of the old and prominent families of Hall County, which has had much to do with the substantial development of this section since the early seventies. He was born in Hall County, March 17, 1878.

The parents of Mr. Heesch, Peter and Annie (Goetsche) Heesch, were born in Germany. They came from that country to the United States, reaching Nebraska in 1870. The father homesteaded in section 24, Washington township, Hall County, where the family lived until 1884, when he sold and bought land in section 36, subsequently adding to his holdings until he owned two hundred and forty acres. This land he held until 1902, when he sold, retired from active farm life and removed to Grand Island. During his many years in Washington township he had been active politically, had served on the township board and for many years was road overseer. In association with William Stolley, he organized the German Mutual Fire & Tornado Insurance Company, which has always been a growing concern and at the present time has not less than \$4,000,000 insurance risks on its books, operating in Hall and adjoining counties. For some time in early days he operated the place started by Christian Reher, known as Platte Krog, which was largely frequented by Indians as it was located very near the Platte river. Mr. Heesch still resides in Grand Island. His wife died on the farm on October 22, 1890. They had eight children: Amelia, the wife of Ferdinand Stollenberg, of Alda township; John, a farmer in Hamilton County, married Annie Falldorf; William, who has always lived in Hall County; Adelia, the wife of August Kroger, of Grand Island; Olga, the wife of August Peters, of Taloga, Oklahoma; Dora, the wife of George T. Bauman, of Grand Island; Annie, the wife of Henry Lucks of Grand Island; and Clara, the wife of John Baasch, of Alda township, Hall County.

William Heesch attended the public schools in Washington township, and grew to man-

hood on his father's farm. On February 16, 1903, he married Miss Anna Beckman, the fourth in a family of seven children born to August and Amelia (Vieregg) Beckman, the former of whom was born in Germany and now lives retired in Grand Island. The mother of Mrs. Heesch was born in Iowa and died on the Beckman homestead in Merrick County, near the Hall County line, in December, 1889. Mrs. Heesch now has the following brothers and sisters: Diedrich, who lives in Grand Island, married Emma Bruhn; Elizabeth, the wife of Herman Sass, lives in Washington township; John E., who lives in Hall County, married Alma Grosch; Olga H., the wife of Henry Menecke, lives in Howard County; and Augusta, lives with her father in Grand Island.

Mr. and Mrs. Heesch have two children: Hildegard E., who was born November 9, 1908; and Evelyn A., who was born November 27, 1910. They have a beautiful home on the two hundred and forty acre farm that Mr. Heesch owns and successfully operates. He bought the first traction plow used in this neighborhood and in many other ways has shown enterprise in carrying on his agricultural undertakings. He sells his products at prices that make a fair profit. He is justly proud of his high grade Orpington chickens and no less so of a flock of wild geese and ducks which he has thoroughly domesticated. Mr. Heesch conducts the supply store on his farm, in the interest of the Farmers' Union, which is doing an extensive business among the members of the union, as only these can avail themselves of this privilege. Mr. Heesch has been storekeeper for the past two years. He is a member of the fraternal order of Eagles, and of the Plattsdeutch society in Grand Island.

MARTIN SCHIMMER, whose life record illustrates what may be accomplished by industry and perseverance, has been a resident of Hall County for more than a half century, and from a humble position has become one of the largest land owners of the county.

Mr. Schimmer was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, June 24, 1841. His parents were Peter and Marie (Hoffman) Schimmer, natives of the same country in which they spent their entire lives, where the father was a farmer. They were members of the Lutheran church, and reared a family of seven children, of whom only two are now living, Martin and a brother James who lives in Germany. The

others were, Fred, Peter, John, Hans, and Henry, all of whom are deceased.

Martin was reared in his native land acquiring his education in the schools of that country and when old enough found employment on the farm. At the age of twenty-two, having saved sufficient money to pay his passage, he decided to come to the United States. He spent the first year and a half in Scott County, Iowa, and then started west. It was his intention to go to Oregon, but experiencing some difficulty in learning where to take the stage, as there were no railroads in Nebraska at that time, he arrived in Hall County in March, 1866, and soon found employment on a farm. He often saw the stage coaches and freighting outfits crossing the plains to the west, but his money was gone and it was necessary for him to remain where he was. That he made no mistake, and that it proved rather fortunate that he was a poor man and obliged to stop in Hall County, is evidenced by the success that has come to him with the passing years.

Mr. Schimmer took a homestead in what is now Alda township, and in true pioneer style began the task of subduing the soil and preparing to establish a home. He resided on this place until 1875, when he removed to Washington township, his first purchase here being one acre, the only improvement being a shanty. The pursuit of agriculture and other interests have been carried on successfully, and today Mr. Schimmer is the owner of three thousand acres in this county, a section of land in Buffalo County and a quarter section near North Platte. The public spirit and enterprise of Mr. Schimmer has been manifested in many ways which have had to do with the development of the country. The people of Grand Island and vicinity are especially indebted to Mr. Schimmer for Schimmer's Lake and the beautiful resort known as "Sand Krog." The lake covers an area of twenty-five acres and was made by Mr. Schimmer who after excavating the sand built a dam to retain the water. The shore of the lake is dotted with cottages which are owned by Grand Island people who find great pleasure in coming here to enjoy the cool breezes of the lake and get away from the heat and dust of the city. Mr. Schimmer is the principal stock holder in the Grand Island Manufacturing Company.

In 1870 Mr. Schimmer was united in marriage with Miss Louisa Wolf, a daughter of Henry Wolf, who came to Hall County in an early day. Of this marriage there were four children: Emma, the wife of Phillip Sanders, a resident of Merrick County; John, married Anna Thavenet, and resides at Sand Krog;

Dora, the wife of Robert Shipton, of Washington township; and Lena, the widow of Hans Scheel, living at Sand Krog. The mother of these children passed away in 1884, and February 15, 1885, Mr. Schimmer married Miss Emma Wiese, who has become the mother of one child, Bertha, the wife of John Schaudach, of Washington township.

The family are members of the Lutheran church, and in politics Mr. Schimmer exercises the right of franchise in support of men and measures of the Republican party, in national affairs, while in local elections he casts an independent ballot.

Mr. Schimmer is one of the few remaining real pioneers of Hall County, and has witnessed some vast changes. He used oxen when he first came here, and that first winter made ties for the Union Pacific Railroad which was being constructed and later hauled cord wood which was used for fuel in the engines in those days. He bore his share of the hardships, including the grasshopper scourge, drouths and crop failures and has lived to see Hall County become one of the leading communities of this great state. Indians were numerous though peaceable, buffalo and antelope roamed over the prairies and the beautiful city of Grand Island was only a hamlet. And in the work of progress Mr. Schimmer has contributed his full share and enjoys the honor that comes to those who helped make Hall County a better place in which to live.

CARL ROSENKÖTTER, a prominent farmer in Washington township, and one of Hall County's well known residents, came here many years ago when conditions were very different, and has done his part in bringing about the many improvements. He was born at Minden, Germany, January 20, 1849. His parents were Carl and Katie (Bode) Rosenkötter, both of whom were born in Germany in 1814, and died there, the father in 1861, and the mother in 1880. The father was a farmer all his life. Both parents were kind, good, worthy people and were members of the Lutheran church. Of their family of six children two came to the United States, these being Carl and Mary, the latter of whom is Mrs. Casper Meyer, who lives in Grand Island.

Carl Rosenkötter had excellent educational advantages in his native country, where he was mainly engaged in farming until 1883, when he came to the United States. Shortly after reaching Hall County he bought eighty acres of land and still lives on that property



Martin Schimmer

although he has a residence and two improved lots in Grand Island, and until recently owned in addition two hundred and forty acres of valuable land which he has disposed of. Mr. Rosenkötter has been very successful in his business undertakings and has been a liberal supporter of the German parochial school and served on the school board for six years. An honest, upright man in business and a good neighbor, he has always enjoyed the respect of all who have known him.

On December 13, 1883, Carl Rosenkötter married Miss Johanna Bulk, a daughter of Frederick and Wilhelmina (Säss) Bulk, and they have had the following children: William, Minnie, Henry, Martha, Anna, Mary, Carl, Emma, Fritz and Ella.

HANS SCHEEL, who has spent the greater part of a busy, useful life in the United States, came to this country and to Hall County, with his parents, in the spring of 1867. Here he has lived ever since, with the exception of a few years prior to 1881. He has long been considered one of the best farmers of Washington township. He was born in Holstein, Germany, March 19, 1854, the son of Detlef and Lucy D. (Lilenthal) Scheel, natives of Germany, who were in humble circumstances there when the father realized that across the Atlantic ocean he could secure land of his own and would no longer be compelled to labor for others, hence, with great effort and much self denial he brought his family to America. At that time many of his countrymen were securing farms in Nebraska, and here the Scheels decided to locate. He bought one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land in Hall County and hopefully looked forward to independence in old age. His hopes for himself were not realized, however, for his death occurred in August, 1871, before he could move his family on the land he had purchased for a home. The mother did not survive him many years, her death occurring in April, 1877. Of their four children, Hans is the only one living.

Hans Scheel was thirteen years old when the family came to the United States and had already attended school. He grew up on the farm and remained in Hall County as a farmer until about 1878, when the discovery of gold in the Black Hills of South Dakota and Wyoming attracted thousands to that section, and among those who went from Hall County were Hans Scheel and Claus Frauen. Mr. Frauen covered the whole distance with a team of eight oxen, and although this was a

slow mode of travel, it had advantages over those who went by foot, though thousands did so. While Mr. Frauen was in the gold region he hauled supplies to the miners and before he returned to Nebraska, had disposed of his oxen for beef. In 1881 Mr. Scheel returned to Hall County, homesteaded and bought railroad land, living in section 22, Doniphan township for ten years. He then moved to his father's old property, in section 27, Washington township, where he has since resided. He now owns two farms, aggregating four hundred and sixty acres, both of which are highly improved. His farming operations have always been carried on intelligently and systematically, for he has taken deep interest in his vocation, and, while never sparing himself when necessary, he has made use of the best obtainable farm machinery.

On April 3, 1883, Mr. Scheel married Miss Emma Dorothy Reher, a daughter of John and Sophia (Vogt) Reher, who came from Germany to Hall County in April, 1883. They bought the farm in section 36, Washington township, on which their son Ernest Reher now lives. Mr. and Mrs. Scheel have had children as follows: Anna, the wife of Henry Schimmer, of Phillips, Nebraska; Otto, who lives at Doniphan, married Freda Schimmer; Lena, the wife of Otto Martens, lives in Alda township; Dora, deceased, was the wife of Henry Neubert and she left four little children motherless; Emil, unmarried, lives at home; Herman, who lives in Doniphan township, married Minnie Schimmer; Minnie, the wife of Albert Rohweder, lives in Washington township; and Bernard, Harry, Max and Viola, all of whom live at home. Mr. Scheel is one of the county's dependable men and for fifteen years he served as a member of the township school board. In politics he is a member of the Non-Partisan League, and for many years he has belonged to Plattsdeutschen, the old German organization of a social nature in Grand Island.

PAUL FRAUEN, claimed by both Hall and Merrick counties, resides in Merrick County but is financially interested and a director of the First National Bank of Grand Island. Mr. Frauen has been widely known in both counties for many years, owning large bodies of land in both sections, and at the present time has two sons living on his land in Merrick and one in Hall County. His recollections of early days in Nebraska are exceedingly interesting.

Paul Frauen was born in Holstein, Germany,

September 22, 1846. He was one of a family of six children born to his parents, Paul and Cecelia (Janss) Frauen, both of whom died in Germany, on their dairy farm, in 1898. Four of their children are living but only Paul and his brother came to the United States. Mr. Frauen had school training in his native land. In May, 1864, he came to America, and after three years in Scott County, Iowa, located in Hall County and in 1867 worked on a farm which is now the site of the Grand Island stockyards. In that year came the grasshopper invasion and the country was so stripped by the insects that crop harvesting was a farce. In the fall of 1867 he went to Merrick County and homesteaded eighty acres. The law restricted homesteaders to eighty acres within twenty miles of the railroad, while outside that limit, one hundred and sixty acres were allowed. This eighty acres is the homestead on which Mr. Frauen now lives. He recalls that when he went to Lone Tree, south of Central City, to secure his first homestead papers before Judge Brewer, he made the journey with oxen, in fourteen hours. Within the last year he covered the same ground in less than one hour, in his automobile.

After securing his claim, Mr. Frauen put up a log house and the next winter built what was then the largest barn in Merrick County, at no cost to him except time and labor. The round trip with oxen from Dannebrog, where logs were obtained, consumed twenty-four hours, and he and his brother worked on barn building all winter. It served its purpose for twenty-five years, and in later years when the magnificent improvements of the present were made on the homestead, the old log house was used for a granary. In 1876 the brothers were in partnership and raised their first corn crop. They fattened eight steers, butchered them and when they offered the meat for sale, could get no price over three cents per pound. That seemed too low even then. So the following April Mr. Frauen's brother started with a load of meat to the Black Hills and there was able to sell it for six cents a pound live weight. The brothers had planned to invest their meat money in mines, but before doing so Mr. Frauen investigated and found that the company in which he had thought to invest had made no money that far and the whole proposition failed to interest him. Therefore when the brother returned to Merrick County, he yet had their joint capital in his pocket.

With this money the brothers bought cattle, fed, fattened and sold in the following spring and still had fifty head left. They invested their money in land that the government had

put on the market near Fullerton, Nebraska, at one dollar an acre down and the balance at six per cent interest, and in that and the following year bought two sections of land in Nance County. With these responsibilities they became land poor, and early in the eighties sold the land with the improvements they had put on it, to John Riemers. Later Mr. Frauen bought more land in Merrick County, and still later in Hall County, at one time owning about 2,000 acres in Merrick County. He has sold all this land to his children, retaining for his lifetime the old homestead. His Hall County land had absolutely nothing on it when he bought and all the improvements he made himself.

In the fall of 1877 Mr. Frauen married Miss Catherine Paustian, who died in 1898. They had children as follows: Otto, who lives in Merrick County; Cecelia, deceased, was the wife of Max Cornelius; Henry, a farmer in Lake township, Hall County; Annie, the wife of Christian Sass, of Merrick County; and John J., who operates the home farm of 520 acres, raising Hereford cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. Mr. Frauen formerly favored Shorthorn cattle, thoroughbred, but sold his herd in 1904. Another contrast is presented when memory goes back to the wearying work on the farm that had to be done with ox strength, when Mr. Frauen was a young farmer, while now the most modern of farm tractors solves every problem.

Since he became an American citizen, Mr. Frauen has valued his political privileges and has conscientiously supported the candidates and upheld the principles of the Republican party. He has been active in the affairs of Merrick County and frequently has served in public office. Early in the eighties he was a member of the county board, for many years was assessor, and for fully twenty years was a school director. He has lent his influence in support of more than one worthy enterprise in the county, has always worked for sobriety, law and religion.

JAMES GARFIELD ERION, whose agricultural activities include the operation of a large farm in Lake township, Hall County, a dairy in connection, and the raising of Holstein cows for the same, came to this county in 1883, when three years old. With the exception of seven years this has since been his home.

James Garfield Erion was born in Linn County, Iowa, October 13, 1880, the son of Joseph and Clara L. (Stewart) Erion, the

former of whom was born in Ohio, April 6, 1851, and died in 1890. The mother of Mr. Erion was born in Linn County, Iowa, October 12, 1860, and resides in Hall County. Of their six children, James Garfield was the second in order of birth, the others being: Leota, the wife of Robert Plummer, of Elkton, Maryland; Edward E., who lives north of Grand Island, married Elva Rice; Nellie, the wife of R. R. Hanna, of Grand Island; Harriet, who lives in Hastings, Nebraska; and Addie L., the wife of George Stevenson, of Simla, Colorado. The father of this family, came to Iowa from Ohio when fourteen years old, and to Hall County, in 1883, purchasing eighty acres situated two miles north of Grand Island. He was a man of sterling character, a member of the Presbyterian church and a Republican in politics.

James G. Erion obtained his education in the schools of Lake township, and grew up on the homestead on which he now lives. He engaged in farming here and continued until 1909, when he learned the carpenter trade and afterward worked at the same in Grand Island for seven years. Mr. Erion then returned to the farm. This was in September, 1916, and he proposes to continue in agricultural life. He is interested in Holstein cattle and has built up a fine dairy business in addition to conducting farm operations on his one hundred and forty acres, and is regarded as one of the very busy men of his neighborhood.

On November 28, 1911, Mr. Erion married Miss Cora Ophelia Rice, a daughter of John D. and Carrie (Martin) Rice, pioneers in Merrick County but now residents of Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. Erion have two children Robert R., born May 10, 1916 and Jane E., born March 29, 1918. In politics Mr. Erion is a Republican, but like his late father, has no desire for political office.

JOHN QUANDT.—One of the solid, substantial citizens of Lake township, where he carries on general farming, is John Quandt, who belongs to a pioneer family of this section that is well and favorably known all over Hall County. He was born in Waupaca County, Wisconsin, May 19, 1876, the son of August and Henrietta (Klemp) Quandt, natives of Germany.

August Quandt was nineteen years old when he came to the United States in 1855. After his marriage he bought land in Waupaca County, Wisconsin, on which he and his family resided for twenty-five years, then sold and came to Nebraska, reaching Hall

County on March 24, 1880. Here he bought the farm in Lake township on which his son John now lives, and here both he and wife spent the rest of their lives. His death occurred in 1900. They had children as follows: Louise, the wife of Charles Niemoth; Augusta, the wife of August Witzke, of Hall County; Frederick, who lives in Lake township; Gustave, who died at the age of twenty-one years, was a graduate of the Nebraska City Blind school, having become blind when two years old; William, who lives in Oklahoma; Ida, the wife of Emil Dankert, a farmer near Palmer, Nebraska; Albert, who lives in Hall County; and John, who lives on the old home place. In politics the father of the above family was a Republican. He was regarded with confidence and esteem by all who knew him and for years held school and church offices. He belonged to the Missouri synod of the Lutheran church. Crop conditions were so discouraging the first year after the Quandt family came to Hall County, that they seriously considered the advisability of returning to Wisconsin. In the second year, however, the father cleared \$1,300 on his farm and the family has prospered ever since.

John Quandt obtained his education in the Hall County schools. He has been a farmer all his life and now operates 160 acres of land with first class farm machinery, in great contrast to the way his father worked in early days, with one team of horses and a yoke of oxen. The Quandt homestead is one of the most valuable farms in Lake township.

On October 31, 1902, Mr. Quandt was united in marriage to Miss Clara Ruff, a daughter of John A. and Wilhelmina (Beyer) Ruff, and a granddaughter of John H. and Anna (Miche) Ruff. The Ruffs have been prominent people in this section for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Quandt have six children, namely: Agnes, Radbalt, John, Milton, Carl and Edwin. Mr. Quandt has always been active in township affairs and served three years on the school board. He is a member of the Farmers' Union, and the entire family belongs to the Lutheran church.

JOHN C. C. HANN enjoys the distinction of being one of the first two white children brought to Hall County; his sister Mary, now deceased, being the other. Today Mr. Hann is one of the best known residents of this section of Nebraska. There are few men so well informed as to the county's early life and history, and it may be added, there are not many who can recall past events in so



Mr. and Mrs. John C. Hann

interesting a way. Mr. Hann's home has been in Hall County for sixty-one years, and since 1899 he has been owner and conductor of the popular amusement park in Grand Island, known as Lion's Grove.

John C. C. Hann was born in 1856, in Mecklenburg Schwerin, Germany, the son of John and Katherina (Boehl) Hann, the former of whom was born in Germany April 5, 1823, and died in Hall County, Nebraska, December 22, 1888. The mother was born in Germany November 15, 1825, and died in Hall County October 12, 1908. They had five children, three of whom are living: John C. C., whose interests are important in Hall County; Henry, resides in Grand Island, married Hedwig Keuster; and Lena, the wife of Benjamin Brandow, of Leavenworth, Kansas. John Hann and his family came to the United States in 1857 and made their way to Davenport, Iowa, where many of their countrymen had settled, and five months later, as members of the second German colonizing party in Nebraska, came to Hall County, reaching here July 6, 1858. Mr. Hann homesteaded six miles southwest of Grand Island where the family lived nine years, spending the entire first year in the wagon in which they had been transported by oxen, from Chicago to Davenport. Then a log cabin was built which still may be seen on the farm of William Stolley. While they endured many pioneer hardships the first winter was the most trying period. There were no mills to grind the corn and when it was necessary to prepare this staple, a hand operated coffee mill had to be utilized, the resulting mush serving as food only because there was nothing else. When actual necessity arose the father of Mr. Hann hitched up his oxen and started for Omaha, sometimes being able, if the condition of the roads was favorable, to make the journey back and forth in three weeks. Meat was a luxury and Mr. Hann remembers his mother trapping snow birds to add to the lean bill of fare. At times it was possible to secure buffalo meat from the Indians, who paid in this way, and in blankets, for his mother's services as a midwife. She was a capable, big-hearted woman who, when called upon, hastened to the relief of suffering for many miles around, and Mr. Hann is certain that through her ministrations at least eight hundred children were added to the population of Hall County, ten of these being born to Indian and four to colored parents. There were some things, however, that this resourceful, untiring mother could not do, an instance being inability to restore her son's hearing after a boyhood

attack of scarlet fever. To its partial restoration Mr. Hann gives credit to an old Indian doctor, who was faithful in his efforts, although, of course, he lacked all scientific knowledge of the real cause of the deafness. In the course of years the parents of Mr. Hann became prosperous. In the later sixties the father bought twenty acres of land near Grand Island, which he improved by setting out trees and it was long managed by him as Hann's Park in connection with a licensed saloon. He remained in the business until his death. He was a Republican in politics and in many ways was an influential man. Both parents were members of the Lutheran church.

John C. C. Hann was too young to be able to recall at the present day the long voyage across the Atlantic ocean, consuming thirteen weeks and three days, in an old sailing vessel, by which he reached America, nor the further journey by railroad across the country to the end of the line, Chicago, nor later the ox-team journey to the wild prairie land in Hall County, but he remembers his first subscription school teacher was named Mr. Nogle, and that for three months instruction, his father had to pay the sum of \$40. There were but three other pupils in the school, which Mr. Nogle conducted in his own log cabin. The young man helped his father on the farm until 1868 when he accompanied his parents to Grand Island, in which city his first work was selling milk and vegetables. Later he assisted his father in the saloon at Hann's Park, continuing there until 1899, when he bought the five acres near Grand Island which is widely known as Lion's Grove. This he has converted into a first class amusement park. Mr. Hann has been in business here ever since and is interested also in the Grand Island Brewing Company. He still owns the old muzzle-loading rifle with which he has killed many elk, deer and buffalo. As an incident of the unusually severe winter of 1870 he tells of the freezing of all the fish in the river when the ice measured a depth of four feet and the freezing of the water in the pipes of the city water works, when relief was obtained through the use of an old threshing machine engine, using oxen for motive power. The contrast between city facilities at that time and the present is marked indeed. Mr. Hann was ever active in civil affairs, having been instrumental in calling the meeting which organized the old volunteer fire company, the first one in Grand Island.

In October, 1882, Mr. Hann married Miss Lena Boehl, who died at Spokane, Washing-

ton, leaving one son, Otto, who lives in that city. Mr. Hann's second marriage took place October 30, 1891, to Mrs. Minnie Augusta (Pankratz) Stepel, who was the widow of Herman Stepel and a daughter of Frederick W. and Edith (Hapke) Pankratz. They have one daughter, Pauline Augusta, the wife of John F. Koehler. Mr. and Mrs. Hann are members of the Lutheran church. He belongs to the fraternal order of Eagles and the sons of Herman, and Mrs. Hann is a member of the Royal Highlanders.

JACOB J. LORENTZEN, who came to Hall County, Nebraska, with his parents, when seven years old, has lived here since with the exception of three years in Denver and Grand Island. Few men are better known and none more favorably, in Lake township, where he carries on extensive agricultural operations. He was born in the city of New York, May 13, 1868.

The parents of Mr. Lorentzen were Jacob and Elizabeth (Mindt) Lorentzen, both of whom were born in Germany. After coming to the United States, the father worked as a carpenter and shipbuilder in New York city, finding much opportunity there for his trade skill, but he desired a farm on which to rear his children, and with this ambition he came to Nebraska and on May 2, 1875, secured school land situated in section sixteen, Lake township, Hall County, on which he lived until his death in 1896. He was a Democrat in politics, but never was willing to accept a public office, and both he and his wife were faithful members of the Lutheran church. She survives and resides with Jacob J., on the homestead. They had the following children: Jacob J., the first born; Henry, who lives in Grand Island; Charles, died at the age of nineteen years; Christina, the widow of August Ritterbusch, resides on the homestead; and Amanda, who lives in California.

Jacob J. Lorentzen attended the public schools in Lake township and assisted his father on the farm, assuming entire charge when the latter died. He has one hundred and eighty-seven acres of well improved land, which he devotes to general farming and stock raising. He has additional business intertests and is a stockholder in the Loup Valley Packing Plant. Formerly he was a leading factor in Democratic circles and yet is active politically but more independently. He has served in numerous township offices, for five years being township assessor, while for four years he was a county supervisor.

He has been chairman of the Liberty Bond drive in Lake township, and his personal popularity has had its weight in making the record of Lake township such a creditable one. He is a valued member of the several German social organizations that have been in existence in Grand Island for many years.

HENRY C. J. STOLLE, worthy representative of an old Hall County family, is one of the most efficient farmers and stock-raisers in Lake township, which has been his home all his life. He was born here July 1, 1889, was educated in the public schools, and is now serving in the office of township clerk.

The parents of Mr. Stolle, Charles and Mary (Rickert) Stolle, were natives of Germany, the former of whom was born in Hanover and the latter in Holstein. Of their family of ten children Henry C. J. was the seventh in order of birth, the others being as follows: Alvina, the wife of Otto Kruse, of Grand Island; Herman, who lives in Grand Island; Minnie, deceased, was the wife of Otto Frauen; William, who lives in Lake township, married Mary Brabander; Anna and John, both of whom are unmarried; Otto, a farmer in Howard County, married Theresa Sassen; and Emil and Louis, both of whom live in Hall County. The mother of this family died in the spring of 1909, from the effects of fright when automobiles caused the team of horses behind which she was riding, to run away. She was an estimable woman and was much esteemed in her neighborhood. In 1869 the father, Charles Stolle, came from Germany to the United States, and after spending two years at St. Louis, Missouri, came to Hall County, Nebraska. At that time he was without capital and the fact that when he died, in the fall of 1914, he owned four hundred and ninety-three acres of well developed land, indicates that his industry and thrift were supplemented by good business judgment. In 1871 he homesteaded the eighty acres on which his son Henry now lives, to which he kept on adding until he was one of the county's large land-owners. He was a man of sterling character and was respected by everyone. Although he would never accept any public office, he was strong in his support of the Republican party's principles and candidates. Both he and wife were faithful members of the Lutheran church. To build his first house and barn, he hauled logs by ox team from Loup and Oak creeks, the last of these log structures being taken down in order to make way for substantial modern improvements, about 1909.

Henry C. J. Stolle was born on the homestead and has lived there with the exception of two years, when he resided on one of his father's other farms. He obtained a good common school education and ever since has devoted himself to general farming and stock-raising with much success.

On December 18, 1912, Mr. Stolle married Miss Anna Schloemer, who is a daughter of Sophus and Mary Schloemer, residents of Grand Island. Mr. Stolle, like his late father, is a sound Republican and on that party ticket was elected township clerk, an office of considerable importance in Lake township. He is a member of the Farmers' Union, the Non-Partisan League, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Plattsdeutschen society, and carries insurance in Globe Life Insurance Company.

GEORGE A. TILLEY, one of Lake township's representative citizens, has passed almost his entire life here and is well and favorably known all over Hall County. He was born in Otsego County, New York, September 26, 1871. He was three years old when his parents came from New York to Hall County. They were Adin D. and Maria A. (Perkins) Tilley, a record of whom will be found on another page of this book.

George A. Tilley was educated by his father and his older sister, who also was a well known teacher in Hall County prior to her marriage. He worked on the farm and assisted his father in setting out the many beautiful trees in Grand Island and in the vicinity, which will be a perpetual memorial of the Tilley name. Mr. Tilley has heard his mother tell of the sad lack of trees that so unfavorably impressed his father and herself when they came to this section. The only two standing on the homestead were landmarks from the fact that they were the only trees within a radius of miles. Mr. Tilley has practically been engaged in farming all his life and on his own account since his twenty-seventh year. He is operating his own eighty acres and an additional eighty acres which he rents, carrying on general farming and moderate stockraising.

On February 14, 1899, Mr. Tilley married Miss Lida Nickle, who is a daughter of William and Mary (Black) Nickle. They have one son, Lawrence. Mr. Tilley and his family belong to the Baptist church. In politics he is a Republican and takes hearty interest in public affairs. Like his father before him, he values his privilege of real American citizenship, and is proud of his ancestral names

that connect him with the founding of the United States of America.

RUDOLPH SASS is a representative of one of the earliest families of Hall County, as he was born on the old homestead near Grand Island, December 23, 1874, and is a son of Detlef Sass, a record of whom will be found elsewhere in this history.

Rudolph was reared on the farm and remained at home till he was twenty-five years of age, when he became a farmer on his own account, and is operating one hundred twenty acres of land in Alda township.

January 23, 1900, was solemnized the marriage of Rudolph Sass and Christina Clausen. Mrs. Sass is also a native of Hall County, and is a daughter of Juergen Clausen, of whom further mention is made on other pages of this volume.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Sass has been blessed with four children, namely: Helen, Tony, Detlef and George, all of whom are still under the parental roof.

The family are held in the highest esteem by all who know them, and their friends are those who have known them since childhood days. Mr. Sass has been elected justice of the peace in his township and his neighbors have given him the title of "Judge."

CHARLES WYLEY SMITH is one of the successful farmers of Hamilton County, has since boyhood resided in this section of Nebraska. He was born in Union County, Ohio, April 18, 1870, and was but three years old when his parents established their pioneer home in Hall County. His father, James Wyley Smith, came to Nebraska in 1873 and secured a homestead in Hall County where for many years he carried on farming operations. A record of this pioneer family will be found on other pages of this volume, in a biography furnished by Mrs. Nancy Smith, the mother of our subject who is living in a comfortable home in the village of Doniphan.

Charles Wyley Smith was reared on his father's farm, attended the public schools of the neighborhood, and under the instructions of his father learned the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for crops, as a result of which upon attaining landlord's estate he was well qualified to enter upon the task of farming on his own account. That he chose wisely and has made a success of the business is proven by the fact that today he is the owner of two hundred and forty acres of land under

a high state of cultivation equipped with the necessary buildings and machinery for an up-to-date farm. The success and prosperity that has come to Mr. Smith is the result of his own efforts and the logical outcome of perseverance and industry.

Mr. Smith was united in marriage to Miss Amy Harris, a native of Hall County, a daughter of Thomas and Emily (Starky) Harris, who were among the pioneers of this section, taking up their abode here in 1872 on a homestead. Thomas Harris is now deceased but the mother of Mrs. Smith resides in Doniphan.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Smith has been blessed with three children: Emily May, Nancy Anna and Geneva, all of whom are still under the parental roof. The family are held in high esteem by all who know them and their circle of friends is co-extensive with their circle of acquaintance.

ALBERTUS E. EDWARDS, who carries on an extensive greenhouse business, devotes his entire fifty-four acres of richly cultivated land, situated in section four, Washington township, to gardening purposes. Although not a native of Hall County, he has spent the greater part of his life here, and it is his opinion that there are no finer people anywhere.

Albertus E. Edwards was born in Wood County, Ohio, September 18, 1861. His parents were Edson and Jane¹ (Cleveland) Edwards, the former of whom was born in the state of New York, and the latter in Cleveland, Ohio. The late Hon. Grover Cleveland, twice president of the United States, was her cousin. Edson and Jane Edwards had three children, two of whom survive: Albertus E. and Eva N., the wife of R. I. Evans, residing in South Dakota. In early manhood Edson Edwards learned the shoemaking trade but afterward became a farmer. He came to Hall County, Nebraska, in 1871, homesteading thirteen miles west of Grand Island, where he secured one hundred and sixty acres, on which the family lived until 1877 and then moved to Grand Island. For one year he conducted the Crescent Hotel, and for three years a shoe store, moving then to Custer County, where he resided three years. He finally located permanently at York, where he was engaged in the insurance business until his death, in April, 1886. His widow survived until December 22, 1897.

Albertus E. Edwards obtained his education in the public schools. He was ten years

old when he accompanied his parents to Hall County, and sixteen when the family moved into Grand Island. At that time he says that when the hunting trips of the Indians were over, they came in from the Republican River in such numbers that the streets were crowded and he has seen valuable skins and pelts piled four feet high. That would be a strange sight today on the busy, modern thoroughfares of Grand Island. He lived with his parents until he was twenty-three years old, in the meanwhile working for three years in the drug store of Barker & Hait, in Grand Island. He had a strong predilection, however, in favor of the business in which he is now engaged, and when he started his gardening enterprise, on ten acres of land, it was with a debt of \$150 hanging over him. His natural gifts in this direction, however, soon made his venture a splendid success, and his business has continued to expand until now he dominates the trade in this section and furnishes both retail and wholesale to dealers in Grand Island and elsewhere. He has a greenhouse one hundred and twenty-five by sixty feet in dimensions, making specialties of choice early lettuce and French asparagus, also supplying cut flowers and bedding plants.

On March 30, 1886, Mr. Edwards married Miss Mollie A. Roush, whose people came to Hall County in 1883. She is a daughter of David and Marie (Lowery) Roush, who were born near Letart Falls, in Meigs County, Ohio. The father of Mrs. Edwards died December 19, 1900, and the mother, November 10, 1916. They were the parents of eight children.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwards have no children of their own, but they reared one as a daughter and she is now married and lives at Omaha, Nebraska. Mr. Edwards has never been active in politics but is a good citizen who is ever mindful of the welfare and good name of Washington township.

WILLIAM F. STOLLE, whose fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, situated in section three, Lake township, Hall County, gives evidence of careful cultivation and intelligent management, is a member of a fine old family of this section, that has been identified with Lake township affairs for almost a half century. Mr. Stolle was born in Hall County, May 3, 1883.

The parents of Mr. Stolle were Charles and Mary (Rickert) Stolle, the former of whom was born in Hanover and the latter in Holstein, Germany. Of their family of ten children, William F. was the fourth born, the



A. E. EDWARDS AND WIFE

other members being: Alvina, the wife of Otto Kruse, of Grand Island; Herman, a resident of Grand Island; Minnie, deceased, was the wife of Otto Frauen; Anna, who lives in Hall County; John, a farmer in Lake township; Otto, a farmer in Howard County, Nebraska, married Theresa Sassen; and Emil and Louis, both of whom live in Hall County. The mother of the above family died in the spring of 1909, from the rupture of a blood vessel, when an accident occurred, while the father passed away in the fall of 1914. He had been of considerable importance in Lake township and was one of its largest land-owners. He came to the United States in 1869, lived at St. Louis, Missouri, until 1871, removed to Hall County, Nebraska, taking up a homestead of eighty acres in Lake township. Through industry and business ability he increased his possessions and when he died left an estate of four hundred and ninety-three acres of well improved land. He was a Republican in politics and was loyal to his friends but accepted no offices for himself. For many years the log structures he built in early days remained on the farm, but the last one was torn down in 1909 when modern buildings were erected.

William F. Stolle attended the public schools in Lake township, and ever since has devoted himself to farm pursuits. His land is well adapted to the industries he carries on and his annual crop and stock products are very satisfactory from their owner's point of view. On October 26, 1910, Mr. Stolle married Miss Mary Brabander, a daughter of Garrett and Louise (Manke) Brabander, and they have three children: Alfred, Carl and Blanche. They belong to the English Lutheran church. Politically Mr. Stolle is a Republican. He is a member of the Farmers Union, the Non-Partisan League, and a German society.

AUGUST STOLDT, who represents large agricultural interests in Lake township, is representative of a family that has been known and respected in Hall County for many years. He was born in the city of New York, June 12, 1873, the son of Hans and Magdalene (Suehlsen) Stoldt, the former of whom was born in Germany, August 13, 1839, and the latter September 19, 1840. Their marriage took place in Germany, September 30, 1865. They became the parents of five children, three of whom died in infancy. The two survivors are August and Johanna. The latter is the wife of Asbjorn Heiberg, who lives at Big Sandy, Montana. A few days after mar-

riage, Hans Stoldt and his wife left Germany for the United States and safely reached the harbor of New York. He was a cabinet-maker skilled in his trade and had no difficulty in finding employment in the big piano manufacturing houses of Steinway and Kroenig & Bach, of New York City. In 1878 he came with his wife and family to Hall County. He purchased a part of what is now the farm of his son. Both he and his wife were very industrious, letting no opportunity go by to add to their income. While not engaged on his farm, Mr. Stoldt worked as a carpenter and helped in the erection of the present substantial Wolbach store building at Grand Island. In those early days, when there were no public means of transportation, it was a heavy task to procure fuel. The custom was for the householder to start with his team at three o'clock in the morning for the Loup River, thirty-two miles away, making the round trip, loading logs which cost nothing at that time, and usually reaching home in the night. This was but one of the many hardships of early settlement in Lake township. Nevertheless, when Mr. Stoldt retired in 1903, he owned two hundred acres of well improved land in Hall County, the direct result of his industry and thrift. Both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church. He belongs to old German social societies in Grand Island.

August Stoldt attended the common schools near his father's farm and later a business college in Grand Island, after which he accepted a position in a grocery house in Brooklyn, New York, having an ambition to become a city business man. During the six months that he worked for the Brooklyn firm, his hours were from five in the morning until eight at night, and half of Sunday, for which he received the meager salary of \$10 a month. He remembers how tiresome this service was on account of the city customers purchasing in small quantities for their daily needs, and the repetition, day after day, finally became too much to stand and he decided to return to a real man's work on the home farm, where he has continued to reside. He now owns and operates three hundred and eighty acres of fine land, all well improved, and has a profitable, growing business in the breeding of Hereford cattle. Mr. Stoldt carries on his operations with first class machinery. He says the first binder in this neighborhood was owned by Henry Ahrens, and further, in contrasting old days with the present, recalls that the first top buggy, a great luxury and extravagance at that time, was owned by Fritz Buckow.

On June 16, 1903, Mr. Stoldt married Miss

Anna Mohr, a daughter of John and Margaret (Lemburg) Mohr, very early settlers in Hall County. They are now living retired at Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. Stoldt have had three children, two of whom died in infancy, the one surviving being his father's name sake, August, Jr., who was born February 11, 1911. In politics Mr. Stoldt is a Democrat. He has served Lake township in the office of assessor several terms and for a number of years has been treasurer of his school district. He is president of the Farmers Union and one of the board of directors, and also is president of the Anti-Horse Thief Association, which has a hundred members. He is a member of one of the old German social societies in Grand Island.

ALBERT J. NIEMOTH, whose farm activities are large and important in Hall County, and who stands among the foremost farmers and cattle breeders of Lake township, has been a resident of Nebraska nearly all his life. He was born in Winnebago County, Wisconsin, September 28, 1872, a son of John and Wilhelmina (Lindstedt) Niemoth.

Both parents of Mr. Niemoth were born in Germany. John Niemoth came to the United States when fourteen years old and for seven years worked in a Norwegian settlement in Wisconsin, where he learned the Norwegian language. He was twenty-two years old when he married. In May, 1873, he came to Hall County, Nebraska, buying one hundred and sixty acres of land at first, afterward owning two whole sections. His wife having passed away on the farm June 25, 1912, in 1916 he retired to Grand Island. They had ten children: Anna, the wife of August Buchfink, of Grand Island; Frank, who lives in Merrick County; Clara, the wife of Ernest Wagner, of Greeley County, Nebraska; Emily, who lives in California; Albert J., a farmer and stockman of Lake township; Frederick, who lives at Gordon, Nebraska; Robert and Richard, twins, the former of whom lives in Lake township, and the latter is deceased; Augusta, the wife of Rhinehart Kunze, of Lake township; and Ernest, who lives in Lake township.

Albert J. Niemoth obtained his education in the Hall County schools and remained with his father until grown, then went to Grant County, where he took up a homestead on which he lived for nine years. In 1904 he sold his interests there and returned to Hall County, since which time he has been operating five hundred acres in Lake township, all well improved. Mr. Niemoth is justly proud of his

Red Polled cattle, this breed, in his opinion, being the most profitable in Hall County as well as in Grant, where he began in the cattle business.

On September 16, 1897, Mr. Niemoth married Miss Bertha Loescher, a daughter of Frederick and Louise (Raatz) Loescher, who live in Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. Niemoth have the following children: Frederick, Laura, Minnie, Ella, August, Bertha, Elizabeth and Pearl. The eldest son is attending college in Grand Island. Mr. Niemoth and his family are members of the German Lutheran church. For many years he has been a Republican in his political connection and on that ticket was elected to the office of treasurer of Lake township, in which he has served for two years. He is vice-president of the Lake township local of the Farmers Union and belongs also to the Non-Partisan League.

JOHN A. RUFF, one of the highly esteemed older residents of Lake township, came to Hall County almost a half century ago, having chosen to make this locality his home to the present day. He has had varied experiences in the passage of a long life, and his reminiscences are both interesting and enlightening. His birth took place in Germany, September 24, 1847, the son of John H. and Anna M. (Miche) Ruff, the former of whom was born in Germany, March 26, 1801, and the latter, January 26, 1806. They came to the United States in 1856, settling near Peoria, Illinois, with a son, who was pastor of a church there. He afterward built a house in Bloomington, Illinois, in which the family resided a number of years, the son, in the meanwhile filling pastorates in Wisconsin, then in Michigan, in which state he died, having spent some years in the family home. All the rest of their children have also passed away except John A. and Elizabeth, the latter being Mrs. Hoffman, a resident of Jacksonville, Illinois. In Germany Mr. Ruff's father had been an eminent physician and surgeon, also carrying on a mercantile business, but he had retired from general practice before coming to this country. Both parents died at the home of their son, John A., the mother on May 3, 1888, and the father on January 18, 1890. Their burial was in the Grand Island cemetery.

John A. Ruff had school training at Peoria and Bloomington, Illinois, and in Ozaukee County, Wisconsin. When sixteen years old he went to Chicago, where he learned the mattress making trade, subsequently making a specialty of this line, and also worked at

upholstering. In the meanwhile the Civil War was in progress and at Nashville, Tennessee, he enlisted for six months service in the army. Within two months, however, his health failed, and later he became so ill that he was discharged on account of disability. At Jeffersonville, Indiana, he met an acquaintance and together they went to Indianapolis, Mr. Ruff being on his way home to Bloomington, but in that city he met with misfortune, being robbed of his army pay, and was left with only fifty cents which had been concealed in an inside pocket. Although he did not recover from his army illness for two years, a year later he left Bloomington for Chicago, where he worked irregularly at his trade, also in Dwight and Bloomington, Illinois, until he came to Hall County, Nebraska, in 1870. Here he homesteaded eighty acres situated three miles north of Grand Island, where he lived for seven years, later he bought land on section 17-12-9, and on this farm he yet lives. Mr. Ruff owns more than four hundred acres of land, the greater part of it being well improved.

In the fall of 1871, when meat and provisions were scarce in the region around Grand Island, he did as other men of the neighborhood who had families to provide for, bought a trusty rifle for \$5 from an Indian chief, and thus fitted out he started after game. When some sixty miles from home he killed three elk and other game including a black-tail deer. The latter he traded to a party to ferry him across the river with his load, as there were no bridges in this section at that time, and the meat he brought home from this trip kept their larder supplied all winter. On another occasion, when stalking an elk, he had to walk through weeds and sunflowers fully eight feet high, and came suddenly to a cliff in the canyon. Hearing a noise above his head he discovered a herd of at least thirty elk looking at him. The sudden view and unusual sight almost unnerved him, but he managed to get two of the elk before they dashed away, a tribute to his good marksmanship.

In Grand Island, November 26, 1870, Mr. Ruff married Miss Welhelmina Beyer, of Bloomington, Illinois. They became the parents of fifteen children, all but two of whom survive: John, a minister, lives at Secord, Gladwin County, Michigan; Charles, a teacher, lives in the great city of Chicago; William, a preacher, lives at Chase, Kansas; Henry, a resident of Grand Island; Mary, the wife of William Sielaff, lives at Grand Island; Clara, the wife of John Quandt, of Lake township; Paul, who lives in Howard County, Nebraska;

Walter, who lives at Vergas, Minnesota; Albert, who lives on the home place; Rosa, the wife of Reverend Nau, of Holstein, Nebraska; and Fred, who is in the United States army.

Mr. Ruff owned and operated the first furniture store in Grand Island, which he opened in 1870. He made his own mattresses and supplied stores at other places. He and James Cleary rented a store room from a Mr. Arnold, who was the United States register in Grand Island at that time. Mr. Cleary occupied one side of the building, conducting his tin shop and selling stoves, while Mr. Ruff occupied the other. He did very well in this business venture, a natural sincere and courteous manner that yet distinguishes him, making both business and personal friends very easily. His political convictions have come from close observation and wide reading. The only public office he ever consented to hold was that of school director. He was reared in the Lutheran faith and his religious duties have always been a part of his daily life.

ADIN DORRINGTON TILLEY. — One of the prominent early settlers in Hall County, who had much to do with its substantial development and educational progress, was the late Adin D. Tilley, whose long and useful life of seventy-eight years closed on June 8, 1914. He lived to see Grand Island emerge from a little sun-dried hamlet, with a grass-grown wagon track as its main thoroughfare, into one of the busy, modern cities of the state. In later years he walked along beautiful tree-lined streets and avenues that owed their shade to the work of himself and sons, who brought this condition about.

Adin Dorrington Tilley was born at New Lisbon, Osage County, New York, August 29, 1835, and was liberally educated in his native state. In March, 1873, he came to Hall County, Nebraska, and secured the homestead of eighty acres, on which his widow yet lives. He divided his time between farming and teaching school, his services being in demand both in Hall and Merrick counties, teaching fourteen terms in one district in Merrick and thirteen in one district in Hall County. To the younger generation this profession is one that possesses no danger and offers little excitement, but had they been with Mr. Tilley and fourteen of his pupils in the little unsheltered schoolhouse on the prairie, when the sudden blizzard of 1888 so rapidly enveloped them with blinding snow that they could only leave at the peril of their lives, they might have changed their minds and like the others



MR. AND MRS. A. D. TILLEY
Fiftieth wedding anniversary

remained during the entire night. Another severe storm that the Tilleys lived through after reaching Hall County, was the memorable one of April, 1873. In their little cabin three families were domiciled at the time. With great good fortune Mr. Tilley reached home before the storm fell, with a load of corn, that was intended for fuel, because nothing else could be secured, hence they were much better off than the majority of their neighbors. When Mr. Tilley retired from the educational field, he went into the nursery business, and he and his sons subsequently set out almost all the trees in Grand Island and its vicinity. The two trees standing on his homestead when he came here, were the only ones for many miles. He was a lover of trees and they responded to his care.

On April 10, 1860, Mr. Tilley married Miss Maria A. Perkins. Her parents were Ransom and Elizabeth (Tenbroeck) Perkins, of Edmeston, Ostego County, New York, both families being old and prominent in New York to the present day. Mrs. Tilley's father came later to Hall County, living here fourteen years. Of the eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Tilley, the following survive: Lydia, the wife of John Reaugh, of Savannah, Missouri; George, a substantial farmer in Lake township, Hall County; William, who is a farmer in Lake township, married Floy Wilcox; Sadie, the wife of Arthur Hanna, of Lake township; and John, who lives in Arthur, Nebraska, married Anna Brabander. In politics, Mr. Tilley was a Republican. He was a man of firm convictions and ever courageous in carrying them out. He was a faithful member of the Baptist church, as is his widow. She still resides on the old homestead and is well known and affectionately regarded all through this neighborhood.

ARTHUR DAY HANNA. — Never before in the history of the world have farm products been in such demand as today. Among the capable farmers of Hall County who are contributing to the supply of life sustaining foods for the populations both at home and abroad, the gentleman whose name introduces this record is found in the front rank.

Arthur D. Hanna was born in LaSalle County, Illinois, August 12, 1877, a son of James E. and Etta M. (Day) Hanna, a record of whom will occupy other pages of this volume.

On December 15, 1903, Arthur D. Hanna married Miss Sadie Tilley, a native of Hall County, a daughter of Adin D. and Maria A.

(Perkins) Tilley, of whom extended mention is made elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Hanna have one child, a daughter, Etta M.

Mr. Hanna is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred sixty acres, in section twenty-one, Lake township, where he successfully carries on general farming and stockraising. His farm is provided with a substantial set of buildings and he is accounted one of the progressive men of his community.

The family are members of the Baptist church, of which Mr. Hanna is a deacon. He exercises the right of franchise in support of men and measures of the Democratic party, and in every relation of life measures up to the full standard of citizenship.

CASPER HONGSERMEIER, a highly respected retired farmer of Lake township, has been a resident of Hall County since 1885. He was born in Westphalia, Germany, February 28, 1854, one of a family of ten children born to Heinrich and Marie (Unferther) Hongsermeier. Both parents died in Germany, where the father had been a general farmer. Only two sons came to the United States, Casper and Henry. The latter settled in Kansas and recently died there.

During boyhood Mr. Hongsermeier attended the common school near his home and afterward engaged in farming in the old country. In 1885 he came to the United States and settled in Hall County, where he bought land at \$2 an acre, which is now worth over \$150 an acre because of the excellent improvements he has made. He has always carried on farming, being most successful. Although now retired he still lives on his farm of one hundred and sixty acres, where he has every comfort of life and can oversee farming operations as he feels inclined.

On April 25, 1879, Mr. Hongsermeier married Miss Marie Mettenbrink, a daughter of Frederick and Anna M. (Schwendeniek) Mettenbrink, who spent their lives in Germany. Her father was a prosperous farmer there at one time. Mr. and Mrs. Hongsermeier have the following children: Henry and Charles, both of whom live in Buffalo County, Nebraska; Mary who lives with her parents; Frederick who is a farmer in Hall County, married Louise Hamann; Anna, who lives at home; Augusta, the wife of Ernest Hoerst, of Hamilton County, Nebraska; Lena, the wife of Fletcher Thurley, of Custer County; and Emma, William and Albert, all of whom reside at home. This is one of the fine

families of the township, parents and children alike being highly respected and welcome in every circle. They all belong to the Lutheran church. Mr. Hongsermeier casts an independent political vote. He is a member of the Farmers Union and the Non-Partisan League.

HENRY C. AHRENS, who owns one of the well improved farms of Lake township, where he carries on general agriculture and makes a specialty of raising Rhode Island Red chickens for the market, was born in this county July 8, 1885, and the same year his father was accidentally killed by a runaway team of horses owned by a neighbor.

The parents of Mr. Ahrens, Henry C. and Magdalena (Dierks) Ahrens, were born in Germany. On their way to America they were married in the city of Liverpool, England, November 19, 1868, before sailing for the United States. Their children were: Alida, the wife of Frank Niemoth of Merrick County, Nebraska; Alexander, a substantial farmer in Lake township, married Sophronia Lorenzen; and Henry C., who has spent his life in Hall County.

Under the care of an admirable mother, Henry C. Ahrens grew to manhood, attended school and worked on the home farm. When twenty-three years old he removed to his mother's second farm and operated it for her until 1917, when he bought it and today is the owner of one hundred and eighty acres of highly improved land where he engages in general agriculture.

In March, 1914, Mr. Ahrens married Miss Maria W. Hintz, who was born in Germany and came to Hall County May 5, 1911. She is the only one of her family to come to the United States. Her parents are Claus and Amelia (Anderson) Hintz, highly respected residents of their neighborhood in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Ahrens have no children. They are members of the Lutheran church. In politics he has been a Republican for a number of years and now belongs to the Non-Partisan League.

DETLEF SASS.—The life record of the first settlers of Grand Island all have their values from the standpoint of being historical, and none are more interesting than that of the man whose name heads this biography.

Detlef Sass was a native of Holsetin, Germany, the same country that furnished nearly all of those pioneers who laid the foundation of the present Hall County. The date of his

birth was June 16, 1831, the youngest of a large family. His father conducted a bakery establishment. It was intended that the son should take up this trade, but the life of a baker did not appeal to him, so he learned the trade of a weaver. He served an apprenticeship, and as was the custom in that country, traveled three years as a journeyman weaver. When the province of Holstein arose against Danish misrule, young Sass enlisted in the service of his country, serving a term in the German army. Soon after his period of service ended he joined a party of his countrymen who were to leave for America. Their first home in the new country was at Davenport, Iowa. In 1857 Detlef Sass became a member of the little band who came to Nebraska and founded the city of Grand Island. The story of this settlement will be found on other pages of this history, and suffice to say that through the trials and hardships that met these early settlers, Mr. Sass always contributed his full share. In speaking of the pioneer days, Mr. Sass often told this story. "Joachim Doll was one of the first settlers, and once he was obliged to make a trip to Omaha. When the time came for him to go he came to me and told me that his wife was sick and asked me to go in his place. I told him if I had soles on my shoes I could go all right. He was a shoemaker and put wooden soles on my shoes and I made the journey to Omaha for him." It was the promise of a home and land that induced these men to come to the then barren wilds of what was called the Great American Desert.

Mr. Sass, like many others, took a homestead and his first home was a primitive log house. He carried on farming until the grasshopper scourge came upon the country but he was one of those who thought that a better opportunity awaited them further west, and with a neighbor went to Fort Steele, Wyoming. Having taken a few cows with them the men went into the business of supplying milk to the soldiers of the fort. It was while residing here that he was joined in marriage to Miss Eliza Kuhl, whom he had met at Grand Island. Life in Wyoming became very lonesome for the young wife with her husband gone all day, and as the Indians were becoming troublesome, they decided to return to Grand Island. He found employment conducting the saloon at Sand Krog for a short time when he moved into the city and erected the Wyoming House. This he and his wife conducted for a time and prospered, but misfortune came to them when the hotel took fire and burned to the ground. This left them with nothing but the



DETLEF SASS



MRS. DETLEF SASS

clothes on their backs. With a large family of boys he decided that the city was no place to raise them so he moved to a farm. He later bought one hundred sixty acres, to which he added another tract of the same size. But he seemed to be possessed of a desire for a change and went to Oregon. Here he made investments but was not long permitted to enjoy the new country for his death occurred there September 4, 1894.

Mrs. Sass was also a native of Germany, her birth occurring July 20, 1844. By her marriage she became the mother of nine children: Dan, resides in Michigan; John, is a business man of Grand Island; Minnie, is the wife of William Keuscher, of Hall County; George, who owns and operates the old farm; Rudolph, a farmer of Alda township; Herman, a farmer of Hall County; Antonia, is the wife of Ernest Sankbeyer, of Merrick County; Chris, who resides in Merrick County; and Freda, who passed away when a young lady of twenty-one.

Mrs. Sass has capably managed the affairs since her husband's death, and though she has disposed of the property, makes her home on the old farm. Coming to a new country when a young woman, and having lived in so many different places in this country hers is an interesting story of pioneer days, as she is one of those who have witnessed the vast changes that have taken place during a half century. She and her husband were reared in the faith of the Lutheran church and their family were brought up to have the same religious belief. Mr. Sass belonged to the old German societies of Grand Island, and in politics was a Republican, though he took no part in the affairs of government. He will long be remembered as one of the first settlers and a man who in all the years he lived in Hall County, could always be counted upon to do his full share toward building up and developing the community.

HENRY C. FRAUEN, numbered with the representative citizens and good farmers of Hall County, was born in Merrick County, Nebraska, December 13, 1879, and has lived on his present well improved farm in Lake township since February, 1907. He is one of a family of five children born to Paul and Catherine (Paustian) Frauen, whose record will be found elsewhere in this volume, the latter of whom died in 1898.

Henry C. Frauen attended school in Merrick County. He has always been a farmer and on his wedding day settled on his place

in Lake township, Hall County. He carries on general farming and raises fine stock, devoting close attention to all his industries, following modern methods and making use of the best farm machinery on the market, all his hauling and heavy work being done by a modern farm tractor.

On February 20, 1907, Mr. Frauen married Miss Lydia Spatholt, a daughter of Frederick and Charlotte (Scheel) Spatholt, residents of Hall County. Mrs. Frauen was born on the farm on which she yet lives. Of the three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Frauen only two are living: Paul, who bears the honored name of his grandfather, was born February 11, 1908, and Irene, who was born September 20, 1912. Mr. and Mrs. Frauen are members of the Lutheran church. In politics Mr. Frauen is a Republican, as is his father. He belongs to the Farmers Union and the Non-Partisan League.

MRS. MAGDALENE AHRENS, a very highly esteemed resident of Grand Island, living in her comfortable home at No. 108 West Tenth street, is the widow of Henry Ahrens, who homesteaded in Hall County in 1872. Left a widow with a family of small children, Mrs. Ahrens for many years had heavy responsibilities to bear. She is a woman of great strength of character and safely guided her little family to mature years so husbanding the resources of the land Mr. Ahrens had left that she found ease and ample fortune awaiting them all.

Mrs. Ahrens was born in Holstein, Germany, November 1, 1847. Henry Ahrens was born in Hanover, Germany, December 5, 1839. Both started for America and they were united in marriage on November 19, 1868, in Liverpool, England, before sailing for the United States. Their first home was near Yorkville, Illinois, where they lived for three years, then started westward, travelling with horses, taking three weeks to reach Shelby County, Missouri, where they remained through the following winter. In the spring they came on to Hall County, Nebraska, Mr. Ahrens taking up a homestead in Lake township, in February, 1872. Mrs. Ahrens remembers well the hardships of those early days. A good housekeeper, she had to do without many conveniences to which she had always been accustomed and at first longed for one of the big clean cellars that she had had in Germany. As soon as possible Mr. Ahrens set out trees to please her, which have now grown into a beautiful grove. Before

coming to America he had been a valet for wealthy employers, but after settling in Nebraska he accepted changed conditions and worked as hard and efficiently as if he had always been a farmer. During the winter time he earned a dollar a day digging cellars, working the entire week in Grand Island, while Mrs. Ahrens directed affairs on the homestead. She remembers how fearful she was of prairie fires, as they had few neighbors to help them out in time of need and were seven miles away from Grand Island. During the grasshopper invasion her garden was completely eaten up, the insects crawling under a blanket she had spread over her young onion bed also devouring the tubers in the ground.

Mr. and Mrs. Ahrens continued to add to their first farm by hard work and frugality, until they had one hundred and eighty-five acres. They were well on their way to a much more comfortable manner of living, when the accident occurred which cost Mr. Ahrens's life, on June 9, 1885. It was caused by a runaway team belonging to a neighbor. The children who survived him were as follows: Alida, the wife of Frank Niemoth, of Merrick County; Hellene, who died when 17 months of age; Alexander, who resides on the old homestead in Lake township, married Sofine Lorenzen; and Henry C., who bought his mother's second farm of one hundred and eighty-five acres and resides on it. Mr. Ahrens was a Republican in politics and a member of the Lutheran church.

After her husband's death, Mrs. Ahrens managed affairs until her health gave out. With her sons she later bought additional land and now each one has a fine farm. In 1907 she visited her old home in Germany and after her return she removed to Grand Island, where she has a valued church connection. She has made warm friends because of her kind and helpful neighborliness.

CHRISTOPHER BAUER.—In order to properly realize the phenomenal development within the space of a few decades not only in Hall but in other neighboring counties of Nebraska, one has but to turn back the pages of history a little way, and consider what the fathers and mothers faced in the way of living conditions when they came to Nebraska. Christopher Bauer, one of Hall County's representative men, can tell of pioneer days in York County, and of experiences that might just as well be applied to Hall County. Mr. Bauer was born at Theresa, Dodge County, Wisconsin, January 19, 1856.

The parents of Mr. Bauer, Christian and Dorothy Bauer, were natives of Germany. He was born near Stuttgart and she near Hiedelberg. They came to the United States in 1855, locating on the land the father bought in Dodge County, Wisconsin, where the family made their home until February, 1880, when removal was made to York County, Nebraska. There were three children in the family: Freda, Christopher and Mary. Freda is the widow of William Kastner, and lives at Jamestown, North Dakota. Mary is the wife of Frederick Spoerl, they live at Marion, North Dakota. When the Bauers located in Wisconsin, the country was heavily wooded and the great trees had to be cut down in order to make clearing on which the primitive log cabin could be built of green logs. The roof of the cabin was of rough timbers covered with hand made shingles, while the earth was the only flooring. After locating in Nebraska the cows the family brought with them from Wisconsin, had, at first to be used as beasts of burden, for oxen were high priced and scarce. Wild animals were by no means extinct, bears sometimes being seen, while a watch had to be kept in order that deer did not invade the newly cleared fields and trample the growing grain. There were many Indians, but they were never menacing to the Bauer family, who divided their food with the travelers as they came to their cabin door, even when they had but little themselves. In spite of hard work, toil with their hand and many privations, Mr. Bauer's parents lived into comparative old age, the mother dying in 1887 and the father in 1889. At that time he owned eighty acres of improved land.

Christopher Bauer attended school in Wisconsin and remained with his parents until he was twenty-one years old. In 1877 he came to York County with a team and covered wagon, spending over three weeks on the way. He invested in land and worked for other settlers up to 1880, when he married. The ceremony uniting Miss Lydia Wissmann with him took place February 21, 1880, at Long Hope, York County. Her parents were George and Catherine (Gesberg) Wissman, natives of Germany who at an early day came to Iowa and later to York where the father died in 1883. The mother died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Bauer, in July, 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Bauer became the parents of six children: Frank, who lives in Western Nebraska; Laura, the wife of Frederick Ehlers, of Prairie Creek township, Hall County; Rena, the wife of William Hardekopf, near Palmer, Nebraska; Edna, the wife of Reverend Goef-

fert, of Culbertson, Nebraska; and Paul and Myrtle, both of whom are at home. Mr. Bauer and his family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church, as did his parents.

Mr. Bauer continued to live in York County until 1890, when he came to Hall County and bought one hundred and sixty acres in section two, Lake township. Here he has carried on general farming and stockraising ever since. While living in York County he was quite active in public affairs, serving frequently as school director, road overseer and treasurer, but he has confined his energies entirely to business since coming to Lake township. In his political convictions he is a Republican. On many occasions he has demonstrated his good citizenship and neighborly feeling, and with his family is held in much esteem in Lake township. As he looks over his well cultivated fields and notes his fine stock, his improved machinery and commodious buildings, his thoughts often turn to the little log cabin in the woods, and the courageous, resourceful people who made it an endearing home, so many years ago.

EDITH SAUNDERS SPENCE, M. D., active and successful in her practice, is one of the leading members of the medical profession in Grand Island and Hall County. She has a large private practice, and has, also, capably filled positions of great public responsibility, commanding the confidence and enjoying the esteem of all who know her either professionally or personally. As a woman of enlightened mind and intellectual vigor, she has always been interested in cultural activities, and her ideas frequently find expression in her poems and short stories. Dr. Spence was born at Bellaire, Ohio, a daughter of Dr. Alcinon Jackson and Mary Caroline (Hayman) Saunders.

Dr. Alcinon Saunders was born at Williamsburg, Pennsylvania, September 16, 1837, and died September 12, 1900. He provided by his own efforts for his college education at Richmond, Ohio. He studied chemistry and during the years 1861, 1862 and 1863, was pharmacist in the Central Ohio Insane Asylum. From there he entered Starling Medical College, at Columbus, and was graduated in medicine and surgery from that institution. Subsequently he was graduated from the Long Island College hospital, and for five years remained there taking graduate work. He entered into practice in Ohio and became very successful. In 1880 he came to Grand Island, where his professional skill won immediate

recognition and his personal character shed distinction on everything with which he was identified. For many years he was a member of the school board; a member of the United States Pension Bureau; physician at the Soldiers and Sailors Home, and surgeon at St. Francis Hospital. In 1889 he went to Europe to attend lectures and clinics at Vienna, Austria, and on his return became a specialist in chronic troubles of the ear, nose and throat. In 1896 he opened an office at Leavenworth, Kansas. He was there stricken with paralysis, from which he never recovered. He was a Knight Templar Mason. A leader in his profession, he was called as a consultant all over the state. On November 13, 1866, Dr. Saunders was united in marriage to Mary Caroline Hayman, who was born at Letart Falls, Ohio, and died in August, 1900. Of their surviving children Dr. Spence is the youngest, the others being: Lucy, the wife of J. P. Bruchert, of Portland, Oregon; Bertha, the wife of Robert Fontaine, of Grand Island; Florence, who resides in Grand Island; Austin, a resident of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Alanous, who lives at Chicago, Illinois.

After completing the high school course in Grand Island Dr. Spence entered the medical department of Creighton University in Omaha, completing her medical course in the Nebraska State University in Lincoln. In 1901 she entered into medical practice in Grand Island. Afterward she was appointed physician for the State Industrial home at Milford, by Governor Savage, which exacting office she filled for some years, then resigned to return to Grand Island. Here she continued in active practice until 1917, since which time she has practically retired from the medical field. For a number of years she was grand medical examiner for the Degree of Honor lodge. She was a member of the Hall County Medical Association and at all times with professional equality took part in its proceedings. For a number of years she was the only lady member of the medical fraternity of her college.

On November 13, 1906, Dr. Spence was united in marriage to Daniel E. Spence, Jr., in Grand Island. He is a son of Daniel E. and Sarah (McLaughlin) Spence, former residents of Fairbury, Nebraska. The mother of Mr. Spence is deceased, but his father survives and lives at Portland, Oregon. Mr. Spence came to Grand Island from Kansas, and for twenty-five years has been passenger engineer on the St. Joseph & Grand Island Railroad. By a former marriage he has twin sons, Harry and Howard, who are in school. In politics Mr. Spence is a Republican, is a Knight Templar Mason and a

Shriner, and belongs to the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. Since retiring from professional work, Dr. Spence has more time to devote to her literary labors. At one time she was interested in preparing a county history, but found the work involved too much time and effort in connection with other undertakings she had in hand. Both she and husband are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

JOHN M. HANSSEN, one of Washington township's best known and most respected citizens, continues to live on a part of the old family homestead in Hall County, to which he was brought by his parents forty-seven years ago. The Hanssen family has been one of the solid, substantial and progressive families of this section ever since it was established here.

John M. Hanssen was born in Holstein, Germany, December 30, 1864. His parents were Ties and Louise (Neubert) Hanssen, natives of Germany, where his father was a day laborer and bee keeper. In April, 1870, the family landed in the United States. They resided in Chicago until June, 1872, when they came to Hall County, where the father bought eighty acres in Washington township, south of Grand Island. At the time of his death, in February, 1911, he was considered a man of financial independence. He was quiet, hardworking and honest, never identifying himself with any political organization but being faithful as a member of the Lutheran church. A warm neighborly feeling existed between him and William Stolley, another prominent early settler. The mother of Mr. Hanssen died at his home on June 10, 1918. There were but two children in the family: John M. and Henry G. The latter is an engineer on the Texas Pacific Railroad and lives at Marshall, Texas. He married Ella P. Gilbert, of Paducah, Kentucky.

John M. Hanssen, familiarly known to his many friends as "Hannes" was educated in the public schools and the Grand Island Business college. In addition to his agricultural activities, he is secretary of the Grand Island Mutual Assessment Association, fire and storm insurance. This company was originated by William Stolley and Peter Heesch in 1892, and now has about \$5,000,000 insurance on the books. The company has had only five assessments for losses and expenses, in twenty-seven years, and seven losses in that time, a very remarkable showing. Mr. Hanssen has been secretary since October,

1896. For nine years he has been school director in his district.

On July 6, 1903, Mr. Hanssen married Miss Catherine Hein, a daughter of Casper and Magdalene (Voss) Hein, natives of Germany, who came to the United States and to Chicago, in 1868, and to Hall County in 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Hanssen have one son, Arnold H., who resides with his parents.

Mr. Hanssen owns a large park which he devotes to the growing of cedar trees. A lover of birds, these trees have given him an opportunity to study scientifically a species that winters in the trees, coming here from northern Canada. He has discovered many facts from his study of his little wild pets. It seems that the seeds of these trees so greedily devoured by the birds, are thereby rendered ripe for planting, the digestive organs of the birds softening the hard outer shell that would resist the elements for several years. In all matters pertaining to the welfare of the township, Mr. Hanssen keeps well posted. In his political convictions he is a Socialist and he has served several terms on the township board. He belongs to the Farmers Union and the Nonpartisan League, and to the old social organizations in Grand Island that were founded there by the early German settlers.

FREDERICK E. LOESCHER, showing a large amount of enterprise in the management of his farm industries in Lake township, belongs to a pioneer family of Hall County that has prospered, and been respected here for forty-five years. Mr. Loescher was born in Hall County, April 13, 1893, the son of Frederick F. and Dora (Raatz) Loescher, natives of Germany. The father was born October 11, 1845 and was brought to the United States in 1850. He was reared in Wisconsin and enlisted from that state as a soldier in the Civil War. After leaving the army he was a farmer in Winnebago County, near Oshkosh until 1874, when he came to Hall County, where he now owns two hundred and forty acres of fine land. He retired from his farm in 1910 and lived in Grand Island for two years but resumed farming once more and continued actively engaged until March, 1918, when he retired to Grand Island a second time. Of his thirteen children, Frederick E. is the youngest of the survivors, the others being: William, who lives in Lake township, married Ella Spoholt; Agnes, the wife of Ernest Wagner; Minnie, the wife of Fred Hengen, of Omaha; Herman, who lives at Belgrave, Nebraska, married Rose Peters, and Charles



and Laura, both of whom live in Grand Island; Bertha is the wife of Albert Niemoth, of Lake township; Emma, who died in April, 1918, was the wife of Edward Niemoth, and Frank, the ninth in order of birth, died July 29, 1915.

Frederick E. Loeschner was educated in the public schools of Washington township, and the Grand Island Business College. He entertains very progressive ideas about farming and is willing to work hard to carry them out. Modern methods and modern machinery are made use of and Mr. Loeschner is proving the value of both. He is carrying on general farming and stockraising. On February 10, 1918, he married Miss Olga Lohmann, a daughter of William and Mary (Dickman) Lohmann, who are residents of Merrick County. They have one child, Myrtle, who was born November 30, 1918. They are members of the Lutheran church. In politics he is independent but is identified with the Farmers Union and is interested in everything that promises permanent benefit to the farmers of Hall County.

CHARLES H. METTENBRINK, probably one of Lake township's most progressive farmers, is also one of the largest landowners in this part of Hall County. It may be said further, that these fine farms and herds of registered cattle did not come to him by inheritance, but as the result of the hard work of a persevering farmer who possesses more than the usual amount of sober business judgment.

Charles H. Mettenbrink was born in Westphalia, Germany, April 9, 1854. His parents were Frederick W. and Anna M. (Schwendeniek) Mettenbrink, natives of Germany who spent their entire lives there. The father was a farmer and raised cattle, and for the times, was considered well to do. Of their eight children three live in Germany, the other five having homes in Nebraska, Charles H. being the eldest of these. He has two sisters and one brother in Hall County: Anna M., the wife of Casper Hongsermeier, of Lake township; Katherine, the wife of Henry Ansmer; William, who is dead; and Frederick, who lives near Grand Island. The parents were faithful members of the Lutheran church and reared their children in this religious body.

When his school days were over, Charles H. Mettenbrink worked as a farmer in Germany until 1881, when he came to the United States, reaching Hall County in the fall of that year. The following four years he was employed on

farms and prudently saved his earnings, then, in partnership with his brother-in-law bought three hundred and twenty acres of land. For a time they operated the entire tract together but later evenly divided it. He now owns eight hundred acres, all valuable property, devoting a large amount of attention to the cattle business, raising on an average, two car loads, and from one to two car loads of calves a year. When he settled on his home place it was bare of improvements, but through industry and thrift he soon made notable changes through setting out trees and erecting substantial buildings. As already mentioned, he is doing an immense business in cattle and his opinions are worth listening to when he announces a preference for White Face registered cattle, of which he has a valuable herd.

In April, 1885, Mr. Mettenbrink returned to Germany and was there united in marriage with Miss Mary Ostermeier, who died August 20, 1894. She was a daughter of Henry and Elsie (Esem) Ostermeier, who spent their lives in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Mettenbrink had five children born to them: Mary, the wife of Casper Meier, of Merrick County, Nebraska; Charles who assists his father; Emma, the wife of Herman Huepner; and Elsie and Henry, both of whom live at home. For his second wife Mr. Mettenbrink married Miss Louisa Obermeier, of Germany, who is deceased. Mr. Mettenbrink and family are members of the Lutheran church. He is a Republican in politics and has political influence in township affairs but has never been willing to accept any public office. Mr. Mettenbrink has made three visits to Germany since he first came to the United States.

ALEXANDER AHRENS, one of the progressive farmers and good business men of Lake township, is a native, having spent his entire life in Hall County, where his birth took place July 2, 1876. His parents were Henry and Magdalene Ahrens, the former of whom was born in Germany, December 5, 1839, and the latter, November 1, 1847. They came to the United States in 1868 and to Nebraska in 1871, where the father homesteaded. Assisted by the mother of Mr. Ahrens, the father prospered in spite of many early hardships, and at the time of his accidental death, in 1885, he owned a large estate.

Alexander Ahrens was but a lad when he was left fatherless. His mother, a woman of great energy and executive ability proved equal to the responsibilities suddenly placed

upon her, and not only reared her young children carefully and judiciously, but ably managed the farm, and, as the sons grew into manhood, guided and joined them in adding to the already ample estate. Mr. Ahrens operates his farm of one hundred and eighty acres, which is well stocked and highly improved. His second farm, the old August C. F. Wendt estate, containing one hundred and forty acres, he rents out. His brother, Henry C. Ahrens, is also a large farmer in Lake township. The mother, after an enjoyable visit to Germany, in 1907, took up her residence in Grand Island, where she has a comfortable and attractive home and is within a pleasant social circle.

On March 6, 1914, Mr. Ahrens married Miss Sofine Lorenzen, a daughter of Falquardt and Marline (Bonson) Lorenzen, residents of Germany. They have two most engaging little children, Walter and Anita. Mr. and Mrs. Ahrens are active members of the Lutheran church. He has always been affiliated with the Republican party but has never been willing to accept any political office. He belongs to the Farmers Union and the Non-Partisan League, and is identified also with a German social organization in Grand Island.

CARL DEICHMANN, who came to the United States in 1866, and to Hall County, Nebraska, in 1878, is one of Lake township's best known residents. He belongs to the group of old settlers, who, through their industry and sound judgment made conditions easier for later pioneers, who now intelligently relate many facts of early days that might well be given a place on the page of history.

Carl Deichmann was born in the province of Hanover, Germany, October 12, 1848, a son of Carl H. and Mary (Stottenberg) Deichmann, who lived and died in Germany. His father was an official in government operated copper mines of that country. Of their seven children Carl and a brother came to the United States, the latter being now deceased. In his boyhood a certain amount of schooling was given every youth in Germany, and following this, when about seventeen years old, Carl came to the United States. For about a year after reaching this country he lived in New York and then was variously employed in other eastern states until 1878, when he came to Hall County. He rented land for several years and then bought the farm of one hundred and sixty acres on which he yet lives. Here he has followed farming and has been an extensive stockraiser. In a general way he suffered with others in the climatic changes

that made the life of a farmer in the early 'nineties a more or less unprofitable vocation, taken in conjunction with the severe winters, during which, on one occasion, Mr. Deichmann found the snow fifteen feet in depth.

Mr. Deichmann first married Miss Kate Westermann, who died in 1888, the mother of three children, the two survivors being: Freda, the wife of Fred Harris, who lives in California, and Emma, the wife of George Cooper, of Omaha. His second marriage was to Miss Mary Marsham, and they have had six children: Ella, the wife of Fritz Bergholtz, of Grand Island; Carl, who went to France as a soldier with the American Expeditionary Force; Anna, the wife of Jesse Schroeder, of Grand Island, and Albert; Bruno and Freie, all of whom are at home. Mr. Deichmann is not a member of any political party preferring to cast an independent vote. He is a member of the Plattsdeutsch society in Grand Island.

FREDERICK MOELLER, one of the public spirited residents and most prosperous farmers of Lake township has been road overseer for the past seven years and has efficiently filled other public offices. Mr. Moeller, born in the city of New York, May 16, 1875, was five years old when he was brought to Hall County, which has since been the home of his choice.

The parents of Mr. Moeller were H. C. and Wilhelmina (Koester) Moeller, the former of whom was born in Germany June 22, 1850, and the latter August 8, 1849. When fourteen years old the father became a sailor following the sea life for five years, and was but nineteen years old when he came to the United States in 1869. At first he found work in an iron foundry in the city of New York. Afterward he learned to be a meat cutter. On March 11, 1881, he came to Hall County, bought land in Lake township, developed and improved it and continued its active operation until 1912, when he retired. He was an important factor in county politics as a Republican, was assessor many years and for six years was supervisor, during the time that a supervisor from each township made up the board. He married during the time he lived in New York, Miss Wilhelmine Koester, who came to the United States in 1866. Ten children were born to them, the survivors being: Frederick, who lives in Lake township; Anna, the wife of George Mader, of Prairie Creek township; Lena, the wife of Max Schultz, of Washington township; Minnie, the wife of Otto Geisenhagen,

of Grand Island, and Lillie, the wife of August Luebbe, of Howard County.

Frederick Moeller started to attend school when six years old, although he had to walk a distance of three and a half miles to the nearest school house. Ordinarily this was not considered too much of a task for sturdy little country boys, but Mr. Moeller tells of one occasion when it almost meant loss of life. On May 22, 1882, he started to school in company with Jacob Lorentzen, both boys being barefooted. During the day clouds gathered, the sky became a steely gray and snow began to fall, and when the little barefooted lads were on their way home they had to wade through five inches of snow, Jacob carrying his younger companion a part of the way. Mr. Moeller has been engaged in agricultural pursuits since boyhood. He now owns two hundred and forty acres of fine land, gained through his own efforts. This farm is well improved, has substantial buildings including a fine residence, which has every modern convenience, except a heating plant.

On November 8, 1900, Mr. Moeller married Miss Minnie Rauert. She is the daughter of Matthew and Elsie (Sieck) Rauert, pioneers in Hall County, who now live retired in Grand Island. Mrs. Moeller is the eldest child and only daughter of her parents, while Mr. Moeller is the oldest child and only son of his parents. Another interesting coincidence in the family came to light some years ago, when the mother of Mr. Moeller and the father of Mrs. Moeller chanced to be talking of their coming to the United States. They discovered that thirty years ago they had crossed the Atlantic ocean in the same sailing vessel, which required forty-nine days to make the voyage. Mr. and Mrs. Moeller have two children: George A. and Elsie. In all public affairs Mr. Moeller takes the interest of a good and intelligent citizen and is ever ready to co-operate for the general welfare. In national politics he is a Republican, but in local campaigns votes independently. He is a member of the Nonpartisan League and the Farmers Union, being secretary of the latter organization.

JOHN G. ROBY, proprietor of the well known place of entertainment, Harmony Hall Amusement Park, in Hall County, and also engaged in large farming operations in Deuel County, Nebraska, was born in Hall County, August 17, 1881, a son of Frederick Roby, an extended sketch of the Roby family being found in this work.

John G. Roby obtained his education in his native county. On July 20, 1904, he married Miss Helen M. Hagge, a daughter of William A. and Caroline (Moeller) Hagge, who were among the earliest pioneers of Hall County. Mrs. Roby was graduated from the Grand Island High School in the class of 1895. She is a woman of fine education and holds a teacher's permanent certificate because of her acquirements. Prior to her marriage she taught school for six years, two years in Grand Island. Mr. and Mrs. Roby have four children: Leota C., born August 2, 1905; J. Frederick, born January 4, 1908; Nelda J., born October 8, 1909, and William H. born January 7, 1913.

After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Roby settled on the Roby farm, which he operated until 1913, when they moved into Grand Island, where he conducted a retail liquor business for eighteen months. He then engaged in the automobile business, selling the Chevrolet cars for a year, at the end of which time he bought Harmony Hall and continues in the amusement business, not exclusively, however, for he has recently purchased a section of land in Deuel county, which he is operating with a farm tractor. Mr. Roby is a man of great enterprise. He belongs to the Sons of Herman, the Plattsduetch society, the Farmers Union and the Nonpartisan League.

OSCAR A. SMITH.—To the settlement of Hall and many other well developed counties of Nebraska, the great state of Pennsylvania contributed in no small degree. It was from that state the late Oscar A. Smith, who was well known and highly esteemed in Grand Island, came to Hall forty-five years ago. He was born in Columbus, Warren County, Pennsylvania, January 9, 1849, the son of William and Roxy (Bardwell) Smith, the former of whom was born in Pennsylvania, where he died in 1861, and the latter in New York, the spring of 1892. They had two sons: Walter and Oscar A., the former of whom lives in Pennsylvania.

Oscar A. Smith had school advantages in youth and remained in his native neighborhood for some years after his father's death. He possessed a pioneering and courageous spirit, however, and in early manhood determined to seek his fortune much farther afield. With this idea, in association with a comrade of similar ambitions, he procured a boat and started from the headwaters of the Clarendon river for Central America. The youths floated as far as the Allegheny river,

when they were dissuaded by friends from pursuing their journey to such a distant point, it being represented to them that adventure and business opportunity could be found much nearer home. Thus it came about that they landed in Hall County, Nebraska, in May, 1874. Mr. Smith engaged in freighting to Fort Niobrara, and in the same year homesteaded in Custer County, living in Grand Island while proving up on his claim. He retained his Custer County land until 1916. Frequently he related stories of early days, some tragic and some amusing. There were many Indians in Hall County when he first came here and many were savage as well as treacherous. The settlers learned to be suspicious. He told that on one occasion, a group of freighters were gathered in their cabin when the furious barking of their dog on the outside caused a not unnatural fear that an Indian with his ready tomahawk, was lurking near. As was their custom, the men drew lots as to which one should investigate the trouble, the choice falling on Mr. Smith. As soon as he warily ventured into the open, he knew that the supposed Indian was nothing more dangerous than the very prevalent little musteline mammal—a skunk.

On January 17, 1892, Mr. Smith married Miss Margaret Elizabeth Baird, at New Helena, Nebraska. Her parents, now deceased, were John F., and Mary E. (Conn) Baird, natives of Kentucky. For over twenty years Mrs. Smith's father was postmaster of New Helena and for four years his wife was postmistress at the same place. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith: Walter, who resides with his mother, was born December 30, 1892; Oscar Talmadge, who was born October 17, 1894, went to Europe as a soldier with the American Expeditionary Force, returned home in July, 1919; Victor B., who was born June 9, 1897, is connected with the Nebraska Mercantile Company in Grand Island, and Laura C., who resides with her mother. On December 12, 1911, Mr. Smith and family came to Grand Island, establishing their home at West Lawn. Here Mr. Smith died March 11, 1918. While residing in Custer County he was active in many ways, being a prominent figure in Broken Bow, where he was a charter member of the Masonic lodge. He was a Democrat in his political affiliation and always loyal to party and friends but would never accept any public office for himself except membership on the school board, on which he served some years from a sense of duty. Mrs. Smith is a member of the Christian church.

AUGUST SCHIMMER.—The Schimmer family has been one of importance in Hall County for many years, noted not only for success in farming and stockraising, but also business energy and political efficiency. One of its best known members is August Schimmer, who owns valuable farm land in Washington township, who is serving in his third term as township clerk. He was born in Hall County, July 30, 1874.

The parents of Mr. Schimmer were Henry and Christina (Heesch) Schimmer, natives of Germany who came to the United States and to Hall County, Nebraska, when young. Henry Schimmer secured a homestead and tree claim, and the rest of his life was spent on this land, his death occurring in January, 1908, at the age of sixty-two years. He worked hard in improving his property and on two occasions suffered great loss from fire. The beautiful trees that form a grove around the residence, were set out by Henry Schimmer, and now give protection from the winter winds and provide grateful shade in summer. The grove provides an abundance of firewood, and Mr. Schimmer has used over 25,000 feet of lumber from the fallen timber. Henry Schimmer possessed the confidence and respect of his neighbors at all times, and for a number of years served as school director and as township clerk. Of his ten children, August is the eldest of the six survivors, the others being: Henry, who lives in Hamilton County; John, who lives at Custer City, Oklahoma; Otto, who lives in Nebraska; Berny, in Hall County, and Minnie, who is the wife of Christian Hartwig.

August Schimmer obtained his education in the schools of Washington township, and has always lived on the old homestead. He owns 157 acres of highly improved land, on which he carries on general farming and stockraising, prospering exceedingly as he deserves to do.

On March 1, 1899, Mr. Schimmer was united in marriage to Miss Clara Ewoldt. They have the following children: Eddie, Helene, Augusta and Henry. Although an independent voter, Mr. Schimmer was elected to the office of township clerk on the Republican ticket, his personal popularity being a factor, which continues, as evidenced by his being twice re-elected. He has always been a great friend of the public schools and for six years served as school director, and it may be here noted that his school district has no trouble in carrying off scholarship honors.

After suffering from several fires, the father of Mr. Schimmer began to think of a farmer's



MR. AND MRS. HENRY SCHIMMER

fire insurance company, which resulted in the organization of the Holsatia Fire Insurance Company, a mutual affair, which carries risks in Hall and adjoining counties and has been a boon to many of its members. It was organized by Henry and Martin Schimmer, the former being treasurer during the rest of his life, his son August succeeding him in office. Martin Schimmer is president of the company, and Frederick Thommsen, of Alda township, is secretary. It was through this company that the farmers of this section for three successive years were saved from losing their entire crops, the years 1884, 1885 and 1886. Mr. Schimmer belongs to the Non-Partisan League and the Farmers Union, is also a member of the Plattsdeutsch Verein, a German social organization, at Grand Island.

FREDERICK T. LOESCHER, one of the oldest citizens of Hall County, and held in high regard, was born in the province of Reus, Germany, October 15, 1844. His parents were John G. and Christina (Sermann) Loescher. The father was a carpenter in Germany. He came to the United States with his family in May, 1850, and lived four years in Calumet County, Wisconsin, then removed to Winnebago County. In 1875 he came to Hall County, purchasing the farm on which his son Frederick now lives. He died in September, 1877, and the mother died November 24, 1887. Of their seven children all died in infancy except Frederick T.

When Frederick T. Loescher accompanied his parents to Hall County, he was thirty-one years old, having had farm experience in Wisconsin. He has lived since on the farm his father bought in 1875, but retired in March, 1918, having lived on this farm continuously with the exception of two years. He can recall not only early days in Hall County, but many interesting incidents of pioneer experience in Wisconsin. During the early days here he relates how each family was entitled to five bushels of wheat and as that cereal was so scarce, his mother ground seeds of weeds into a flour that made a palatable bread but was uninviting on account of its black color. The family, however, seemed to thrive on potato pancakes. The home was twenty-five miles from a town and they traveled with oxen. The first few years in Hall County were discouraging on account of the grasshopper invasions. He relates that once, on visiting the Loup River, he found the water thick with the insects. All such experiences and hardships have long since passed away,

and Mr. Loescher has lived to feel happy and contented that Hall County is his home.

On November 24, 1870, Mr. Loescher married Miss Louise D. Raatz, a daughter of Christian and Wilhelmina (Schroeder) Raatz. Thirteen children were born to them: William who lives in Lake township, married Ella Spotholt; Agnes, the wife of Ernest Wagner; Bertha, the wife of Albert Niemoth; Minnie, the wife of Fred Hengen; Emma, deceased, was the wife of Edward Niemoth; Herman, who lives at Belgrade, Nebraska, married Rose Peters; Chrales and Laura, who live in Grand Island; Frank, who died July 29, 1915; Frederick E., who lives on his father's farm, and three who died in infancy.

A. P. DRAKE. — In the passage of almost a half century, change comes about in a community as well as in an individual, and marked indeed is the change that has come over Hall County within that period. With the coming here of young men of vigor and enterprise, the wild prairie became cultivated farms, the homes of an industrious, contented people, who have become representative of Nebraska's best citizenship. One who has taken an active part in the agricultural development of Hall County is A. P. Drake, whose valuable farm is situated in Wood River township.

A. P. Drake was born in Lake County Illinois, October 10, 1849. His parents were John C. and Mary E. (Garwood) Drake, the former of whom was born in Maine and the latter in Pennsylvania. They had two children: A. P. and Alice J. The latter resides in South Dakota, the widow of William Thompson, one of the early engineers on the Union Pacific Railroad. For many years the father was a prosperous farmer in Illinois.

In his native neighborhood, Mr. Drake had school advantages in boyhood and remained at home with his father until 1871, when he came to Hall County, taking up a homestead the same year. He contended with early hardships here as did his neighbors, but never lost courage, and now owns one hundred and sixty acres of some of the finest land in Wood River township. He has all of his land under profitable cultivation and his improvements have kept pace with the development of the soil. While proving up on his land, Mr. Drake drove a stage between Sidney and Deadwood for five years, and in that business saw much adventure and faced many dangers. His recollections and stories of those early days are exceedingly interesting.

On December 29, 1876, Mr. Drake married Miss Susan C. King, who was born in Illinois. They have three children: Julia May, the wife of Louis Stoup, of Montana; John C., the home farmer, and Alice Gertrude, the wife of William Brauer, of Wood River township. In politics Mr. Drake has always been a staunch Republican. He is known all over the county and is held in high regard.

MARTIN L. WISEMAN, Jr., a thoroughly experienced farmer, is successfully operating one hundred and sixty acres of well improved land which makes him one of the substantial men of Wood River township. He was born in Frederick County, Maryland, the son of Martin Luther and Martha A. (Ray) Wiseman. His mother died in 1882 but his father survives and is yet active in agricultural life, being an extensive farmer in Hall County.

Martin Luther Wiseman, Jr., came with his father to Hall County in 1886 and obtained his schooling here. From boyhood he has followed farm pursuits and all through the experiences that have later come to him in the management of his own property, he has been glad that he had early and thorough training along agricultural lines. To operate profitably a farm in modern days a man does not have to be a college graduate, but he must have much knowledge that very often has never appeared on any college curriculum, hence practical training and years of experience are valuable possessions. Mr. Wiseman is not specializing to any extent, general farming covering his activities.

On February 26, 1902, Mr. Wiseman married Miss Bessie Cross, whose people came to Hall County in 1894. They have three interesting, intelligent children: Edith, Mildred and Ruth. Mr. Wiseman and his family are members of the Presbyterian church. In politics he votes independently. He is a Mason in good standing and belongs also to the Woodmen of the World.

JAMES HENRY ELIJAH, a highly respected citizen and substantial farmer of Wood River township, has been a resident of Hall County for nineteen years. He came here in 1903, bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Wood River township and has made of this a highly productive farm.

James Henry Elijah was born in Cedar County, Iowa, May 14, 1866. His parents were Allen and Anna (Nicoll) Elijah, the

former was born in Delaware County, New York and the latter in Scotland, in 1836. The mother of Mr. Elijah is deceased, but her father survives and resides in the home of his son a part of the time at Clarence, Iowa, being now a man of venerable age. In his active years he worked at the carpenter trade, and in Iowa, at one time, was an extensive raiser of stock in Cedar County. Mr. Elijah was reared on a farm in Iowa and for thirty years was in the cattle business in Montana, and still retains his interests in the stock business there. The family have lived in Hall County and in Montana since the year they bought the farm.

On June 26, 1901, James H. Elijah married Miss Nellie Sylvester, who was born in Cedar County, Iowa, August 12, 1871. Her parents were Peter Bent and Catherine (McKibben) Sylvester, natives of New York. The father of Mrs. Elijah died in 1918. The mother still resides there. Mr. and Mrs. Elijah have six children: Harold, Leonard, James, Ralph, David and Catherine, all living with their parents on the well improved home farm. Mrs. Elijah had educational advantages in Iowa, and is a member of the Presbyterian church.

HANS WIESE, one of the older German settlers of Wood River township, has carried on general farming here for many years. He owns five hundred and forty acres of well improved land. He has not only set a good example in industry and frugality, but has never been lacking in those qualities that have made him a good citizen and a friendly neighbor.

Hans Wiese was born in Germany, October 8, 1843. His parents were Paul and Bertha (Spiet) Wiese. He was the youngest born of their six children, the others being: Celia, who is deceased, the wife of Henry Wiese, also deceased; James, who is deceased; Peter, who lives in Hall County; Anna, deceased, who was the wife of Henry Wiese, also deceased, and Margaret, who is the widow of James Dibbins. In his native land, Hans Wiese worked as a laborer until 1864 when he came to the United States. He settled first in Scott County, Iowa, and from there came to Hall County, Nebraska, in 1871, purchasing railroad land in Wood River township. He has placed excellent improvements on his land, and could easily sell his entire five hundred and forty acres for many times the amount he paid for it.

In 1869 Mr. Wiese married Miss Catherine Hirt, and they have had five children: Emma,

the wife of Julius C. Strasser, of Hall County; William, who lives on the home place; Charles, deceased; Matilda, the wife of Frank Strasser, and August, who lives in Lexington in Dawson County. Mr. Wiese is an independent voter. He has been a member of the Lutheran church since his youth. He has seen wonderful changes in this section since he first came here, having passed through the hardships and privations of the early days to now enjoy during his sunset years a well deserved competency. Many of the contemporary pioneers of his day have passed away but he lives to enjoy the innovations of the present day.

ALBERT E. LUEBS.—In some sections of Nebraska where intelligent and ambitious young men live, the fostering of agriculture is well under way. This is to be seen in the number of well cultivated farms and fine large herds of blooded cattle. Where some exceptionally well developed properties arouse unusual interest, the owner or operator is, in all probability, a progressive young man, who has had training in an agricultural school, and his activities are directed according to scientific methods. The visitor in Hall County may meet just such an enthusiastic and trained farmer as this in Albert E. Luebs, who is carrying on general farming in Wood River township.

Albert E. Luebs is a Nebraskan, born in Hall County, January 27, 1891. His father, Henry Luebs, who lives retired in Grand Island, was a prominent farmer and stock-raiser in Hall County for many years. Albert E. is a son of his second marriage. The Luebs are all men of sterling character and through marriage are connected with many other leading old families of the county. After Albert E. Luebs completed his public school education, he entered the agricultural department of the State University at Lincoln, where he spent three useful years. Upon his return home he rented three hundred acres of well improved land from his father, who owns many acres of farm land in the county. Here the young farmer is putting his acquired knowledge into practice with most gratifying results, having been very successful in all he has undertaken.

On February 20, 1918, Mr. Luebs married Miss Olive Smeaton, who was born in Hall County, to which her parents came many years ago in pioneer days. Mr. and Mrs. Luebs are members of the Lutheran church. He is an active member of the Grange and

is interested in all matters and movements that promise to be of benefit to agricultural progress. He is also a member of the order of Royal Highlanders.

DANIEL ELROY HARVEY WISEMAN.—It was from Maryland that the Wiseman family came to Hall County where it is now quite numerous. For generations the Wisemans have been noted for their success in agricultural pursuits. A well known member of this highly respected family is Daniel Elroy Harvey Wiseman, who owns one hundred and twenty acres of well improved land situated in section 28, Wood River township. Mr. Wiseman was born in Frederick County, Maryland, June 10, 1882, a son of Martin Luther and Martha A. (Ray) Wiseman, who came to Hall County in 1886.

Daniel E. H. Wiseman obtained his education in Hall County, and from boyhood he has been connected with farming, first with his father and afterward on his own account. He is wide awake and progressive and is carrying on his agricultural operations with entire success. In 1903 he married Miss Maude E. Burmood. They have two sons: Harvey E. and Glenn Lee, both of whom are attending school. Mr. Wiseman and family attend the Presbyterian church. He devotes comparatively little time to politics, taking more interest in his farm and stock than political campaigns. He is a good, quiet, peaceable citizen who can always be depended upon in times of real necessity. He owns a herd of registered Jersey cows and is specializing in Poland-China hogs.

ADOLPH KRUSE, whose valuable farm of one hundred and sixty acres is situated in Center township, is the representative of an old pioneer family of Hall County that has been highly respected here and has been usefully concerned in agricultural efforts for many years. The Kruse family has never desired political prominence, but it has taken some pride in its reputation as steady and honest, and as strong in its support of the Lutheran church.

Adolph Kruse is a native of this section, born in Hall County, Nebraska, September 12, 1877, a son of Henry Kruse. After attending school in boyhood, he assisted his father on the farm and in the course of time became a farmer on his own account. He not only carries on general farming but raises many fine horses and operates his own land

and an additional eighty acres which he rents. He is one of the well informed farmers in his township, making practical and successful application of his knowledge to insure the profitable carrying out of his farm enterprises.

On April 5, 1905, Mr. Kruse married Miss Katie Kearns. They are members of the Lutheran church.

GEORGE NICHOLAS RAUERT, who devotes his time and attention to raising cattle and hogs, together with general farming, is well known in Hall County, where his life has been passed. He is a representative of one of the early pioneer families of the county, his grandparents coming here with their children, in 1866. Since then the family has been identified with land development here, and its reputation for successful agricultural effort is second to none in the county.

George Rauert was born in Hall County, June 27, 1882, and is a son of James and Anna (Tagge) Rauert, the latter of whom died September 11, 1895. The father of Mr. Rauert was born in Germany in 1851, accompanied his parents to the United States when fifteen years old, assisted his mother after the early death of his father, and now lives retired in Grand Island, in which city he owns a comfortable home. From boyhood George Rauert has followed farm pursuits. He has recently purchased one hundred and sixty acres of well improved land, situated in Mayfield township, and while he gives careful attention to general farming, the raising of fine cattle and hogs is made a leading feature.

In 1908 Mr. Rauert married Miss Minnie Behring. They have four children: Ida, Louis, Albert and Lillie, all residing at home and with their parents regularly attending religious services in the Lutheran church. Mr. Rauert is a fine, upstanding citizen of Mayfield township, being always ready to promote her best interests, but has never been actively concerned in political matters. He belongs to several German social organizations that were established many years ago in Grand Island.

MARTIN L. WISEMAN, one of Hall County's highly respected citizens, has been a resident for many years of Wood River township, where he owns well improved property. Mr. Wiseman was born in Frederick County, Maryland, March 16, 1850, the son of Daniel and Catherine (Palmer) Wiseman, who spent their lives in Maryland. Of their

eight children four are living; Martin Luther is the second born. The others are: Mary, who lives with her brother, Martin Luther; John P., who lives at Knoxville, Maryland, and Samuel, who lives in Loup County, Nebraska. The parents were members of the Lutheran church.

Martin Luther Wiseman went to work on a farm as soon as his school days were over. Farm wages were very low in Maryland at that time, and Mr. Wiseman worked on a neighbor's farm for three dollars a month. In the course of time he became interested in the opportunities offered in western lands and this led him to Hall County, in 1886. He was not quite satisfied at first and in 1887 went to Colorado, but in 1889 returned to Hall County. He broke up the prairie sod on what is called the Burkhardt farm, moved onto the same and rented that land for seventeen years. Mr. Wiseman's farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Wood River township is well adapted to general farming and dairying. He has always been thorough in his farm methods and now enjoys well merited prosperity.

In Maryland, in 1872, Mr. Wiseman married Miss Martha A. Ray, who died in 1882. They had the following children: Marcia Ellen, the wife of A. Kinney, of Salt Lake; R. S., who lives in Wood River township; Caroline; Catherine, the wife of Aden Able, of Sioux County; A. S., a farmer in Wood River township; Gilmore, who lives in Wood River; Martin Luther, Jr., who is a farmer in Wood River township, and Daniel, also a farmer in Wood River township. The mother of this family was a member of the Reformed church. Mr. Wiseman is an elder in the Presbyterian church. He belongs to the order of Odd Fellows, and is a Scottish Rite Mason and a Shriner.

RUDOLPH H. LUEBS, one of Hall County's best qualified and most progressive agriculturists, is a member of a prominent Hall County family. His birth took place here October 6, 1886. His father, Henry Luebs, a highly respected retired citizen of Grand Island, was born in Germany, in 1845, and came to the United States in young manhood. For many years he was successfully engaged in farming in Hall County.

Rudolph H. Luebs attended the public schools in his native county, after which he entered the agricultural school at Lincoln, from which he was graduated with credit in 1909. Thus well prepared for the many

problems every farmer has to face, Rudolph Henry Luebs took upon himself the responsibility of operating one of the largest farms in this part of the county, consisting of three hundred and twenty acres of highly improved land, which he rents from his father. He has been trained to work systematically and with thoroughness and the success that is attending him demonstrates his agricultural wisdom as well as his business capacity. He is making a specialty of thoroughbred Shorthorn cattle and the only kind of hogs he deems worth raising are the Poland China variety, which he has found very profitable.

On November 16, 1916, Mr. Luebs married Miss Hattie Persson, who also belongs to an old Hall County family. They are active members of the Lutheran church at Wood River. Mr. Luebs is independent in his political views, but is very much interested in all worthy enterprises in the county that are in any way related to agricultural life and industry. He is a valued member of the Grange and is foremost in county fair promotion. He has served four years as a director of the County Fair association. He belongs to the order of Royal Highlanders.

AUGUST RAUERT, a member of one of the oldest pioneer families of Hall County, was born here February 27, 1889. He is a son of Matthew and Elsie (Siek) Rauert, the former of whom came to the United States and to Hall County with his parents in 1866. For many years Matthew Rauert was a leading farmer in the county but now lives retired in Grand Island, where he is held in much esteem.

August Rauert attended the public schools through boyhood, in the meanwhile assisting his father and getting practical training that has made him a capable farmer and able to carry on profitably his large agricultural operations. He owns eighty acres of excellent land, all well improved, and from his father rents two hundred and twenty-two acres. He makes a feature of raising Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. Mr. Rauert has the reputation of being one of the most successful farmers and stockraisers in this section.

On March 6, 1912, August Rauert married Miss Martha Boldt, whose people came to Hall County in the early days. Mr. Rauert and his wife have two children: Frederick and Viola, both of whom attend school. The family belongs to the Lutheran church. Mr. Rauert has never found time to enter into politics very actively and has no desire for public office. He

belongs to the order of Eagles and to several German social organizations of old establishment in Grand Island.

HENRY DAVISON, who has been a resident of Hall County, Nebraska, since early manhood, came here from a state that has contributed largely to the county's best citizenship and he is justly proud of being a native of Illinois. He was born in Tazewell County, May 2, 1857, the son of Minor A. and Mary (Cornelius) Davison, who came to Hall County in 1879, where the father bought a tract of railroad land, and at the time of his death was the owner of eighty acres that had been greatly advanced in value because of the improvements he had made. The mother died January 21, 1890, aged forty-eight years, being survived by her husband who passed away August 14, 1896, aged sixty-one years.

Henry Davison was reared on a farm in Tazewell County, Illinois, and obtained his education in the public schools in that locality. When the family removed to Nebraska he accompanied them, purchasing first a tract of eighty acres of school land, to which, with business acumen, he subsequently added until he now owns four hundred and forty acres in Hall County, all of which is highly improved. Mr. Davison carried on general farming, growing crops and raising stock, until 1914, when he moved into Grand Island and took possession of his handsome residence here.

In 1881 Mr. Davison married Miss Rachel Malissa McCabe, who was also born in Illinois, and of their ten children the following survive: Etta Belle, the wife of William Dangler; Edith, the wife of Orville Hutton, a farmer in Center township, Hall County; Roy, a farmer in Center township; Earl E., who lives in Center township; Gladys and Wayne W., both of whom reside at home. Mr. Davison and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics he has always been affiliated with the Republican party and in earlier days was active in many party movements although he never consented to hold political office. Mr. Davison is well known in Hall County and as man and citizen is held in high regard.

WILLIAM FAGAN, one of Hall County's well known residents and owner of a fine farm in Center township, is a native of Canada where he was born September 15, 1865, the eldest of a family of nine children

born to John and Sarah (McGriskin) Fagan. Both parents were born in Ireland, from which land they came to Canada in 1860.

About 1867 the parents of Mr. Fagan removed to the United States and the father engaged in farming in Illinois. In 1892 he came to Hall County, Nebraska, where he took up a homestead and also secured a quarter section of land in Prairie Creek township, on which he resided until his death in February, 1902, at which time he owned four hundred acres of fine land. Both parents were members of the Roman Catholic church. Of their children besides William, the following are living: Patrick, manager of Taylor's ranch in Hall County; Katherine, the wife of Jefferson Norris, of Illinois; Mary, who lives at Hot Springs, South Dakota; Annie, who has been a teacher in Lake township for twenty years, where she is much beloved; Jennie, the wife of George Buckingham of Chicago; and Margaret, the wife of Edward Landrigan, of Ravenna, Nebraska.

William Fagan was young when the family removed to Illinois. He attended school there and worked for his father and other farmers until 1892, when he came to Nebraska, locating in Hall County. At first he helped his father on the home farm, at times he also worked on the neighboring farms and in the course of time bought his present well developed and finely improved property consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, situated in section 6, Center township. For seventeen years he was manager of the Taylor ranch in Hall County, prior to coming to the McDonald ranch, of which he has been manager for the past three years, these being the largest ranches in the county.

On September 16, 1890, Mr. Fagan married Miss Ellen Walsh, who was born in Illinois and they have four children, namely: Annie, the wife of Lloyd W. O'Halleron, of Howard County, Nebraska; John, who operates his father's farm; William, in the United States navy; and Ella, who makes her home in Grand Island. Mr. Fagan and family are members of the Roman Catholic church. He belongs to the Knights of Columbus, the Elks and the Modern Woodmen.

HERMAN LUEBS, a prominent farmer and extensive raiser of cattle and hogs, owns two hundred and ninety acres of fine land which he devotes to these purposes. He is well known all over Hall County. He was born on his father's farm in Hall County, September 24, 1875.

The parents of Mr. Luebs were Henry and Sophia (Plauth) Luebs, the latter of whom died in January, 1883. They had eight children, and those besides Herman who are living are the following: Emma, the wife of Henry Kamps, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Nicholas, who lives in Oklahoma, and John, who lived in Wood River township, Hall County. The father of Mr. Luebs was born in Germany in 1845, who emigrated to America many years ago and for many years was a very successful farmer and stockman in Hall County. He owns a fine residence in Grand Island, in which he has lived since he retired some years ago.

Herman Luebs had school privileges in his boyhood but was little more than a boy when he began to be of great assistance to his father on the homestead. Mr. Luebs has never desired to embark in any other business than the one in which he has done so well, although it has often been one of hard work and worry. He has his land well improved and modern methods and expensive farm machinery are made use of in carrying on his farm industries. On March 25, 1915, he married Miss Rose Holling, a daughter of Peter Holling, who came to Hall County as an early settler. Mr. and Mrs. Luebs are members of the Lutheran church. He is independent in his political opinions, but is an interested and valued member of the Grange at Wood River.

CHARLES RAUERT, whose farming operations carried on in Prairie Creek township for some years have been satisfactory from every point of view, is an enterprising young man with progressive ideas. He has been a farmer all his life and has knowledge and experience to back him in his undertakings. It is probable that in a very few years Mr. Rauert may have one of the finest herds of thoroughbred Shorthorn cattle in this section of the state.

Charles Rauert was born in Hall County, Nebraska, August 31, 1883, the eldest of a family of four children born to Matthew and Elsie (Siek) Rauert, the former of whom came to the United States with his parents in 1866 and immediately located in Hall County. The grandfather died in the same year. The father of Mr. Rauert now lives retired in Grand Island, but retains the ownership of his valuable farms in the county, one of which Charles Rauert rents from his father. He has one hundred and sixty acres and devotes the land to general farming and stockraising, giving particular attention to Duroc-Jersey hogs,

and as above mentioned, to thoroughbred Shorthorn cattle.

In 1908 Mr. Rauert married Miss Elsie Seim, and they have four children: Erma, Arthur, Elvira and Edna, the older children already making a fine record at school. Mr. and Mrs. Rauert are members of the Lutheran church. They have a wide acquaintance and many friends. Mr. Rauert is not identified with any political party but is active and interested in township matters that concern the general welfare, casting his vote at local elections, according to his own well matured judgment.

FRANZ WIECK.—Many of the fine productive farms of Hall County would never have reached their present value without the patient industry and unusual efficiency of the owners, who made their improvement the main business of life. Such a man was, the late Franz Wieck, who came here in 1893 and took up a homestead. During his subsequent life no one could have been more industrious and the success he experienced was well deserved.

Franz Wieck was born in Germany, November 29, 1865, a son of Franz and Catherine Wieck, who spent their lives in Germany. After schooldays were passed and military service was over, the young man came to the United States in order to take advantage of the government offer of homesteads in the western part of the country. Immediately after reaching Hall County, he secured a homestead, settling happily on it where he remained a continuous resident until the time of his death, which occurred April 20, 1915, leaving an estate of one hundred and sixty acres of finely improved land.

In 1895 Mr. Wieck married Miss Anna Hargens, and they became the parents of the following children: Margaret, Martha, John, Alma, Alfred, Ernest, Clara, Alice and Rosa, all of whom reside on the farm with their mother. In religious faith he was a Lutheran. He took no particular interest in politics, but he belonged to one of the old German social organizations in Grand Island, in which he was very highly esteemed.

ABRAHAM W. LEISER, who has been a resident of Hall County for thirty five years, is a representative citizen of Center township and an exceedingly prosperous farmer. When Mr. Leiser came to the county he had very little in the way of earthly goods, but he had

courage, health and energy, and with the determination to make use of them to the best advantage, pushed forward and now is one of the most substantial farmers of the county. Mr. Leiser set a good example as a young man and, as is usually the case, has never had cause to regret his early industrious efforts and much self denial.

Abraham W. Leiser was born in Pennsylvania, March 12, 1863, the son of David and Rebecca (Trump) Leiser, natives of the same state. They had the following children: George, who lives in Grand Island; Anne, who lives in Grand Island; Abraham W., who lives in Center township; Sadie, who died in infancy; and Melvin, who is deceased. In his youthful days, Abraham W. Leiser attended school in Michigan and also in Missouri. In 1884 he came to Hall County with the intention of making this his permanent home. His first purchase of land was a tract of eighty acres, to which he has added from time to time until now he owns two hundred and forty acres of well improved land, his home farm being situated in section three, Center township, within easy market distance of Grand Island. He has always carried on general farming, having no particular specialties but an abundance of staple crops.

On January 17, 1888, Mr. Leiser married Miss Melvina Eager, whose people were very early settlers in Hall County. They have had four children, two sons and two daughters, namely: Alvin, a farmer in Center township; Rebecca, the wife of William Vocke; and Floyd and Helen, both of whom live at home. In politics Mr. Leiser is a Democrat, having served as deputy sheriff four years under Jim Dunkle, and is always ready to support his political friends but has never desired public office for himself.

JACOB SHOEMAKER.—When the early settlers of Hall County, who have passed away are called to mind, there is great reason to remember Jacob Shoemaker. He came here almost a half century ago when all this beautiful country was practically a prairie. Although at that time already a man of middle life, such was his industry that he succeeded in accumulating a large property and he became also one of the county's most useful and respected citizens. His honest name is perpetuated by a large family of children, almost all of whom belong and add to the fine citizenship of Nebraska.

Jacob Shoemaker was born in Preble County, Ohio, May 20, 1818, and died in Hall

County, Nebraska, December 11, 1895. His parents were Daniel and Margaret (Witt) Shoemaker, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania. Jacob Shoemaker obtained his education in the subscription schools, and being strong and sturdy in his youth, his father urged him to learn the carpenter trade, which at that time included much heavy work that is now done by the allied trades. He continued carpenter work until he came as far west as Iowa, after which, until the close of his active life, he was interested in farming. In 1871 he came as a homesteader to Hall County, and years of uninterrupted industry followed during which he acquired five hundred and twenty acres of land. He neglected no opportunity to improve his home property and when he built his house it was reputed to be the most commodious in the county and for years was a landmark, showing for miles across the treeless prairie. Without any of the scientific knowledge that has so greatly assisted the modern farmer, he perseveringly carried on his operations with the practical good sense and agricultural knowledge that experience had brought him, and was considered one of the most successful farmers in Center township.

October 28, 1849 Jacob Shoemaker and Sarah Ann Brunt were united in marriage. She was born December 6, 1832, a native of Rush, Madison County, Indiana. To them were born children as follows: William B., who lives at Chapman, Nebraska; Clara, the wife of Cyrus Kellogg, of Chapman; Albert E., who lives at Burwell, Nebraska; Belle, who resides on the old homestead; Jesse, who lives at Oconto, Nebraska; Samuel M., who resides on the homestead; George, a farmer near Burwell; Eva, the wife of F. M. Cavender, of Ainsworth, Nebraska; Anna, the wife of Henry Rathmann, of Holdrege, Nebraska; and Edna, the wife of Harry Lenon, and they live in Arizona. Mr. Shoemaker was a Republican in his political views. He was reared in a Quaker community and attended their meetings in his youth, but in later life became a member of the Christian church and the family assisted in its support in Hall County.

JAMES RAUERT, who now lives retired in Grand Island, surrounded with comforts suitable to his age and position in life, has been a resident of Hall County for many years, brought here by his parents in early pioneer days when Nebraska was still considered a part of the Great American Desert.

Mr. Rauert has seen wonderful changes take place during his life in the county, where he and his brothers have been very successful along agricultural lines.

James Rauert was born in Germany, May 1, 1851, a son of Jacob Mat and Anna (Madiensen) Rauert, who came to the United States and Hall County, Nebraska, in 1866. In that same year the father died and the five children had to assume much responsibility when young in order to assist their mother in keeping the family together. From early boyhood James Rauert followed farming until he retired from active life, moving then to Grand Island, in which city he is greatly respected. He owns one hundred and twenty acres of well improved land, together with his attractive city residence, and is counted one of the county's men of ample fortune.

In 1877 James Rauert married Miss Anna Tagge, whose parents were early settlers in Hall County, and they have three sons, William, George and John, the eldest of whom lives in Idaho, the youngest has charge of the home farm and George operates his own farm. They are all fine young men who reflect credit on their parents and the community. The beloved wife and mother passed away September 11, 1895. Mr. Rauert is a member of the Lutheran church.

HENRY F. LUEBS.—Grand Island is the home of many retired farmers and has no better citizenship than these men of means, resources and wholesome life. They are, too, usually men of sound judgment and their advice is not to be despised when matters of city importance are up for consideration, especially the expenditure of public funds. In order to make their farming operations profitable, they had to be frugal and foresighted, and their methods might solve many civic problems. A dependable citizen of this class is found in Henry Luebs, who resides in his fine residence in Grand Island, after many years as a farmer in Hall County, where he owns over eight hundred acres of well improved land in Wood River and Alda townships.

Henry Luebs was born in Germany, September 6, 1845, the fifth in a family of six children born to John and Dorothy (Schoel) Luebs, the others being as follows: Malie, Anna, Lena, Frederick and Amelia, all of whom live in Germany except the oldest, who went to Australia many years ago, and Frederick, who like his next younger brother, came to Nebraska. After Henry Luebs

landed in the United States in 1874 he first located in Iowa and from there, on the eleventh of November of the same year, came to Hall County. The beginning of his present large property was when he acquired eighty acres of railroad land, and to the development and cultivation of his land as it increased through subsequent purchases, he devoted many years. He became one of the best general farmers in his section, growing heavy crops and raising much fine stock.

Mr. Luebs was twenty-four years old at the time of his first marriage, which united him to Miss Sophia Plauth, who died in January, 1883. Of their eight children, the following are living: Emma, the wife of Henry Kamps, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Nicholas, who lives in Oklahoma; Herman, a farmer in Wood River township, and John, who also lives in Wood River township. On December 19, 1884, Mr. Luebs contracted his second marriage, with Annie Plauth, a sister of the first Mrs. Luebs, and of the ten children born to them eight are living: Rosa, who lives at Grand Island; Rudolph, a farmer in Wood River township on the old farm; August, who lives at Lincoln; Elbert, a farmer; Henry, who lives in Milwaukee, and Alma, Alfred and Marie, all of whom reside at home. The family belongs to the Lutheran church.

HENRY SCHROEDER.—There are few general farmers and stockraisers in Wood River township, Hall County, who have done better in a business way within the same space of time, than has Henry Schroeder. He started with nothing and now owns one of the large, well developed farms here and is a shipper of cattle and hogs.

Henry Schroeder was born September 10, 1873, at Syracuse, New York. His parents were Frederick and Sophia Schroeder, who were born, reared and married in Germany. In 1872 they emigrated from the old country for the greater opportunities afforded in America, settling first near Syracuse, New York, soon after arriving in the United States, where the father worked as a farmer. The family came to Hall County, Nebraska, in 1881. In speaking of the early days here in reference to himself, Henry Schroeder says he was educated mainly in the school of hard knocks, which may be interpreted as having little other schooling and few advantages of any kind. Therefore it is creditable that through his own efforts and thrift he has become a man of independent means and owns a farm of four hundred and twenty acres. He

has it substantially improved, also the result of his own industry and progressive ideas. He has worked very hard and still devotes himself closely to his farm industries which he finds more and more profitable. He raises and disposes of about twenty-five head of good grade cattle and forty head of hogs annually.

Mr. Schroeder married Miss Bettie Miller, who was born and reared in Hall County. They have a fine family of four sons and one daughter, namely: William, who lives on the home farm; Frederick, married Etta Schwieger, who is also a farmer; and Elsie, Harry and Louis, all of whom live at home. Mr. Schroeder and his older sons are Republicans. The entire family is highly esteemed throughout Wood River township.

AMOS W. JOBE, one of the progressive young farmers of Hall County, who is intelligently interested in agriculture generally, and most particularly in the section where he is very successfully operating a farm of eighty acres, has spent his entire life in Hall County. He was born in Center township, November 19, 1897, and is a son of the late Simeon C. and Mahala P. (Mackey) Jobe.

Simeon C. Jobe was born at Griggsville, in Pike County, Illinois, where he grew up on a farm, and farming was his business all his life. He served as a soldier during the Civil War, a member of Company I, Thirty-third Illinois Infantry, and at the time of his death was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. Jobe was married first to Susan B. Pollack, of Griggsville, Illinois and by that union there were six children: Priscilla, now Mrs. Nichols, and they have two children, Gladys and Harold, both college graduates, Harold is now receiving military training in Texas; Hattie Jane, a graduate of the high school in 1873, lives in Colorado; Charles S., who lives in Dalton, Nebraska, has four children, Ada and Estyl, and two are dead, Roscoe and Alice; Nettie F., the wife of Lute Tobias, in Eugene, Oregon, is the mother of two boys, Kenneth and Merle, and two children who died when quite small, William and Eva. The mother died in 1883. In Illinois Mr. Jobe married for his second wife Miss Mahala P. Mackey, who was born in Randolph County, Illinois. Her parents were William and Mary E. (Stanley) Mackey, who lived and died in Illinois. Her father was a Baptist in religious faith, while her mother belonged to the Methodist church. When Mr. and Mrs. Jobe came to Hall County in the

eighties, Mr. Jobe brought with him considerable capital, at least \$1,000, and did not feel compelled to hasten permanent settlement, but in 1900 he invested and his family have been benefitted by the good judgment he used when he purchased the Deal property, a valuable farm. He was one of the first residents in this section of Nebraska to raise fine hogs and winter wheat, both proving satisfactory enterprises. At the time of his death, at the age of sixty-three years, he was looked upon as a successful business man as well as a most worthy citizen. His widow, and three children survive: Walter E., in business at Duncan; Ruth, a popular and efficient teacher in the public schools in District No. 29; and Amos W., who is making use of his excellent education in carrying on his extensive operations on the farm. He realizes the responsibility that, in these days, rests upon the young farmers of the nation and is doing his best. The son and two daughters both graduated from the high school of Grand Island, the former in 1917 and the latter in 1913, the youngest of a class of fifty-two and the only members of the class who have been to all the alumni meetings.

AUGUSTINE C. DENMAN is one of Hall County's most respected residents. He has spent forty-five years in this part of Nebraska, and has been active and useful in all things concerning the welfare of Alda township, where he bought land in 1872.

Augustine C. Denman was born in 1840, in Ohio. In 1872 he came to Hall County, and in the following year married Mary H. Phillips. She was born in England and brought to the United States when one year old. To this marriage the following children were born; Frank, who is in the farm implement business at Alda, Nebraska; Mrs. Maude Olsen, who lives in Hall County; Edward E., who is operating his father's farm; Nettie, who resides at home; Arthur, who lives at Alda; Mrs. Alice Dolstrom, and Mrs. Jane Stimpfig, both of whom live at Grand Island; and two who are deceased.

When Mr. Denman came to Hall County he was practically without capital, but, taking advantage of the opportunities presented here for acquiring financial independence, he gradually advanced his fortune through industry and good judgment, and today is one of the substantial men of the county. He is a stockholder in the Farmers State Bank of Alda, also in the State Bank of Grand Island, owns stock in the leading hotel property at

Grand Island, and has one of the best developed farms in Alda township. This farm has been taken over by his son Edward E. Denman, who is having marked success in the business of feeding cattle and hogs. Mrs. Denman is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Alda, Nebraska.

JOHN C. RAUERT, one of the younger generation of the prominent family of his name in Hall County, is maintaining the reputation that this family has enjoyed for years as successful agriculturists. He is a young man of much enterprise and in conducting his farm operations shows love for his vocation as well as a scientific knowledge concerning it.

John C. Rauert was born in Hall County, Nebraska, November 14, 1891, a son of James and Anna (Tagge) Rauert, the latter of whom died September 11, 1895. Mr. Rauert has two brothers, William and George, the former of whom lives in Idaho, and the latter in Hall County. The father, who was born in Germany, May 1, 1851, now lives retired in Grand Island, where he owns improved property.

After his school days were over, John C. Rauert settled down to farming, sensibly choosing the most important vocation in the world, and to this he has devoted his best efforts. The one hundred and twenty acres he is so profitably operating, he has under rental from his father. He has no particular specialties, general crop and a moderate amount of stockraising engaging his attention. He is an intelligent, well informed farmer and keeps thoroughly posted on agricultural as well as other questions of the day, through reading and exchanging views with others.

On January 20, 1916, Mr. Rauert married Miss Anna Stoltenberg, and they have three children: Caroline, Beulah and Lola. Mr. and Mrs. Rauert are members of the Lutheran church. He belongs to several German social organizations at Grand Island.

OTTO F. WIESE, who successfully carries on large farming operations in Alda township, Hall County, belongs to a prominent family here, whose settlement dates from 1869. Mr. Wiese was born in Hall County, April 12, 1882. His father, Fritz Wiese, was born in Holstein, Germany, January 21, 1844. Several members of the family came with him to the United States in 1869.

In the same year Fritz Wiese came to Hall



HENRY PETERS AND FAMILY

County and homesteaded a claim containing eighty acres. When he reached here he had \$2.50. Now he owns six hundred and fifty-two acres of land, two hundred and ninety-two being in his home farm in Alda township, two hundred in Wood River township, and one hundred and sixty in Mayfield township. He remembers when the Indians were often seen traveling through this section. For many years he was an active farmer but is now retired. For twelve years he was treasurer of the school board. It sounds strange to hear a capitalist like Mr. Wiese tell of the time he did not have money enough to buy coffee for himself and wife, but this was the case for several years after their marriage in 1872. Two sons, William H. and John F. are of his first marriage and two sons and two daughters were born to his second marriage: Mrs. Dora Lillenthal, who lives in Nebraska; Mrs. Augusta Arp, who lives near Abbott, Nebraska; Emil, who lives near Wood River; and Otto F., who resides on the home place with his father.

Otto F. Wiese obtained his education in the Hall County schools and has followed farming as a chosen vocation. He is operating his father's farm in Alda township and gives much attention to good stock, raising two car loads of hogs yearly. He has the reputation of being one of the best all around farmers in this part of the county.

Otto F. Wiese married Miss Mary Neubert, born near Sand Krog, Hall County, the daughter of John and Widke Neubert, both of whom are deceased. They have three children: Augusta, Mamie and Mildred, aged fourteen, eleven and nine years respectively. Mr. Wiese has never accepted any public office except that of school moderator, in which office he served nine years. He is an independent voter.

HENRY PETERS, a very successful general farmer and highly respected citizen of Center township, has been a resident of Hall County since 1882 and in the interim has built up a comfortable fortune. He was born in Germany, January 24, 1866, and is a son of Claus and Katherine (Kroger) Peters.

The parents of Mr. Peters spent their lives in Germany where the father was a small farmer. They had four children, Henry being the youngest and the only one in Hall County. The others are: Anna, who lives in Germany; Katherine, who is the wife of John Kruse; and John, who is in Germany.

Henry Peters was only sixteen years old

when he came to the United States, spending his first few months in the new country where he hoped to make his home, in Peoria, Illinois. He wanted to be a farmer but the price of land in the neighborhood surrounding Peoria was rather discouraging and therefore he came west and late in the year reached Hall County. Here he found the land also beyond his means but even then the price was reasonable, and with determination he went to work to accumulate enough money to enable him to invest. He worked and saved, sometimes even going barefooted, and through rigid economy and without any outside help, earned the money with which he bought his one hundred and sixty acres of land. Its improvement was only a matter of time and now Mr. Peters is one of the township's substantial men, owning a valuable property, and looked up to as a solid, wise and dependable man. During this time Mr. Peters went to Iowa where he was married and they farmed there for six years.

In 1895, Mr. Peters married Miss Amelia Dengler, who was born in Iowa, both her parents were born in Germany but came to America when young and were married in Iowa. There are four children in the Peters family: Claus A., who lives in Center township; Henry William a resident of Merrick County; and August John and Laura Amelia, both of whom live at home. Mr. Peters and his family are members of the Lutheran church. Claus A. was notified to get ready for military training at Camp Funston but on account of the "flu" did not, when ready for Camp Kearney, the signing of peace kept him at home.

HENRY BUETTNER, the fortunate owner of a well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres which is situated in Alda township, was born at Grand Island, Nebraska September 15, 1867, and has lived in Hall County all his life. His parents were Louis and Catherine (Wiese) Buettner.

Louis Buettner, father of Henry, was born in Germany but from the age of seventeen, lived in the United States. Just following the great Chicago fire he visited that stricken city on his way westward. After reaching Nebraska, he bought railroad land which, through his industry, was made valuable, and to his first purchase he had added until at the time of his death he owned two hundred and twenty acres, all of which he had improved. He belonged to several fraternal organizations and was a Lutheran in religious faith. Of his

nine children, Henry is the eldest, the other survivors being: Augusta, the wife of Charles Beberness; William, who lives in Alda township; Gustave, on duty on the coast of South Carolina, as a member of the United States Marine corps; Theresa, the wife of Arthur Reher, of Pine Bluff, Laramie County Wyoming; and Louis, who resides with his brother William in Alda township. The father died in 1900, but the mother survives and resides on the old homestead in Alda township.

Henry Buettner obtained his education in the public schools and is a well informed man. He has never taken any strong stand in politics and because of his business cares, has never been willing to accept a public office. He has always been interested in church and school progress and in road improvement. Few farms in the township give evidence of more careful cultivation, and all his home surroundings are comfortable.

On October 8, 1903, Mr. Buettner married Miss Lena Beberniss, a daughter of John Beberniss, an old settler in Hall County. They have three children, namely: Helen, Alfred and Ethel, all of whom live at home. Mr. Buettner and his family belong to the Lutheran church. He is a member of the order of Modern Woodmen at Alda.

IRA GIBSON, one of the representative citizens of Center township, has been unusually successful as a farmer and stockraiser in Hall County, although he began his business life in an entirely different direction. For years he has been known as a successful railroad contractor from Montana to Texas.

Ira Gibson was born in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, July 7, 1857, the eldest of a family of thirteen children born to James J. and Mary (McKinley) Gibson, the other survivors being: William, who lives in California; Mrs. Ella Grey, who lives in Kansas City; James, a resident of Le Mars, Iowa; Frank, whose home is in Ohio; Mrs. Anna May Doughty, of Minnesota; Mrs. Margaret Hensen, who lives in Ohio; and Susan and Minnie, both of whom live in Minnesota. The mother of this family died in the fall of 1860, but the father survived into old age and was vigorous in mind and body when his death occurred in 1915, following his ninetyeth birthday. In many ways he was a remarkable man. He made a success of his business of farming, was a leader in beneficial movements in his community, an earnest Pres-

byterian, a Mason in good standing and a most zealous Republican.

Ira Gibson had excellent educational advantages, his father being a man of liberal mind, and after creditably completing the high school course he entered the Pennsylvania School of Mines, from which technical institution he was graduated. He then went into the contracting business and in visiting western territory, came to Hall County in 1888. Having lost on some of his contracts, at this time he was practically without capital, a condition that he soon overcame however through industry and then resumed contracting and completed the Billings branch of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. After that he was with other western roads as stated above. In 1899 he bought a farm in Hall County, and five years later established his permanent home on it, and now owns a half section of valuable land. He has handled stock extensively and the measure of his profits may be estimated by the fact that in the past years he has turned off \$57,000 worth. His handsome residence is modern in every particular and all surroundings are in keeping, it being an ideal rural home.

In 1880 Mr. Gibson married Miss Martha Ellis, who was born in Canada, and they have had two children: Grace, who is deceased; and Maude, the wife of T. A. McCullough, a representative of an old pioneer family of Hall County. Mrs. Gibson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Gibson is a Master Mason, belongs to the United Workmen and Maccabees. Politically he is a Republican of no uncertain type, revering the traditions of his party in the past, and firm in his confidence in its principles in the present.

JOHN F. WIESE, a prosperous general farmer of Hall County, owning land in Alda township that in pioneer days could have been bought for \$6 an acre, that is now valued at over \$200 an acre, has spent almost all his life in the United States, being only two years old when his parents, Fritz and Leiza Wiese brought him from Germany, January 23, 1869. He grew up and attended school in Davenport, Iowa, and from there came to Hall County in 1885, with the intention of settling permanently, but, like many others, had but little capital and it was a hard struggle before he acquired his farm of eighty acres situated on section twenty-one, Alda township, on Rural Free Delivery Route No. 1, Alda. Mr. Wiese

has always been a steady, hardworking man and the success that has come to him is well deserved. His business has been general farming and it is one he thoroughly understands.

In 1894 Mr. Wiese married Miss Mary Knuth. A sketch of her family will be found on another page of this work. This estimable lady died March 2, 1918, having bravely and cheerfully faced many hardships with her husband in early days. She was the beloved mother of seven children, six of whom are living: Carl, who lives in Alda township; Dora, employed away from home; Emma, the wife of Julius Mathiesen, a farmer in Washington township; and Anna, George and Fritz, all of whom live at home. As a business man and neighbor, Mr. Wiese stands well in his township, he being one of the men of whom it may be said that his word is as good as his bond.

ROBERT BERG.—It is gratifying to those who take an interest in Hall County, that the old pioneer names may still be found in connection with the lands secured through much hardship by the original owners. An example is found in Robert Berg, one of the successful farmers here, who has always lived on the homestead and has continued the industries his father followed for many years.

Robert Berg was born in Boone County, Nebraska, in 1884 and accompanied his parents to Hall County in his childhood. They were Olaf and Louise Berg. The father was a native of Sweden and the mother of Norway, who came to the United States in the fifties and were early settlers in Hall County. They had two children, Robert and Lawrence. Olaf Berg was a man of industry and good business judgment. His first purchase of land in Hall County was fifty-six acres, which strained his resources at that time, but before he died he owned two hundred and sixteen acres, all secured through his own efforts.

Robert Berg obtained his education in the Hall County schools. He and his brother are partners in operating the old home farm. He belongs to the order of Modern Woodmen.

ROGER H. BARNARD, a successful young farmer of Hall County and a man of sterling character, represents one of the old families of the county. He was born in Hall County, May 17, 1892, and is one of the two children of Alfred and Mida (Rumbarger) Barnard. His father was born in Ohio. His

mother was a native of Hall County. Both died here, the father in November, 1900, and the mother in 1909. Mr. Barnard has one sister, Sophia, the wife of Melvin Stellins.

Roger H. Barnard has always lived on the old homestead. His father came to Hall County when a young man and acquired one hundred and sixty acres of land which he improved and cultivated until his death. The mother of Mr. Barnard was an excellent business woman and following her husband's death, purchased forty acres of valuable land, Roger H. now owning the entire two hundred acres. He is a well educated young man and is carrying on his farm industries in an intelligent, sensible way that speaks well for the future.

On August 2, 1916, Mr. Barnard married Miss Ruby Franz, whose parents were early and substantial settlers in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Barnard have two children, a daughter and son: Mina and Alfred, who are certain to have both social and educational advantages as soon as they are old enough to receive them. Mr. and Mrs. Barnard are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and in that connection and elsewhere are held in high esteem. Mr. Barnard is interested in all matters pertaining to Center township's progress, but takes no active part in political campaigns.

WILLARD A. PRINCE, is one of the leading members of the Hall County bar who has won an enviable place among the members of his profession.

Mr. Prince was born at Pierpont, Ohio, September 4, 1864, and was a son of A. W. Prince, now deceased. He attended the public schools of his native city and in 1882 entered Hillsdale College where he received the degree of A. B. in 1886. He then took up the study of law in the office of Harwood, Ames and Kelly, of Lincoln, Nebraska, and was admitted to the bar in 1888. He located in Grand Island the same year where he has enjoyed a continually growing practice.

December 26, 1888, at Ulysses, Nebraska, Mr. Prince was united in marriage to Miss Carrie B. Roberts. Her father Thomas R. Roberts was a native of Wales and became one of the first settlers of Des Moines, Iowa. He is a cousin of General Lord Roberts of the English army.

Mr. and Mrs. Prince have four children: Harold A., who is in partnership with his father; Mrs. Hazel M. Bolton, of Schuyler, Nebraska; C. Roberta, a graduate of the Grand

Island high school, class of 1919, is a student in the State University; and Elizabeth.

The family are members of the Presbyterian church.

BAYARD H. PAINE.— Judge Bayard H. Paine, was elected Judge of the Eleventh Judicial District in 1916 and has enjoyed his work very much in this widely extended district of eleven counties.

Bayard H. Paine was born on a farm near Painesville, Ohio, April 27, 1872, and is a son of Ira T. and Ella M. Paine, mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

Judge Paine attended the Grand Island schools and graduated from the high school with the class of 1889. He then entered Northwestern University, at Evanston, Illinois, where he received his B.Sc. degree in 1894. For one year he was superintendent of schools at North Loup. From 1895 to 1898 he was assistant principal of the Grand Island schools. From 1898 to 1904 he was court reporter for Judge John R. Thompson and in the latter year he entered upon the practice of law, continuing this until elected to the bench in 1916. He served the city of Grand Island as police judge from 1907 to 1911. From 1906 to 1917 he was referee in bankruptcy for fourteen counties in Nebraska. Aside from strictly professional lines his name is found on the directorate of several financial institutions, including the following: The First National Bank of Grand Island, Cairo State Bank, Alda State Bank and the Bank of Doniphan. He is secretary of the Paine and Fishburn Granite Company.

At Grand Island January 15, 1902, occurred the marriage of Bayard H. Paine and Miss Grace Bentley, a daughter of Charles F. Bentley. Mrs. Paine was the first graduate of the Grand Island Baptist College in 1895, and also attended Mt. Vernon Seminary, Washington, D. C. Prior to her marriage she taught four years in the Grand Island high school. Mr. and Mrs. Paine are the parents of three children: Grace, Charles B. and Bayard H., Jr.

The family are members of the First Methodist church, and the Judge has twice been a delegate to its general conference, first to Los Angeles in 1904 and to Baltimore in 1908. For several years he was a trustee of Nebraska Wesleyan University.

In politics Judge Paine is a Democrat and in 1914 was the unsuccessful candidate of his party for congress.

Fraternally Judge Paine is a Mason belong-

ing to Ashlar Lodge A. F. & A. M. and has crossed the sands of the desert and is a member of the Tangier Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He belongs to the B. P. O. Elks and several other fraternal orders.

In all things pertaining to the moral, intellectual and educational well-being of the community he gives generously of his time and means. For five years he capably served as a member of the school board and the Public Library Board. For many years he was secretary and later vice-president and director of the Y. M. C. A. and served as president of that organization four years during which time the new building was erected.

ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL.— The modern hospital is not only the highest development of science for the alleviation and cure of the ailments of mankind, a wonderful organization into which the best thought and experience of experts at work the world over have entered, but it is also a great philanthropic enterprise. Particularly is this true in regard to an institution such as St. Francis Hospital at Grand Island.

The building and grounds of St. Francis Hospital cover four city blocks. It was founded in 1886, under the direction of Sister Magdelene, representing the Franciscan Sisters of the Roman Catholic faith, long established at Lafayette, Indiana. The original building is still standing but in 1911 was greatly enlarged. At first it accommodated but twenty-five patients and eight nurses, but now comfortable quarters are provided for one hundred patients and twenty-one nurses. All the rooms above the basement have been equipped and are supplied by private individuals, and plans are on foot for still further extension of the hospital's public usefulness. In addition to a first class operating room, equal to any in equipment in the city, the hospital owns an X-ray machine that is not excelled in the state.

St. Francis Hospital is under the direct supervision of Mother Superior Blanca, who came first to Grand Island in 1891 and has occupied her present office since 1905. Father Long is chaplain of the hospital. This institution is doing a great work in giving scientific care to the sick, ill in mind or body. While it is generously supported, it would be unjust to fail to mention its charitable work, its free maternity ward, its loving care of little children and its benevolence to those of whom one of the highest dignitaries of the church



BAYARD H. PAINE

has said: "To comfort the poor, the sick and the unfortunate; to bring the blessed light of joy and peace and hope into the dark places of the earth, is the highest and noblest work that can be done by man."

JOHN LEO CLEARY.—A large amount of personal ability and popularity is made manifest in determining the status of John Leo Cleary, who is serving his second term as mayor of the city of Grand Island, and as chief executive stands as an exponent of those vital and progressive policies that inevitably conserve the best interests of the community.

John Leo Cleary is a native son of Hall County, born in Grand Island, October 17, 1878. He is a son of James and Johanna (Danahy) Cleary, who are mentioned elsewhere in this volume. The son was educated in the public schools of Grand Island and later became a student at Notre Dame University in Indiana. He then entered the law department of the State University of Nebraska at Lincoln from which he graduated with the class of 1902. He at once entered upon the practice of law in Grand Island, where he has staged his activities as a lawyer and public official in such a way as to inure greatly and conspicuously to the futherance of the civic and material development of the city and county.

June 9, 1910, was solemnized the marriage of John Leo Cleary and Miss Frances Jane Cunningham. Mrs. Cleary is a native of Ohio and accompanied her parents to Grand Island in 1903 and prior to her marriage served as public librarian. Mr. and Mrs. Cleary have one child, Frances Jane.

Mr. Cleary's political beliefs make him a Democrat and his religious faith is that of the Catholic church.

GEORGE L. ROUSE, JR., who has been very successful in his farming operations in Center township, Hall County, in which he has been engaged since his school period ended, was born in this county, March 24, 1875, and is a son of George L. and Susana (Rexroad) Rouse, the former of whom was born in Ohio and the latter in Illinois.

When a young man the father of Mr. Rouse went to Illinois and as he was well educated, was engaged there in teaching school until 1872 when he came to Hall County, Nebraska. Here he invested in railroad land, which he secured at \$4 an acre, in its purchase displaying

considerable business foresight. He returned then to Illinois and taught school there for another year, at the end of which time he came back to Hall County and still resides here. He owns an entire section of land which has a high market value. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and to the A. O. U. W.

George L. Rouse, Jr., obtained his education in the public schools. He has carried on general farming under the best conditions, for many years, and is convinced that intelligent methods of farming will make this the greatest farm products section in the state.

Mr. Rouse married Miss Alice Davison, whose parents came also from Illinois to Nebraska. They have five children: Warren, Mildred, Margaret, Mary and Wilma. Mr. Rouse belongs to two fraternal orders that have many active members in Hall County among representative people, the A. O. U. W. and the Yoemen. He is not a politician.

HAROLD A. PRINCE is one of Hall County's native sons who distinguished himself in the World War.

Mr. Prince was born in Grand Island, Nebraska, April 6, 1891, and is a son of Willard A. Prince of whom mention is made on other pages of this volume. Reared in his native city, Harold A. attended the public schools and graduated from the Grand Island high school with the class of 1909. He then entered the Nebraska State University where he received the degree of A. B. in 1913, and the degree of LL.B. in 1915, then entered upon the practice of the law in partnership with his father.

May 11, 1917 he enlisted in the army and went into the first officer's training camp at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, and received the commission of second lieutenant. In August, 1917 he sailed for France, landing there September 7th. He was assigned to the Sixteenth Infantry of the Second Division, and later with the One Hundred and Sixty-sixth, One Hundred and Sixty-seventh and finally with the One Hundred and Sixty-eighth Infantry, all of them a part of the famous Rainbow Division. He was promoted to first lieutenant in the Argonne. He was in action from February 21, 1918 until November 11, 1918, when the Armistice was signed, and never received a scratch. His command became a part of the Army of Occupation and he remained with them until he was mustered out of the service, May 30, 1919. Here may be

mentioned the sectors where he saw service and where the severest fighting of the war took place: Lorraine, February 21st to June 21st; Campagne-Marne defensive, July 4th to July 18th; Marne-Aisne offensive, July 26th to August 2d; St. Mihiel offensive, September 12th to September 30th; Argonne-Meuse offensive, October 5th to November 11th. When the fighting was over he remained with the Army of Occupation until mustered out when he returned home with a most splendid military record and deserving the honor due those who helped in the fight for democracy. He has again taken up the practice of law where further honors are sure to follow.

S. N. WOLBACH has been a resident for forty-five years and during this time no man has been more prominently connected with the city's business and financial interests than he.

S. N. Wolbach is a native of New York City, born in 1851. His early education was acquired in the public and private schools of that city, this being supplemented by a course in Bryant and Stratton's Commercial College. He then found employment in a mercantile establishment and held one position five years. He then went to Chicago and found employment, and was there during the great fire, his firm being one of the few who saved their books during that terrible disaster.

In 1874 he came to Grand Island and established the business now known as Wolbach and Sons, the largest concern of its kind in this part of the state.

Mr. Wolbach was married in Chicago to Miss Rose Stein and they have become the parents of four sons: Murray W., is a capitalist and resides in Chicago; E. J., of Grand Island; Dr. S. B., professor of bacteriology and pathology in Harvard College; and Emil, of Grand Island.

Mr. Wolbach has always been a Democrat and was a member of the lower house of the legislature in 1885, and a member of the state senate in 1887 and 1889. He was an unsuccessful candidate for lieutenant governor of Nebraska in 1892, on the ticket with J. Sterling Morton.

Mr. Wolbach was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Grand Island and has been president of this institution for many years. He is also connected with several other financial institutions of this part of the state, among them being The Bank of Doniphan, Cairo State Bank and the Ravenna State Bank. He is the owner of four sections of land in

Greeley County and the town of Wolbach was named in his honor.

For forty-five years he has been an important factor in the business activities of this section of the state and he is held in the highest esteem wherever known.

JAMES CLEARY has been a resident of Grand Island for nearly fifty years and during this time has been one of its foremost business men and on several occasions has been called to public office.

James Cleary was born in Tipperary, Ireland, in 1847. He was the son of John and Anna (Russell) Cleary. The mother died in Ireland and in 1850 John Cleary brought his family to the United States establishing his home at Stanton, Virginia, where he became superintendent of an insane asylum. In 1863 he moved to Lewisburg, Virginia, and here his death occurred soon after.

James Cleary was reared in Virginia and at the age of sixteen enlisted in the Southern army and served two years during the Civil War, a member of the Fourteenth Virginia Cavalry under General McCausland. Soon after the close of the war he went to Lewisburg, Virginia, and from there to Missouri where he spent one year before going to Colorado. It was in 1870 that he came to Grand Island to establish himself in the hardware business, becoming one of the early merchants of the city, and continued in this line until 1888. He then entered the real estate business which he has continued to the present time and is one of the few survivors of the pioneer merchants of Grand Island.

In 1874 he was united in marriage to Miss Johanna Danahy, a native of Ireland, and they became the parents of four children, as follows: Mary Josephine, at home; James T., an attorney, who met death by drowning in 1909, at the age of twenty-eight; Frank J., cashier of the State Bank of Grand Island; and J. L., mayor of Grand Island.

Mr. Cleary is a Democrat in politics and his fellow-citizens, realizing his ability have called upon him several times to serve in public positions. He was city treasurer in an early day, mayor of the city three terms, member of the county board of supervisors two terms and a member of the city council two terms. He proved a capable official, always loyal to the trust reposed in him.

Mr. Cleary is a member of the Catholic church and is held in the highest esteem by all who know him.

A. F. BUECHLER.—The press is the recorded voice of the community, and a leading representative of the press of Hall County is A. F. Buechler, editor of the Grand Island Daily Independent and one of the editors in chief of this history of Hall County.

The subject of this sketch was born in Stanton, Illinois, January, 1869, son of Rev. C. and Mrs. Hannah Buechler. The father had emigrated to America from Germany in 1865. The mother's parents came to America from Northern Germany when she was still a babe and the grandfather on the maternal side died in 1871 as a result of injuries and exposure received while fighting for the Union in 1864.

About 1870 the father was called to serve three German congregations in Northern Ohio and here A. F. Buechler attended the public schools until the age of thirteen, at which time his family moved to Thayer County, Nebraska. After a year of school at Carleton, Nebraska, he began work, at the age of fourteen, as a copyist in the office of the county clerk at Hebron, Nebraska, and four months later took a clerkship in the postoffice in the village of Carlton, work which in later years stood him well in hand. He also carried on general clerks duties in the general merchandise store of S. A. Truesdale, the postmaster. In 1885, he began his advanced education, which consisted of one year in the preparatory department and later four years in the college at Capital University, Columbus, Ohio, from which he graduated in 1890, with the degree of A. B. His parents, in the meantime, had moved to Grand Island, and early in the fall of 1890 he found employment on the Daily Times as solicitor and reporter. In 1891, S. P. Mobley, then business manager of The Independent, obtained a commission with the state's exhibit at the Chicago World's Fair, and Fred Hedde, the founder, and then editor and owner of the Independent gave Mr. Buechler employment as a general office assistant during the absence of Mr. Mobley. So on August 3, 1891, Mr. Buechler began service with The Independent which has continued until this time. In December, 1895, W. M. Geddes and A. F. Buechler, under the partnership of Geddes & Buechler, leased the Independent plant. In February, 1897, Mr. Hedde again resumed charge of the paper, retaining Mr. Buechler as silent partner. Failing health compelled Mr. Hedde's disposal of the plant in 1900 and Mr. Buechler organized the present Independent publishing Com-

pany on a capital of \$7,000, merging therewith the Standard Printing Company. He has thus been employed and connected with the Independent for twenty-nine years, for the last nineteen years as president, which office has thus far always assumed the editorship.

In addition to the close association with public affairs of the community which the editorship of a daily paper naturally entails, Mr. Buechler has devoted his time and energy to numerous specific public duties. He has assisted in organizing three commercial clubs, during these twenty-nine years, and for five years served as the first secretary and for four years thereafter as a member of the executive committee of the present organization. For two years he also served as secretary of the state association of Commercial Clubs. In 1911, he was appointed postmaster and served one term.

Besides the many tasks which The Independent cheerfully met during the war period, Mr. Buechler was appointed as one of the first directors of the Red Cross and served throughout the war. He was elected at a mass meeting as one of a War Activities Committee of five, to take over, at request, all war drives, and was upon the organization of the committee elected as its secretary, serving in that capacity up to and including the Victory Loan drive. He also served as publicity committeeman in every war drive throughout the war with the exception of the first Y. M. C. A. which was taken up by the association independently.

He was united in marriage in 1891 to Mrs. Lydia L. Boehm. They have a family of four children; the eldest, Theo. E. Buechler, graduated with honors from the local high school, attended Grand Island College one year, whereupon he obtained an appointment as cadet for West Point Military Academy, attended Columbia Preparatory school at Washington, six months, passed the mental and physical examination for entrance at West Point, and upon completion of the course ranked twenty-first in a total entering class of two hundred and fifty-one. He became a captain of artillery, with an assignment of instructor in gunnery in central officers training school, Camp Taylor, Kentucky, and is at present zone major, with the American army at Coblenz, Germany.

Mrs. A. A. Roesser is the wife of the former assistant cashier of the State Bank of Grand Island, and now local agent for Peoria Life



A. A. Buchler

Insurance Company. She is a graduate of the local high school and Grand Island Conservatory of music.

Walter E. Buechler, became a corporal in Company B One Hundred and Thirty-seventh Engineers, American Expeditionary Force, France. He volunteered at the age of nineteen with the Seventh Nebraska Regiment, and when that regiment was abandoned by the War Department, carried out his determination to enter the service by enlisting with the Engineer Corps at Jefferson Barracks. Since his return he has resumed his duties with the Independent Publishing Company.

The youngest daughter, Catherine, aged twelve, is attending the public schools of Grand Island.

Mr. Buechler's interest in preserving the early history of the county, of which his efforts in 1907 in securing the personal reminiscences of some of surviving members of the original colony of 1857, and other Hall County pioneers, was an invaluable aid in the compilation of the present volume. The steady substantial growth and recognition being accorded in newspaper circles of the state to the Grand Island Daily Independent attests the success of the services of Mr. Buechler and his associates to the Independent Publishing Company, the community in general and Hall County particularly.

DANIEL A. FINCH, D.D.S.—While the principles of dentistry have not changed since the early days of the science, the world has grown wiser concerning its benefits, and the scientific discoveries of recent years that have made consideration of the hygiene of the mouth most important in medical diagnosis, has gone far to place this profession in the foremost place where it belongs. It is to dental surgery that thousands of the unhappy victims of the late war will look for facial regeneration, and its achievements already in plastic surgery recall the day of miracles. There are many among the older practitioners who have labored with faith and professional skill for this wider field of human usefulness, and great credit must be accorded them for preparing the way, often with inadequate facilities and hampering environment. One of Grand Island's leading dental surgeons, Dr. Daniel A. Finch, has been continuously engaged here in the practice of his profession for thirty-four years.

Dr. Finch was born at Florence, New York, November 19, 1863, one of a family of five

children born to Daniel and Maria (Livesey) Finch. Both parents were born in Yorkshire, England. The mother of Dr. Finch was accompanied to the United States in 1843, by her mother, who was an evangelist preacher in the Methodist Episcopal church from the time of landing until her death many years afterward. The father of Dr. Finch came to the United States in 1841, when the old sailing vessels that plied between England and America, sometimes consumed six months in making the passage. He settled in Oneida County, New York, engaged in farming and raising stock, became respected in his community, where he held local offices, and finally died on his farm when aged forty-two years. Of his four living children, there are two residing in Nebraska, Daniel A. and John S. in Lincoln, Nebraska. The latter has been connected with the Nebraska State Journal, at Lincoln, for the past twenty-five years.

From the public schools of Oneida County, where his educational training had been thorough, Daniel A. Finch went to New York City and pursued a course in dentistry, since then making it his sole vocation. He came to Nebraska in his early days of practice and has been a resident of Grand Island since June 10, 1885. He has kept fully abreast with the times and maintains well appointed offices in the Hedde building, Grand Island.

On February 17, 1887, Dr. Finch was united in marriage to Miss Addie M. Hall. Her parents were H. L. and Lydia Hall, who came to Hamilton County, Nebraska, as early as 1872 and died there. Mrs. Finch passed away at Grand Island, in January, 1917. Their one daughter, Grace M., resides with her father, and being talented in music is very popular in music circles and is a teacher of merit. Dr. and Miss Finch attend the Methodist church. While a Republican in national politics, Dr. Finch maintains an independent course in local affairs. He has never accepted any public office except membership on the school board, during six years of service displaying good judgment and civic pride. For many years he has been identified with the Masons and the Knights of Pythias, serving officially in both orders, and has held all the offices in the latter organization pertaining to the local lodge.

HENRY J. BECKER is proprietor of the Becker Music Company, the oldest established concern of its kind in Grand Island which had its beginning more than twenty-one years ago. Endowed by nature with ability in his chosen

calling, his education and experience have well fitted him for making this line of endeavor his life work. When a boy of seven years he was playing the violin for dances and public entertainments in his native land, and later received instruction under such able tutors as William Thiele, who for years was a member of the famous Thomas Orchestra of Chicago.

Mr. Becker was born in Westphalia, Germany, July 12, 1872. At the age of fourteen he was brought to America by his parents, C. F. and Matilda (Eickhoff) Becker, who established their home in Grand Island. Here Henry J. and his brother C. F. continued the study of music, later becoming instructors and for several years conducted an orchestra. It is now twenty-one years since the Becker Brothers opened a store and the partnership continued until 1912, when Henry J. purchased the interest of his brother and became sole proprietor.

The Becker Music Company have a well equipped store at the southwest corner of Third and Pine streets, where everything in music can be found.

A genial disposition, a pleasing personality, together with his knowledge of music, have inspired the confidence and good will of the public, while honest dealings and fair prices have assured him success.

Mr. Becker was married in Grand Island to Miss Emma Boetcher, and they have two children: Robert H. and Wilma M.

WILHELM R. JENSEN, who is a member of the merchant police force at Grand Island, came first to this city in the spring of 1874. He is a native of Denmark, born, January 28, 1846, near Aalborg, a son of Jens P. and Margaret Cline (Wilhelmsen) Rasmussen Jensen. The father of Mr. Jensen was born in Denmark, February 14, 1818, and died there in 1894. His mother was born in Denmark June 21, 1819, and died there in 1862. They were the parents of six children and of the five yet living, Wilhelm R. is the only one in the United States.

The laws of Denmark provide for the education of the children of the country, and Mr. Jensen had the opportunity to lay a good foundation in the schools and afterward learned the trade of bricklayer under his father. In 1869 he came to the United States and for four years worked on farms in Iowa, afterward spending one year in Colorado, working in brickyards and on a sheep ranch. In March, 1874, he came to Grand Island, which

has been his home during the greater part of the time ever since. He became a member of the first volunteer fire department, and is one of the four survivors of the "Always Ready Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1" which made a notable name for itself in protecting property in the early years when the city was largely constructed of inflammable material. Mr. Jensen owns an interesting photograph of the above company, which he prizes very highly. In 1878 he was appointed deputy sheriff and served under Sheriff Kilian from 1878 until 1882. During this time he had in charge a convicted murder, named Hart, but Mr. Jensen's term expired before the time of execution. The criminal escaped the penalty through pardon on the day before his sentence was to be carried out, the scaffold having been erected in the jail yard.

In 1882 Mr. Jensen returned to Denmark on a visit and in 1883, while there, was united in marriage to a widow, Mrs. Meta K. Andersen. She had four children but only one is living, namely: Martina, who is the wife of Thomas A. Brown of Iowa City, Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Jensen three children were born: Margaret, who is a saleslady for the O. C. Thompson Company, Grand Island; Mary, who is a stenographer and bookkeeper in the offices of the Union Pacific Railroad Company at Grand Island; and Niels, who is in the contracting business. All of the children reside at home, and with their parents belong to the English Lutheran church.

When Mr. Jensen returned to Grand Island from his visit to Denmark, he gave his attention for some time to his personal property interests. In the spring of 1889 he accepted a place on the city police force and served as a patrolman until 1901. After that, for two years, he worked for Jens Rasmussen at brick work, and then returned to official life, since then having been employed on the merchant police force. Mr. Jensen's record for personal courage is well known at Grand Island. In politics he is a strong Republican.

CARL BAASCH is among the number who came to Hall County in an early day, and in his farming operations met with the success that enables him to spend the evening of life in honorable retirement.

Mr. Baasch was born in the village of Kiel, Holstein, Germany, May 27, 1841, and was a son of George and Anna (Krambeck) Baasch, both natives of the same province in which their son was born. The father was a wagon

maker by trade and died in that country about 1858. The mother came to the United States in 1860 and lived to be nearly one hundred years of age and passed away at Davenport, Iowa.

Carl was reared in his native land and was a young man of twenty-three when he came to the United States in 1864. He spent two years at Davenport, Iowa, and in 1866 came to Hall County, Nebraska. In recalling that trip brings to mind that there were no railroads in Nebraska then and the journey was made by stage. Martin Schimmer, another pioneer of this county, was a passenger on that trip, and often twelve men rode in the stage at one time. On reaching Hall County Mr. Baasch found employment at whatever would provide him a living and worked fourteen months for the pioneer firm of Koenig and Wiebe. For eight months he was employed in railroad construction work and helped build the line to the Black Hills.

It was soon after he came here that Hall County was visited by the memorable grasshopper plague. Mr. Baasch like many others was not very favorably impressed with the prospects of making this a permanent home. But times grew better and Mr. Baasch took up the occupation of farming, bought land and conducted his affairs in such a manner that success attended his efforts, and he is considered one of the well-to-do men of his community.

April 11, 1875, Mr. Baasch was married to Miss Wiebke Minnie Hansen, a native of Germany, a daughter of one of the early settlers of the county, her parents settling here in 1874. The father of Mrs. Baasch died in 1916, but the mother is still living and has reached the age of nearly eighty-nine.

To Mr. and Mrs. Baasch have been born six children, all of whom are married and reside in this county. Ernest, married Emma Thode, who is deceased and the present wife is Katie Bockmann. Henry married Bertha Luth, who is now deceased. Gustave married Hermina Wragge. John married Clara Heesch. Anna married Emil Wagner. Martha is the wife of Henry Knuth.

REV. LEWIS A. ARTHUR, who is one of the able men of the Protestant Episcopal clergy in Nebraska, is the rector of the Episcopal church at Grand Island. Zealous in the cause of religion and giving unsparingly of the best that is in him, Dr. Arthur wields wide influence. Carried away as the world is at the present time sometimes seems to be by

materialism, a strong guiding force is needed in every community to combat vicious doctrines, and to supplant them with the wholesomeness, beauty, love and sympathy expressed in the tenets of the church. Such is Dr. Arthur's mission.

Lewis A. Arthur is of New England birth and ancestry, but the Arthur name is not unknown in other sections as it is honorably recorded in the nation's annals. Mr. Arthur was born in a manufacturing city of Burlington, Vermont, and is a son of John A. and Harriet F. Arthur. Without mention of early school advantages and favorable home environment, he was graduated from the University of Vermont with the degrees of A. B. and A. M., and subsequently from the General Theological Seminary, New York City, with degree of S. T. B.

Dr. Arthur has been twice married. On June 29, 1887, he was united in marriage to Miss Eunice Tripler, who died September 25, 1911. She was a daughter of General Charles S. Tripler, Medical Corps, United States army. On June 16, 1915, Dr. Arthur married Miss Alice May McAllister, who is a daughter of William R. McAllister. Dr. Arthur has one daughter, Eunice, who was married April 16, 1916, to William Ritchie, Jr., an attorney at law at Omaha, Nebraska.

RALPH R. HORTH has been a member of the Hall County bar for thirty-five years and throughout that entire period has made continued progress and has written his name high on the keystone of Nebraska's legal arch. While at all times careful to conform his practice to the highest professional ethics he has at the same time so guided his course in every relation that his name is honored and respected wherever known and most where he is best known.

Mr. Horth is a native of the Empire State, born at New Albion, New York, April 16, 1863. His parents were Charles and Angeline (Smith), Horth, who became residents of Hall County in 1872, settling on a farm in Jackson township. Both parents died in this county, the father in 1914 and the mother in 1904. Charles R. Horth served three years during the Civil War as a member of Company H. Seventy-second New York Volunteer Infantry.

Ralph R. Horth attended the public schools of Gibbon and also the Baptist Seminary located there. He then entered the State University of Michigan where he received his degree of LL.B. in 1885. Following this he

entered upon the practice of law at Grand Island where he has continued to the present time. Since 1911 he has been a member of the firm of Horth and Ryan with offices in the Ryan building. He served as county attorney and city attorney and was chairman of the War Activities Committee during the World War.

In connection with this prominence at the bar he has become well known in financial circles and has been a director in the First National Bank of Grand Island, Bank of Phillips, State Bank of Ravenna, Perkins County Bank and the Bank of Meeker at Meeker, Colorado. He is a director of Davis Brothers Drug Company of Denver, Colorado, vice-president of J. W. Hugus and Company who operates a chain of eleven stores in Wyoming and Colorado, secretary of the Chicago Hide and Fur Company of Grand Island and secretary of the Efell Company, a corporation in Wyoming engaged in the sheep and cattle industry.

August 8, 1888 Mr. Horth was married to Miss May Castiday, a daughter of D. R. and Mahalah Castiday. Mrs. Horth's father was a prominent stockman of Wyoming and is now deceased, while the mother is still living.

Mr. Horth is a member of the Episcopal church and has been a member of the vestry board for twenty-five years. For eighteen years he was chancellor of the diocese.

In politics Mr. Horth is a Republican and has served as chairman of the County Central Committee several times. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias, Masonic and B. P. O. Elks lodges.

IRA T. PAINE, who is one of the substantial business men of Grand Island and is at the head of one of the city's important enterprises, has been a resident of this city forty-six years and has taken a keen interest and important part in much of its development.

Mr. Paine is a native of Ohio but is of New England ancestry and of Revolutionary stock, his paternal great-grandfather, Eleazer Paine, having been a soldier in the patriot army in his native state, Connecticut. Mr. Paine's maternal great-grandfather, Ira Tuttle, also a native of Connecticut, was a justice of the peace for many years in Ohio. Among the young lawyers practicing in his court, were Frank and Benjamin F. Wade, who became distinguished in public life in the Buckeye state.

Ira T. Paine was born at Painesville, Ohio, January 31, 1847, the son of Henry and Har-

riet (Tuttle) Paine, both of whom were born in northeastern Ohio, and spent nearly all their lives on a farm, passing away there in old age. Henry Paine was a son of Hendricks Paine, a native of Connecticut who moved to Ohio in 1802. Henry Paine was a man of prominence in Lake County, a justice of the peace, and for nine years was a county commissioner. He and wife were pillars in the Methodist Episcopal church and worthy people in every relation of life. Of their family of eight surviving children out of the original ten, but two reside in Grand Island, Ira T., and Miss Carrie M. Paine, who lives with her brother.

In the country schools and at Painesville, Ira T. Paine obtained his education, in the meanwhile working on the home farm until 1873, when he came to Grand Island, Nebraska. He arrived with but a small amount of capital but as he was frugal, a hard worker and had early acquired industrious habits, he soon found employment and for six years worked in a lumber yard after which he went into the railway mail service where he remained seven years. In the spring of 1888 he embarked independently in the monument business, a concern which has developed into a stock company of large importance, under the firm name of the Paine-Fishburn Granite Company, operating with a capital stock of \$64,000. Mr. Paine is president of the company and much of its success is due to his careful, conservative guidance of its affairs. He is a Republican in politics and at all times is an earnest citizen, but he has never had any ambition for political honors, in the proper regulation of his own business affairs finding a satisfying life.

Mr. Paine was married June 9, 1870, to Miss Ella M. Huston, who died October 21, 1911, survived by one child who is Judge Bayard H. Paine of Grand Island. Mr. Ira T. Paine has been for more than twenty-five years the chairman of the board of trustees of the First Methodist Episcopal church of Grand Island.

WILLIAM J. HEFLIN.—With the ambition to accomplish something valuable and to make their lives truly useful, many intelligent young men early turn to a career in medicine, and in more or less degree they attain their object. Grand Island has attracted many thoroughly qualified medical men and a representative member of the profession is Dr. William J. Heflin, who is in the enjoyment of a



IRA T. PAINE

large and lucrative practice as the result of marked ability.

William J. Heflin was born in Dane County, Wisconsin, November, 26, 1860. His parents were Ezekiel and Eleanor E. (Moore) Heflin. The father of Mr. Heflin was a minister in the Christian church for many years. He was born in South Carolina and died in 1905 in Minnesota. Dr. Heflin's mother was born in New York and died in Grand Island in 1916. Both had accompanied their parents to Wisconsin in childhood and their marriage took place in that state. Eight children were born to them and Dr. Heflin of Grand Island is the eldest of the three survivors, the others being: H. H., who is a physician and surgeon at Kewanee, Illinois, and Edna E., who is a practicing physician at Grand Island.

After his school period was over Dr. Heflin was faced with the necessity of earning the means to take him through medical college, having early determined to become a physician, consequently he looked about for employment with the result that for some time he was a traveling representative of the manufacturing firm of Hay & Todd, of Chicago. Subsequently he entered the medical department of the University of Minnesota, from which he was graduated in 1895. After three years of practice in the city of Minneapolis he went to Nora Springs, in Floyd County, Iowa, and from there, in 1909, came to Grand Island. Competent in every branch of his profession, Dr. Heflin has no specialty.

In 1896 Dr. Heflin was united in marriage with Miss Clara A. Adams, who was born in Iowa, and they have one son and two daughters: William Duane, who is a student in the Nebraska State University at Lincoln; and Alice Fay and Clara Lenore, both of whom attend school at Grand Island. Mrs. Heflin is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is interested in numerous charities. Dr. Heflin has long been identified with Masonry and has attained the thirty-second degree and formerly served both as senior and junior warden of Nicolett Lodge A. F. & A. M., St. Peter, Minnesota. He entertains as does every intelligent man and enlightened physician, very decided views on public questions and votes according to his own judgment.

G. H. THOMAS. — For many years prominent in Nebraska along lines of useful effort, G. H. Thomas, president of the Grand Island National Bank, commands attention as a representative citizen of Hall County. Mr.

Thomas was born at Berlin, in Green Lake County, Wisconsin, March 4, 1876, the elder of two sons born to Griffith J. and Anna E. (Griffith) Thomas, who are highly respected retired residents of Harvard, Nebraska.

Griffith J. Thomas was born in Wales, January 20, 1847, and brought to America and to Wisconsin in childhood. He was reared there and from there entered the service of his country during the Civil War, serving as a private for three years under two enlistments, thereby almost wrecking his health. He was a journalist by profession and continued to be interested in newspapers until he retired. He has always been an ardent Republican and for nine years served as postmaster at Berlin. In 1886 he came with his family to Clay County, Nebraska, where he was postmaster for eighteen years. He is one of the older members of the Masonic bodies in Clay County and one of the state leaders in the Grand Army of the Republic. To this noble organization Mr. Thomas has been particularly devoted and has labored zealously for its interests. He belongs to one of the oldest posts in existence, John H. Williams Post No. 4, Berlin, Wisconsin, which he has served three terms as deputy commander. He was married November 1, 1874, to Miss Anna E. Griffith, who was born at Utica, New York, December 7, 1846, but was reared at Berlin. They have two sons G. H. and Harrie G., the latter of whom was associated with his brother in the banking business at Harvard and also in newspaper work with his father.

G. H. Thomas completed the high school course at Harvard, Nebraska, and then entered the State University from which he was graduated in 1897 and still maintains his membership in the Greek letter fraternities, Delta Tau Delta and Phi Beta Kappa. Mr. Thomas then turned his attention and acquirements to the educational field and for eleven years taught school in Nebraska, for eight years being superintendent of schools at McCook, in Red Willow County. He then entered the banking business and from 1908 until 1917 was cashier of the Union State Bank of Harvard, Nebraska, which is one of the sound financial institutions of Clay County, operating with a capital of \$25,000, surplus and profits \$17,000 and average deposits \$500,000. He still maintains an interest in that institution although now a resident of Grand Island. When he came here to associate with Theodore Griess of this city, he bought the majority of stock in the Grand Island National Bank, of which he has since been president. This bank is

conducted carefully and conservatively with a capital of \$100,000, surplus and undivided profits \$135,000.

Mr. Thomas was married in 1900 to Miss Blanch E. McCarl, who was born in Iowa, a daughter of John McCarl, who removed from Iowa to Hastings in Adams County, Nebraska, and later to McCook. Mr. Thomas is a staunch Republican but has taken no very decided part since coming to Grand Island but previously served for five years as mayor of Harvard. He is prominent in Masonry, a Knight Templar and also a Shriner.

THEODORE GRIESS, president of the Grand Island National Bank, is well known both in financial and political circles. He has not been a resident of Grand Island very long, but his welcome to this city has been hearty and his name will be a valuable asset in the furtherance of business.

Theodore Griess is a native of Russia, born at Worms, one of a family of ten children born to his parents, Peter and Sophia (Grosshaus) Griess. The family originated in Germany and from there went to Russia in earlier times. In 1873, the father of Mr. Griess came to the United States and settled in Clay County, Nebraska, being accompanied by his family. The mother of Mr. Griess died on November 25, 1903. Their children were as follows: Theodore, who is a resident of Grand Island; Henry P., who is a merchant at Sutton, Nebraska; John G., who is cashier of the Sutton National Bank; William, also a merchant at Sutton; Edward, a merchant at Eldorado, Nebraska; Ferdinand, a dental surgeon at Sutton; Gustave, who was graduated in dentistry at Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1912; Rudolph, in college; Lydia, the wife of J. A. Dennis, a merchant at Eldorado; and three who are deceased. For many years the father of the above family has been engaged in the grain and coal business at Sutton. He has been active in Democratic politics and in 1887 was his party's candidate for county treasurer.

Theodore Griess obtained his education in the country schools, the Sutton graded schools and Doane College, at Crete, Nebraska. His business career began when he went into business with his father. In 1904 he removed from Clay County and became cashier of the Union State Bank, and in 1908, in association with George Thomas, bought the controlling interest and became president. Subsequently Mr. Griess purchased the majority of stock in the Grand Island National Bank and moved

to Grand Island. Early in his career he became interested in public affairs and has held many public offices of responsibility. From 1896 until 1897 he was deputy county treasurer of Clay County. In 1897 he was elected county treasurer and was re-elected in 1899 and after the expiration of his second term he was deputy again for two years, spending in all ten years in the treasurer's office. In 1900 he was chosen as the candidate of the Democratic party for state auditor.

Mr. Griess married Miss Johanna Fandmann, the ceremony taking place March 28, 1900. She was born at Scotland, South Dakota. They have three children: Helene, Raymond Paul and Gertrude Louise. Mr. and Mrs. Griess are people of education, culture and religion.

WILLIAM SCHROEDER is a representative citizen of Hall County and a substantial farmer in Alda township. He belongs to a well known family of this section who homesteaded here forty-eight years ago. His has always been an agricultural family and it has been a prosperous one from the beginning, industry, thrift and good management being family characteristics.

William Schroeder was born January 6, 1865. His parents were Fritz and Sophia (Lamp) Schroeder, both of whom were born and reared in Germany. They came to the United States in 1864, and in 1871 the father homesteaded in Hall County, Nebraska. He came to the county a poor man but at the time of his death he was a wealthy man, being the owner of a whole section of well improved land. He was not only honest and industrious, but also a man of high principles, a faithful member of the Lutheran church, and for many years a member of the order of United Workmen. He was the father of five children: William, the eldest born; Charles, who lives at Grand Island; Henry, a farmer in Alda township; Otto, a farmer in Alda township; and Elizabeth, deceased, the wife of Ernest Scholtz, of Hall County.

William Schroeder obtained his education in the Hall County schools and early began farm training. He now owns and cultivates one hundred and sixty acres of land in a favorable location, which he has admirably improved. He is one of the substantial farmers and dependable citizens of the county. He married Miss Maggie Clauson. They have children as follows: Sophia, the wife of John Mohn, of Montana; and Alfred, Alma, Ella, John,

George and Rudolph, all of whom live at home. Mr. Schroeder and his family are members of the Lutheran church and attend services in Grand Island.

CHARLES LUTH, a prosperous general farmer in Alda township, Hall County, belongs to an old family of this section, one that is noted for its agricultural success. Father and sons have been farmers all their lives, and with the experience of many years, have made their land unusually productive. Nowhere in the county will be found better tilled acres, more modern farm machinery, evidences of more thorough methods in crop rotation and fertilization, or more substantial improvements than on the Luth farms.

Charles Luth was born in Marshall County, Iowa, the second son of Fred and Minnie Luth, both natives of Germany. His father was born in 1844, a son of Henry and Sophia (Yohn) Luth, and the only one of their eight children to come to the United States. For some years prior to coming to Hall County, he engaged in farming in Iowa. The most of his ample fortune has been made after coming to Nebraska. Charles Luth had some educational opportunities in Hall County. Mr. Luth is in partnership with his brother William in the operation of two hundred and thirty acres of land belonging to their father and much success is attending their undertaking. Mr. Luth is an independent voter, never having identified himself with any political party and never being desirous of holding a political office.

GEORGE F. RICKARD, a well known general farmer of Hall County, operating what was his grandfather's old homestead near Alda, has spent his life in this county and all his interests are centered here. Both father and grandfather were pioneers in this section and no people are better or more favorably known than the Rickards.

George F. Rickard was born in Hall County, Nebraska, February 16, 1873, the second in a family of six children born to Charles Louis and Margaret (Burd) Rickard, and a grandson of George H. and Polly Anne (Forrest) Rickard. The grandparents were born in New York, lived for some years in Illinois, came to Hall County in 1880 and homesteaded, their property still remaining in the family. The parents of Mr. Rickard resided on their own homestead in Hall County, the father having

come here in 1877, and there the mother died in 1916. George Rickard remained at home assisting his father until he was twenty-one years old. In the meanwhile he attended the public schools. As mentioned above, he lives on his grandfather's old place and rents a half section of land from his father, which he devotes to general farming.

On Christmas Day, 1910, Mr. Rickard married Miss Carrie Barr, whose parents were very early settlers in Hall County. Mr. and Mrs. Rickard have had three children: Charles, Earl, and an infant that is deceased. Mr. Rickard has always devoted himself closely to his own business and has taken little part in political matters. He is, however, an intelligent, wide-awake citizen, and while he votes according to his own judgment, may be depended upon to support candidates who have the best interests of Hall County at heart.

CHARLES L. RICKARD.—For more than forty years Charles Louis Rickard, one of Hall County's substantial farmers, has been a resident of this section. He came here in the early days of county settlement, has worked hard and has prospered. He has done his part in advancing agricultural, educational and social interests. He was born in McHenry County, Illinois, January 30, 1852. His parents, George H. and Polly Anne (Forrest) Rickard, were natives of New York, where they were reared and married. The father was a farmer all his life, first in Illinois, and after 1880 in Hall County, Nebraska, where he owned a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land. They had two children, Charles Louis and Emma, the latter of whom died at the age of four years.

Charles L. Rickard attended the district schools near his father's farm in Illinois and remained at home until 1877 when he came to Hall County. He was much better off than many of the older settlers, for he brought with him three horses, two yoke of oxen and \$75 in cash. Later he homesteaded and continued on his land through the years of hardship that overwhelmed many of the pioneers. Gradually, through hard work and the exercise of good judgment, he acquired other tracts of land, until now he owns seven hundred and twenty acres. His property has all been well improved and for many years he has been considered one of the most capable and prosperous general farmers of the county.

In 1873 Mr. Rickard married Miss Margaret Burd, whose people were of old New England



GEORGE RICKARD AND WIFE
CHARLES L. RICKARD AND WIFE

stock. She died December 24, 1916, mourned by a devoted family and a wide circle of friends. Mr. and Mrs. Rickard had the following children: Effie, the wife of Marley Compton; George, a successful farmer in Hall County; Nellie, the wife of Roy Orendoff, of Hall County; Walter D., who lives at Ord, Nebraska; Elsie, the wife of Otto Giersdorf, of Columbus, Nebraska, and Amer C. who is a railroad man.

HENRY LUTH, a very successful farmer in Hall County belongs to a well known family of this section, the most of its members being substantial farmers. Mr. Luth was born in Hall County, on Christmas Eve, 1869, a son of Fred and Minnie (Runfeldt) Luth, both of whom were born in Germany. The father of Mr. Luth was twenty-two years old when he came to the United States. He engaged in farming in Marshall County, Iowa, until 1886, when he came to Hall County, where he is now one of the heavy landowners.

Henry Luth attended the public schools in Hall County as opportunity afforded. His services on the farm began when he was but a boy, a pursuit in which he has been continuously engaged to the present time. He is now operating land which his father formerly owned, and if all farmers in the county were as careful about the condition of the soil and quality of seed, and as well informed otherwise as Mr. Luth, this would soon be the banner section of the state for big crops. He has put fine improvements on his farm and has everything comfortable around him.

In 1895 Mr. Luth married Miss Mary Schoel, a daughter of Henry Schoel. The following children have been born to them: a babe that died in infancy; Ella, the wife of John Roby, a farmer in Center township; and Ralph, Minnie, Irvin and Henry, all of whom live at home. Mr. Luth has been a good citizen of his township. He has never been active in politics and in elections of all kinds casts an independent vote.

OTTO SCHROEDER, whose extensive farming operations place him among the leading agriculturists of Hall County, is a representative of one of the sturdy pioneer families of this section. His father homesteaded in Hall County almost a half century ago and the name has been well and favorably known in the county ever since.

Otto Schroeder was born in Hall County,

October 7, 1883. His parents were Fritz and Sophia (Lamp) Schroeder, who came from Germany to the United States in 1864. The former took up a homestead in Hall County in 1871, and from then until his death in 1912, followed an agricultural life. In early days he passed through many hardships but industry and perseverance enabled him to make headway where others might have failed, and when he passed away he left an estate that included an entire section of land. He was never active in politics. He belonged to the order of United Workmen, and was a faithful member of the Lutheran church. Of his five children, Otto was the fourth in order of birth, the others being: William, a substantial farmer in Hall County; Charles, who lives in Grand Island; Henry, who is a farmer in Alda township; and Elizabeth, deceased, was the wife of Ernest Scholtz, a farmer in Hall County.

Otto Schroeder had educational advantages in Hall County and when he left school chose farming as his vocation. A well trained, practical man, with intelligent ideas in agricultural matters, he has steadily gone forward and has become prominent in agricultural circles because of his success in the management of his fine farm of two hundred acres. His land is well improved and every part of it shows the effect of careful tillage.

In 1906 Mr. Schroeder married Miss Bertha Rickert, whose parents were early settlers in this county. To Mr. and Mrs. Schroeder the following children have been born: Edna, Marvin, Louis, Albert, Raymond and Hazel. The older children have made excellent records in school. Mr. Schroeder and his family are members of the Christian Science church.

HENRY BOEKMAN, the founder of a well known and highly respected family of Hall County, was born in Germany, April 5, 1843, and remained in his own country until 1868, when he came to the United States and the same year located in Hall County, Nebraska. Like many settlers from foreign lands, he had but little capital left by the time he had paid transportation charges. He was twenty-five years old on reaching the shores of America and was not easily discouraged, although he arrived in Nebraska in the midst of the Indian troubles that prevented permanent settlement for a time. Before long he homesteaded a timber claim and secured a pre-emption, then settled down to develop his land and in the course of years became a man of wealth and local importance. At the time

of his death he owned five hundred and forty-five acres of well improved property.

In 1887 Mr. Boekman married Miss Sophia Hanson, born in Germany and the only member of her family to come to the United States. To this marriage the following children were born: Otto, Claus, James, Theo, George, Katie, Dora and Sadie, all of whom live at home except the two married daughters, Katie and Dora. Katie is the wife of Ernest Bosh, of Alda township, and Dora is the wife of Arthur Wiese. The family belongs to the Roman Catholic church at Doniphan.

JUERGEN KNUTH, a representative of one of the early pioneer families of Hall County, was born in Germany and accompanied his parents to the United States. They were Henry and Anna (Juergen) Knuth, who had four other children: Thomas and Hans, both of whom are deceased; Henry, who is a farmer in Washington township, and Mary, who is deceased, was the wife of John Wiese. The family emigrated to America from the old country, locating in Hall County in 1870, where the mother died in 1900, and the father in August, 1909.

Juergen Knuth obtained his education in Germany. In many ways conditions were hard during early days in this section. There were many Indians and in speaking of them, Mr. Knuth says that once, in 1872, he was thrown from a load of wood which resulted in a broken leg. Indians picked him up and kindly carried him to his father's cabin and though badly shattered and he had only an Indian doctor who set and attended it yet he was so skilled that the bones knit perfectly and the leg has never given him any trouble. The elder Knuth, at the time of his death, owned two hundred acres of land, all of which had been accumulated through his own industry. His sons assisted him and learned to be good farmers. Juergen Knuth first purchased one hundred and sixty acres, still residing on that tract. He now owns four hundred acres in Hall County and five hundred and sixty acres in Oklahoma, all fine land suitably improved, so that today he is numbered with the substantial men of the county.

Mr. Knuth married Miss Emma Wegner, who was born in Germany and accompanied her people here in 1881. She has one sister, Mata, the wife of Hans Gulzow. Mr. and Mrs. Knuth have had eight children: Mata, who is deceased; Henry, who lives in Washington township; Herman, who lives in Dewey

County, Oklahoma; Arthur, also a resident of Oklahoma; Anna, the wife of August Wiese, in Wyoming, and Fred, Hedwig and Helmuth, all of whom live at home. Mr. Knuth and his family attend the Lutheran church. He is independent in his political views. He belongs to several Low German social organizations at Grand Island, and his wife belongs to the Maccabees.

WILLIAM WIESE, one of the substantial citizens of Alda township, Hall County, has been a resident for many years. He has always taken part in township affairs and at all times promoted to the best of his ability, the interests of Hall County.

The parents of Mr. Wiese were Henry and Anna (Wiese) Wiese, who were born in Germany and came to the United States in 1860. Of their six children William was the third born, the others being: Lena, the widow of Carl Krueger, of Alda township; Katrina, the widow of Louis Buttner, of Alda, Hall County; Henry, a farmer in Alda township; Gustave, in the coal business in Chicago, and Otto, who operates the old homestead in Alda township. For a time after coming to the United States, the family lived in Iowa, where William was born in Scott County. After moving to Hall County, the father bought one hundred and seventy-four acres of land, later added a hundred acres, and improved it all, putting up substantial buildings in place of the old log cabin and barn he found there.

The Wiese family with five other German families, came together, driving across the country in covered wagons, bringing with them from Iowa twenty head of cattle, and settled in Hall County in 1871. No members of the little colony prospered more than the Wieses, for they have always been industrious and thrifty, have been thorough in their farming methods, and have set a good example in raising stock standards in this section.

William Wiese attended school in boyhood but was yet young when he commenced to be of use to his father on the farm. In 1884 he began farming on his own account, going to Key a Paha County and homesteading. He remained there two years and then returned to Hall County, where he purchased a farm of one hundred acres, to which he has added until now he owns three hundred and ninety acres of valuable land, all of which he has improved. He carries on general farming and raises stock for his own use.

In the fall of 1885, Mr. Wiese married Miss Alma Appledorn. They have the following children: Clarence, who lives at Alda; Anna, the wife of Allen Sell, of Alda township, and Dorothy, Lawrence and Irene, all of whom are at home. Mr. Wiese and his family are of the Lutheran faith. He belongs to the order of Maccabees.

CARL KRUEGER, a homesteader of the late sixties in Hall County, was a man of large estate and through good neighborly kindness and upright living, gained the friendship and respect of all who knew him in Alda township.

Carl Krueger was born in Germany, July 27, 1840, and died on his farm in Hall County, November 24, 1905. His father was Christian Krueger. He left the Fatherland for the United States in 1860 and soon after landing in this country became engaged in farm work and carpentering, a vocation he followed for many years, his industry keeping pace with his opportunities. He was the builder of many farm structures in Hall County. He kept adding to his original homestead until, at the time of his death, he owned four hundred acres of well improved land, all of which he had secured through honest labor.

On March 24, 1874, Carl Krueger married Miss Lena Wiese, a daughter of Henry and Anna (Celia) Wiese, natives of Germany, who came to the United States in the sixties. To Mr. and Mrs. Krueger the following children were born: Otto, a farmer in Center township; Charles, who lives in Alda township; Henry, who lives on the homestead with his mother, in Alda township; Matilda, the wife of Herman Ewoltdt; Caroline, the wife of Hugo Schuchman; William, who lives in Lanner County, Wyoming, and Herman, who lives with his mother. The family is a prominent one in Alda township.

WILLIAM LUTH, classed with the successful farmers of Hall County, belongs to a highly respected old family of this section. He was born in Marshall County, Iowa, February 16, 1878. He is the son of Fred and Minnie Luth, and a grandson of Henry and Sophia (Yohn) Luth.

Fred Luth was born in 1844 in Germany and was twenty-two years old when he came to the United States. He followed farming in Marshall County, Iowa, until 1886, when he came to Hall County, where, in the course of time, he became the owner of four hundred

acres of land, all of which has been well improved. In 1869 he married Minnie Runfeldt, also a native of Germany, and they have had the following children: Augusta, the wife of William Stuhr; Henry, a prominent farmer in Hall County; Sophia, the wife of Edward Stuhr; Charles and William, both of whom are prosperous farmers in Alda township; Emma, the wife of August Schoel; a babe who died in infancy; and Alvena, the wife of Rudolph Kay.

William Luth was about eight years old when he accompanied his parents to Hall County, where he had winter schooling for several years. While still a boy in years he began hard work on his father's land and has always followed agricultural pursuits in this county. At present he is in partnership with his brother, Charles Luth, and together they carry on extensive operations on two hundred and thirty acres of land which they rent from their father. They are quiet, industrious, practical men who are well thought of everywhere. Mr. Luth belongs to no political party.

Mr. Luth was united in marriage with Miss Dora Nissen, July 19, 1911; they have five children: Lawrence, Helen, Elsie, Minnie and Clarence, are all attending school near home.

HERMAN LILIENTHAL, successfully carries on farming operations in Alda township, Hall County, where he rents land from his mother, one of the largest owners of real estate in this locality. Mr. Lilienthal belongs to a fine old family of this section which settled here almost sixty years ago.

Herman Lilienthal was born in Hall County, January 25, 1878, the son of Frederick and Dora (Giltaw) Lilienthal, both of whom were born in Germany. Of their children, Herman is the eldest, the others being: Mrs. Lena Boltz, who lives in Alda township; John, who lives in Wyoming, and Toney, the wife of Charles Kay. The father came to this county in 1861 and homesteaded, and at the time of his death, in May, 1894, owned a valuable farm of one hundred and twenty acres. Industry was the rule in his household and Herman was not very old when he stopped going to school in order to help on the farm. He thus had excellent instruction and discipline and is considered a farmer of ripe judgment, understanding how to make his industries very profitable.

On February 27, 1907, Mr. Lilienthal married Miss Anna Clausen. They have two very bright, intelligent sons: Alfred Fred, eleven

years old, and Ervin Herman, six years of age. Herman is said to be as much interested in his school duties as is his older brother. Mr. and Mrs. Lilienthal are members of the Lutheran church.

FREDERICK LILIENTHAL.—One of the early settlers and thrifty, enterprising farmers of Hall County, was the late Frederick Lilienthal, who was born in Germany, March 25, 1852, the son of Claus and Christina Lilienthal, who had three sons, Henry, Frederick and Charles, all of whom are deceased.

Frederick Lilienthal came to the United States in early manhood and was among the first settlers of Hall County. Here he bought railroad land, which he worked hard to improve, and at the time of his death, in May, 1894, owned eighty acres of finely improved land. In those early days he had much to contend with, one disadvantage being his long distance from market, for he had to haul his grain to Fort Kearny. He is remembered as a hard working, honest man and a kind and helpful neighbor. He was twice married, his first union being with Dora Gilsthaw, and they had the following children: Herman, a farmer in Alda township; a babe that died unnamed; Lena, the wife of August Boltz; John, lives in Wyoming, and Toney, the wife of Charles Kay. The mother of these children died and his second marriage was to Mrs. Margaret (Mathiesen) Struve. Her parents were Fred and Anna (Hanson) Mathiesen, who were born in Germany, but were married in 1857 at Davenport, Iowa, as they came separately to America. Mr. Mathiesen had practically no capital when he came to Hall County but through thrift and industry, he accumulated a large body of land. His death occurred June 14, 1914.

To Mr. and Mrs. Lilienthal five children were born: Julius, Fred, Ernest, Laura and Anna, all living except Fred. Laura is the wife of Benjamin Ewoldt, and Anna is the wife of Frederick Schoel. Mrs. Lilienthal resides in her comfortable home on West Charles street, Grand Island, one of the highly esteemed and estimable women of the city.

HERMAN EWOLDT, one of the progressive agriculturists of Hall County, owning a fine, well developed farm near Grand Island, belongs to a very old county family that has always been noted for its industry and sound, practical qualities. Mr. Ewoldt is not only a

good farmer but is an intelligent, far-seeing one, realizing that for many years to come the American farmer, with his mighty yields of life-giving grain, and his herds and other stock, must practically feed the world.

Herman Ewoldt was born in Hall County, Nebraska, August 1, 1882. His parents were Cay and Elisa (Stuben) Ewoldt, both of whom were born in Germany. The father came to the United States in 1854 and located first in Davenport, Iowa, from which place he removed to Hall County, in 1857. He early secured a pre-emption claim of one hundred and sixty acres, and to this original farm he kept on adding throughout his life. When his death occurred in 1914, at the age of eighty-two years, he left an estate of four hundred and sixty acres of well improved land. For many years he had been considered one of the township's substantial and representative men. The mother of Mr. Ewoldt died in August, 1915. The parents are survived by seven of their eleven children.

Herman Ewoldt obtained his education in the public schools of Hall County. During his youth and the lifetime of his father, he worked on the homestead, but now he owns a farm of one hundred and fifteen acres, to which he devotes his entire attention. He carries on a general farming line and has raised some fine Hereford cattle. If he succeeds in carrying out his present admirable plans, he will make a feature of raising cattle. Mr. Ewoldt is a hard worker and is thoroughly interested in all his farm activities, keeps abreast of the times in agricultural progress and makes intelligent use of the knowledge he acquires.

In 1905 Mr. Ewoldt married Miss Matilda Krueger, whose parents also were early settlers in Hall County. They have six children: Edwin, Helen, Carl, Rudolph, Lillian and Daniel, four of whom go to school, the three older never having missed a day since they started. They all are unusually intelligent and fond of their books.

WILLIAM SCHOEL, a prosperous general farmer in Center township, owns and carefully cultivates a large farm in Center township. He was born in Hall County, October 9, 1874, on his father's homestead, his people having been early settlers here. Extended mention of this prominent family will be found in another part of this work.

William Schoel believes he was no more than seven years old when he went to work on

the farm. All the family worked and he remembers seeing his mother binding grain by hand on many an occasion. In those days the grain was cut with the old-fashioned scythe or a mowing machine, and all the corn was planted by hand. Much of the modern machinery that Mr. Schoel now makes constant use of on his farm, had not yet been invented in his boyhood and it was many years before the ordinary Nebraska farmer could afford to buy it. The family had settled far from a center where provisions could be purchased, and Mr. Schoel remembers one occasion when his father and a neighbor had driven to Omaha for flour, and on the return trip in fording the Loup river because there was no bridge at that time, became swamped. Mr. Schoel walked thirty miles to Wood River before he secured help and it was with difficulty that the wagons and teams were dragged out of the water. At that time there were many Indians passing up and down the river but the Schoels were kind and friendly and never had any trouble with the savages.

William Schoel married Anna Schweiger, whose parents, August and Caroline Schweiger live in Grand Island. They have two children, Helen and Olga, aged nineteen and fifteen years respectively. Mr. Schoel has one hundred and sixty acres of land and every acre, under his efficient management, gives a profitable account of itself. He feeds cattle and hogs and averages a car load a year. The farm surroundings indicate thrift and the improvements are suitable and substantial. Mr. Schoel has the reputation of being a hard worker and sensible business man. He is an independent voter but his ballot is sure to be cast in support of law and order and good citizenship.

FRED LUTH.—Thirty-three years have slipped away since Fred Luth came to Hall County. They have not been idle years for hard work has marked the passing of many of them and thrift and efficiency were observed in each and every one. Mr. Luth is not only a widely known and highly respected resident of the county but is also one of the most substantial, being the owner of many acres of highly developed land, as the result of his own industry coupled with good judgment.

Fred Luth was born December 15, 1844, in Germany, and is a son of Henry and Sophia (Yohn) Luth, and the only one of their eight children to come to America. He remained in Germany throughout his schooldays and military service period, being a youth twenty-

two years old when he reached the United States. He located in Iowa and worked on farms there until 1886, when he came to Hall County, where he has since lived and has engaged in the business of farming. The first land he bought was a tract of two hundred and twenty acres and at the present time he owns four hundred acres. Mr. Luth has not been satisfied with merely owning this large body of land and enjoying the ordinary yield of the same, but has subsequently improved it all, and with thorough going methods has increased the fertility until he has some of the most productive farm land in the county.

In 1869 Mr. Luth married Miss Minnie Runfeldt, who was born in Germany, they have had the following children: Augusta, the wife of William Stuhr; Henry, who lives in Hall County; Sophia, the wife of Edward Stuhr; Charles, a resident of Alda, Nebraska; William, a farmer in Alda township; Emma, the wife of August Schoel; a babe who died in infancy; and Alvina, who is the wife of Rudolph Kay. Mr. Luth has never interested himself greatly in politics and has never been willing to accept a public office.

JULIUS EWOLDT, one of Hall County's well known men and successful general farmers, belongs to one of the first families who located here at a time when Nebraska was considered a part of the wild west, having to break the prairie sod for first crops in the country. For sixty years the Ewoldts have owned and operated land here and all of the sons of the old pioneer of that name, are substantial farmers and respected citizens.

Julius Ewoldt was born in Hall County, Nebraska, July 23, 1874. His parents were Cay and Elizabeth (Stuben) Ewoldt, natives of Germany, where the father was born in 1831 and the mother in 1841. Her people came to Hall County with the early settlers and she grew up and was married here. The father left Germany when twenty-three years old, reaching the United States in 1854. It was his intention to acquire land but he lacked capital at first and for three years worked as a laborer in Davenport, Iowa. In 1857 he came to Hall County to settle permanently, later taking up a pre-emption claim and immediately beginning to make improvements. He was a careful, industrious, honest man, took pride in his farm and surroundings which show his love for agricultural life. Gradually he added to the original tract, continuing to improve the land as soon as it came into his

possession, thereby adding to its value. When his death occurred in 1914, after a long life of honest industry, he left an estate of four hundred and sixty acres, all well improved. The mother of Julius Ewoldt died in August, 1907. She was the devoted mother of eleven children, three of whom died in infancy.

Julius Ewoldt obtained his education in the country schools and grew up on his father's farm. Agricultural pursuits have engaged his entire attention from boyhood and through careful methods he has made this business very profitable. He carries on diversified farming which includes the raising of stock for his own use and a little dairying and fruit growing. Every inch of his valuable farm of one hundred and fifteen acres is utilized in some way. He has substantial farm buildings and in 1911 erected a fine modern residence.

In 1901 Mr. Ewoldt married Miss Minnie Schweiger, who was born in Germany and came to the United States with her parents when young. They have four children: Harry, Max, Lydia and Elizabeth, all of whom attend school. Mr. Ewoldt is a member of the Low German society.

FERDINAND STOLTENBERY, a prosperous farmer of Hall County and a well known and respected citizen, has spent his life in this part of Nebraska. He is a representative of an old family of the county that came here sixty years ago, and did its part in overcoming the wild conditions that then prevailed. The older members have passed away but the family is still well known here and its characteristics of sturdy honesty and persevering industry are yet in evidence.

Ferdinand Stoltzenbery was born in Hall County, September 25, 1863, the son of Claus and Etta (Paustun) Stoltzenbery, both of whom were born in Germany and came to the United States before their marriage. Claus Stoltzenbery came across the Atlantic ocean in 1859 and immediately came on to Hall County, where a German colony had settled in 1857. He had enough capital with him to enable him to buy some land and he also took up a pre-emption claim. Here his long and industrious life was spent and when he passed away he left an estate of three hundred and seventy acres of highly improved land. His marriage had taken place in 1860, in Hall County, and six children were born to him and his wife: Alvina, who is deceased; Etta, the wife of Emanuel Heimke; Ferdinand, who lives in Hall County; Cecelia, the wife of Bernhard

Wersia; Wilhelmina, the wife of Chris Raher; and Carl, who lives in Washington township, Hall County.

Ferdinand Stoltzenbery had a rudimentary schooling, but nothing to compare with the advantages his children are having. He began farm work when a boy and has kept at it ever since, beginning on his own account about twenty-five years ago. He has worked hard but feels somewhat repaid when he looks over his fine farm of four hundred acres, which he has excellently improved. He carries on general farming and is rated with the substantial men of his township. He married Amelia Hirsch, who belongs to an old county family, and they have the following children: Richard, Esther, Rudolph, Barney, Anna, Dora and Angela, all living at home except Esther, the wife of William Mitfoldt.

FRED SCHOEL, a well known citizen and substantial farmer of Hall County, has spent his entire life here, belonging to one of the oldest pioneer families of this section. Today on every side productive farms and comfortable homesteads may be seen, but it was very different sixty-two years ago when the parents of Mr. Schoel came here with other German colonists. They faced many dangers and bore uncomplainingly for the most part privations and great hardships, but they were resourceful and persevering and founded homes and families that are now inseparable from the history of Hall County.

Fred Schoel was born here, February 3, 1867, a son of Henry and Mary (Becker) Schoel, the father of Mr. Schoel was born in Germany, April 1, 1828. He heard of the many opportunities for a young man in America so emigrated from his native land in 1855. He came west two years after reaching the United States, taking up land in Hall County. At that time he was entirely without capital and the fact that thirty-nine years later he died owning two hundred acres of the best improved land in the county, proves that his industry in Nebraska was well rewarded. There were many Indians here when he came; herds of buffalo were frequently seen, and buffalo meat was frequently found in the larder of the settlers. It was a number of years before the family could live in comfort but both parents were hard working people and did not ask for the luxuries of life. They were good neighbors and honest in their dealings with every one. The mother passed away in 1887, and the father died on January 10,

1894. They had the following children: Charles, the first white male child born in Hall County; Henry, who is deceased; Fred, who resides in Hall County in the vicinity of Grand Island; Emma, the wife of Albert Felske, of Hall County; Mary, who is the wife of Henry Luth, of Alda, Nebraska; and August and William both of whom live north of Alda.

Fred Schoel grew to manhood on the home farm and obtained his education in the public schools. He has made farming the business of his life, always taking a deep interest in his work, and has found his methods very satisfactory. He owns a large body of land, four hundred and twenty acres in all, which is well improved, his residence being one of the best in the township. He makes no feature of either stockraising or dairying, but carries these industries on as a part of his general farming line. He owns many modern farm implements which greatly facilitate farming as carried on today.

On June 16, 1896, Mr. Schoel married Miss Anna Matthiesen, and two daughters and one son have been born to them: Hulda, the wife of Albert Marth; Elsie, the wife of William Marth; and Harry, a student in the high school at Grand Island. Mr. Schoel has never taken much interest in general politics but is always ready to do his duty as a good citizen in neighborhood affairs. The family is one that is held in friendly regard all through this section.

BERNHARD EWOLDT, one of the Hall County's reliable, substantial citizens, is a member of an old pioneer family that has had much to do with the material development of the county. From the beginning the family has been an agricultural one and some of the finest farms in this section of the county are held in this old and respected name.

Bernhard Ewoldt was born in Hall County, Nebraska, April 25, 1863. His parents were Cay and Elizabeth (Stuben) Ewoldt, the former of whom was born in Germany in 1831 and the latter in 1841. The father emigrated to the United States in 1854 and came as far west from the Atlantic seaboard as Davenport, Iowa, where he found employment and remained until July 4, 1857, before coming to Hall County. Within a short time he took up a pre-emption claim of one hundred and sixty acres, which was but the beginning of his large fortune in land, for through hard work and wise management he kept adding

one tract of land to another as he recognized a good investment, and when he passed away on November 1, 1913, he left an estate of four hundred and sixty acres highly improved. He was a sober, industrious, honest man and was highly thought of in his neighborhood. The mother of Mr. Ewoldt came to Hall County with her parents at an early day also and she survived until August 30, 1915. Of the eleven children born to his parents, Bernhard was the oldest, the others being: Cecelia, deceased, was the wife of Henry Wiese; Henry, who lives at Alda, Nebraska; Minnie, the wife of Carl Stoltenberg, Cairo, Nebraska; Julius a general farmer in Hall County; Amelia, the wife of August Becker, of Washington township, Hall County; Clara, the wife of August Schimmer; Herman, a farmer in Hall County; and three who died in infancy.

Bernhard Ewoldt attended the country schools when a boy and began to assist his father very early. Farming has been his business all his life and the appearance of his well improved farm of one hundred and fifteen acres gives testimony that he is careful and competent in his work. He carries on a general farming line and raises stock for his own use.

On March 9, 1889, Mr. Ewoldt married Miss Laura Matthiesen, and they have five children: Arthur, Linda, Albert, Emil and Eddie. All the sons are now at home although two of them were in military service during the World War, Albert being with the American Expeditionary Force in France, and Eddie in training at Camp Funston. They are all fine young men who are a credit to the family and county.

WILLIAM WRAGE.—Hall County has an unusually large proportion of well developed, finely improved farms, indicating that the business of farming is carried on here by men who have made a study of agriculture and take a deep interest in their vocation. One of the successful farmers of this county is William Wrage, who bears a fine old pioneer name that has been held in respect here for over sixty years.

William Wrage was born in Hall County, September 18, 1863. His parents were Hans and Abirline (Stoltenberg) Wrage, both natives of Germany and were young people when the came to the United States, the father in 1857 and the mother about 1861. They were married after coming to Hall County, and became the parents of the following children:

William, who has spent his life in Hall County; Frederick and Hammond, both of whom died in infancy; Anna, the wife of Claus Tagge, of Prairie Creek, Nebraska; and Emily, who lives with her brother William. Hans Wrage came to Hall County in 1857 with the large German colony that settled here at that time, and like the majority of them, was possessed of little money. He was equipped with a good trade, however, and after he had secured a pre-emption claim and a tract of railroad land, he worked for his neighbors as a carpenter, not only putting up houses for them but cutting logs with which to build. All the first houses were built of logs, frame houses were not erected until a sawmill was put in operation some time later. He was honest and industrious all his life and acquired two hundred acres of land which he greatly improved. He became well known in the county and was highly respected. Mrs. Wrage died when forty-seven years old, the father survived until the age of sixty-two years.

William Wrage was reared on the home farm and began farm work while yet a young boy, taking responsibility when his father was engaged in carpenter work. He obtained his education in the country schools and was twenty-five years old before he started out to farm for himself and has never desired to change his vocation. He now owns two hundred acres of fine land on which the improvements are modern and substantial, and carries on a general farming line according to methods which he has proved to be most profitable.

On June 12, 1889, Mr. Wrage married Miss Annie Arp, who was born in Germany, and the following children have been born to them: Hermiene, the wife of Gustave Baasch, of Alda township, Hall County; Alvin, who lives at home; Arnold, who assists his father; Max, who was a soldier in the American Expeditionary Force in Europe, now at home; and Ebiline, Linda, Hulda and Alvia, all of whom reside with their parents. Mr. Wrage is a good citizen, always interested in township matters, such as schools and good roads, but he has never been willing to accept public office and has kept out of politics.

CONRAD LASSEN, a leading farmer, highly respected citizen and trustworthy public official of his township, is a representative of a family that was established at an early day in Hall County, and ever since its members have been prosperous and self respecting citizens of their various communities, sound, reliable people.

Conrad Lassen was born in Davenport, Iowa, December 20, 1863. He is one of a family of fourteen children born to John and Catherine (Heuricks) Lassen. The father was born in Germany in 1823 and the mother in 1833. They came to the United States in 1855, landing at the port of New Orleans. They then came up the Mississippi river as far as Davenport, Iowa, where the father worked at the brickmason trade until 1864, when he decided to locate in Nebraska and secure land on which his large family of children would have a chance to develop. He came into Hall County driving a team of oxen. Here he homesteaded and later bought some good land and in the course of years acquired one hundred and sixty acres. With the help of his sons he improved his land and was permitted to live long enough to enjoy the comforts won by his industry. Of his children, Conrad was the sixth born, the others being as follows: Margaret, the wife of Hans Obermiller, of Farwell, Nebraska; Anna, the wife of Aleck Shoemaker, a native of Canada; Mary, deceased, was the wife of Dirk Schweiger, of Grand Island; John, who lives in Canada; Katie, deceased, was the wife of Claus Clausen, of Grand Island; Hannah, the wife of Dedloff Mathiesen, Hall County; Sherman, who lives in Washington township, Hall County; Agatha, the wife of Hans Pahl; Dora, who died at the age of ten years; Lydia, married Jake Wright; Harry who lives in Canada; Eveline, who is the wife of John Bushman, of Grand Island; and a child that died in infancy.

Conrad Lassen began to make himself useful on the farm in boyhood. As opportunity offered he attended the country schools, but his time was mainly taken up in assisting his father. In 1885 he established himself on a farm and through hard work and business prudence, finally became the owner of three hundred and sixty acres, which he placed under cultivation and has substantially improved. Mr. Lassen carries on a general line of farm production and is classed with the best agriculturists of the county. He is a self made man, having accumulated his comfortable fortune through his own efforts.

In 1885 Mr. Lassen married Miss Ida Roby, sister of Gustav Roby, who belongs to a prominent old Hall County family, and they have two children, Dora and Nancy. Dora was married first to Rudolph Werner and after his death she became the wife of Paul Schweiger. Nancy is the wife of Hanney Lindaman, of Grand Island. Mr. Lassen and his family be-



GUSTAV ROBY AND FAMILY

long to the Lutheran church. Although independent in politics, his personal popularity has been shown by his election to important offices. In 1906 he was elected to membership on the county board and served two terms, at times being chairman of the board, and recently has been again elected and is serving on the board with his accustomed efficiency. He has served as president of the Plattsdeutschen society at Grand Island.

GUSTAV ROBY.—The farming interests of Hall County are in safe hands as long as sound, practical men like Gustav Roby devote their time and energies to their development. From ancient times agriculture has been the most important of all industries, and as the world grows older and more populous its increasing importance becomes evident. The Roby family has been an agricultural one in the main, ever since its founder came to Hall County in pioneer days. A leading representative, well known all over the country, is found in Gustav Roby, whose two hundred acres of land lie not far from Grand Island.

Gustav Roby was born in Hall County, April 14, 1865. His parents were Frederick and Johanna (Lillienthal) Roby, both of whom were born in Germany. They came to the United States in 1861, finding this country then in the throes of civil war. They were humble, peaceful people in search of better living conditions than their own land had afforded them, and as quickly as their resources permitted, made their way as far west as Davenport, Iowa. They were not satisfied there, however, as farm land was the desire of their hearts, and two years later found them in Hall County, ready to claim a homestead. It is told in the family of the father that when they came here, the expenditure of ninety-five cents for the purchase of a mesquite net was a serious drain on his capital, but before he died his signature at any bank would have been gladly honored, for he owned a thousand acres of land. To his original homestead he added tract after tract of land and went into the stock business, proving to be a fine man of business when he had sufficient opportunity. Of the eight children born to Frederick Roby and his wife, the following are living: Gustav, who lives in Hall County; Dora, who is the wife of Henry Stoltzenberg, formerly of Hall County, now of Merriam County; Arthur, who lives on the old home place in section eight, Washington town-

ship; and John, proprietor of Harmony Hall, at Harmony, in Hall County, Nebraska.

Gustav Roby grew to manhood on the old homestead in Washington township and attended the country schools. It has been thirty years since he started out as a farmer on his own account and all these years have been busy ones. Thirty years ago the farmer knew less about soils than he does now and fewer types of farm machinery were on the market, yet Mr. Roby found profit in his farm undertakings, although, perhaps, he had to labor harder than now. He is a man of progressive ideas and has his land well improved and well stocked. The buildings which give a substantial appearance to his place were all erected by him, and all the other improvements are the work of his hands. His two hundred acres are carefully cultivated and his annual yield is very satisfactory.

On March 13, 1889, Mr. Roby married Miss Catherine Schroeder, born in Germany, who came to the United States when nineteen years old, whose people came to Hall County in 1881. To this marriage the following children have been born: John, who lives with his own family in Center township, Hall County; Anna, the wife of Alfred Werner, lives at Doniphan; Bernhardt, who lives with his family in Washington township; Linda, at home; Johanna, the wife of Emil Lucht, of Cairo, Nebraska; and Ida, Daniel and Irma, all of whom live at home. Mr. Roby is a good citizen and is interested in everything that promises to benefit Hall County, but he is not active in politics and belongs to no political party. He decides public questions for himself and votes according to his own judgment.

FRANK EWOLDT, a well known resident and highly respected farmer of Center township, is operating the old homestead that his father secured in 1870, where he was born, November 23, 1876, the son of Claus and Dora (Schroeder) Ewoldt.

The father of Frank Ewoldt was born in Germany, eight miles from Kiel, March 5, 1837, a son of Paul Ewoldt. He came to the United States in 1864 and lived in Davenport, Iowa, until 1870, when he came to Hall County soon buying one hundred and twenty acres of land, subsequently he added to this until at the time of his death he owned one hundred and sixty acres, all of it having been improved through his own industry. He retired in 1909 and bought four lots and a spacious resi-

dence in Grand Island where he passed his last years in great comfort. His death occurred July 31, 1917. He frequently told his children of his first coming to Hall County and of driving back to Iowa with his span of mules, and when he returned to take up his permanent residence, a railroad had been built. In early time he hauled his grain to market at Fort Kearny. In 1868 he married Dora Schroeder, a native of Germany and a daughter of Frederick and Margaret (Stroben) Schroeder, and the following children were born to them: Augusta, who is deceased; Elizabeth, the wife of Paul Mohr, of Montana; Frederick, who is deceased; Dora the wife of Ernest Matthiesen, of Washington township; Frank, who is a farmer in Hall County; Mate, the wife of Frank Schwieger; Paul, who is deceased; Mary, the wife of William Otis, died in Texas leaving four children, three boys and a girl, also three others who died in infancy; William, who is deceased; and Frieda, the wife of Fred Dreibus, of Grand Island. The mother resides with Mr. and Mrs. Dreibus.

Since boyhood Frank Ewoldt has been interested in farm pursuits. In 1901 he rented one hundred and sixty acres of land and operated that until he took charge of the old homestead, which he rents and conducts very successfully. In 1901 he married Miss Daisy Graham, and they have had four children, the only survivor being Frank, a manly youth of fourteen years who is attending school. The Ewoldts are all prominent and substantial people, making no particular display but possessing solid qualities.

AUGUST SCHOEL, a member of a very prominent family in Hall County, which located here in an early day and has always been respected and esteemed, is a successful farmer and stockraiser in Center township. His parents were Henry and Mary (Becker) Schoel, natives of Germany, who after coming to the United States lived for a short time in Iowa. In 1857 they came farther west to Hall County where Henry Schoel homesteaded near Grand Island. They had four sons, all of whom are farmers in Hall County: Charles, northeast of Grand Island; Fred, on the old homestead; William, near Alda; and August, on section thirty-two Center township.

August Schoel began to assist his father on the farm when he was a schoolboy, for in those days, when there was little labor saving machinery to be procured, the industry of all hands was needed. Mr. Schoel, like other members of his family, is in independent cir-

cumstances, owning a finely improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres.

On March 12, 1899, Mr. Schoel married Miss Emma Luth, a daughter of Fred and Minnie Luth, who reside in Hall County, southwest of Alda. Mr. and Mrs. Schoel have an adopted son, Charles Schoel, now aged nine years, who has found a good home and kind foster parents.

JOHN THOMSSSEN, a representative citizen of Hall County, having large business interests and at times having served in offices of trust and responsibility, belongs to one of the real pioneer families of this section. His father settled here in 1855 or 1856, when the entire county was practically a wilderness.

John Thomssen was born in Hall County, May 6, 1870, the son of John and Anna (Stehr) Thomssen, natives of Holstein, Germany. Both came young to the United States, the father in 1860 and the mother in 1857. Of their five children, John was the youngest, the others being: Henry, who died when about forty-seven years old; William, a farmer in Hall County; Fred, who lives in Hall County; and Emma, the wife of John Scholtz. The parents were people of industry and thrift and uncomplainingly endured the many hardships that pertained to pioneer life. The father took up a homestead and kept adding to his original farm until, at the time of his death, he owned eight hundred and forty acres of finely improved land. While he was well known as a shrewd and careful business man, he was also known as a man whose word was as good as his bond. His mother is still living in Alda at the age of eighty-four, one of the four surviving women of the original thirteen in the colony that settled here in 1857.

John Thomssen attended the country schools and grew up on the old homestead where he afterward engaged in farming. In 1895 he was called from the farm to public office, having been appointed deputy county treasurer, in which position he served four years, when he was elected county treasurer and continued to engage in public business for two years longer. When he retired from the treasurer's office he returned to the farm and interested himself for the following seven years in agricultural pursuits. In the meanwhile, however, he made plans to enter business in Alda, and in 1909, when he had perfected them he founded the Alda State Bank, since which time he has given his attention to financial affairs entirely. The working capital of the

bank is ample, capital stock being \$12,000 with surplus \$8,000. The establishing of this bank filled a definite need and its affairs are well managed by Mr. Thomssen and his associates, who command public confidence.

Mr. Thomssen married Miss Christina Oltmann, who was born in Hall County, a daughter of John Oltmann, an old settler in this section. Mr. and Mrs. Thomssen have three sons: Eli, Emil and Arthur, aged respectively eleven, nine and five years. The family attends the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Thomssen has been a member of the Masonic fraternity for many years and belongs also to the order of Highlanders.

EDWIN F. NEWTON.—Each passing year marks the thinning of the ranks of the pioneers of Hall County, who journeyed here in covered wagons to live in sod houses while the first hard years of preparation and cultivation were being passed. Real interest attaches to the careers of these venerable men, for they were the forerunners of the civilization that has since been brought about; theirs was the first work of development, which had to be done before Hall could take its place among the fertile, productive agricultural counties of the West. While he was not among the earliest settlers, Edwin F. Newton shared in the hardships, and passed through the same discouragements that beset those who first located. His arrival in Hall County was in 1887, but his early years here were attended by all the experiences that made life for the pioneers at the same time strenuous and interesting.

Mr. Newton was born November 26, 1849, in Painesville, Ohio, a son of Nathan B. and Margaret Newton, the former born in Ohio, August 29, 1819, and the latter in the same state, December 29, 1822. Following their marriage, the parents removed to Illinois, and subsequently to Seward County, Nebraska, where the wife and mother passed away in 1887. Mr. and Mrs. Newton drove from Illinois to Nebraska in a covered wagon. They lived in Seward County during the grasshopper scourge. In that year Nathan B. Newton came to Hall County, but after a short residence removed to Iowa, where his death occurred in 1894, when he had reached the ripe age of seventy-five years. In his younger years he had followed the life of a sailor but after leaving the sea learned the trade of a brick mason, but in later life took up farming a vocation in which he won a measure of suc-

cess by reason of his industry, while at the same time he attained and held the friendship and esteem of those with whom he came into contact.

Edwin F. Newton was educated in the public schools and grew to manhood as a farmer's son. He married in Wisconsin, in 1872, Miss Melissa Robbins who was born in Jo Daviess County, Illinois, June 27, 1855, a daughter of Welcome and Mahala (Willits) Robbins. Mr. Robbins, who was a miner in Illinois, died at the age of eighty-one years in that state, while Mrs. Robbins passed away at the age of sixty-four years. Following their union, Mr. and Mrs. Newton resided in Seward County, Nebraska, and were engaged in farming until 1887, at which time they took up their residence in a sod house, or "soddy." For several years they resided thus, while Mr. Newton was engaged in doing preliminary work on his eighty acre tract, but eventually the little structure that they had known as home was replaced by a more pretentious residence, and this later also gave way to a comfortable dwelling, with which were made other improvements, both as to structures and machinery. The farm is now a model one and during his active years Mr. Newton cultivated the soil in a manner that made it highly productive. He died December 23, 1918, and the farm is now operated by his son. Mr. Newton is a Democratic voter and a member of the Modern Brotherhood of America.

Mr. and Mrs. Newton have been the parents of seven children: Alice, now Mrs. Beerup of Garden County, Nebraska; Minnie, now Mrs. Rickard of Hall County; Leon, now Mrs. Siebers of Chappel, Nebraska; Mabel, now Mrs. Searson, of Hall County; Charles, who resides at home and operates the farm; Jessie, who is deceased; and Macyl, Mrs. Hammond, of Davenport, Iowa.

JASPER EGGERS.—Some men are destined never to leave the ordinary paths of life, but in pursuing simple and homely duties along them to accomplish as much perhaps as those whose responsibilities carry them into larger fields. One of the men who for years worked faithfully and well as a farmer and did much to raise agricultural standards in Hall County, is Jasper Eggers, who is now living in comfortable retirement in his home in Grand Island.

Mr. Eggers was born in Holstein, Germany, July 24, 1848, a son of Jasper Eggers, a general farmer who never left that country. Mr.



MR. AND MRS. JASPER EGGERS

Eggers's mother, who died when he was two years old, was, prior to her union with his father, a Miss Behrens. Educated in the public schools of his native land, Mr. Eggers had just passed his majority when he set sail for the United States. His first location was in Davenport, Iowa, where he worked on a farm for three years, but in 1872 came to Hall County and homesteaded eighty acres in Harrison township. To this he later added by purchase one hundred and sixty acres, and still owns this tract of two hundred and forty acres, all under a splendid state of cultivation and with permanent and modern improvements installed by him. He now has his farm rented and is living retired in his home at 721 West Louisa street, Grand Island. Mr. Eggers was a most industrious and painstaking agriculturist, won his success solely through individual effort, and at the same time obtained and held the esteem and confidence of those with whom he came in contact.

Mr. Eggers was united in marriage with Miss Lena Vitt, a native of Germany, where her parents were also born. Mr. and Mrs. Eggers have had no children. Mrs. Eggers died and in 1912 Mr. Eggers married Christine Oltmann, a native of Schleswig-Holstein who came to America when twenty-five years of age. They are faithful members of the Lutheran church. In past years Mr. Eggers has been a Democrat, but is inclining toward the socialist ticket.

EARL A. MECAM.—Many of the substantial and rapidly progressing agriculturists of Hall County are those who either own or are carrying on operations on the homesteads taken up and formerly operated by their fathers, and in this class is found Earl A. Mechem, of Center township. He has been a resident of Hall County since the spring of 1907, and during the period that has intervened has made rapid strides toward the attainment of success and high standing.

Earl A. Mechem was born at Kenesaw, Adams County, Nebraska, June 30, 1884, a son of Clinton P. Mechem, a sketch of whose career will be found on another page of this work. He was given the educational training securable in the public schools of Adams County, then attended the agricultural school of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln from which he graduated. He was brought up as a farmer's son, his boyhood and youth being passed in assisting his father in the work of the home place. Mr. Mechem came to Hall

County in the spring of 1907, and since that time has been engaged in general farming, at present being engaged in tilling one hundred and twenty acres of land belonging to his father, in section 7, Center township. Like other progressive men of his calling, Mr. Mechem uses modern methods. The fundamental industry of farming is becoming generally recognized as being so important as to loom up large among other vocations of the world, and not only are all the leading colleges and universities including agricultural departments in their courses of study, but there are numerous educational institutions practically devoted to agriculture alone. The government of each state, following the policy of the national government, is giving attention to the encouragement of farmers, and the men who till the soil are feeling the effect of this universal impetus and working accordingly. With such examples, Mr. Mechem feels secure in the advisability and wisdom of using the most modern methods and machinery, and the results that he is obtaining from such a course substantiate his faith. Mr. Mechem takes an independent stand in regard to political questions, but is a supporter of good movements which benefit his community. The family belongs to the Methodist church at Alda.

Mr. Mechem married in Hastings, Nebraska, November 27, 1907, Nettie Ball, who was born in Adams County, September 26, 1886, a daughter of Daniel and Laura Ball, who are now residents of Hastings. Mr. Ball was born in 1854, at Richmond, Wayne County, Indiana, and up to the time of his retirement was an educator, teaching in schools at various places in the country, but principally at Kenesaw and Hastings, Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. Mechem are the parents of four children: Marion, who was born in 1911; Florence, who was born in 1914; Lavonne, who was born in 1915, and Lucile, who was born in 1917.

JOHN W. DANGLER has been a resident of Hall County since 1906. Mr. Dangler belongs to the progressive class of men who are always eager to improve their properties according to the latest improved standards. In answer to his efforts the soil of this section makes quick response. He has not only been successful and progressive in his personal affairs, but as a citizen has been quick to support movements which are calculated to benefit his locality.

John W. Dangler was born in Logan County, Illinois, August 26, 1867, a son of

Daniel and Martha (Quisenberry) Dangler. The father was born in Ohio, November 30, 1843. As a young man he went to Logan County, Illinois, where he married a native of that county and settled down to a career in farming. After many years passed there, in 1882 he came to Hamilton County and purchased a quarter-section of land. On this he followed farming until his retirement, since which event he has been making his home with his son. Mr. and Mrs. Dangler were the parents of three children: John W.; Anna, who resides at Fall City, Nebraska, and Belle, who is married and a resident of Newton, Iowa.

John W. Dangler was educated in the public schools of Logan County, Illinois, where he grew to manhood and engaged in farming. He was still a young man when he removed to Hamilton County, Nebraska, and settled down to a career as a general farmer. For the business of farming he was singularly fitted by nature, training and inclination. After several years in Hamilton County he bought land in Hall County, but did not move here until 1906, in which year he settled in section 10, Wood River township, where he has since made his home. At this time he is the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of valuable, productive and highly cultivated land, where he raises the standard crops and also engages in stockraising to some extent. He has a commodious and comfortable home, attractive and substantial barns and outbuildings and other modern improvements. The general air of prosperity which surrounds his farm testifies to his good management.

Mr. Dangler married in Hamilton County, Nebraska, December 26, 1900, Miss Etta Davison, born in Hall County, September 11, 1881. They are the parents of several children: Blanche E., Ethel M., Percy A., Leonard A. and Thelma O. For a sketch of the parents of Mrs. Davison, the reader is referred to the review of Henry Davison, to be found on another page of this work. Mr. Dangler is a Republican in his political affiliation. A man who has never spared himself in working ahead, keen to embrace every opportunity, and able to plan good business combinations, he is one of the capable men of the Wood River Valley. He holds and merits the confidence of his associates. He and Mrs. Dangler are consistent members of the Methodist church.

EBER PAULK.—Hall County land has proved an excellent investment of both time and money, and those foresighted enough to secure farms before prices increased to their

present quotations have been able to acquire a competence commensurate with their labors. One or those in the past whose good judgment in securing a location made it possible for him to pass his declining years in the midst of advantages and comfortable surroundings and left his family in excellent financial circumstances was the late Eber Paulk. His death occurred at his home in Wood River township April 20, 1919.

Eber Paulk was born June 20, 1849, in Athens County, Ohio, the son of Venus and Elizabeth (Balcom) Paulk, natives of Ohio who followed general farming all their lives in the Buckeye state. Eber Paulk received a public school education in Ohio and was reared on the home farm, where he assisted his father until the time of his marriage, when he located on another farm and established a home of his own. On October 30, 1879, he married Miss Lusy Ann Diff, who was born in Woods County, West Virginia, May 11, 1862. She was the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Ray) Diff, the father a land dealer of West Virginia. Following his marriage, Mr. Paulk continued to make his home in Virginia until 1885, in which year he came to Hall County, Nebraska, and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land seven miles north of Wood River, where he lived till seventeen years ago when he bought land in Wood River township, where the rest of his life was passed in the peaceful pursuits of tilling the soil and reaping the harvests. He was an industrious and persevering man, and through good management and the use of intelligence in his work secured a good farm and gained himself a position of security in the confidence of the people among whom his days were passed. He was independent in his political views, and a member of the Masonic lodge.

Mrs. Paulk, who survives her husband, is the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of the home place. She is the mother of seven children: Clifton, who is married and lives at Pleasanton; Elizabeth and Jerome, who are married and live in Hall County; Genevieve, who is married and lives in Grand Island; Robert, who is deceased; Mamie, who lives at home, and Edna, who is married and lives in Hall County.

LLOYD M. HOWE.—That prosperity has attended the efforts of many of Hall County's agriculturists is not due to any happy fortune or chance circumstances, but to a fortunate selection of location and persistent and intelligent working of the land. One of the sub-

stantial farmers of this locality, whose prosperity is in the Wood River Valley, where he is widely known for his progressiveness and industry, is Lloyd M. Howe. Mr. Howe has passed his entire life in this county, being born December 10, 1875, a son of Frank E. Howe, a sketch of whose career appears on another page of this book.

Mr. Howe was reared on the home farm in Hall County, where he was given the advantages of attendance at the district schools. Later he pursued a high school course at Wood River, and then entered the Nebraska State University, but after one year gave up his college work and became a railroad mail clerk, a position which he held for eight years. He purchased his first land with his earnings in 1904, when he bought a tract of eighty acres, which he has since increased to two hundred and eighty acres. In addition to this he is farming his father's land, a homestead. He devotes himself principally to general farming. He made a success of his operations as a breeder of pure-bred stock. The greater part of the improvements now on the land were installed by Mr. Howe, who not only believes in modern methods of procedure but also in improved appearances and whose progressive ideas have served as a good example to others in his community. He has thereby contributed to the general welfare of the community. His property is situated in section 17, Wood River township, a community in which Mr. Howe has become favorably known for his public spirit and good citizenship as well as for the honorable manner in which he conducts his transactions. He is a Republican in his political creed, and has served as a member of the school board of district No. 8 for three years.

Mr. Howe married Mary E. Behr, daughter of the late Henry and Marie (Bohn) Behr, natives of Germany, the latter of whom makes her home at Wood River. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Howe: Mary and Anna.

MRS. CATHERINE CURRY, who is well known in Hall County and is one of the most highly esteemed residents of Wood River, is the widow of the late Owen Curry, who, at the time of his death, January 12, 1914, was one of the most substantial men of Hall County. He left behind him a fine family for whom he had amply provided, a large circle of friends who valued him highly, and a record of faithful membership in the Roman Catholic church.

Mrs. Curry was born at Haverty, April 26, 1849, in Ireland. Her parents were John and Ellen Haverty, of county Kilkenny, Ireland, where her father was a small farmer. Mrs. Curry was the fifth born in their family of eight children, the others being: James, John, Thomas, Mrs. Mary A. Quinn, Patrick, Mrs. Elizabeth Spohn, and Michael. In 1866 Mrs. Curry's two brothers, James and John, came to the United States and settled in Hall County. She had always lived in her home until that time but in 1867 her brothers in America sent for her and she came directly to their home in Hall County, afterward until her marriage, making her home with her brother James. The first money she ever earned was for work done in the family of F. C. Dodge, in Hall County.

On August 20, 1871, at Wood River, she was united in marriage to Owen Curry, who had procured the license in Buffalo County, his being one of the first two licenses issued, the other was secured by County Judge Welsh. The marriage ceremony was performed by Rev. Father Ryan, who lived at Columbus, Nebraska, but had a small congregation at Wood River that he visited about once a month. Mr. Curry was also of Irish extraction and was one of a family of five children: Hugh, James, Peter, Owen and Mrs. Mary A. Goodin. Mr. and Mrs. Curry had eight children born to them, as follows: James P., who is deceased; Mary E., who is the wife of Frank O'Brien, of Portland, Oregon; Theresa, who was graduated as a trained nurse from a convent school at Council Bluffs, Iowa, resides with her mother when not professionally engaged; John, who owns a farm in Hall County, married Grace Supten, and they have one daughter; Fannie, the wife of Millard Wickersham, owns a farm near Wood River and they have a son and a daughter; Delia, married Arthur Mattoone, a merchant in Portland, Oregon, and they have two sons; Anna is deceased, and Nellie, who is the wife of Joseph Knight, a farmer near Shelton, and they have two sons. Mr. Curry was a kind and generous father and it pleased him to be able to make his children comfortable and he provided them all with beautiful homes during his lifetime.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Curry moved to Willow Island and Mr. Curry went to work for the Union Pacific Railroad as section foreman, but two years later returned to the neighborhood of Wood River. He bought two hundred and eighty acres of railroad land and in addition took up a homestead of eighty acres adjoining it, situated five miles

west of Wood River, and it was there the family lived for many years. They did not have to bear many of the hardships that their neighbors had to endure because Mr. Curry had brought considerable capital with him when he came here, nevertheless he could not have accumulated nine hundred and sixty acres of rich Wood River bottom land, now worth \$150 an acre, without industry and frugality in the household. While he worked hard raising corn and stock and putting his surplus money into more land Mrs. Curry as a true helpmate, worked hard and the marketing of her butter, chickens and eggs provided necessities and many luxuries beside. Mrs. Curry owns a beautiful modern residence at Wood River and a large body of land, in addition having a generous income, a part of which she expends in charity. She is a devoted member of the Roman Catholic church as are all her children.

WILLIAM J. BURGER.—Few of the older residents of Doniphan are better known or more highly valued as good and upright citizens, than William J. Burger, who came very early to Hall County and for years has been prominent in its business affairs. While Mr. Burger has been mainly interested in the stock business, he has been successfully connected with other lines, since 1880, when he assisted in laying out the town of Doniphan, he has resided here and has been identified with its remarkable development.

Mr. Burger was born in Cedar County, Missouri, February 12, 1844. His parents were James L. and Nancy (Goodwin) Burger, the former of whom was born in Tennessee, in 1812, and the latter in North Carolina, in 1811. Of their eight children, William J. was fifth in order of birth, the others being as follows: Tolbert, who died in Cedar County, Missouri; Halbert H., who died at Glenwood, Iowa; Caroline, deceased, was the wife of Robert Craig; Mitchell, who died at Red Oak, Iowa; Margaret, the wife of Thomas Young, lives in Hastings, Iowa; George E., who died at Doniphan, Nebraska; and Diantha, the wife of Martin White, died near Glenwood, Iowa. James L. Burger moved from Tennessee to Missouri, and from there to Mills County, Iowa, where he secured one hundred and sixty acres of government land under the pre-emption law, to which he subsequently added until he owned over three hundred acres. He improved his land and became a substantial citizen of Mills County, serving acceptably in township offices on many

occasions. In 1862 he went to Colorado, where he spent one year, going then to Nebraska and buying a farm in Cass County, near Plattsmouth, where his death occurred in 1868. He was a Democrat in his political views, and both he and wife belonged to the Methodist Episcopal church.

William J. Burger attended the district schools in boyhood and grew up on his father's farm. In 1862 he accompanied his father to Colorado where they were associated in the cattle business for two years. In the fall of 1864 he came to Hall County and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres and had a ranch on the freight road—the government trail—that ran from Nebraska City to Plattsmouth and thence to Denver, this ranch lying at an important junction. The Burgers suffered from Indian depredations as did other neighbors, who, at that time, were few and far between. On July 24, 1864, the Indians made a raid through this section, and conditions were so bad during the next few years that in the spring of 1868 Mr. Burger moved with his family to Plattsmouth, remaining there until 1870. Once more the family settled on the farm in Hall County and lived there until 1879, when, as noted above, removal was made to Doniphan. Mr. Burger immediately started a sale and livery stable, and in 1880 embarked in the mercantile business, this enterprise was continued under the firm name of W. J. Burger & Son until recently when they sold out. For a number of years Mr. Burger was active also in the grain business but stock has been his main interest and reliance, and his name still is a leading one in the industry. He is a large employer of labor, keeps only good, standard stock, feeds for market and aims to annually ship two cars of cattle and three cars of hogs. He owns five hundred and fifty acres of fine land, having the greater part of it under cultivation.

November 24, Thanksgiving Day, 1864, Mr. Burger was united in marriage to Miss Martha Creason, who was born September 25, 1845, near Burlington, Iowa, a daughter of John and Abigail (Hillman) Creason, natives of Ohio. They were farming people and moved to Mills County, Iowa, later to Nemaha County, Nebraska; removing then to Hall County where their death occurred. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Burger: Charles A. and Rose B., both of whom are deceased; Flora A., who is the wife of Benjamin F. Scudder, of Doniphan; William, Frank J., and Emma, all of whom are deceased; Martha Jennette, the wife of Arnold Herrell,



MR. AND MRS. W. J. BURGER

of University Place, Lancaster County, Nebraska; Albert D., associated with his father in the mercantile business at Doniphan; James F., deceased; and Mary M., the wife of H. S. Knapp, of Lincoln, Nebraska.

At present Mr. Burger is independent in his political sentiments, but he was interested in the early days of the Populist party in that organization. For years he has served as a justice of the peace and for two terms was on the board of county commissioners. Both he and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal church. During the World War he was a willing and liberal contributor to the various movements and a hearty supporter of the government after war was declared.

JULIUS CAESAR STRASSER.—From a clerkship in a small general store in Alda to the ownership of four hundred and sixty acres of some of the best farming land in Hall County is the distance in position traveled by Julius Caesar Strasser since his arrival in Hall County thirty-three years ago. His experience in the field of merchandising covered only three years or less, for in the spring of 1889 he added his name to the list of agriculturists whose activities center in Hall County, and in that field of endeavor worked out a gratifying success.

Mr. Strasser was born on the banks of the Mississippi river, at Bellevue, Jackson County, Iowa, August 22, 1864, a son of Adam and Catherine Strasser. Adam Strasser was a lumber merchant at Bellevue, with large interests in the industry being plied on the Mississippi and never left that community for the West. J. C. Strasser was reared in his home community, where he attended the public schools, remaining at home until after attaining his majority, when he left the parental roof, feeling that a better future awaited him farther to the West. He arrived at Alda, in Hall County, May 1, 1886, and there secured employment as clerk in the store of William Mitchell. He had been fitted for the position by a high school course and a commercial course in Elliott's Business College at Burlington, Iowa. He remained with Mr. Mitchell until July 5th of the same year, when he transferred his services to Hayden Brothers, a concern with which he was connected until the fall of 1888. In the meantime he had conserved his savings carefully, and, combining them with the small capital which he had brought with him from Iowa, he was able in the spring of 1889 to make the initial payment on a farm of one hundred and sixty

acres, located in section 10, Wood River township. That formed the nucleus for his present holdings of four hundred and sixty acres, while Mrs. Strasser is the owner of an additional two hundred and forty acre tract. For years Mr. Strasser was engaged in general farming and stockraising, but at this time is retired, and rents his land. During the years of his activity he was accounted one of the progressive and substantial agriculturists of the Wood River Valley, and, with their modern improvements, his farms were considered by many as models.

About the time he settled on his farm, Mr. Strasser married, March 30, 1889, Miss Emma C. Wiese, daughter of Hans Wiese, of Wood River township. Three children have been born to this union: Matilda, a history and English student, class of 1919, at the University of Nebraska, who will teach in Wood River school the coming year; Ethel A., wife of Doctor H. Burgess, of Lincoln, and Florence, attending the Wood River high school. Mr. Strasser is independent in his political views. He has always been ready to assist with his abilities, his time and his means in any worthy movements having for its object the advancement of his locality. He is a particular friend of education, having served as a member of the local school board for a period of twelve years.

MARTIN HARDERS.—The career of Martin Harders in its demonstration of the value of industry and persistent endeavor as a means of attaining success, furnishes a valuable lesson for the youth of today who are entering upon their careers feeling that they are handicapped by the lack of the aids represented by money and influence. Mr. Harders, at the time of his entering upon an independent career, had only his native ability and determination to assist him; today he is one of the substantial citizens of Harrison township, where he lives in comfortable retirement on his six hundred acre farm.

Martin Hardens was born in Holstein, Germany, October 21, 1868, a son of Johann and Anna Harders, natives of that country who emigrated to the United States in 1880 and passed the rest of their lives as farming people in Hall County. The son, Martin, had attended the public schools in Germany and received some small instruction after arriving in Hall County, but his youth in this new country was largely filled with hard work, and the greater part of his education came from the school of experience. The family was not

affluent as to financial circumstances, and accordingly when the young man started his independent life he was forced to rely upon his own resources. These were sufficient to enable him to buy a quarter-section of school land located in section 16, Harrison township, and to this he has since added, from time to time, through purchase and investment, until he now has six hundred acres. While for some years he followed farming almost exclusively, more recently he turned his attention to the cattle business, a field in which he achieved such success that he eventually retired, and is now living in his comfortable home, surrounded by everything desirable, a condition of affairs far removed from those existing when he first began to make his own way. He is independent in his political belief and action, and is highly regarded in his community, as a dependable, useful and constructive citizen.

Mr. Harders was united in marriage in 1889 with Marguerite Kunk, a native of Germany, and to this union there have been born eleven children: Ella, now Mrs. Thompson, wife of a Cameron township farmer; John, carrying on farming in section 17, Harrison township; Julius, operating on land situated just north of the home place in Harrison township; Emil, who enlisted in Company H, One Hundred Thirty-fourth Infantry, was sent to Camp Cody, New Mexico, for training, assigned to the Thirty-second Division, with which he was sent to France, served in the ranks until the signing of the armistice and was subsequently sent back to the United States, arriving at New York City, May 20, 1919; Frieda, now Mrs. Hargins, of Abbott; Miss Edith, who resides with her parents; Helga and Charley, who are attending school, and Hilda, Otto and Anna, who live at home.

EDMOND ADNARM KEARNEY.—A progressive representative of the farming and stockraising interests of Hall County, Edmond Adnarm Kearney has been the architect of his own fortunes and has advanced himself to substantial position through the exercise of his own native attainments. He is now the owner of a well-cultivated farm of one hundred and sixty acres, located in section 3, Harrison township, and is accounted one of the men who have done much in a constructive way for the betterment and advancement of their adopted community.

Mr. Kearney was born on a farm in Clay County, Illinois, March 19, 1874, a son of William Kearney. His father as a young man

enlisted for service in the Union army during the Civil War, and at the close of that struggle went to Illinois, where he followed farming until 1885. In that year he migrated to Hall County, where he resided four years, and then removed to Keya Paha County, this state, settling on a homestead, where he resided three years. Returning to Hall County, he resumed farming, and at the time of his retirement went to the Old Soldiers' Home at Grand Island, where he now resides.

Edmond A. Kearney was eleven years of age when he accompanied his parents to Hall County, and his education, which had been started in the public schools of Clay County, Illinois, was completed here and in Keya Paha County. He returned to Hall County with his father and began working out on various farms until he was able to accumulate enough to purchase a farm of his own. His present property, a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Harrison township, was bought in 1904, the year of the Portland (Oregon) Exposition. When he came to this farm it was lacking in all save the crudest improvements, and the modern ones which at present add value to the farm are of Mr. Kearney's installation. He carries on general farming and raises some stock, and his success has been achieved through strictly honorable methods, so that his reputation is an excellent one. Politically, Mr. Kearney is independent.

Mr. Kearney married Miss Nielson, daughter of John and Josephine Nielson, of Salt Lake City, Utah, and they have one child: Ruth A., born in 1918. Mrs. Kearney is a member of the Mormon church.

WILLIAM L. HALDEMAN, who owns a valuable farm in Harrison township, Hall County, that has been developed and highly improved through his own efforts, came to this county thirty-five years ago and has always been considered one of the solid, dependable men of this section.

William L. Haldeman was born at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, April 9, 1854. His parents were James F. and Anna (Short) Halderman, who were born in Ohio. In 1875 they moved from Muscatine, Iowa, to Hall County, settling near Alda, where both parents died, the father when aged seventy-four years, and the mother, seventy-one years. The latter was a member of the Episcopal church. William L. Halderman grew to manhood in Iowa, where he had common school advantages and practical training in business. In 1884 he joined his father in Hall County immediately



F. M. WILES AND FAMILY

investing in railroad lands situated in Harrison township, and from then until the present has been closely engaged in agricultural activities. For many years he has been exceedingly successful as a general farmer and has grown some stock and cattle. At present he is giving attention to a beautiful herd of Aberdeen Polled Angus cattle, that give evidence of being very profitable.

On Thanksgiving day, 1877, Mr. Halderman married Miss Isabel Harris, a daughter of Abraham and Isabel Harris, formerly of Avoca, Iowa, but now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Halderman have three children, namely: Russell, E. K. and Anna, all of whom live in Grand Island. Mr. Halderman has never been active politically, but he takes much interest in his connection with the Masonic and Elk lodges, in Grand Island.

FRANCIS MERVIN WILES is one of the substantial and up-to-date farmers of Hall County, owning and operating a well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres in sections eleven and twelve, Wood River township.

Mr. Wiles is a native of the neighboring state of Kansas, having been born at Alton, Osborne County, November 9, 1879. His father, Alverdo Wiles, is a native of New York state and now a resident of Doyle, California. The mother of our subject was Emily Vernon, a native of Iowa, who died in Kansas when Francis was eleven years old.

Young Wiles was early thrown upon his own resources and was reared on farms. He was seventeen years old when he came to Hall County where he found employment at farm labor. He carefully saved his earnings and was able to purchase eighty acres of land to which he later added a tract of similar size, this being improved and here he has made his home for the last seventeen years, being engaged in diversified farming with good success. He uses modern machinery in his farm operations and was the first to make use of the small tractor in the cultivation of his land.

December 19, 1900, occurred the marriage of Francis M. Wiles and Miss Mabel Clair Rickard. She was born in Hall County, a daughter of Lewis and Marie Antoinette (Fellows) Richard, the former of whom was born in New York and the latter was born at Flowerfield, Michigan. They were among the early settlers of Hall County where the father took a homestead and became one of the well-to-do men of the county. Both are now deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Wiles are the parents of six

living children: Pearl Gertrude, Earl Francis, Clyde Edwin, Milton Seth, Ralph Willard and Delmar Glenn. They lost two children: Arthur L. and Floyd Clarence.

The family are members of the Friends church at Alda, in which Mr. Wiles holds an official position. In politics he is a Republican and is an efficient member of the school board and a director in the Farmers State Bank of Alda.

JOHN SYLVESTER HAYSE, whose residence in Hall County dates from 1880, found few settlers earlier than himself in Harrison township, where he is one of the leading agriculturists. He came here in early manhood from Ohio, where, even then, neighborhoods were becoming crowded and the tocsin was being sounded of "Go west, young man, go west." He has never felt that he made any mistake in coming to Hall County, with its invigorating climate that gives urge to industry, and with soil that readily responds to proper cultivation.

John S. Hayse was born in Hancock County, Ohio, December 24, 1855. He was the only child born to the marriage of John Conrad and Sarah (Crouse) Hayse. His mother was a native of Pennsylvania who died in Ohio when aged thirty-nine years. His father was born in Germany and lived to be seventy years old. By a second marriage he had children and two daughters survive and reside in Ohio.

After his school period was over, John S. Hayse assisted on the home farm in Hancock County and remained in Ohio as a farmer for four years after his marriage. When he reached Hall County in 1880 his capital consisted of \$50, with which he bought railroad land. For some years he found farming a rather hard proposition, as the methods to which he had been accustomed in Ohio were not altogether applicable to Nebraska soil, but he was earnest, steady and industrious and adjusted himself to changed conditions in the course of time, and at present owns one of the most productive eighty acre farms in Harrison township. He has kept abreast of the times in agricultural matters, makes use of modern machinery, tests his seed carefully and is particular concerning the quality of his stock. His farm buildings are substantial and the surroundings attractive and inviting.

In Ohio, on October 19, 1876, Mr. Hayse was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Orwick, and they have had four children: Mrs. Nancy B. Foster, who lives near Doniphan; Otto E., a farmer near Wood River;

John E., at home, and Bertha May, who died when aged five years. For six years Mr. Hayse has been a school director and performs his duties conscientiously.

HENRY WESTPHAL, a prosperous general farmer in Hall County and the owner of a quarter section of land in Harrison township, was born in Holstein, Germany, May 31, 1858. His parents were Diedrick and Katrine Westphal, natives of Germany.

Henry Westphal was twenty-six years old when he came to the United States and immediately located in Grand Island, Hall County, Nebraska. Like many other early settlers in the county, he was practically without capital, but he found work and was industrious and frugal and that is the explanation of his present ample fortune. Mr. Westphal has come to a time of life when it is no longer necessary for him to labor as in old days, but he still continues active and capably manages his farm as he has done for so many years. He has made substantial improvements on his property, carries on varied farming and raises some fine grade stock.

In 1880, Mr. Westphal married Miss Katrine Christian, whose parents were residents of Hall County. They have had children as follows: August, Richard, Oscar, Mrs. Minnie Enspinger, Harry and Charles. Harry Westphal, the fourth son, went to Europe as a soldier with the American Expeditionary Forces, and is with the Army of Occupation in Germany. Mr. Westphal and his wife are members of the Lutheran church. The entire family is held in general esteem in Grand Island as well as in Harrison township.

JOHN MATHIAS TAGGE, who for fifty years has been a resident of Hall County, came here in youth, was quiet, industrious and efficient whether working for others or for himself, and now owns one of the best improved farms in Harrison township.

John Mathias Tagge was born in Holstein, Germany, May 23, 1850. His parents were Claus J. and Matilda Tagge, who were highly respected people in the section of Germany in which they lived. John M. Tagge was the first of the family to come to America and largely upon his report depended the emigration of his parents. He reached the United States in 1868, made his way from the eastern seaboard to Illinois and spent one year there working in the farming regions. After com-

ing to Hall County in 1869, the young man realized the great opportunities offered here, and it is sure that a message speedily went across the Atlantic that brought his parents to the United States in 1870. After passing a short time in Iowa they came to Hall County and spent the rest of their lives in Harrison township. At first John M. Tagge hired out to other settlers, but by 1872 he was able to buy land for himself. It was entirely unimproved and years of hard work had to be put behind him before Mr. Tagge felt able to increase his holdings, to the improvement of which he also devoted himself. He now owns two hundred and forty acres of valuable land, situated in section 1, Harrison township, three miles from Abbott which affords him fine market facilities, and here he carries on general farming very profitably. The results of thrift and good management may be seen on every side.

Mr. Tagge married Miss Emma Ruff, whose parents were Henry M. and Christina Ruff natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Tagge have nine children: Herman, a farmer operating two miles north of the homestead; John, who assists on the home farm; William, who is a farmer in Cameron township; Otto, who has returned home after eleven months service in France, with the American Expeditionary Forces, a soldier of whom his township is proud, and Freda, Amanda, Rudolph, Alfred and Arvenus, all of whom are at home. Mr. and Mrs. Tagge are members of the Lutheran church. The family is everywhere held in high regard.

JOHN RUSHEN, one of Hall County's well known and substantial farmers and stockmen, came first to Nebraska in 1878. Since then he has led a busy life, in which there have been ups and downs, and now resides on his well improved farm situated in South Loup township.

Born in Germany January 10, 1855, John Rushen was the eldest child of his parents, Jeorgen and Katherine (Stange) Rushen, the others being as follows: Mrs. Mary Kuehl, a widow, who lives at Valparaiso, Indiana; Mrs. Molly Foster, who died at Chicago, Illinois, in 1906; Lena, who died during the voyage to America from Germany and was buried at sea, and Henry, who died in infancy. The parents were natives of Germany. The mother of the above named children died at the age of thirty-six years and to a second marriage of the father the following children were born: Lena, Charles, James, Bertha

and Emma, all of whom are living. The father was a wagonmaker by trade, an occupation in which he was engaged while living at first in Chicago. From there he moved to Porter County, Indiana, where he bought forty acres of land in what was known as the White Settlement, on which the family lived for two years when he sold it and bought another farm of forty acres situated three miles north of Valparaiso. Still later he bought additional land and put up a fine house and in 1878 died there.

John Rushen attended the public schools and helped his father on the Indiana farm. In 1878 he came to Lincoln, Nebraska, and at first herded cattle for \$15 a month, and then became connected with Hass, Mitchell & Company, an association which continued for almost seven years. After leaving this concern he went into partnership with George W. Dunham as game hunters and they made their headquarters at Denton in Lancaster County, a station between Crete and Lincoln, supplying game to the Lincoln markets. The next business venture of Mr. Rushen was the renting of a ranch in Buffalo County and stocking it with cattle but he never lived on the ranch but settled at Venango, in Perkins County and carried on an implement business there for six years. Unfortunate investments caused his failure in business and he determined then to return to Hall County. With a team of mules he conveyed his household goods from Venango to Denver and there loaded a car for Cairo. His finances at that time were at so low an ebb that he had to borrow one dollar to finish paying for the transportation, else the railroad would not have permitted him to unload.

As soon as settled at Cairo Mr. Rushen went into the well and pump business, found it profitable and afterward, when he had succeeded in honestly paying every cent of indebtedness that misfortune had brought upon him, he moved on a part of what was once the estate of his father-in-law, and has since followed an agricultural life here. His land is situated in section 35, South Loup township, where he has found the soil particularly well adapted for fruit growing and the raising of potatoes. During the past season Mr. Rushen's potato crop was considered the best that came to the Grand Island market. He set out trees of all kinds and at one time was credited with having the best orchard in the county. He devotes his one hundred and twenty acres to mixed farming and pays considerable attention to his grade of livestock.

Mr. Rushen married Miss Emma Mieth, October 16, 1883, who was born at Chicago, Illinois, March 26, 1864, a daughter of August and Mary (Pingle) Mieth, natives of Germany. Both Mr. and Mrs. Rushen were reared in the Lutheran church. He is an independent voter but not an indifferent one because he is a good citizen. For many years he has belonged to the order of Odd Fellows.

ELMER E. VEEDER.—In the untimely death of Elmer E. Veeder the county lost one of its substantial citizens and his family a loving helpmate. His death, which occurred at his home on the sixth of March, 1916, was caused from the accidental discharge of a gun while out hunting. Mr. Veeder had been a resident of the county for nearly forty years and he had improved and developed a splendid farm property in South Loup township. He was a native of Gloversville, New York, born June 19, 1861, a son of Seymour and Cordelia (Slawson) Veeder, natives of New York. They came to Nebraska, settling in Hall County in 1878, where both passed their lives. They bought raw prairie land, which the father improved until he had a fine farm.

Mr. Veeder was married in this township November 6, 1890, to Miss Bertha Mieth, a daughter of August Mieth, Sr., a record of whom will be found elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Veeder became the parents of three children, as follows: Francis A., who married Carrie Miks, now operates the home farm; Earl M., and Esther E.

Mr. Veeder was one of the best known and most highly respected citizens of his community, and was held in the highest respect by all who knew him. He was a member of the A. O. U. W. and his remains were laid to rest in the Cairo cemetery.

RUDOLPH GLOCK was one of the highly respected citizens of Hall County and his death which occurred on his farm in South Loup township, February 24, 1917, was mourned by a host of friends as well as by his immediate family.

Rudolph Glock was born at Highland, Illinois, September 9, 1862, a son of Adolph and Anna (Iberg) Glock, the former a native of Basil, Switzerland, while the mother was born in Highland, Illinois, where they passed their lives. In 1888 Mr. Glock came to Nebraska, bought a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits.

November 23, 1891, he married Miss Ida

Mieth, a daughter of August Mieth, Sr., whose record as a pioneer will be found elsewhere in this history. They became the parents of two children: August and Anna Marie, who reside with their mother on the farm and assist in its operation.

Mr. Glock had been an invalid for many years but was successfully engaged in farming. He owned a well improved farm of eighty acres in South Loup township, where his widow and family still reside. She also owns eighty acres of her father's estate. He was a good man, a kind and loving father and held in the highest respect by all who knew him. He was reared in the Lutheran faith.

AUGUST MIETH, SR. — The man whose name introduces this record will long be remembered as one of the pioneers of Hall County, and one of its noble citizens who has long since passed to his reward.

August Mieth, Sr., was a native of Prussia, Germany, born April 5, 1829. His parents were Christ and Anna Mieth who spent their entire lives in their native land. The son attended the schools of that country and when a young man served an apprenticeship of four years and learned the blacksmith trade. He married Miss Theodora Wyka, a native of the same province and soon after this event they emigrated to America and first lived at Falls Villa, Connecticut, moving from there to Buffalo, New York. In 1855 he became a resident of Chicago. While residing there he helped build the first hearse in use in the city, remaining there until 1870 when he settled at Burlington, Illinois. He worked at his trade all these years and in 1880 came to Hall County, and purchased land in South Loup township, on which he made his home until his death which occurred May 21, 1890. He was a successful farmer and at the time of his death was the owner of six hundred acres of land. His first wife, who had one child, Mary, who lived but a short time, died while they were living in Chicago, and in that city he married, in 1860, Miss Mary Pingel, a native of Germany, who died in Burlington, Illinois. She was the mother of five children, as follows: August L., who became one of Hall County's prominent farmers and passed away February 10, 1914; Emma, the wife of John Rushen, residents of Hall County; Frederick E., who owns and occupies the old place; Bertha, the widow of E. E. Veeder, and lives in Hall County, and Ida, the widow of Rudolph Glock, resides in Hall County.

August Mieth was a man possessed of those

sterling traits of character which in every clime win the admiration of all and he left his family not only large possessions of this world's goods but also the priceless heritage of an untarnished name. As a monument to the memory of a loving parent, the family have arranged for a beautiful portrait to appear in this volume.

CLINTON P. MECHAM, one of Hall County's representative men and substantial farmers, has large and valuable property interests here. His coming to the state dates back forty-one years when he was a youth of nineteen years, and the fact that before he reached his twentieth birthday, he had invested in eighty acres of land in Adams County is indicative of his intention to make this favored section his permanent home, living there for twenty-eight years, when in 1907 he sold and came to Hall County, locating in Center township where he bought three hundred and sixty acres where he has resided for twelve years. He has been a very prominent citizen and several times has been elected to offices of trust and responsibility in Adams County.

Clinton P. Mecham was born in Grundy County, Illinois, November 9, 1859. His parents were Alvin T. and Lucy (Booth) Mecham. Alvin T. Mecham was born in Pennsylvania and from there removed to Illinois. In 1850 he married Lucy Booth, who died at the age of sixty-five years. They had but two children: Mrs. Chloe Armitage, who lives in Grand Island, and Clinton P., who lives on his farm in Center township. In 1878 Mr. Mecham and his family came to Nebraska, settling first in Adams and afterward in Hall County. His death occurred at the age of eighty-one years. Clinton P. Mecham owns three hundred and sixty acres of fine land which he devotes to farming and livestock growing, taking particular interest in his thoroughbred Holstein herd, in which he has six head of pure bred cows.

On September 2, 1883, Mr. Mecham married Miss Martha Milligan, a daughter of Joseph and Martha (Parson) Milligan, the former of whom was born in Scotland and the latter in Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Mecham have had six children born to them: Earl A., a farmer near his father in Hall County; Floyd J., also a farmer in Hall County; Florence, deceased; Mrs. Harry Genn, who lives near Wood River; Glenn rents part of the home farm and Blanche, who lives at home. Mr. Mecham and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. His political



August Mieth Sr

affiliation is not defined because Mr. Mecham is a thoughtful, well informed man and prefers to vote according to his own judgment. For twelve years he served on the school board. He belongs to the order of Highlanders.

PETER HENNINGS, an enterprising and successful farmer in Center township, belongs to one of the early families of Hall County. He was born near Alda, in Hall County, January 28, 1885, a son of Claus and Katrina Hennings, both of whom were born in Germany. The latter still survives.

Although his practical father set him farm tasks when he was not more than nine years old, Peter Hennings went to school and made as fair progress as other country boys in his neighborhood. He has always taken an interest in his farm work and because of long experience understands every detail. He is operating his mother's farm, on which his father put substantial improvements, and gives considerable attention to raising Poland-China hogs. Mr. Hennings keeps well posted concerning agricultural matters and believes that a large measure of his success comes from his intelligent study of new methods as regards improved tillage, crop rotation and fertilization.

On January 27, 1915, Mr. Hennings married Miss Frieda Muhs, who was born and reared in Hall County where her parents still reside. Mr. and Mrs. Hennings have three interesting little children: Wilma, Edna and Harrold, aged respectively three, two and one year. Mr. Hennings has never identified himself with any political party but he is a good citizen and is particularly vigilant concerning educational matters in his township and at present is serving in the office of moderator of school district No. 66. He and Mrs. Hennings maintain a very hospitable home and have a wide circle of friends.

ALBERT FELSKE, a reliable citizen and prosperous general farmer in Hall County, Nebraska, may almost be numbered with the county's native sons for he was only three years old when he was brought here by his parents, who were John and Henrietta (Ronke) Felske. They were natives of Germany who came to the United States in 1872, settling in Illinois and in that state their son Albert was born on October 29, 1877.

John Felske came to Nebraska with enough capital to buy one hundred and twenty acres of land at \$5 an acre. It was located near

Abbott, and on that place Mr. Felske resided until his death in 1891. He was counted with the most careful and successful farmers in his section of the county. He and wife were highly respected by all who knew them.

Albert Felske attended school in boyhood and ever since has been engaged in farm pursuits, beginning to operate for himself in 1902. He owns eighty acres of well developed improved land on which he engages in general farming including the raising of some good stock. His surroundings indicate excellent management, much thrift and plenty, and the comforts that make a well regulated farm a very desirable place on which to live. Mr. Felske married Miss Emma Schoel, a daughter of Henry Schoel, a sketch of whom will be found in this work, the ceremony-taking place March 6, 1902. They have one child, Edgar, who lives with his parents. Mr. and Mrs. Felske are members of the Lutheran church. In politics he maintains independent views and votes according to his own judgment.

WILLARD N. HILDEBRAND, one of the intelligent, progressive young farmers and stockraisers of Hall County, is doing quite a great deal along the line of agricultural improvement. He has adopted modern methods in all his farm work, and by example, is doing his best to raise stock standards here. He has charge of the homestead farm situated on section 29, town of Doniphan.

Mr. Hildebrand was born September 9, 1900, in Woodford County, Illinois, and is a son of Jacob M. and Mary Frances Hildebrand. The father was born at Afton, Virginia, was reared a farmer and lived there for twenty-two years, moved then to Woodford County, Illinois, and after living twenty-two years in that county, came to Hall County, Nebraska, in 1907. He purchased the present home farm which contains one hundred and sixty acres and resided on it until his death when aged sixty-two years. His burial was at Doniphan. The mother of Mr. Hildebrand lives on the homestead. There were four children in the family, namely: Arvilla M., who died in Illinois when twenty years old; Myrtle M., who lived to the age of sixteen years also died in Illinois; Carroll D., who was born at Benson, Illinois, is a theological student in the Wesleyan University at Lincoln, and Willard W., who resides with his mother on the farm.

Since taking charge of the home farm, Mr. Hildebrand has done a large amount of improving. He takes much interest in his extra

fine livestock and aims to market ten head of Red Duroc-Jersey hogs, ten head of cattle, seven head of horses and five head of mules. He is not active in local politics, but is always ready to give assistance in movements for the general welfare. Both he and mother are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

WILLIAM C. MULLEN, a prominent citizen of Hall County, to which he came in 1871, following honorable service in the Civil War, owns a quarter section of valuable land situated in Center township, where he has been one of the foremost men for many years. Mr. Mullen was born in Sullivan County, New York, June 26, 1843.

The Mullen family was established early in the state of New York, its first members probably coming from Ireland. The grandfather of William C. Mullen, Philip Mullen, fought in the Revolutionary War. The father of Mr. Mullen, Philip Mullen, was born in New York state, but his mother, Rachel (Canty) Mullen, was born in Wales and brought to this country when two years old. Five sons were born to them: Jordan, Darius, O. P., John S. and Willam Canty, the last named being the only survivor.

William C. Mullen was only eighteen years old at the outbreak of the Civil War, in which he served until its close as a member of Company L, Fourteenth Illinois cavalry. He enlisted September 22, 1862, saw service under General Sherman, participating in the battles of Nashville, Cumberland Mountain and second battle of Clarksville. Being in the cavalry he took active part in many skirmishes before receiving his discharge, July 30, 1865. After the war ended he learned the stone mason and bricklaying trade. In 1871 he determined to take advantage of the government's offer of land in Nebraska, came to Hall County and took up a hundred and sixty acre homestead to which section his father came also in 1873, securing a homestead of eighty acres. Like many other settlers at that time, Mr. Mullen came with no accumulated capital, all he owned being a team of horses. Through use of his team he managed to keep the wolf from the door during the first hard winter, and he remembers starting out with a load of logs on one occasion, with but ten cents in his pocket, driving a distance of one hundred and fifty miles up the Loup River and being fortunate enough to sell his load to railroad builders. At one time he was captured by Indians and held captive for several hours but managed to escape and today

some of these early experiences are told for the entertainment of friends. He experienced many hardships before he could get his land in a productive condition, but kept up his courage, did the best he could and set an example that was not altogether lost on his neighbors. In the course of time Mr. Mullen overcame early difficulties and at present is in the enjoyment of an ample fortune and has a beautiful home on his large estate in Center township.

Mr. Mullen married Miss Mary Bussell, whose people came to Hall County from England when she was young. They have children as follows: Albert D., who lives at home; Arthur, who lives in Kansas; Philip, who resides in Sherman County, Nebraska; Charles, who lives at Cairo, Nebraska; George, the home farmer; Mrs. May Dumont, of Detroit, Michigan; Mrs. Lora Johansen, who lives in Grand Island; Mrs. Bertha Hightshoe, who lives at Eagle Bend, Minnesota; Mrs. Lula Culverson, who lives in Grand Island, and Maude, who lives with her parents. Mr. Mullen and his family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church and attend services at Alda. For many years Mr. Mullen was active in the councils of the Republican party in Center township and is still staunchly identified with that political organization. For four years he served as school director of school district No. 39, and for five years was school treasurer, and he also has served in the office of constable. He has lived through a period of wonderful development in Hall County, and in every way within his power has done his part as a worthy and upright man and loyal citizen.

ELMER ROBERT FRANZ, an extensive farmer in Hall County, has spent almost his entire life here and is a native of Nebraska. He was born in Hamilton County, March 21, 1877, and is a son of Robert B. and Amanda (Cox) Franz, natives of Sheboygan, Wisconsin, who were married in 1876. In 1865 the father of Mr. Franz came to the territory of Nebraska. He homesteaded in Hamilton County and the family resided there until 1885 then came to Alda township, Hall County.

Elmer Robert Franz was but eight years old when the family settled near Alda in Hall County. He is the only surviving member now, both parents and three brothers, Roy, Otto and an infant, having passed away. He received the education offered by the public schools of this section and at an early day began to run a farm which vocation he has followed all his life and at present is operat-



W. C. MULLEN AND WIFE

ing his own farm of eighty acres which adjoins Grand Island on the west, and three hundred and eleven acres which he rents in Alda township. He owns a large amount of first class farm machinery and his farm undertakings are conducted with great thoroughness. It is to enterprising farmers like Mr. Franz that the world is looking for the necessary increased production of food stuffs.

February 11, 1899, Mr. Franz married Miss one of the best improved farms in Alda township and whose parents live in Grand Island. They have one child, Mayme, who remains with her parents. Mr. Franz is not identified with any political party.

AUGUST L. MIETH.—In the death of August L. Mieth, Hall County lost one of its worthy citizens and his family a loving husband and father. Mr. Mieth was born in the city of Chicago, February 3, 1862, a son of August Mieth, Sr., of whom a record will be found on other pages of this volume. The son accompanied the family to Hall County in 1880 when the home was established in South Loup township on the farm where another son, Frederick, now resides. Upon reaching man's estate he wisely chose the occupation to which he had been reared and from the virgin prairie improved and developed one of the best farms in this section. A tract of four hundred and forty acres, with a fine country home, good barns and outbuildings, acres of orchard and shade trees, is the result of many years of persistent energy and good judgment on the part of its owner, and now left to be enjoyed by the family which mourns his loss.

Mr. Mieth was married in Cameron township September 13, 1880, to Miss Emma Stewart, a native of Lee County, Iowa. Her parents, Wm. J. and Maggie (Markwell) Stewart, were natives of Lee County, Iowa. They came to Hall County in 1872 and took a homestead in Cameron township. Both are dead. Mr. and Mrs. Mieth became the parents of seven children, six of whom are still living: Fred, Frank, Mary, Nathalie, Otto, Everett. Fred married Edna Waddington, and assists in the operation of the home farm. The other children are all at home.

Mr. Mieth early realized the value of pure bred stock and became a pioneer in the breeding and raising of pure bred hogs and cattle, and specimens from his farm found their way to many other states. He was one of the familiar figures at fairs, stock and poultry shows and public sales of pure bred stock and

held many sales of pure bred Poland China hogs and Shorthorn cattle at his farm. When the Farmers State Bank was organized in Cairo, in 1911, he was one of the first to put his shoulder to the wheel, and was one of the first to become a stockholder in the institution, displaying the same public spirit that characterized the man in all movements that he thought would help make better the living conditions in his community. He was a member of the German Lutheran church.

Though the condition of his health was known to the immediate family, yet his passing was a surprise and a severe loss to the county, and left a place that can never be filled. A comfortable estate acquired by pioneer ruggedness, endurance and determination and a good name, are left to a worthy helpmeet and family, and the world is better off for his having lived in it.

HENRY BECKER, well known in Hall County where his life has been spent, owns one of the best improved farms in Alda township, where he conducts agricultural operations with much success. He is a representative of one of the county's earliest families, having been born on the old Becker homestead near Grand Island, August 26, 1867.

The parents of Henry Becker were Fritz and Elizabeth (Danker) Becker, both of whom were born in Germany but became acquainted and were married after they reached Grand Island. Of their family of five children three sons are living: Charles, who follows the carpenter trade in Hershey, Lincoln County, Nebraska; Henry, a representative citizen of Alda township, Hall County, and August, who resides on the old homestead near Grand Island. Fritz Becker came to the United States in 1860 and homesteaded in Hall County among the early German settlers of that locality. He was an industrious, thrifty farmer, cultivating his land with thoroughness, and by the time that Nebraska became a state, was recognized as one of the stable and substantial men of Hall County.

Henry Becker grew up on his father's pioneer farm. He had fewer educational advantages than those reared in better organized settlements, but time has fairly remedied that and Mr. Becker is one of the best informed citizens of his township. He has followed farming all his life and owns one hundred and sixty-nine acres of valuable land, devoting it to general farm purposes.

In 1900 Henry Becker married Miss Lena Luth, who was born in Germany, where her

father died. She was eleven years old when she accompanied her mother to the United States, where the latter subsequently married George Lorenzen. Mr. and Mrs. Becker have two sons, Carl and William, aged respectively seventeen and sixteen years. They are intelligent, well educated young men, and both are giving their father assistance on the home farm. Mr. Becker has never desired public office and takes no very active interest in general politics.

WILLIAM ORANGE TYLER.—One of the early settlers in Hall County, was the late W. O. Tyler, who owned and operated a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, situated in section eight, South Platte township. This farm is well improved and still remains in the possession of the Tyler family.

W. O. Tyler was born in Orion, Michigan, August 3, 1845, and came to Hall County, in 1870. His parents were William E. and Charlotte (Nichols) Tyler, who removed from Michigan to Iowa shortly after the birth of their son. William E. Tyler served in an Iowa regiment through the last year of the Civil War, returning then to his farm in Iowa where the family retained residence until 1871 when removal was made to Hall County. Here Mr. Tyler homesteaded and continued on his land until 1884. W. O. Tyler took up a homestead in Hall County, which he developed, and as long as his state of health permitted, was active in its improvement. In 1881, however, his health broke down completely and he was forced to retire from the farm and finally, as stated above, went to California, where he spent three years. Mr. Tyler died in California, June 17, 1886.

After a short stay in Nebraska, Mr. Tyler returned to Iowa and soon afterward married Miss Mary F. White. Her parents were John and Mary C. (Thrift) White, who were natives of North Carolina. They moved to Indiana in 1863, where they remained until 1867, when they came to Iowa, where Mr. White bought one hundred and sixty acres of land that he developed into a valuable property. Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Tyler settled in Hall County and this has been her home ever since. She is well known in this section and is very highly esteemed. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Tyler: Retson, who was born in 1875, is unmarried; and Estella, the wife of Milo Karr. Mr. and Mrs. Karr have the following children: Helen, Lavern, Ada, Glenn and Lloyd, all of whom are attending school except the youngest.

WALTER RHOADES, a prosperous farmer and stockraiser of Hall County, owns eighty acres of fine land situated in section thirty-three, town of Doniphan. Mr. Rhoades was born at Phillips, Hamilton County, Nebraska, July 4, 1888. His parents were William H. and Jennie Rhoades, both of whom were born and reared in Illinois. They came from there to Hamilton County about thirty-five years ago, when pioneer conditions prevailed here, and they shared in the hardships that tested and proved the courage and steadiness of the early settlers. Their lives were not unduly extended, the father dying when aged fifty-four years and the mother passing away at the age of fifty years, their burial being at Phillips.

Walter Rhoades grew up in Hamilton County and attended the public schools. For seven years he was in the employ of the Bell Telephone Company as a lineman, and his record shows that he was exceedingly efficient in the performance of his duties and maintained friendly relations with his employers as well as the patrons of the company. In 1913 he became a farmer and since then has devoted himself closely to his farm interests.

At Hastings, Nebraska, October 8, 1913, Mr. Rhoades married Miss Lulu May Williams, a daughter of C. W. and Viola Williams, residents of Hansen, Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. Rhoades have three children: Lawrence and Florence, twins, and Bettie Irene. They are members of the Presbyterian church. In politics Mr. Rhoades takes no very active part but, as a good, reliable citizen, he casts a vote according to his own judgment after carefully considering public questions for himself. For some years he has been associated in membership with the Odd Fellows and the Woodmen of the World.

LEONARD EARL HUFFMAN, one of the alert young business men and enterprising farmers and stockraisers of Hall County, belongs to an old and substantial family here, and has spent his entire life in this county. He is well known and his reputation as a competent agriculturist and dependable, trustworthy young man is thoroughly established. Mr. Huffman was born January 3, 1894, at Doniphan, Hall County, Nebraska, a son of Elmer Albert and Amanda Ellen (Karmichael) Huffman, the former was born in Clarke County, Iowa, in 1862. His parents were John and Margaret (Parkins) Huffman. He worked on his father's farm and attended the country schools in Iowa. When he came

first to Nebraska he was glad to obtain work for \$15 a month, while now he is a man of large means, owner of a fine residence in Hastings, and one hundred and sixty acres of well improved land. His first wife was Amanda Ellen Karmichael, and two sons were born to them: Roy and Leonard Earl, both of whom are farmers in Hall County. Mr. Huffman married second Myrtle Wilson. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church in Hastings.

Leonard Earl Huffman attended the public schools at Doniphan and was graduated from the high school. He assisted his father on the home farm until the latter retired and moved to Hastings, where he resides at No. 600 West Sixth street. He has been a resident of Nebraska since 1882. In 1916 Leonard E. Huffman went into business for himself and now rents two hundred acres of fine land from W. M. Rapp, of Hastings, on which he carries on general farming according to the latest improved methods. He owns a large amount of expensive farm machinery, for Mr. Huffman is a farmer of modern type, and he has invested in first class stock, at the date of writing having eight head of Duroc-Jersey hogs, eight head of horses and five head of cattle, a fine showing for three years of operation.

Mr. Huffman married a woman born, reared and educated in Hall County, like himself. The ceremony that united him to Miss Myrtle Lawell was performed September 20, 1915. She is the youngest of a family of seven children born to George and Julia Lawell. Mr. and Mrs. Huffman have one son, Jack Wilson. They belong to the Methodist Episcopal church at Doniphan.

HENRY N. MARTIN.—An early settler in Hall County is found in Henry Nathaniel Martin, who now lives retired in Hastings, Nebraska, after many years of successful effort as a general farmer and raiser of fine cattle. Mr. Martin was born in England in 1848, and was brought to the United States in 1851 by his parents, George and Ann (Owers) Martin. For one year the family lived in Ohio and then removed to McHenry County, Illinois, which remained the family home for nine years.

Henry N. Martin was thirteen years old when his people came as far west as Iowa, where they remained one year and then proceeded to Hall County, where his father took up a homestead in section thirteen, township eleven, residing on his homestead until his

death. Within a few years Mr. Martin acquired a pre-emption claim for himself and subsequently bought other land when he believed the investment would be profitable, keeping on acquiring farms until he found himself one of the large landowners of the county. He now has eight hundred acres and all his property has been improved in a substantial manner, his farms are well stocked and as a rule they are cultivated according to scientific methods. Mr. Martin continued to manage and operate his land himself until 1911, when he retired and moved into Hastings, where he built a comfortable modern residence on North Kansas avenue.

In 1873 Mr. Martin married Miss Letitia Donald, a native of Morgan County, Illinois, and she became the mother of two children: Arthur A., who resides on one of his father's farms, married Pauline Hanson; and Viola, the wife of A. M. Johnson, a native of Ohio, lives on one of Mr. Martin's farms. In 1879, Mr. Martin was married a second time to his present wife, who was Miss Sarah M. Donald, a sister of the first wife. Mr. Martin and his family are members of the Nazarene church. During his many years in Hall County, Mr. Martin has been a witness of wonderful changes, and he has borne a part in much of the development that has made this section of state rich in its agricultural industries and law abiding in its citizenship. He is very widely and commonly known as "Nat" Martin.

JAMES R. VARAH, a well known grain farmer of Hall County, belongs to a family that came to Nebraska full forty years ago and ever since has been represented here. He was born on the homestead on which he yet lives, situated in section 23, town of Doniphan, November 14, 1886. His parents are Thomas and Erissa (Wisner) Varah, the latter of whom was born in La Salle County, Illinois. The father of Mr. Varah was born in 1857, at Syracuse, New York, was married in Illinois, and in 1879 came to Nebraska. He homesteaded in Hall County and for many years lived on this farm, then went into the real estate business and now lives retired in Hastings, Nebraska.

James R. Varah had common school advantages and has followed farming for himself since 1907, renting one hundred and sixty acres from his father. He devotes himself mainly to growing grain and sells his product as he makes no special feature of stockraising. For his own use and convenience he averages four head of cattle annually but no



H. N. MARTIN AND GRANDCHILDREN

hogs, and a few horses and mules, all of first class grade. Mr. Varah's farm shows the effect of careful husbandry, his farm machinery is of the best and his improvements are adequate and substantial. He owns stock in the mill and elevator at Doniphan.

At Hastings, Nebraska, April 29, 1908, Mr. Varah married Miss Mary Rothwell, one of a family of three children born to James and Mary Rothwell, both deceased. The father of Mrs. Varah was formerly a druggist at Trumbull, Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. Varah have five children: Lloyd, Curtis, Howard, Wayne and Norma, their ages ranging from nine to two years. Mrs. Varah is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics he is an independent voter. He belongs to a family noted for its longevity, and his grandfather, who died in 1916, was eighty-three years old and had been a retired farmer at Central Square, Oswego County, New York, for many years. The grandmother still survives, being now in her eighty-sixth year.

FRED J. BUDDECKE, a prosperous general farmer in Hall County, is a native of Nebraska, born at Hayes Center, in Hayes County, September 6, 1891. His parents were Carl and Louise Buddecke, both of whom were born in Germany. They came to the United States in 1884, landing in the harbor of New York. From there they went to Toledo, Ohio, where three years were spent. From Toledo they came to Nebraska and the father secured a homestead near Hayes Center, proved up, then moved near Trumbull, in Clay County, dying in Hastings, January 9, 1917, at the age of sixty-four years. The mother is still living.

Fred J. Buddecke obtained his education in the public schools. He was reared on a farm and has been interested in farm pursuits all his life. In 1913 he started out on his own responsibility, renting a tract of land which he operated successfully. Later he rented the farm he is now operating, situated in section twenty-four, town of Doniphan, belonging to the Buddecke estate. Here he has made many substantial improvements, has invested in first class farm machinery, follows modern methods and is making a great success of his venture. He handles standard stock only and at the time of writing has forty head of Duroc-Jersey hogs, four mules and twenty head of cattle, all ready for market.

In Hastings, Nebraska, December 17, 1914, Mr. Buddecke married Miss Minnie Brummond, a daughter of Herman and Hattie

Brummond, who have been residents of Hamilton County, Nebraska, for seven years, where Mr. Brummond is a farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Buddecke have one son, Norman, who is two years old. They attend the Lutheran church. Mr. Buddecke has been treasurer of school district No. 39 for four years and in many other ways has proved his good standing as a citizen. In politics he casts an independent vote.

OTIS TAGGART. — If an early beginning has anything to do with it, Otis Taggart, one of Hall County's prosperous farmers, should be very competent in his chosen vocation, for his efforts began when he was five years old. There are many small tasks on a well regulated farm that can easily be performed by the sturdy growing boys of the family, and Otis, as the second eldest son, was found very useful by his practical, sensible father, who has been a resident of Nebraska for the past thirty-six years.

Otis Taggart was born in Moultrie County, Illinois, May 4, 1878. His parents were David and Margaret Ellen Taggart, both deceased. His mother was born in Kentucky and his father in the city of New York. He served during the Civil War as a member of Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-third Illinois Infantry. After the war he returned to Illinois, was married and became a farmer in Moultrie County and in 1883 removed from there to Hall County, Nebraska, where his death occurred at the age of fifty-three years. The mother survived until sixty-six years old, passing away near Doniphan. They were estimable people in every relation of life. Their four children survive: Otis, Edward, James and Nellie.

As above indicated, Mr. Taggart was reared on a farm. He attended the public schools and afterward worked as a farmer for others until 1900 when he rented land and since then has carried on agricultural industries on his own account. He is operating two hundred and forty acres, carrying on a general farming line. Mr. Taggart makes no special feature of stock raising but he always maintains a substantial supply on the farm, all of good grade, and at present has two fine milch cows, nine brood sows, some good horses and an extensive poultry yard containing about a thousand chickens, with a large proportion of Plymouth Rocks. In addition to his farm property, Mr. Taggart is interested in the Doniphan Elevator and Mill Company.

At Doniphan, Nebraska, March 18, 1908,

Mr. Taggart married Miss Edith Maud Cavanaugh, the youngest in a family of eight children born to Simon and Julia (Stansberry) Cavanaugh. The father of Mrs. Taggart was born in County Wicklow, Ireland, and the mother in Tennessee. Both are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Taggart have three children: Bonnie Maxine, Floyd Allen, and an infant. Mrs. Taggart is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Taggart carries insurance in the Bankers Life Company. He belongs to the order of Woodmen of the World. Mr. Taggart is an intelligent, progressive farmer, and is a good citizen of his county. He is known to be ever ready to co-operate with his neighbors for mutual benefit and for good government. Politically he casts an independent vote.

HENRY MOELLER.—There are many men now living in Nebraska who have built up comfortable fortunes since coming here. One of these is Henry Moeller, who owns a large body of valuable land situated in section twenty-five, Alda township, Hall County. Mr. Moeller is also one of the leading stockmen of this section.

Henry Moeller was born in Holstein, Germany, July 26, 1861. His grandfather, Claus Moeller, was a highly educated man in Germany, a scientist and an astronomer. He never came to America as he was eighty-two years of age when his descendants set out for the United States in 1883. The parents of Henry Moeller were Henry and Margaret Moeller, who landed in the harbor of New York in 1883 and from there came to Davenport, Iowa. Later they removed to Harlan County, Nebraska, where both died on the home farm.

Before coming to the United States Henry Moeller had attended a public school. He assisted his father on the homestead in Harlan County and afterward operated his own farm there where he continued to live for many years. He now owns eight hundred and thirty-three acres of rich bottom land along the river, and his farm improvements are of a substantial character. He is a large cattle feeder and has two car loads of cattle ready for shipment, also about two car loads of hogs for market every year. Mr. Moeller's farm methods are thorough and practical and his undertakings result profitably.

On March 29, 1895, in Hall County, Mr. Moeller married Miss Emma Boltz. They have seven children: John C., a soldier in the United States army, at Fort Douglas, Utah, connected with a hospital ambulance corps,

and Albert G., Elsie M., Clara, Hannah, Rosie and Nora, all of whom reside at home. Mr. Moeller and family belong to the Lutheran church. He is an independent voter. While living in Harlan County he served in the office of school treasurer for twenty-one years.

EDWARD BOLTZ.—In meeting the representative and substantial men of Hall County who came here as early settlers, much that is interesting and historically instructive is learned from the recital of their experiences. Very few of them came here with any considerable amount of capital, and their present state of comfortable independence is a result of their own industry, prudence and good judgment. Edward Boltz, one of the county's big feeders of cattle may be cited as an example.

Edward Boltz was born in Holstein, Germany, June 22, 1870, the son of Claus and Johanna Boltz, both of whom were natives of the same country. They came to the United States with two children, in May, 1873, having incurred a debt of \$200 in order to make the voyage. The father located in Hall County, Nebraska, on Schimmer's Lake, near Grand Island, where he engaged in farming until his accidental death, which was occasioned by a runaway team of horses. He was then forty-five years of age and the father of nine children, the eldest being seventeen years old and the youngest aged but eighteen months. This calamity fell heavily on the mother and during the following years when pioneer hardships added to her troubles, all her resources of strength, cheerfulness and frugality were heavily taxed. Edward Boltz in recalling those times makes mention of the great snowstorm in the winter of 1888. He was eighteen years old at the time and when the storm assumed violence, started some distance away to get his brothers and sisters who were in the schoolhouse. Fortunately on the return he found a fence and only by following that, hand over hand, was he able to bring the little ones home safely. The mother survived to the age of sixty-four years.

Edward Boltz has always been a farmer and more or less interested in stock. He now owns three hundred and sixty acres of fine meadow land, for some of which he paid \$38 and acre, which he now refuses to sell for \$125 an acre. He has placed fine farm improvements here. For many years he has been an extensive feeder and now averages three cars of cattle annually and fifty head of hogs. All the horses he raises find a ready

market. Mr. Boltz has experienced some hard times and would be sorry indeed to see a recurrence of the furious storms that once swept over this section of the country within his memory, or the return of such a devastating plague as the grasshoppers.

In 1897 Mr. Boltz married Miss Minnie Nubert. Her parents were residents of Hall County where her father died at the age of sixty-four years and her mother when seventy years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Boltz have seven children: Mrs. Freda Gulzow, who lives on a farm in Kimball County, Nebraska; Mrs. Emma Mattisen, who resides on a farm near Overton, Nebraska; and Bertha, Amelia, Walter, Freddie and Gladys, all of whom are at home. The children have had school advantages and some of them have special talents. Mr. Boltz belongs to the South German societies and to the American Order of United Workmen. He is not particularly active in politics but occasionally has served in public office, for a number of years being especially efficient as supervisor of roads.

WILLIAM HENRY McDOWELL, whose fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres is situated in section eighteen, South Platte township, leads many farmers and stock raisers of Hall County because of his progressive ideas and enterprising methods. Not only is he successful in business affairs but he is of considerable prominence in public matters in the county, serving with marked efficiency in numerous important offices.

W. H. McDowell was born in Iowa, December 3, 1865. His father, Joseph McDowell, who was born in Indiana, died on his own farm in Iowa. His mother, Mrs. Mary (Jones) McDowell, is a resident of Grand Island. She also was born in Indiana. Mr. McDowell attended the public schools, first in Iowa and later in Nebraska. He has followed agricultural pursuits all his life. His farm is well improved. He raised Poland-China hogs, pure strain Percheron horses and Shorthorn cattle, conducting all his farm affairs carefully and scientifically. In January, 1919, Mr. McDowell, having gained a comfortable fortune decided to retire from the active management of his land and moved to Doniphan, where he now devotes his time to his commercial enterprises.

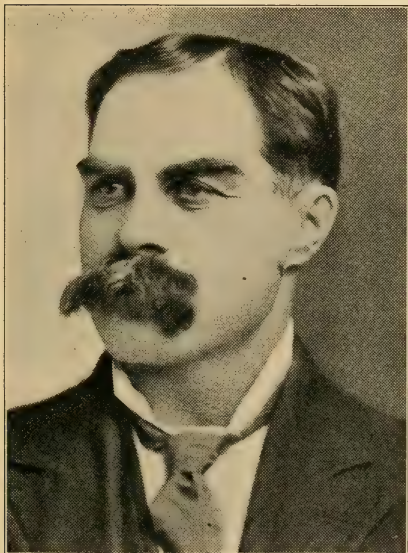
In Hamilton County, Nebraska, in 1883, Mr. McDowell married Miss Nancy Daniels, a daughter of Marion and Anna Daniels. The parents of Mrs. McDowell were natives of Ohio who came to Nebraska and settled in

Hamilton County. Both are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. McDowell have four children: Myrtle, the wife of John Gerdes; Lilly, the wife of John Sullivan; Goldie, the wife of Fred Bentz; and Flora, who resides with her parents.

In addition to his farm interests, Mr. McDowell is a stockholder and one of the board of directors in the Grain and Supply Company of Doniphan, a prospering enterprise. In politics he is a Democrat, and for years he has been a factor in educational affairs in his township, serving continuously for twenty years in the office of school moderator. For two years he was a member of the board of county highway commissioners and at the present time is serving in his fourth term as county supervisor, having charge of the highways of the county. In serving in these various important offices, Mr. McDowell has displayed the practical qualities that have made him successful in the management of his private affairs. He belongs to the order of Modern Woodmen and also to the Odd Fellows.

HENRY GEORGE YOUNG, a resident of Hall County for many years, is a general farmer and extensive raiser of horses and mules, carrying on his various industries in section nine, town of Doniphan. He was born in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 16, 1873, the son of Henry and Jane (White) Young. Mr. Young has one brother, Robert, who lives on the home place in Hamilton County Nebraska.

The father of Henry George Young was born in Scotland and came to the United States in 1871. He settled in Pennsylvania where he was accidentally drowned when thirty-five years old. Mr. Young's mother was born in England and was twenty-five years old when she came to the United States. After the death of Mr. Young she married Isaac Chubb, in Illinois, and lived there one year when he died. Her third marriage was to Thomas McKee, who died in 1917. She resides at Lincoln, Nebraska. Her father Solomon White bought railroad land in Hamilton County, and Mrs. McKee owned two quarter sections bordering on Hall County. Mr. Young has heard his mother tell many stories of early days here, when the country was full of wild birds never seen now, and of many things that would be considered hardships at the present time but were not thought of as such in those days. When her mother wanted a sack of flour, she set off on foot for Doniphan, four and a half miles away, and



W. H. McDowell

carried it home in her arms. When Mrs. McKee wished to pay a social call, the necessity for walking several miles to do so, did not matter at all. Mr. McKee hauled his grain a distance of twenty miles, to Aurora. The family lived here at the time the railroad was constructed from Hastings to Aurora.

Henry G. Young rents a large amount of land from Mrs. George Bronell, comprising a half section and also a quarter section situated two miles from Doniphan. Here he carries on general farming, making use of his own improved farm machinery, and devotes much attention to raising Shorthorn cattle, Duroc hogs, horses and mules, making a feature of the latter.

At Hastings, Nebraska, December 21, 1898, Mr. Young was united in marriage with Miss Alice Littell, who was born in Indiana, and died at the early age of thirty-five years, very generally mourned. Her parents were Joseph C. and Sarah Littell, both of whom are deceased. Mr. Littell was a prosperous farmer in Hamilton County. Mr. and Mrs. Young had five children born to them: George J., Orville E., Arthur J., Harold W., and Mable M., aged respectively, nineteen, seventeen, fifteen, thirteen and nine years. The little daughter attends school at Doniphan. Mr. Young is a member of the Congregational church, while Mrs. Young belonged to the Christian church.

JOHN HENRY BITTER, classed with the successful farmers of Hall County, has lived on his present place for twenty-three years, hence is widely known in his neighborhood, where apparently he can claim friendship with every one. That is a pretty fair test of character.

John H. Bitter was born in Germany, February 17, 1866. His parents were Deidrick and Margaret Bitter, both of whom were born in Germany, where the mother died at the age of forty-five years. After that the father and his children came to the United States and later settled in Whiteside County, Illinois, where he lived to be seventy-two years old. John Henry Bitter was sixteen years old when he accompanied his father to the United States and he had already had school training. He remained in Whiteside County, Illinois, until 1889, when he came to Nebraska, and in 1896 settled on the farm he has operated since. He has one hundred and twenty acres here which he rents, and carries on general farming and raises a good grade of cattle, hogs and chickens. He is careful and systematic, makes use

of first class farm machinery, keeps up improvements and is unusually prosperous.

In Hall County, on September 18, 1895, Mr. Bitter married Miss Mina Olthoff, who was born in Hall County, and they have had three children: an infant that died; Bertha, a popular teacher in the public schools; and Mary, attending the high school at Doniphan. Mr. Bitter and his family are members of the Lutheran church. For a number of years he has been a school director. In fraternal matters he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and Mrs. Bitter is a member of the Royal Neighbors.

JAMES A. HARDING is living in honorable retirement in a comfortable home in Hastings, Nebraska, surrounded by all the necessities and many of the luxuries of life, a condition made possible by the success attained in former years of activities as an agriculturist. He was a resident of Hall County for thirty-three years and contributed his full share towards the agricultural development of the community in which he lived.

James A. Harding is a native of Maine and was born in the Pine Tree State, January 6, 1844. His parents, Thomas and Lydia Harding, were natives of Maine and in 1853 became residents of Crawford County, Wisconsin, taking up their abode there in pioneer days and there the father passed away at the age of eighty-four years, while the death of the mother occurred in California at the age of eighty years.

James A. was a lad of nine summers when the family home was established in Wisconsin and here he spent the days of his boyhood and youth, going into the lumber camps of the northern pine woods, at sixteen he did a full man's work while yet a boy in years, and becoming ambitious, in 1880 went to Kansas and secured a homestead in Lincoln County, proving up on the same and residing there five years. He then moved to Saline County, Nebraska, living at Pleasant Hill for five years, when his next move took him to Hall County. In Doniphan township he purchased eighty acres of land and devoted himself industriously to farming pursuits, making a success of his undertakings which is attested by the fact that today he is the owner of three hundred and twenty acres, improved with three sets of buildings, the land now being operated by his sons. He also owns an eighty acre tract near Leeton, Missouri. The success that has come to Mr. Harding has been justly earned through industry and good management and

he richly deserves the opportunity to spend the evening of life in ease and comfort.

Mr. Harding married Miss Bettie Dykeman, who bore him one child, a son, George Harding, who is engaged in operating one of his father's farms in Hall County. For his second wife Mr. Harding married Miss Orra Thompson, whose death occurred when fifty years of age, being killed in a cyclone at Leeton, Missouri. She was the mother of two children: Jay A., who resides on one of his father's farms in Hall County; and Anna May, a young lady of fifteen who lives with her father.

Mr. Harding has the honor of being one of the surviving soldiers of the Civil War, having served in the Eighth Wisconsin Light Artillery. He was a member of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic as long as there were members enough in this locality to keep it up.

He can truly be called a self made man for the success that has come to him is the result of his own efforts, and before he took up the occupation of farming he followed the trade of carpenter, and though he has reached the age of seventy-five appears a man much younger. The years that mark the span of his life have been years of wonderful development and he has been not only an eye-witness of this wonderful transformation but has been a pioneer in three states, and assisted in bringing about present day conditions.

Mr. Harding is a Republican in politics and while living on the farm in Kansas served several years as a member of the school board of his district, the cause of education finding in him a starlwart champion.

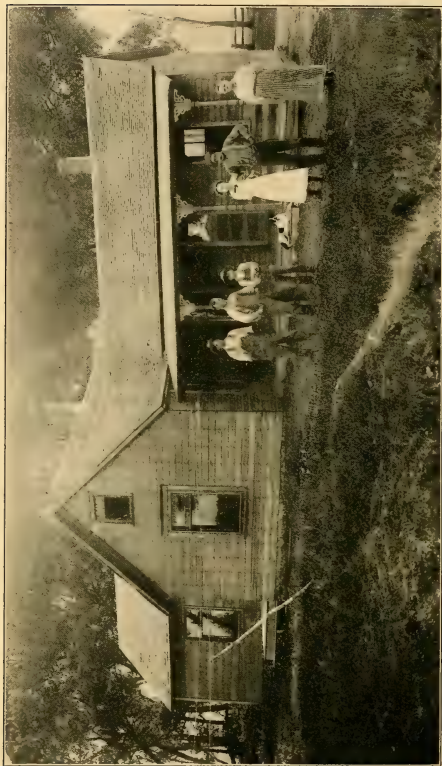
JOHN GALLACHER.—The recollections of some of the old settlers of Hall County extend far back, taking in interesting details of events that are a part of the county's history. Not many there are whose remembrances are equally authentic with those of John Gallacher who, as a public official during important years, had a part in the political as well as material development here. Mr. Gallacher is now living comfortably retired at Doniphan.

The birth of Mr. Gallacher took place in the historic city of Glasgow, Scotland, May 29, 1852, the third son in a family of nine children born to Christopher and Anna (Wilson) Gallacher, both of whom were born in Scotland and reared there, the former at Johnstone and the latter at Mauchline. Beside John, two other children of the family survive, these being: James, superintendent of the

Southern Pacific coal mines at Paris, Alabama, and Mrs. Anna Thornton, whose husband is a retired miner of El Paso, Texas. Christopher Gallacher was a bridge contractor and stone dresser and his accidental death was caused in 1883 by a railroad train while he was engaged in bridge building. There are few Scotch youths who do not have a chance to get the foundation of an education and John Gallacher had his opportunity in Glasgow. He was twenty years old when he left his native land for Canada, landing at Quebec, May 14, 1872, and shortly afterward came to the United States, which country has since been his home. He first went to Braidwood, Illinois, where he worked as a miner until 1875, then came to Hall County. He was a witness of the Great Diamond mine disaster in Illinois.

In 1875 Mr. Gallacher married Miss Alice Spellman, whose brother, Allen Spellman, resides at Coal City, Illinois. The parents of Mrs. Gallacher, John and Sally Spellman, were pioneer settlers in Adams County, Indiana, where both died, the father at the age of sixty-four and the mother at the age of fifty-five years. Mr. and Mrs. Gallacher have six children: Mrs. Sarah Kissinger, whose husband operates a garage at Hastings, Nebraska; Mrs. Anna Marsh, whose husband is superintendent of the public schools of Hooper, Nebraska; Charles, who died at the age of twenty-eight years; Mrs. Alice Gideon, who lives at Doniphan, and John and Mrs. Mary Kindig, twins, both of whom live at Doniphan. Mr. Kindig, Mary's husband, enlisted in the service of the United States as a marine, June 17, 1917, at Omaha, Nebraska, a member of the Fifth Regiment which won undying honor for its unparalleled bravery on the battle-fields of France. This gallant young hero was killed in action on November 1, 1918.

When Mr. and Mrs. Gallacher first came to Hall County they settled on a tract of wild prairie not far from Doniphan. He was so ignorant of farm surroundings and equipments that he had to have his wife, who had been reared on a farm, teach him how to harness a team. There were many difficult things he could do but he had never been trained to farm pursuits. At first he broke up the prairie in order to quickly get in a crop with a team made up of a horse and cow. Actual money was scarce in those days and Mr. Gallacher gladly took opportunity of the chance to work for John Agers for seventy-five cents a day even when it meant making the long trip back and forth each day



ALEXANDER GRAHAM HOME

between Doniphan and Grand Island. His industry and enterprise met with a generous reward and through all their changes in fortune, Mr. and Mrs. Gallacher continued to live on their pioneer farm until 1906, when they moved into Doniphan. They attended the Congregational church, of which Mrs. Gallacher is a member. Mr. Gallacher is a staunch Republican. For four years he was on the board of county commissioners of Hall County and instrumental in bringing the St. Joseph and Grand Island railroad through Doniphan. He has faithfully and honestly served in a number of other public capacities and was chairman of the building committee that erected the present handsome Hall County courthouse. For twenty-four years he has been a school director, accepting this responsibility as a public duty. Mr. Gallacher has long been considered one of the county's representative men. Since he was twenty-one years old he has been a member of the Masonic fraternity.

ALEXANDER GRAHAM, a resident of Hall County for many years, followed agricultural pursuits here and at the time of his death, September 21, 1919, owned many acres of valuable land. Mr. Graham was considered one of the county's representative citizens.

He was born in Scotland in 1852, and was only fourteen years old when he accompanied his father to Hall County, where he spent the rest of his life. The farm which is now the property of his widow, he bought when twenty-one years old, and afterward expended time and money in improving it. During his most active years he was an extensive feeder of cattle. He was a member of the Baptist church.

At Grand Island, April 28, 1891, Mr. Graham married Miss Otilie Richter, who was born at Chicago, Illinois, October 28, 1870. Her parents were August and Matilda Richter, the father was born in Germany, being fourteen years old when he came to the United States, living three years in Hastings. Afterward he homesteaded in Hall County, in 1881, securing one hundred and sixty acres of land. He was a carpenter by trade and followed that in addition to farming. Before coming to Nebraska he had served as a soldier in the Civil War. Mrs. Graham was educated in the public schools. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Graham: Agnes, who died in infancy; Amelia E., who resides at home; August Alexander, who enlisted May 4, 1917, in the coast artillery, United States army, is stationed in the Philippine Islands; and George

D. and John, both of whom reside with their mother on the home farm on section eleven, South Platte township. Mrs. Graham is a member of the Methodist church. Mr. Graham was never very active in political matters but he was well informed as a citizen and he voted with the Republican party.

JAMES EDWARD ORNDOFF, a prosperous general farmer in Cameron township, Hall County, is one of the old settlers of this section, having come to the county in 1885. Mr. Orndoff was born in the historic Shenandoah valley in West Virginia, in 1852, the eldest of nine children in the family of Robert and Anna (Thompson) Orndoff, the others being: Benjamin and Harvey, both of whom are deceased; Orlando, who lives at Cairo, Nebraska; John, Lewis and Virginia, all of whom are deceased; Porter, a farmer in the state of Washington, and Albert, who lives in New York. The parents were born and reared in West Virginia and from that state moved to Christian County, Illinois, where the father engaged in farming. He was a Democrat in politics and both he and the mother belonged to the Christian church. Both died in Illinois.

James Edward Orndoff obtained a common school education and has always devoted himself to agricultural pursuits. In 1885 he set out, with his family, from Springfield, Illinois, for Nebraska, the long journey to the new home in Hall County being made in a prairie schooner. Since first coming here he has owned different properties, but for some years has resided on his present one hundred and sixty acre farm situated in section 1, Cameron township, where he has made substantial improvements, has a fine orchard and judging by his accumulation of modern farm machinery, is an intelligent and progressive farmer. He keeps standard livestock and a few milch cows but makes no special feature of dairying.

Mr. Orndoff married Mary C. Carr, who was born in 1860, in Dewitt County, Illinois. Her parents were Dr. Clark H. and Catherine (Johnson) Carr, the former of whom was born in Kanawha County, West Virginia, in 1834, and the latter in Ross County, Ohio, in 1833. Mrs. Orndoff was the first born of their six children, the others being: Mrs. Laura E. Gross, who lives in Deadwood, South Dakota; Samuel C., located in Illinois; Margaret E., the wife of William G. Banning, of Shelby County, Illinois; Ida F., the wife of William Reed, lives in Illinois, and Cath-

erine J., the wife of John Nichols, lives in Illinois. By a former marriage Dr. Carr had one son, Millard F., who lives in Illinois, where Dr. Carr practiced medicine during the greater part of his life. He was a Republican in his political views, and he belonged to the Masonic fraternity. He died in 1913 aged seventy-eight years. The mother passed away six months prior to the death of her husband.

To Mr. and Mrs. Orndoff the following children have been born: Anna, the wife of Milburn Brundage, of Cairo, Nebraska; Robert and James, both of whom are deceased; Goldie, who is the wife of Frank Irvin, of Cairo; John, who is a farmer and stockman living near Cairo, married Emma Vlock, and has one child, Edward; Gilbert, who is deceased, was married to Della Rodocker, who had one child, Goldie Catherine; Edward, who lives at Cairo, married Belle Omer, and they have one child, Wilmer; Opal, the wife of Jack Irvin, has two children, Lorene and Duard; she is postmistress at St. Michael, Buffalo County, Nebraska; Bryan, who has recently returned home with his honorable discharge, for nineteen months was a member of the Fourth Engineers, United States army, was married July 30, 1918, to Vashti Leverich, a native of Linn County, Oregon.

RALPH B. MILLER, a progressive and successful farmer of Hall County, is operating the old family homestead which is situated in sections 16-21, Cameron township. He was born in this township, August 23, 1891, the oldest of a family of three children born to his parents, who were August George and Selma (Powers) Miller. His father, August George Miller, was born in Fayette County, Iowa, November 4, 1868. His father Jacob, was a native of Germany who came to Hall County in the early seventies. August George inherited eighty acres of land to which he added another eighty. He was married in Hall County in 1889 to Selma Powers, and died September 10, 1912, the mother having passed away at the age of thirty-two. He belonged to no church, was a Democrat and served as school director. Of his two brothers, Floyd W. was killed in a runaway accident, and Frank J. is a student of law in the Sate University in Lincoln.

Ralph Bernard Miller obtained his education in the public schools and has always made his home in Hall County. Embracing an agricultural life when he reached manhood, he determined to do well what he undertook and in the cultivation of his land and in his

livestock interests, he has followed modern methods. While the farm was fairly well improved before he took charge, he has found much to do and has developed his father's old homestead into a very valuable property. He owns one hundred and sixty acres, ninety acres of which are under cultivation. His cattle and stock are equal in grade to any in the county and his average is twenty-eight head of cattle and fifty head of hogs yearly.

In 1912 Mr. Miller married Miss Margaret Siek, a daughter of Hans Siek, a prominent Hall County farmer. They have two sons: August George and Roy Floyd, aged respectively four years and one month. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are quiet, home-loving people and they have many friends in this neighborhood. Mr. Miller has never been active in politics and is an independent voter.

JAMES WYLEY SMITH.—To know first hand of early conditions in Hall County, which is now one of the garden spots of the great state of Nebraska, the interested student should question Mr. and Mrs. James W. Smith of Doniphan. They came here in 1873 and had ample opportunity within the succeeding ten years to exercise every bit of patience they possessed in weathering hail storms, snow, blizzards, floods, drouths and grasshopper invasions.

James Wylie Smith was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, February 1; 1834. His parents were Andrew and Jane (Barr) Smith, both of whom were born, reared and died in Pennsylvania. James W. was the first of their four children, the others being: Robert, who is deceased; Caroline, who is deceased, and Joseph, a farmer near Marysville, Ohio. James W. Smith attended the district schools and afterward followed farming. When the Civil War came on he joined the home guards when the enemy threatened Pennsylvania and Ohio, later serving on guard duty in the southern part of the state.

On December 24, 1860, James W. Smith married Miss Nancy Carpenter, who was born in 1843 in Union County, Ohio. Her parents were John and Susie (Cole) Carpenter, the latter of whom was born in New York and died in California at the age of eighty-three years. The father died when Mrs. Smith, the youngest of his six children, was very young. Her brothers were: James and Andrew, both of whom are deceased; John, a farmer living in California; Hiram, who lives retired in California, and Henry, who died in infancy.



J. W. SMITH



MRS. J. W. SMITH

Mr. and Mrs. Smith lived on their farm in Union County, Ohio, for ten years and then removed to California, but their efforts there did not meet with the success they had expected and three years later they came to Hall County. Mr. Smith homesteaded five miles southeast of Doniphan. It was a lonely section at that time and the roads were so poor that with the means of transportation that they had, Mrs. Smith says that it took an entire day of travel to cover the thirteen miles between Hastings and their farm. There were so few settlers in this part of the county that no schools could be organized at any one point, and while proving up on his land, for four years Mr. Smith taught the children in their own homes. He became well known and very highly esteemed, passing away ten years ago.

The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith: Mrs. Emma Jane Snarley, is a widow living in Doniphan; Orvil, a farmer in this county; Charles, also a farmer in Hall County; George, who is employed at Detroit, Michigan; Mary, who died at the age of two years; Lucy, who died when seven years old; Lora, a teacher in Garden County; Albert, a farmer in Minnesota; Mrs. Clara Bond, whose husband is a farmer in Hall County on the old homestead of J. W. Smith, and John and an unnamed infant, both of whom died when babes. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are members of the Presbyterian church.

ALMOND WILLIAM BENTON, a representative citizen of Hall County, at one time a justice of the peace, and owner of highly improved farm land in Cameron township, came to Nebraska almost forty years ago and has been helpful in the various developing agencies that have changed a wilderness into one of the most productive and one of the most intelligent sections of this great commonwealth.

Mr. Benton was born in Lewis County, New York, December 13, 1850. His parents, Loren D. and Sarah (Seward) Benton, belonged to notable families of the Empire State. His father, born in Otsego County, July 14, 1798, was a farmer and also a carpenter, and lived to be eighty-five years old. His mother was also a native of Otsego County, born November 10, 1804, and she survived to the same advanced age. They never came to Nebraska, the old settled ways of the east pleasing them best, and they lived and died in New York highly esteemed by all who knew them.

Almond William Benton grew up on the

home farm and obtained his education in the local schools. In 1880 he came to Hall County, having a small amount of capital, which he invested in railroad land, and he now owns three hundred and twenty acres that he has very substantially improved. In addition to engaging in general farming he early became interested in the stock industry and until recently was an extensive raiser of hogs, but has been mainly concerned in raising thoroughbred Percheron horses and has marketed fine animals. He has had his share of pioneer hardships but he never became discouraged as to the final outcome and in times of deep despondency, his attitude was often very helpful in encouraging others.

By his first wife Mr. Benton had two children: Lila, who is the wife of R. B. Randolph, a farmer in Mayfield township, and Myron A., who is a farmer in South Loup township. In 1890 Mr. Benton married Miss Emogene Reed, a native of Iowa, who was reared in Hall County. Her father, Emerson Reed, was born in Vermont and her mother Mary E. Garrison, was born in Pennsylvania. They came to Iowa when children and married there, where the father was a farmer. They came to Hall County, Nebraska, in 1878, living here until fourteen years ago when they removed to Washington, both passing away in that state. Of this marriage there are three children: Ina, the wife of George D. Allen, a farmer in Cameron township; Hazel D., the wife of Rupert W. Sill, a farmer in Cameron township, and Almon W., attending school at Cairo. Mr. Benton has always been active in the Democratic party and has loyally supported its fundamental policies. His sterling character has frequently been recognized by his fellow citizens by his election to office and his intelligent attitude in regard to the public schools in his township, with which he has been connected for twenty years, has had much to do with their notable excellence. He has acceptably filled many local positions in which good judgment and public spirit have been essential, and for twelve years he was a justice of the peace.

QUINTES D. OMEY, a prosperous farmer and stockman of Hall County, resides on his substantially improved farm situated in section 35, South Loup township. He is one of the solid, reliable citizens, a man of practical ideas and one who consistently attends to his own business, having spent the greater part of his life in Nebraska.

Quintes D. Omev was born April 21, 1881,

in Ringgold County, Iowa. His parents were Edward and Isabell (Wibble) Omev, natives of New York, who were married in Illinois and from there came to Iowa and in 1884 to Hall County, Nebraska, settling on a farm in Cameron township. The father of Mr. Omev died at the age of seventy-seven years and the mother in her seventy-third year. Of the six children, Q. D. was the youngest, the others being: Edward, a farmer, died at the age of forty-seven years; Lewis, a farmer in Holt County, Nebraska; John, also a farmer in Holt County; Nora, the widow of R. M. Graves, lives in Pueblo, Colorado, and Lillie, the wife of Henry Waddington, lives on a farm in Buffalo County, Nebraska.

The parents of Mr. Omev brought him to Hall County when he was about three years old and he grew to the age of twenty-one years on his father's farm, attending school in the meanwhile as opportunity offered. His business life has been along agricultural lines. In addition to his farm of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he has placed excellent improvement, Mr. Omev has other land situated west of his home place. He has been very successful in his farm undertakings and attributes his prosperity mainly to the fact that he has given such a large measure of attention to the best of stock. He has on his farm a good grade of cattle and Plymouth Rock poultry and he is the owner of registered Duroc Jersey hogs, having thirty-five head of the same at the present time. His enterprise has paid him well and his efforts to raise stock standards in the county is very commendable.

On October 30, 1902, Mr. Omev married Miss Genevieve Paul, who was born in 1881, in Cameron township, Hall County, Nebraska. Both parents of Mrs. Omev, James and Flora (Green), are deceased, the father dying at the age of fifty-seven and the mother when thirty years of age. They had the following children, six in number, Mrs. Omev being the youngest: J. E., a dentist, lives at Santa Ana, California; Frank, a farmer near Broadwater, Nebraska; Dora, the wife of Leslie Boodry, a farmer near Angora, Nebraska; Edith, the wife of Fred Goodrich, a merchant at Cairo, and Gladys, the wife of William Lee, a farmer near Bridgeport, Nebraska.

Mr. and Mrs. Omev have the following children: Virginia, who attends school at Cairo; Marcia, Maxwell and Mildred, all of whom are at home, the older two attending the neighborhood school. Mrs. Omev is a member of the Church of the Latter Day Saints. In politics Mr. Omev votes as his judgment dictates.

JAMES W. LONGSTRETH.—One of Hall County's pioneers and permanent settlers is found in J. W. Longstreth, who has lived on his farm in South Loup township since he bought it thirty-four years ago. He found little here except the unbroken prairie and for some years conditions were not as comfortable as those enjoyed today. Mr. Longstreth always maintained that this section of the state would become exceedingly valuable and he has lived to see his judgment proved true.

James W. Longstreth was born February 5, 1856, in Muscatine County, Iowa. His father was born in Dayton, Ohio, and died in Iowa at the age of seventy years. The family name of his mother was Deweese and she was born in Ohio and died when aged seventy-two years. They had nine children: J. R., who lives in Iowa; J. W., of South Loup township, Hall County, Nebraska; N. W., who lives in Canada; F. E., resides at Letts, Iowa; Ada, whose home is in Wyoming; Eleanor, who died in Iowa; Oliver J., who lives in Iowa; D. Cochran, who lives at Letts, Iowa, and Cora, deceased.

Mr. Longstreth attended school in Iowa and engaged in farming in that state until 1885, when he came to Hall County, with the intention of making this section his home and bought a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land that suited his purpose. He has greatly improved this property in the years he has lived here and now has one hundred and fifty acres under a high state of cultivation. He has made the raising of good stock a feature of his work and has many fine cattle, horses and hogs. He has been a useful citizen also, taking an interest in all that has promised to be of permanent benefit, especially in the public schools, serving as school trustee for many years. He married Miss Mattie J. Reed, who was born in Muscatine County, Iowa, and was thirty-seven years old at time of death. They had three children: Marietta, the wife of F. G. Shoopman, a farmer near Litchfield; Dayton Oliver, who conducts the home farm, and James H., who entered Camp Grant for military training in an infantry regiment, September 5, 1918, recently returning home. The family is one held in high esteem throughout the county.

JAMES C. BULLOCK.—One of the well known and highly respected residents of South Loup township, Hall County, is J. C. Bullock, who came to Nebraska in early days and has assisted in the development of dif-

ferent sections. Mr. Bullock has always been an observing man and his recollections of people and events connected with his long life in the state, give a very vivid idea of conditions here a half century ago.

Mr. Bullock was born in Hawkins County, Tennessee, October 1, 1842. His father was born in Oglethorpe County, Georgia, grew up there and acquired land which he sold and moved first to Jay County, Indiana, then to Randolph County, and from there, in 1856 to Polk County, Iowa. He was twice married and had three sons: J. C., who lives in Hall County; Isaac, who died in Hall County at the age of fifty years, and Moses, who was a carpenter, died in Kalawa County, Washington, at the age of sixty years. In 1889 Mr. Bullock removed from Iowa to Nebraska and homesteaded near Antioch, in Sheridan County, where he remained five years before coming to Hall County in 1894.

In Polk County, Iowa, Mr. Bullock was united in marriage with Nancy Anna Cox, who died at Antioch, Nebraska, in 1890. They had five children: Newton Clark, who was born July 9, 1865, served four years in the United States navy, then returned home, but is now on the United States cruiser California; Sarah, born January 30, 1868, in Jay County, Indiana, is the wife of Adam Stoeger; Alice Louise, born November 4, 1870, is the wife of Henry Stoeger, a substantial farmer and dairyman of Hall County; Maria Celesta, born January 5, 1875, lived but three years, and Otto M., born November 5, 1877, and died at the age of thirteen months.

LESLIE BOODRY, Jr., one of the enterprising and industrious farmers of Hall County, conducts his agricultural operations very successfully. He is listed with the intelligent and progressive citizens of South Loup township.

Mr. Broody was born in Cameron township, Hall County, October 29, 1888, the son of Leslie and Dora (Paul) Boodry, the former of whom was born in the state of New York in 1866 and the latter in 1869. They now live near Aurora, Nebraska, where Mr. Broody conducts a ranch. Of their family of eleven children, Leslie Boodry, Jr., was the second born, the others being: James, who lives at Angora; David, a mechanic in a government aviation field in Texas; Frank, a ranchman near Angora; Warren, who served one year and five months in a training camp at Jacksonville, Florida, during the World War; Theodore and Ila, both of whom reside at home;

Eunice, who is a teacher at Angora, and Phoebe, Dorothy and Edith, all of whom live at home.

Leslie Boodry, Jr., obtained his education in the public schools. He has made farming and stockraising his business ever since he reached manhood and has taken so much interest in the work that he has been unusually successful. In 1907 he located in Morrill County, Nebraska, where he continued to live until 1914 when he came to Hall County, locating one mile west of his present farm and then came to the one he is yet operating, which he rents from Phoebe A. Fuller. He keeps everything in good repair and an air of plenty and appearance of thrift, indicate Mr. Boodry's thoroughness and industry. On an average he keeps fifteen head of cattle, thirty head of hogs and six horses.

Mr. Boodry married Miss Rachel Clugy, who was born in 1891, in Iowa, and they have one son, Leslie William, who is now four years old, a bright engaging child. Mr. Boodry is an independent voter. While living in Morrill County he served one year on the school board, but has accepted no public office since coming to Hall County.

HENRY STOEGER, whose reputation for excellence in farming and success in dairying is so well founded that he is placed with the representative agriculturists of Hall County, is not a native of Nebraska but has spent the greater part of his life in this state. Mr. Stoeger entertains a high opinion of this great commonwealth, its business possibilities and its people, and says that he never encountered unusual hardships during his whole period of residence. He is a heavy landowner and a prominent factor in the dairy interests of South Loup township. Mr. Stoeger was born in Lawrence County, Illinois, September 25, 1865, the son of John Stoeger.

H. Stoeger attended the public schools in his native county and assisted his father on the home farm until he was thirteen years old, when he accompanied his parents to Hall County, where his father homesteaded. He later went to Chase County and took a homestead for himself and proved up, but twenty-three years ago, after selling his Chase County land, he returned to the homestead in South Loup township, Hall County, and has lived here since. In 1890 he had a record corn crop, raising thirty bushels to the acre on his land one mile west of Cairo, when other farmers found their crop an entire failure. In his subsequent large agricultural operations he com-



MR. AND MRS. JOHN STOEGER

bined farming and cattle raising and found it profitable. He now devotes the most of his attention to dairying, keeping a large herd of cows for the purpose, but he also raises horses and hogs. Mr. Stoeger owns five hundred and forty acres and has three hundred and twenty in pasture land.

Mr. Stoeger married Miss Alice Louise Bullock, who was born November 4, 1870, and is a daughter of J. C. and Nancy Anna (Cox) Bullock. They have three children: Edward Byran, who assists his father; Eugenia Maud, born November 9, 1905; and Clifford Henry, born June 27, 1911. Mrs. Stoeger is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics Mr. Stoeger is a Democrat but he has never had any political ambition, being satisfied with the quiet life of a farmer and the ample returns that his vocation brings him. The family is a large one in this section and its members are all men of property and of honorable standing in their communities.

WILLIAM LINDSAY, whose well improved farm and fine stock proclaim him one who takes an understanding interest in his agricultural operations, has been a resident of Hall County since 1903 and of Nebraska since 1884. He owns a valuable farm of one hundred and sixty acres which is situated in section eight, Harrison township.

William Lindsay was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, December 24, 1860. His parents were E. C. and Julia Ann Lindsay, who spent their entire lives in that state. The father was a retired farmer at the time of his death. Of their family of twelve children, William Lindsay was the third in order of birth, the others being: Charles, a farmer near Vickery, Ohio; Byron, a farmer near his brother in Ohio; Herman, a merchant at Vickery; Clara Jeanette, the wife of W. J. Barr, a farmer near Vickery; Frank, a farmer near Fremont, Ohio; Ida the wife of William Grave, a farmer near Vickery; Jessie, with her brother Herman in his store at Vickery; Florence, the wife of Roy Story, a mail carrier; Elmer, who died at the age of ten years; and two who died in infancy.

Mr. Lindsay obtained his education in the public schools of his native state and afterward taught school for three years at Reily Center, in Buffalo County. In 1884 he came to Nebraska and bought land in Howard County, near Alba, and while operating his farm found time to teach school at a small place called Coachfield, which he conducted there for three years. When he came to his

present farm in Hall County he found it practically unimproved. Mr. Lindsay has put time and money into making this one of the fine farms of Harrison township. He is interested in producing good stock and turns off twenty head of cattle and at least fifty head of Poland China hogs a year. His farm operations are unusually successful because he directs his work carefully and systematically.

At Coachfield, Nebraska, Mr. Lindsay married Miss Nora B. Lindsay, who was born in Illinois, in 1870. They have two children: Claude, who is employed in a garage and lives at Cairo, Nebraska, and Lenora, the widow of J. W. Zook, who was in the employ of the Union Pacific Railroad as an electrician at the time of his death which resulted from an attack of influenza in December, 1918. Mr. Lindsay and family are members of the Evangelical church. Like his father before him he is a strong Republican in his political opinions. He has served in public office both in Howard and in Hall County, being county assessor for one year in the former and school treasurer here for three years. He is highly respected by his neighbors and is looked upon as one of the township's representative men.

ORION BRYAN, who owns one of the best regulated farms in South Loup township, Hall County, has made a success of his agricultural operations in this as well as in other sections. He was brought up on his father's farm in Fulton County, Indiana, where he was born November 6, 1868, being the son of Henry Bryan, who died many years ago. His wife survived him many years passing away in 1910.

Mr. Bryan obtained his education in the public schools in Indiana. He came to Nebraska in March, 1882 to engage in farming in Buffalo County, where he rented land for a time. Later he bought land near Bluff Center, in Hall County, situated one and a half miles east of Cairo, where he lived for two years. In 1890 he moved three miles further east, buying eighty acres from a Mr. Hooper, but later sold that property to Edward Wilcox and bought another eighty, two miles to the south and one mile to the east, paying a fair price to Michael Dunlap. When he sold that place he removed to Cameron township on a farm owned by Mr. Dodd and when he left Hall County in the fall of 1888, he had sufficient capital to establish himself well in Box Elder County, Utah, where he followed farming for seven years, and then removed to a location near Gridley, California,

where he carried on fruit growing for three years. In the meanwhile a favorite sister had married John T. Coons, a prominent farmer and stockman of Hall County, and that, perhaps, had something to do with Mr. Bryan once more turning his steps to this section.

In 1910 Mr. Bryan came back to Hall County and lived three years on a farm located one mile east and two south of Cairo and subsequently purchased this valuable property from Patrick Swan and has one hundred and seventeen of his two hundred and seventeen acres under cultivation. He has greatly improved his surroundings, his barns and outbuildings are substantial, his residence comfortable and he has one of the most up-to-date silos in the county. He keeps high grade stock and raises cattle, horses and hogs.

Mr. Bryan married Miss Lillie Porter, who was born in Illinois. They have the following children, their ages ranging from twenty-four to six years: Lena, Belle, Gertrude, Gilford, Ruth, Lawrence M., and Helen, all of whom live at home, and the older children have been given good educational opportunities. Mr. Bryan and his family are members of the Baptist church, and one of his brothers is a Baptist minister. He has never been very active in politics but his fellow citizens know that he has sound judgment and on important questions has decided opinions. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge in Cairo.

HANS ADAM DIBBERN, called one of Hall County's best farmers, is operating four hundred and twenty acres of land in South Loup township and gives much attention to stockraising. He is an industrious, frugal man, always paying close attention to his own business, and has such sound, practical ideas of what farmers need in order to make their industries profitable, this his advice is often asked by his neighbors.

Hans Adam Dibbern was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, one of a family of fifteen children born to Joachim and Margaret Dibbern. They were born in Germany and came with their children to the United States in 1871. The father homesteaded five miles east and one mile south of Wood River, Hall County, and that farm remained the family home as long as he and his wife lived. They died when aged about seventy-four years and were interred in the Wood River cemetery. Three of their children died in infancy, the others being: Mrs. K. Weise, who died at the age of forty-eight years; Mrs. J. Hermann, who died when aged fifty years; Henry D., a

clerk, lives in Grand Island; Mrs. L. Schmidt, who lives on a farm in Hooker County; Peter D. and Hans A., twins, who live in Hall County; Mrs. P. Hermann, who lives on a farm south of Grand Island; Mrs. John Schlieker, who lives on a farm in Garden County; Ernest D., a farmer south of Wood River; Mrs. Richard Runge, who lives in Custer County; Otto D., who works in the sugar factory at Grand Island; and August O., who lives on the old homestead near Wood River.

Hans A. Dibbern was but six months old when brought to America, he obtained his education after coming to the United States. He assisted his father on the homestead as long as he was needed there and then farmed for himself. At present he is renting the Hans Siek's farm and follows careful methods that result profitably. He believes it good policy to raise a good grade of stock.

Mr. Dibbern married Miss Maggie Engel, who was born in Germany, where her parents were also born. Her mother died in Germany but her father came to the United States. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dibbern: Herman H., a farmer in Hall County; Mrs. Peter Siek, whose husband is a farmer in Hall County; Harry J., Celia M., Lulu K., all of whom are at home; a babe that died unnamed; and Walter J., Miles F., and Bessie A., all of whom are at home and all attending school. Mr. Dibbern and his family are well known and highly respected.

JOHN TAYLOR COONS, a prosperous farmer and stockman of Hall County, is also one of South Loup township's active and useful citizens. He came to Nebraska in 1885 and bought his first land in Valley County, on which he lived for four years then sold and bought his present fine farm in South Loup township, Hall County.

Mr. Coons was born in 1856, in Fulton County, Indiana. His father died many years ago but his mother survived until 1918, although she had been an invalid for the last twelve years. Of the family of eight children, J. T. Coons was the second born, the others being: Mary Jane, who was born in 1854, married a Baptist minister; Martha Jane, the wife of George Carter, a retired farmer of Indianapolis, Indiana; Emma, the wife of Schuyler Keyes, connected with the Standard Oil Company at Albion, Indiana; Dora, who died at the age of thirty years; an infant that died unnamed; Myra, who was the wife of Ed Tracy, a teacher at Eden, Idaho, died at

the age of forty-six; and Carrie, the wife of Ed Studebaker, who is in the wholesale produce business at Logansport, Indiana.

In boyhood Mr. Coons had common school advantages. He grew up on a farm and agricultural industries have mainly engaged his attention since he reached man's estate. For ten years he was in the employ of George Wingate in the butchering business. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of land in South Loup township and has eighty acres under a high state of cultivation. He feeds the bulk of his own grain and each year has twelve head of cattle and the same of horses to sell. He has found the raising of high grade poultry profitable and annually markets a flock of Rhode Island Reds. Mr. Coons is very systematic in carrying on his farm operations. He is well informed on all subjects pertaining to his business but is too sensible a man to be led into making any great changes in methods that have proved satisfactory in his past experience, and in his own neighborhood his judgment is accepted as valuable.

Mr. Coons married Miss Amy Bryan, of Fulton County, Indiana. Her father died at the age of fifty-nine years while her mother passed away in 1910, aged eighty-three years. Mrs. Coons was the seventh born of eight children, the others being: Mrs. Samantha King, who lives in Rochester, Indiana; Lafayette, who died at the age of sixty-three years; Malinda, who died in infancy; Mrs. Ella Powers, who lives on a farm in Hall County; J. L., a minister of the Baptist church, in Franklin, Indiana; J. N., who was a farmer in Hall County, died at the age of thirty-three; and Orion, a resident of Hall County.

Mr. and Mrs. Coons had six children in their family: D. L., who was born in 1883, lives on a farm in Howard County, Nebraska, west of St. Paul; Ottis, who died in infancy; Edith and Ernest, twins, the former of whom is the wife of Arthur Lowry, living at Cairo, Nebraska, and the latter living at home; Ethel, a competent teacher in the public schools; and Lloyd, a student in the high school at Cairo. Mrs. Coons is a member of the Baptist church. Mr. Coons is active in politics to some extent in South Loup township and as a man of sound judgment in most matters, has much influence. For a number of years he has carefully watched over the welfare of the public schools as a member of the school board, and for two years he served very satisfactorily to his fellow citizens as township clerk.

WILLIAM EDWARD MARTIN.—The traveler of today whose pleasant task it is to

visit and occasionally pause and perhaps accept hearty hospitality in Hall County, is much impressed by the evidences on all sides of peace, plenty and a high state of civilization. It almost requires credulity therefore, to accept the fact that history proves, that but fifty years ago this entire section of the state was yet the home of savage Indians who pillaged and murdered at will. Attesting this hideous truth, so abhorrent to present American ideals, are persons still living who passed through this condition with other hardships of pioneering, and among those none are better known than the Martin family, a prominent representative of which is William E. Martin, who resides on his farm near Doniphan.

William E. Martin was born in McHenry County, Illinois, not far from the city of Elgin, January 20, 1856. His parents were George and Ann (Owers) (Weaver) Martin, both of whom were born in the same village of Soahm, in England, the father in March, 1819, and the mother, September 5, 1818. The mother, by a previous marriage, had two children: George Weaver, a minister of the Holiness faith, died in the church parsonage at Tabor, Iowa, April 18, 1914, and Eliza Weaver who died in Hall County, in 1885. To her marriage with George Martin, the following children were born: Hephzibah, the wife of George Masterson, a farmer near Little River, Kansas; Henry N., a retired farmer living in Hastings, Nebraska; Robert O., who was a retired farmer living at Ellsworth, Kansas, at the time of his death, in 1902; Annie, the wife of George Huffman, a banker at Little River, Kansas; and William Edward, who lives in Hall County.

George Martin, the father of William E. Martin, was a man of good standing in Illinois before coming to the west. He came to the United States in 1850 and located as a farmer in McHenry County, Illinois, where he rented land near the present Elgin watch factory. In 1857 he removed to Sidney, Iowa, and from 1858 to 1862 engaged in freighting across the plains between Nebraska City and Denver. In 1862 he brought his family to Hall County, securing a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, lying about eight miles west of Doniphan. The family lived at first in a sod house built by the father, but later he built a log house, using cottonwood logs which he cut on the bank of the Platte river. George Martin was industrious, enterprising and reliable. He raised about two hundred head of cattle on his own ranch and operates ranches for others. He was the first postmaster at Martin, through which ran the Ben Holliday stage line between Nebraska City and Denver. He re-



W. E. MARTIN

mained on his homestead until his death, which occurred April 18, 1883.

While the Indians were a constant menace to the early settlers, the first definite trouble that the Martins encountered was on September 10, 1864, when George Martin was wounded by an Indian arrow, and two of his sons, Henry N. and Robert O., who were riding the same horse, were struck by an arrow that pinned them together, H. N. being shot through the body. As soon as possible Mr. Martin and his wife started with them for Nebraska City for surgical treatment, but the boys were too badly wounded to be able to stand the rough trip, so at Beaver Crossing, the family took possession of an abandoned ranch house and within thirty days the parents had nursed the youths to a state of health that enabled them all to return home. Henry N. Martin still survives but Robert O. never fully recovered and his death twenty years afterward from spinal meningitis, was primarily due to the Indian injury. On June 6, 1868, Indians raided a bunch of staked out horses belonging to the Martins, and although given a warm reception, managed to make off with three animals, going on then to a neighbor's place and carrying off the Greggs' furniture and clothing. The Martins pursued the robbers and wounded one of them. In 1869 the Martins went to the help of other neighbors. The Indians killed a Mrs. Warren and carried off two girls by the name of Campbell, who were kept prisoners three months when an exchange was made for Indian prisoners held by whites, through the authority of the government.

William E. Martin was six years old when the family came to Hall County. He says that in the summers the antelope and buffalo appeared in countless numbers. One of his earliest sports was trapping beaver, mink and otter on the Platte river and as he grew older and became more adept, he provided much of the warm clothing needed by the family, his resourceful mother contriving all kinds of garments from the skins. At an early day he bought a quarter section of cottonwood trees and watched them grow, and when large enough for saw logs, bought a power saw and from his little grove sawed about 70,000 feet of lumber. A cottonwood sapling he planted in 1869, today has a diameter of over six feet.

Mr. Martin is a very intelligent, well informed man, and is a graduate of the Grand Island Business College. He owns three hundred and sixty acres of well improved land and has an excellent orchard. He is a Republican, as was his father, but votes independently in local matters. During the World

War he was a liberal supporter of patriotic causes. Mr. Martin is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. On December 28, 1904, Mr. Martin married Nettie M. Hummell, who was born in Nebraska, the daughter of George and Lottie (White) Hummell, natives of New York and New Jersey, who settled with their parents, when young people, in Louisa County, Iowa. Here they were married and after a residence of one year came to Nebraska in 1871, locating in Webster County where they passed their lives. The mother died there in her forty-fourth year, the father passed away in July, 1917. He was a Methodist minister, one of the first in Red Cloud vicinity. A short time before his death at a pioneer picnic he rode a horse at the head of a procession, carrying a bible, just as he had done in the early days as a circuit rider.

CARL STOEGER, successfully operating three hundred and twenty acres of well improved land situated in section twenty-two, South Loup township, is a native of Hall County, born at Cairo, March 18, 1893. He is a son of Adam and Sarah Stoeger, the father a native of Buffalo County, Nebraska, and the mother of Iowa.

Carl Stoeger obtained his education in the public schools. He remained at home until fourteen years of age and then went to work on farms and after renting land for a time which belonged to his father he purchased his present property which he has successfully operated the past three years. He has given careful attention to cattle and stock, keeping standard breeds only. At the present time Mr. Stoeger has twenty head of fine cattle and seventeen head of hogs, his sows being pure bred Poland-China, a large herd of good horses and mules and first class poultry. His farm and stock show the effect of careful management and probably his farm is one of the most profitable in South Loup township.

On August 15, 1913, Carl Stoeger was united in marriage with Miss Lulu Pry. Her parents are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Stoeger have four children: Laurence, Mildred, Raymond and Leonard. The family is highly respected in their neighborhood and Mr. Stoeger is considered a competent farmer and dependable citizen. He is an independent voter.

HANS SIEK, one of Hall County's good farmers and highly respected citizens, owns a fine body of land in South Loup township, five hundred and eighty acres in all and has



HANS SIEK AND WIFE

over half of it under cultivation. He is numbered with the county's substantial men and has made all he has by hard work.

Mr. Siek was born in Germany, November 26, 1856. His parents were Claus and Elizabeth Siek, neither of whom came to the United States. The father died at the age of fifty-four years and the mother when fifty-three years. When twenty-one years old, April 1, 1878, Mr. Siek came to Nebraska and secured farm work in Hall County, subsequently he pre-empted land near Elder, but never lived on it. In 1886 he married Margaret Holtdorf, and they have had children as follows: a babe that died; Mrs. Anna Runge, who lives in Cameron township; Mrs. Ella Schuett, who lives in Cameron township; John, a physician; Peter, a farmer in Cameron township; Mrs. Rosa Peters, whose husband is a farmer and dairyman in Buffalo County; Ernest, who assists his father; Mrs. Margaret Miller, who lives in Cameron township; August, who lives at home; and three others who died in infancy.

Mr. Siek can tell many interesting stories of early days in the county, Cairo being a little village when he first came here. He says that on many occasions he has shot rabbits in what is now north Grand Island. Mr. Siek is not only a careful farmer and stockman, but a progressive one and he has always made a study of his business just as he would have done had he engaged in any other. He has improved his property and all his buildings are substantial. He believes it good policy to give attention only to good grade of stock and at present he has ten head of fine horses, fifty head of cattle, fifty head of hogs and standard poultry. He is an independent voter and he is a Spiritualist in religious belief.

HERMAN WIESE, whose large and well cultivated farm is situated in sections twenty-eight and thirty-four, Center township, is well known in Hall County where he has spent almost his entire life. He was only six years old when he accompanied his parents, Joachim and Catherine Wiese, from Germany, where he was born August 24, 1875. His recollections are vague in regard to the long voyage and wearying journey from the Atlantic coast to Nebraska, but he can easily recall many interesting events of early times in Hall County.

Herman Wiese grew up on his father's homestead and had school advantages but not to compare with those his own children can

enjoy. He very early began to assist his father and take responsibility, but in 1909 he began farming on his own account and has done exceedingly well. Mr. Wiese owns two hundred acres of some of the finest land to be found in Hall County. He has it well stocked and cultivates it with modern farm machinery, and has taken his place with the foremost farmers of this section.

In 1902 Mr. Wiese married Miss Anne Hennings, whose people were early settlers in Hall County, and they have the following children: Helen, Hulda, Clarence, Linda, Arnold and Walter, all of whom live at home except Helen, employed in Grand Island. Mr. Wiese and his family are members of the Lutheran church. He has never interested himself to any extent in general politics but feels a little differently where Hall County is concerned, and when matters of local importance come to the front. He casts his vote for the man he deems best qualified for the office he seeks. He belongs to some of the low German organizations which meet at Grand Island.

KLAUS HENRY KRUSE, identified with the interests of Hall County, Nebraska, for almost fifty years, has taken an active part in its agricultural development. By improving the tracts of land that he gradually acquired, he has not only added to their value, but set an example that many another careful landowner followed. Mr. Kruse was born in Holstein, Germany, October 2, 1841, the eldest of ten children born to Frederick and Catherine (Miller) Kruse.

It was in 1871 that Klaus Henry Kruse came to the United States and immediately made his way to Iowa, where many Germans had already settled. He remained in that state for one year, then came to Nebraska and secured a homestead of eighty acres in Prairie Creek township, Hall County. He immediately applied himself to the development of this land and years of hard labor followed. In the course of time Mr. Kruse acquired other farms, and these also, during his active years, he developed into profitable properties. He now owns two hundred and eighty acres, a larger territory than was comprised in some of the provinces in his native land in his boyhood. He has always believed a general farm-line more satisfactory for the Nebraska farmer than special features, and has raised grain, potatoes and other crops and has had cattle and stock that always commanded a good price.

Mr. Kruse has been twice married. His



K. HENRY KRUSE

first wife, died in 1880, was Dora Kruse. They had four children: August, employed on the Reid Alton ranch; Adolph, who lives in Center township; Rosa, the wife of H. Smith, of Hall County; and Dora, the wife of George Hoagland, of Hall County. Mr. Kruse married second, in 1883, Mary Cyndia Walc. Four children were born to this union: Mary and Henry, who are at home; and Fred and Katie, who are deceased. Early in 1917 Fred Kruse, was called into military service by the government. After a season of training he went to France with the American Expeditionary Force and alas, he can never come back, for he fell in battle, July 25, 1918. He was a very popular young man and the whole community grieve with his family. Mr. Kruse is a member of the Lutheran church. He and family are very highly esteemed in their neighborhood.

GUY M. DEAN, one of Hall County's successful farmers, and representative citizens, operating his father's farm in Prairie Creek township, was born in Shiawassee County, Michigan, February 14, 1872. His parents were George P. and Emily (Firstser) Dean, both of whom were born in Michigan.

Following the close of the Civil War, many of the returning soldiers found their old home surroundings offered too little opportunity to men broadened by travel and experience, and they took heed when the chance was given to secure government land in the yet unsettled sections of the western country. The certainty of pioneer hardships did not alarm men who had fought through four years of carnage and had faced death on many a battlefield. Thus it was that Hall County secured such worthy settlers as George P. Dean, who came with wife and infant son in the summer of 1872. He had served as a member of the Twelfth Michigan Cavalry during three years of his service, participating in many battles including the campaign around Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. He still owns his farm of eighty acres situated in section thirty-five, Prairie Creek township, Hall County, but no longer is actively concerned in its operation, having turned his farm responsibilities over to his only son when he retired. In order to occupy his time, however, without unduly taxing his strength, he is serving as caretaker of a cemetery at Pittsburg Landing. Mr. Dean in telling of early days says that they hauled their fire wood from the Loup river, a distance of fifty or sixty miles, and cedar wood for the railroad for a living during the

winter time and were caught in many a blizzard on the prairies. His family consists of two children: Guy M. and Edna. The latter is the wife of B. X. Harvey, of Adamsville, Tennessee.

Guy M. Dean has practically spent his entire life in Hall County. After finishing his period of school attendance, he became his father's right hand man on the farm and now rents the entire property from his father. It has been greatly improved and Mr. Dean keeps it well stocked. In 1881 he married Miss Cora B. Spiker, who, at death, left one son William C., who lives in Grand Island. Mr. Dean's second marriage was to Miss Mabel M. Eaton. Mrs. Dean is a member of the First Congregational church at Grand Island.

GEORGE GRAHAM, who conducts his large farm situated in section two, South Platte township, Hall County, very profitably, has lived amid farm surroundings all his life. The Graham family came early to Hall County, and the grandfather of George Graham took part with other pioneer settlers, in many struggles with the Indians, who at that time were very hostile.

George Graham was born November 24, 1862, in Wisconsin, and was young when brought to Nebraska by his people. His parents were Alexander and Elizabeth (Campbell) Graham, natives of Scotland. Accompanied by other members of their family, they came to the United States and located first in Wisconsin. From there they came to Hall County, where Alexander Graham secured a homestead. On that place George Graham grew to manhood. Later he went to Kansas and took up a homestead for himself, on which he carried on farming for a time and then returned to Hall County. He owns two hundred acres, has his farm well stocked, carries on a general line of agriculture, raising a large amount of prairie hay, and makes a feature of doing his own blacksmithing, having a smithy on his place.

Mr. Graham is a quiet, thoughtful, busy man, who makes no display of political opinions at any time, but he always casts his vote according to his convictions of right. He is a member of the Congregational church.

JACOB C. NEUHALFEN.—The sturdy developed farms that meet the eye in Hall County, give the impression that men of agricultural experiences are operating here to their own and the county's profit. An instance

is presented in the well kept farm of Jacob C. Neuhaufen, situated in section 26, Doniphan township, for he was reared on a farm and has devoted his life to farm industries.

Jacob Charles Neuhaufen was born in Hamilton County, Nebraska, July 2, 1886. His parents were Michael and Marie (Trost) Neuhaufen, the latter of whom was born in Germany in 1849, and the former in 1838. He died in Nebraska in 1915. Both parents came to the United States in 1858, lived at first in Illinois, and later came to Nebraska locating in Hamilton County. The father bought land that he later improved. The parents of Jacob C. Neuhaufen had eight children. He attended the country schools in the neighborhood of his father's farm and grew to manhood in Hamilton County. Farming and raising stock have been familiar labors since boyhood, and the practical methods he uses so successfully on his own farm, are more or less the results of experience. He is a man who stands well in his neighborhood in every way.

In Grand Island in 1910, Mr. Neuhaufen married Miss Bertha Happold, a daughter of Karl and Lena (Gmelich) Happold, natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Neuhaufen have three children: Wilbur, Charles and Elaine. Mrs. Neuhaufen is a member of the Lutheran church. Mr. Neuhaufen has never been very active in politics as far as party is concerned, but he has opinions on public affairs and votes according to his own judgment. This is a family of very pleasant, hospitable people.

CHARLES JOHN HEITZ, an enterprising and successful farmer of Hall County, belongs to one of the old pioneer families of this section that has been favorably known here for almost a half century. The old homestead that Mr. Heitz's father secured in those early days when Indians still wandered through this section and permanent white settlers were few, is yet in possession of the family.

Charles J. Heitz was born in Hall County, September 10, 1894. His parents were Theobald and Amelia (Walther) Heitz. His mother was born in Switzerland, September 5, 1859. His father was born July 1, 1839, in Alsace-Lorraine, France, and died in Hall County May 22, 1909, being survived by the mother who still lives on the old farm. He was a well educated man, having attended school in his native land. He took a course in a high school after coming to the United States. In 1871 he came to Nebraska to be-

come a permanent settler, selecting a homestead of eighty acres lying in section 34, Doniphan township, Hall County. He continued to live on this property during the rest of his life, in the course of years placing substantial improvements thereon. When he came first to Grand Island one small store represented the present busy commercial houses of that city, and bands of Indians were not unusual sights. It is not on record that he ever had any difficulty with them. The family home was at first a sod house but later comfortable farm buildings were erected. The following children of the family survive: Charles J.; George, in Montana; William, of Hastings, Nebraska; Frank and Edison on the farm with the mother; Mrs. Louise Spiehs, of Doniphan township, and Mrs. Lee Richmond, also of Doniphan township.

Charles J. Heitz obtained his education in the public schools. From boyhood he has been interested in farm pursuits and for some years has been numbered with the extensive farmers and cattle feeders of the county. He operates three hundred and twenty acres of valuable land situated in section 34, Doniphan township, to which he gives close attention. He is financially interested additionally in the Farmers Elevator and Milling Company at Doniphan, and is considered a capable and upright business man.

In Grand Island in 1913, Mr. Heitz married Miss Byrd Nelson, a daughter of Edward and Mary Belle (Drake) Nelson, the latter of whom was born in Greensburg, Indiana, in 1861. The father of Mrs. Heitz was born in Kentucky in 1846. He served four years in the Civil War, enlisting when fifteen years old and was a prisoner at Andersonville, Georgia, for six months. He died two years ago, the mother in November, 1918.

RICHARD LEO McMULLIN, whose business enterprise in farm and stock activities has made his name well known in Hall County, belongs to a pioneer family of Nebraska that settled permanently in this county in 1883. Like others of that date, it was called on to bear many unexpected hardships and face many discouragements, but a certain steady family strength of character brought endurance that finally won success in spite of misfortune.

Richard L. McMullin was born in Harlan County, Nebraska, in 1880 the youngest of three children and the only son born to Richard and Jane (Joynt) McMullin. Their two daughters survive: Anna, a resident of Council Bluffs, Iowa, and Bessie, the wife



RALPH RATHBUN

DONALD RATHBUN

MRS. J. W. RATHBUN

MRS. C. P. RATHBUN

J. W. RATHBUN

C. P. RATHBUN

of I. J. Doan, of Doniphan, Nebraska. The father was born in New York, in 1841, and died in Hall County in 1911. The mother was a native of County Mayo, Ireland. Prior to coming to Nebraska in 1878, Richard McMullin was a farmer in Illinois. He settled in this state in Harlan County in 1878, where he homesteaded and the family lived for five years in a sod house on his three hundred and twenty acre farm. After selling his homestead advantageously, he brought his family in 1883 to Hall County where he bought four hundred and eighty acres, which he developed with the assistance of his son. When he died this land, by that time grown very valuable, was divided among his three children. He was a man of sterling character, upright in all his dealings with others, and was a faithful member of the Roman Catholic church.

Richard L. McMullin attended the country schools, had Christian training at home and remained with his father until 1896 when he embarked in farming on his own account. He invested in land in different parts of Hall County, now owning six hundred acres, some of which is well improved. He is an extensive feeder of hogs, cattle and mules for market, an important feature of his business being the handling of mules. In some of his business enterprises he is associated with Frederick O. Harrell, also a prominent stockman of Hall County.

Mr. McMullin married Miss Emma Gregg, who was born in 1885, in Hall County, also a member of one of the pioneer families here. They have one daughter, Nona, attending school at Doniphan.

In politics Mr. McMullin is an independent voter. He has never been very active in politics, his business affairs largely absorbing his time and interest, but he has served in village offices and as school director. He belongs to the Roman Catholic church and is a liberal contributor to many of its benevolent agencies.

JOHN W. RATHBUN, one of Hall County's progressive agriculturists, is successfully conducting farm industries on the old Rathbun homestead, on section fourteen, Center township. Believing that agriculture calls for a man's best thought and effort, Mr. Rathbun kept his chosen vocation in mind during school years both in Hall County and in Michigan, and has turned his education to good account. Mr. Rathbun was born December 13, 1888, in Hall County.

The parents of John Wilbur Rathbun, Cyrus P. and Emma (Lyman) Rathbun, were born respectively in Ontario, Canada,

and the state of New York, the father in 1844 and the mother in 1848. Her death occurred July 28, 1918. The paternal grandparents, Daniel and Ruth (Ryder) Rathbun, were Canadians, the former born in 1812 and the latter in 1815. Of his parents' family of seven children, C. P. Rathbun was the fourth in order of birth, the others being: William, a farmer in Iowa; Eliza, a resident of Michigan, is the widow of William Long, who was killed in the Civil War; Lyman, who died in Michigan; Elizabeth, the wife of Major Conkwright, formerly of Michigan; Rebecca, the wife of Wilbur McCombs, of Grand Island; and Gideon, a farmer in Michigan. In 1871 Cyrus P. Rathbun came to Hall County, where he took up a homestead of eighty acres, living in a primitive way at first but gradually making improvements which included the setting out of trees. Later he rented a sawmill and prepared the lumber for his subsequent building operations. For thirty-three years he served in the office of school moderator in Center township and yet serves as a school director of his district. He is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal church of Grand Island.

John Wilbur Rathbun has always made his home with his father, and since the latter retired has had sole responsibility in carrying on the various farm industries. In this he has shown much enterprise. In connection with general crop raising, he has given considerable attention to his fine Duroc-Jersey hogs and Holstein herds and does some dairying. His surroundings are just those one might expect on a well kept farm where modern methods prevail and intelligence and interest mark all undertakings.

Mr. Rathbun married Miss Georgiana Bailey, who was born in Cass County, Nebraska, in 1891, and is a daughter of George Bailey, a farmer in Hall County. They have two sons: Donald L. and Ralph W. Having no desire for public office and being well able to do his own political thinking, Mr. Rathbun has never identified himself with any political party, although his father is a Democrat. As a good citizen he is interested in the public schools of his district and is serving as a school director. He belongs to no fraternal organization but carries insurance in the old line Bankers Life Company. Mr. Rathbun is looked upon as one of the solid, dependable men of Hall County.

JOHN L. McNAMARA, well known in Hall County, is a general farmer residing on his well improved land situated in section 12,

South Platte township, has devoted the most of his life to agricultural pursuits. Through industry and good management he has made them profitable.

John L. McNamara was born in the great city of Montreal, Dominion of Canada, June 1, 1870. His parents were Daniel and Anna (Small) McNamara, the former of whom was a corporal in the Canadian army. John L. obtained his education in the public schools, first in Montreal and later Alma, Nebraska. While working on a farm he learned the blacksmith trade and prior to coming to Hall County worked as a blacksmith in South Dakota, for the Homestead gold mine. He now operates one hundred and sixty acres of land that belong to Mrs. E. A. Filch, his mother in law. He has made the property very valuable by careful tillage and substantial improvements, carrying on a general farming line, diversifying his crops and raising excellent stock.

At Doniphan, Nebraska, in 1884, Mr. McNamara married Miss Jennie Britt, a daughter of John Britt. When Mr. Britt came to the county he took a pre-emption claim and also a tree claim, subsequently making improvements on all his property. Mr. and Mrs. McNamara have three children: William, a member of the aero squadron with the American Expeditionary Force in France, and Daniel and Millie, both of whom are attending school. Mr. McNamara and family are members of the Roman Catholic church, and in church and neighborhood are held in high esteem. In his political views Mr. McNamara is a Republican.

WALTER F. AUGUSTIN, a representative business man of Doniphan, became a resident of this city in 1915. For a number of years he was exclusively interested in farming, for others and himself, but since coming to Doniphan he has embarked in the farm implement business and is agent for leading manufacturers.

Mr. Augustin was born January 16, 1887, in Adams County, Nebraska, a son of Henry and Mary (Ruater) Augustin, whose record will be found elsewhere in this volume in a sketch written for W. R. Augustin.

Walter F. Augustin attended the country schools in boyhood and with his brothers assisted on the home farm near Juniata. Later he engaged in farming for himself, then conducted an implement business for a short time at Hayland, Adams County, coming from there in 1915 to Doniphan. Here he bought

an implement business and has greatly enlarged its scope. In farm implements he represents the John Deere Company, and the J. I. Case tractors and threshing machines. He also handles oils, and additionally does plumbing and well work. He has built up a solid reputation along the lines of reliability and efficiency.

Mr. Augustin married Miss Sena Uden, who was born in Adams County, Nebraska, and they have one daughter, Irene, who attends school. Mr. and Mrs. Augustin are members of the Lutheran church. For some years while residing near Prosser, Nebraska, he served as a school director but otherwise has never accepted public office. He is not identified with any political party but votes according to his own judgment.

HENRY OLTHOFF, one of Doniphan's good citizens and honest business men, celebrated his forty-second birthday in 1919. He was born near Doniphan, Hall County, and has spent his life in the same neighborhood. He has been an industrious man all of his life and in younger years worked as a farmer. Through the exercise of prudence, he accumulated capital and this he invested in a stock of general merchandise and in 1915 opened his store at Doniphan. A feature of his business is the purchase and sale of produce. Believed to be trustworthy in every way, Mr. Olthoff has hearty patronage from his fellow citizens and is a prosperous merchant of the town.

Mr. Olthoff married Miss Edith Stevenson, now deceased. She was a faithful member of the Roman Catholic church. They had one daughter, Edith Henrietta, who died in 1918, at the age of seven years.

FREDERICK O. HARRELL. — Grain and stock represent great wealth in Nebraska. To be sufficiently interested in these necessary factors of food supply, with a thousand acres of rich land to utilize profitably, may well demand close attention and unusual business sagacity of any one so fortunately situated. These requisites for success are possessed by Frederick O. Harrell, a prominent and representative grain farmer and stockman of Hall County, who has made the foregoing proposition possible. Mr. Harrell has spent almost his entire life in Hall County and is devoted to its every worthy interest.

Mr. Harrell was born in Winterset, Madison County, Iowa, in 1867, the fourth in a family of six children born to E. L. and Sarah

(James) Harrell. His father was born in 1838, near Indianapolis, Indiana, and died at Hansen, Nebraska, in 1912. His mother was also born in Indiana and now resides at Hansen, having reached her seventy-eighth year. They had the following children: Wilbur and Laura, both of whom are deceased; James, who lives at Hansen, Nebraska; Frederick O., who resides near Doniphan; Ollie May, the wife of William Meyer, of Portland, Oregon; and Georgie, the wife of Joseph Sleuman, who owns a fruit ranch in California. The father of the above family followed agricultural pursuits throughout life. In 1877 he came to Hall County where he bought two hundred and eighty acres of railroad land, and to the cultivation and improvement of this land practically devoted his entire time as long as he was active. He was a man of industry, good judgment, of high moral character and a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Although never very active in politics, he had the best interests of his section at heart and in voting the Democratic ticket believed he best protected them. He left a fine property which is yet owned by his heirs.

Frederick O. Harrell was brought to Hall County in boyhood and was educated in the public schools. He was long associated with his father in carrying on general farming. At the present time he owns, with partners, 1000 acres of Nebraska land, divided into farms. He feeds cattle and hogs for market, keeping only first class grades; is a large dealer in mules and horses for market purposes, and also is in the grain business, in connection with which he owns an elevator at Doniphan. Mr. Harrell has other property here, owning a half interest in buildings in the business section of the town.

Mr. Harrell first married Miss Etta May Sides, who was born in 1870, in Illinois, and the following children were born to them: Charlotte, the wife of Fred Adams, residing on one of Mr. Harrell's farms near Doniphan; Edward, deceased; Georgia, the wife of John Bowden, a farmer near Doniphan; Minnie, the wife of Donald Brewer, of Doniphan; Thomas, a farmer; and Floyd, who lives at Hansen. Mr. Harrell's second marriage was to Miss Rose Farabee, who was born in Illinois, in 1873. Mrs. Harrell is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Harrell does his own political thinking, hence is an independent voter.

CHARLES W. BIERBOWER, editor and proprietor of the Enterprise, at Doniphan,

has made it one of the best known and most valuable advertising mediums of the many well conducted newspapers in this section of the state. Mr. Bierbower is a practical printer, having served his apprenticeship at the case and is familiar with every detail of newspaper work and printing house industry.

Charles W. Bierbower was born in 1889, in Hamilton County, Nebraska, a son of Jonathan and Margaret (Cavett) Bierbower, the former of whom was born in Ohio in 1846, and the latter in Indiana in 1850. Of their twelve children, Charles W. was the ninth in order of birth, the others being as follows: Jacob, who is deceased; John, connected with the Giltner Lumber Company, Giltner, Nebraska; Martin, a farmer on the old homestead; Leslie, also a farmer on the old homestead in Hamilton County; William, a contractor at Giltner; Frank, who conducts a fruit farm in California; J. D., who lives in Giltner; James C., editor of the Gazette, at Giltner; Mary, the wife of E. O. McKibben, who operates an elevator at Geneva, Nebraska; Ruth, bookkeeper in the Giltner State bank, and Margaret, the wife of Hubert Cox, a farmer near Giltner. The father of the above family, Jonathan Bierbower, removed from Ohio to Iowa when a boy, from there to McLean County, Illinois, where he worked on a farm until he enlisted for service in the Civil War. He was only seventeen years old at the time but was accepted in the Thirty-fourth Illinois Infantry, in which he served under General Grant in Virginia. After the war was over he returned to Illinois and engaged in farming there until 1889, when he came to Nebraska and subsequently bought two hundred and forty acres of land in Hamilton County, which he still owns although he retired from active farm work in 1906 and moved to Giltner. He placed many substantial improvements on his land and made his farm industries profitable. He is a member of the Presbyterian church as was his wife. In politics he is a Republican and he belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic.

Charles W. Bierbower attended the country school near his father's farm and later in the high school in Giltner. When seventeen years old he started to learn the printing business under C. H. Stall. Those who have followed Mr. Bierbower's career with interest will not be slow in asserting that his choice of a vocation was a wise one. In 1912 in association with his next older brother, James C. Bierbower, he bought the Giltner Gazette, and retained his interest for six years, in the meanwhile making it a first class newspaper.

He then came to Doniphan where he bought the Enterprise, and as before immediately brought to bear the business capacity that has resulted in the expansion of every department of the Enterprise plant, doubling the subscription list, increasing the advertising, and turning out the finest kind of job work. From a small town paper he has made this journal influential all through this part of the state, not, however in the interest of any political party, for Mr. Bierbower is an independent voter.

Mr. Bierbower married Miss Llewellyn Talbot, who was born at Trumbull, Clay County, Nebraska, and they have one child, Charlotte, who resides at home. Mr. Bierbower belongs to the Masonic fraternity, also to the Modern Woodmen and Woodmen of the World orders. His father's honorable military record has always been a source of pride to him as also that of his eldest brother, Jacob Bierbower, now deceased, who served in the Spanish-American war and took part in the capture of Manila.

WILLIAM RUDOLPH AUGUSTIN, mayor of Doniphan, is also an enterprising business man here as well as a substantial farmer and stockman of Hall County. Although not a native of Nebraska, he has lived in the state since he was ten years old and since 1912 has been a resident of Hall County.

Mayor Augustin was born in 1873, at Red Wing, Minnesota. His parents were Henry and Mary (Ruhter) Augustin, natives of Germany, who came to the United States when about twenty years of age. The mother died in 1916, aged sixty-seven years. They had the following children: William Rudolph, Mayor of Doniphan; Henry a farmer near Kenesaw, Nebraska; Peter, a farmer in Adams County Nebraska; George, a farmer near Kenesaw; Jacob, a farmer northeast of Kenesaw; Fred, a farmer near Juniata, Nebraska; Walter, who deals in agricultural implements at Doniphan; Herbert, who resides on a farm with his father near Juniata, Adams County, Nebraska; Mata, the wife of John Saurmann, a farmer west of Juniata; Anna, the wife of John Uhden, a farmer near Prosser, Nebraska; and Emma and Lena, both of whom reside with their father, now in his seventy-first year. He is a well educated man who taught school in the country near Red Wing, Minnesota, for some time after coming to the United States. In 1883 he located in Nebraska and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land situated northwest of Kenesaw, in Adams County, where

he made improvements and set out three orchards. He lost one of them by storm but for many years the others yielded fine fruit. During his active years he carried on general farming and raised stock. He is not identified with any political party, casting his vote according to his own judgment. He is a member of the German Lutheran church.

W. Rudolph Augustin had public school advantages and gave his father assistance in the earlier years but later engaged in farming for himself in Adams County, where he had five hundred and sixty acres. Subsequently he sold all his land near Kenesaw, Adams County, buying two hundred and ninety acres in Hall County. Here he has carried on general farming and makes a specialty of feeding cattle for market. Since 1912 he has been a resident of Doniphan. Here he embarked first in the implement business which he continued until 1916, since which time he has been in the garage and general automobile repair business, and is agent for the Overland cars, holding the sales privilege over all of Hall County south of the Platte river, and two miles across Adams County, taking in several townships. He carries a complete line of accessories for the Overland and the Ford cars, and has expert mechanics to attend to the repair work.

Mayor Augustin married Miss Minnie Winter, who was born in 1875, near Roseland, Nebraska, and they have three sons: A. H. and Irwin, both of whom assist their father in the work pertaining to the garage; and LaVerne, who attends school. The family belongs to the Lutheran church. In politics, although a Democrat, Mayor Augustine in the administration of his office is not partisan. He has brought about many reforms in public matters and has given encouragement to many worthy enterprises that promise to be of great benefit to the city. He was a liberal contributor to the various causes presented to the country during the continuance of the World War.

WALLACE D. BEERS, one of the honored pioneer settlers of Hall County who has exerted benignant influence during more than a quarter of century of residence in this section is a man of high ideals and keen interest in civic and economic questions regarding the welfare and uplifting of his community which is attested by the fact of his having held public offices in his district for over twenty years. His energies have been entirely devoted to agricultural pursuits; for as a boy he broke the prairie sod to make it available for

cultivation. Mr. Beers was born in Logan County, Illinois, January 10, 1869, the son of Hendrick and Lucinda (Foley) Beers; the former a New Englander, born in Connecticut, while the mother was a native of Illinois. There were seven children in the family: Sarah, who became the wife of a man named McDowell; Wallace D.; William H., who entered the ministry; Charles F.; Mary, who married Mr. Cleal; Florence, now Mrs. Kesel, and Nellie, deceased. Wallace acquired the rudimentary education afforded in the public schools of Illinois in the winter time, and as all farm boys of that period did, worked on the home farm. When he was seventeen years of age the family came to Nebraska, locating in Hall County in 1886, eight miles north of Doniphan. Having already completed the elementary schools Wallace entered the Grand Island Business College to prepare himself for business life. Coming here at a day when settlement was still being made in this locality the boy shared to an extent the hardships of earlier settlers and in recounting the early days remembers when he earned the first money that was not given him, by hauling hay shocks with a horse and rope, for his aunt; obtaining the magnificent sum of twenty-five cents a day for the work.

February 12, 1896, Mr. Beers married Miss Nellie Denman at the home of her parents south of Schimmer's Lake in Hall County. She was born in Nemaha County.

Mr. Beers is the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land bought by his father in Hall County in 1886 and an additional eighty acre tract lies across the line in Hamilton County, all under a high state of cultivation and there is no more valuable farm in Hall County for today Mr. Beers would not be willing to part with an acre for \$200.

There is a beautiful home on the place, modern in every manner; good barns and numerous outbuildings for the stock. Having been energetic and having used proper methods in his business Mr. Beers and his family are today enjoying the fruits of unqualified success in the various departments of farm industry and he is today regarded as one of the substantial and influential citizens of his community. Mrs. Beers has also contributed to the raising and welfare of the family as she has done her full part, raising poultry, making butter and selling eggs and cream to augment the family bank account, while Mr. Beers and the two sons are engaged in the heavy work of the farm. During the terrible years of drought Mr. Beers obtained work for small wages on the belt

railroad when a track was being laid to the sugar factory, and did not, as other men, return east to his wife and family but in the parlance of that day "stuck it out." For over twenty years he has served on the school board of his district and it is not necessary to say that the position has been well filled as the service speaks for itself. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Doniphan; they are well and favorably known throughout the community in which they have spent so many years and whenever duty calls are ready to help others with time or money or for any laudable enterprise in the upbuilding of the community.

DAVID CLARK GIDEON.—In 1877, when the Gideon family came to Hall County and settled as permanent residents near what is now the flourishing town of Doniphan, the country roundabout was but sparsely settled and comparatively few farms had yet been much improved. Like their neighbors, the Gideons lived for a time in a sod house. A well known representative of this family is David Clark Gideon, who owns one hundred and sixty acres of excellent land, carrying on general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Gideon was born in 1859, at Winter-set, Iowa. His parents were Jacob M. and Orelia A. (Stump) Gideon, the former of whom was born in Champaign County, Ohio, May 26, 1824, and the latter near Circleville, Ohio, May 12, 1822. She died April 8, 1916, when nearly ninety-four years old. They had four children, two of whom are still living: Charles L. and David C. The eldest, William H. Gideon, died at Doniphan, in 1915, having been born January 12, 1850. He was prominent in township affairs, for many years being an officeholder and postmaster, and was a very religious man. He was known all over the state as a poultry fancier, having exhibited and won prizes at many exhibitions, specializing as a breeder of dark Cornish chickens, a beautiful variety. James S. passed away March 7, 1919. Jacob M. Gideon, father of this family, was a farmer and a blacksmith. He removed from Ohio to Illinois and from there to Madison County, Iowa, where he lived for more than twenty years. In 1877 he came to Nebraska, making a trade for his land near Doniphan, which later was made more valuable because of the improvements made on it, including the setting out of an orchard. Although the Indians gave the Gideons little trouble, there were many pioneer hardships to face. Mr. Gideon remembers



when his father killed a deer on his farm, and when it was necessary to drive wild geese off the fields in order to be sure of a yield of grain.

David C. Gideon was eighteen years old when the family came to Hall County. He attended school in Iowa and always assisted his father on the home farm. He remembers the first house the family lived in and recalls that when the railroad was being put through here, the family in some way managed to board a part of the gang of workers. All these little details are interesting in a history of the county, showing as they do, the sensible, resourceful character of the early settlers, from whom, have come the intelligent, practical, sturdy men of today. They also did some construction work on the railroad themselves as contractors. Mr. Gideon, like his father, has always voted with the Democratic party, although the latter at one time might have been somewhat influenced in favor of the Republican party because of his acquaintance and friendship of Abraham Lincoln. In old days, back in Illinois, he bought his groceries from Mr. Lincoln in his little store not far from Springfield.

Mr. Gideon married Miss Mary A. Smith, who was born in 1873 in Delaware County, Iowa. The only child in the Gideon family, A. C. Gideon, a nephew, is a sailor in the United States service, who was trained at Great Lakes, Chicago. Mrs. Gideon is a member of the Christian church and Mr. Gideon was reared by a good mother in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church. He belongs to the Masonic lodge at Doniphan.

FREDERICK E. MIETH, whose fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres is situated in section thirty-three, South Loup township Hall County, is an industrious and successful farmer and respected citizen. He was born in the city of Chicago, May 5, 1866, the third in a family of six children born to his parents, August and Mary (Pingel) Mieth, the father of which family was among the early settlers of Hall County and of whom a complete record is found elsewhere in this volume.

Frederick E. obtained his education in the public schools and assisted his father on the farm, until the death of the latter, when the son came into possession of the old home place, and here he carries on a general farming industry.

In 1895 was solemnized the marriage of Frederick E. Mieth and Miss Eunice Siverly, who was born in 1876, and passed away

March 1, 1919, leaving two children: Ernest, who assists his father on the farm, and Carl, who is attending school.

Mr. Mieth and his family attend the Baptist church. He is an honest, upright citizen and independent in politics. He is now serving as justice of the peace.

ARTHUR COX HUTTON, whose valuable, well improved farm of eighty acres is situated on section twelve, Cameron township, is a representative citizen and prosperous farmer of Hall County. He was born in Bartholomew County, Indiana, in 1854. His parents were George and Lydia (Beard) Hutton, the former of whom was born in Pennsylvania and the latter in Ohio. They had three sons and three daughters. Of the former Arthur Cox Hutton is the only survivor, both brothers dying in infancy. Of the latter, but one survives, Mrs. Mary Benafield, of Shelbyville, Indiana. Anna Elizabeth died in Grand Island and Eliza Jane died in Clay County, Illinois, the former being the wife of Robert Heinze. The father was a farmer and his death was occasioned by the kick of a horse, when he was but thirty-five years old, and the mother did not long survive him. They were members of the United Brethren church.

In 1879 Arthur C. Hutton came to Adams County, Nebraska, where he worked for a time at farm labor, then went on the Spring ranch in Clay County, then came to Hall County and worked for a time in the grain business for E. R. Wiseman & Co. After another period of farm work in Hall County he went to Blue Hill, Nebraska, and from there to Colorado, where he remained for eight years and during that time became one of the responsible men of his neighborhood and helped to organize its first school district. When Mr. Hutton came back to Hall County, he bought eighty acres of pleasantly situated land, and here he has made substantial improvements and carries on general farming and raises a good grade of stock.

Mr. Hutton married in Clay County, Nebraska, Miss Emma Kenworthy, who was born in 1862, in Clay County, Illinois, and the following children were born to them: Sidney, conducts a ranch in South Dakota; Orville, a farmer in Hall County; George, who served with an engineer corps in France with the American Expeditionary Force, one of the brave American boys who helped turn the tide of war, is still in Europe; Genevieve, the wife of M. E. Tennant, a druggist at Cairo; Ray, who served with the American army in France

and saw action in the trenches, returned April 17, 1919; Roy on the home farm; and Hubert and Laverne, both of whom are at home. Mr. Hutton is a Republican in politics.

RAY ALBERT GREEN, a representative citizen of Hall County, in which part of Nebraska almost his entire life has been spent, owns a well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres situated in section thirty-four, South Loup township, and also is proprietor of what is known as the Greenville store.

Ray A. Green was born in Tuscola County, Michigan, October 14, 1869, the son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Smith) Green, who were born, reared and married in England. His brothers and sisters were as follows: Thomas, who died in Hall County; Anna, deceased, the wife of P. R. Stradley, a retired farmer who lives in Broken Bow, Nebraska; Julia, the wife of Luther S. Trefern, a farmer and lumber man in Oregon; Mary, wife of William R. Goss, a farmer in Hall County; Nina, the wife of George F. Filsinger, living at Cairo, Nebraska, and William and Kitty, both of whom died in infancy. Joseph Green was a sawyer by trade in his native land, from which he came to the United States in early manhood. After locating at Pontiac, Michigan, he worked as a painter but later became a farmer, in 1873 he came to Hall County, Nebraska, homesteaded and proved up and also bought a quarter section of railroad land in section twenty-seven, South Loup township, all of which remains a family inheritance. He improved his property and built the first frame house in this part of the country. Like other settlers he had many early hardships to contend with and during the grasshopper invasion practically lost all his crops. Both he and wife were members of the Baptist church. In his political views he was a Democrat. His death, which occurred March 17, 1904, removed one of the sterling men of Hall County. His wife died March 31, 1908.

Ray Albert Green obtained his education in the public schools and remained at home assisting his father. He carries on a general agricultural line and his industries prove profitable because they are intelligently and systematically directed. For eighteen months he has operated what is known as the Greenville store, an enterprise connected to some extent with the Farmers' Grange movement, with which he is in full sympathy and for some years has been a member of the organization, which includes the most progressive farmers in the state.

Mr. Green has a pleasant and hospitable family circle, including, wife, two sons and one daughter. He married Mary L. Balcom, who was born in 1872, in Macon County, Illinois, and their children are: Albert, who assists his father on the home place; Julia, attends school at Cairo; and Joseph, attending the district school. Mr. Green and family are members of the Baptist church at Bluff Center. He keeps well posted on all that is going on in the world, and when it comes to casting his vote does so with the discretion his own good judgment justifies. In addition to his Grange membership he also belongs to the Odd Fellows.

JOHN WARREN MAHAFFEY, a practical printer and for years closely identified with newspaper work over the country as publisher, owner and editor of different journals bought the Cairo Record in June, 1918, and has developed it into an influential newspaper and a paying property. Few men in or out of the profession are better known in several states, for Mr. Mahaffey has been likewise concerned in other business enterprises.

The Mahaffey family probably originated in Ireland. It is known to have settled early in the New England states and later to have lived in Kentucky and still later in Iowa, in which state the grandfather of John Warren Mahaffey lived to the age of ninety-three years. His own birth took place near Fairfield, in Jefferson County, Iowa, February 27, 1863, the youngest of a family of four children born to his parents, John and Lucinda Frances (Mahaffey) Mahaffey, who were very distantly related. Their other children were: Belle, who was for many years a teacher in government Indian schools, resides at Broken Bow, Nebraska, the widow of Joseph M. Steele, formerly under-sheriff of Washington County, Kansas; Luella, who died in Henry County, Iowa, at the age of four years; and Laura, who is the wife of J. D. Fell, who has been manager of the Chicago Lumber & Coal Company at Concordia, Kansas, for thirty years.

John Mahaffey, father of John W. Mahaffey, was born in Kentucky and accompanied his father to Iowa where he afterward bought a quarter section of land and engaged in farming and stockraising until 1862, when he enlisted for service in the Civil War, becoming a member of Company C Thirtieth Iowa Infantry. He was a brave soldier and did his duty but in the summer of 1863 was captured by the enemy and was incarcerated in



JOSEPH GREEN AND WIFE

the infamous Libbey Prison. At one time he succeeded with others in making his escape through a tunnel the wretched men excavated but he was recaptured and transferred to the prison on Belle Isle, where he died, his age being only thirty-three years.

In a reminiscent mood, Editor Mahaffey sometimes recalls early boyhood days when he earned his board and twenty-five cents for every day that he drove the lead team attached to a self-raking reaper on the farm of John Hoefer and afterward the same munificent salary from Farmer Lilly in the home neighborhood in Washington County, Kansas. The family then moved to Washington, Kansas, and there he had a chance to attend the high school. He kept busily employed, chopping wood, herding cattle and breaking horses until he was seventeen years old and about that time made a trip with three hundred head of cattle from Wichita, Kansas, to the Otoe reservation in Nebraska and was there at the time the Otoe Indians were removed to Indian Territory. This vigorous out-door life had built up his health, for Mr. Mahaffey like an illustrious American lately deceased, had suffered serious illness and for nine months, when about thirteen years old, had been near to death from an attack of lockjaw and spinal meningitis.

Under Wesley E. Wilkinson, on the Seneca Courier, Seneca, Kansas, Mr. Mahaffey served a three years' apprenticeship to the printing trade after which he became a school teacher, taught seven terms in Washington and Riley counties. His first active connection with a newspaper was manager for one year of a paper at Burr Oak, Kansas. In 1892 he established the Esbon Leader, and later owned the Milfordale leader, the Green County Monitor and the Vermillion Times, which last named paper he sold in 1900 and then located in Concordia, Kansas, and went into the auction business, from which he retired for a time because of throat trouble. He then became a traveling salesman for two years for the Topeka Paper Company; then went with the Shaw Novelty Advertising Company of Kansas City, Missouri, and after that bought the Linn (Kansas) Digest, operating it for eighteen months before disposing of the paper. Mr. Mahaffey then permitted himself three months of leisurely travel during which he visited the exposition at Seattle and the coast states. Following this he accepted a position with the Grand Island Business College, being occupied thus four years before establishing the Doniphan (Nebraska) Enterprise, printing his first paper

May 18, 1916. He sold this journal in March, 1918, and invested in what, at the time, was considered a "dead" newspaper proposition, the Cairo Record. He started out with his first issue, June 13, 1918, with no business, while, by January, 1919, every department of the office is so overcrowded that the entire force cannot handle it, and Mr. Mahaffey is enlarging his plant. He has always been a Republican, even during the period when this section of the country was given over to the populist party theories.

Mention has been made above of the throat trouble that caused Mr. Mahaffey to retire for a time from the auction business, but it fortunately yielded to treatment and by 1904 was well enough for him to resume a line of business in which he has been interested and in which he has been remarkably successful. He has embarked in the auction business at Cairo, and as an example of his ability in this direction it may be mentioned that in two hours and twenty minutes, on December 14, 1918, he sold stock and other property worth \$2,160.

Mr. Mahaffey married in Greenleaf, Kansas, Miss Evelyn J. Dunn, who was born at Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Mahaffey has been identified with many fraternal and social organizations at different times but has retired from activity in many because of lack of time, still maintaining however his Masonic and Woodmen connections.

GEORGE LEWIS RAVENS, a substantial and representative citizen of Cairo, Nebraska, has been a resident of the United States since he was fifteen years of age. He was born in Germany in 1840, one of a family of three children born to his parents, George Jacob and Adaline Ravens. Mr. Ravens had one brother, the late George W. Ravens, who was in the banking and insurance business at Ottawa, Illinois. He also had one sister, Mrs. Amalia Stanch, who is now deceased. The father of Mr. Ravens was a millwright by trade. After coming to the United States he settled at Kansas City in 1857, here he worked as a carpenter until his death there at fifty-five years of age and Mr. Ravens's mother passed away also there at the age of fifty-three years. She was a member of the Lutheran church but the father was a Free Thinker.

George Lewis Ravens attended school in Germany but was apprenticed to no trade. He was an office boy for a lawyer before coming to America, and though only a lad of fifteen

he made the trip across the ocean alone. He left Bremen on a sailing vessel spending six weeks on the ocean before landing at the port of New York. It required considerable courage to leave the old country for America as the only relative he had here was a brother. For three years after reaching St. Louis, Missouri, he worked as a general laborer. In search of employment he went to New Orleans, becoming a clerk in a hardware store there for six months and then returned to St. Louis as that city seemed more homelike and he remained there one year longer. He then secured a position in Memphis, Tennessee, but as sectional feeling was strong at that time and he did not want to enter the Confederate army, he came as far north as Illinois. There he found ready employment learning a fine trade and for the next thirteen years he remained at Ottawa, working in a bakery. By this time Mr. Ravens was prepared to go into business for himself and opened a bakery at Morris, Illinois, which he conducted prosperously for six and a half years, but like so many fine men of German descent he felt the call of the land and during the next two years he followed farming in Kansas. In 1883 he came to Hall County and bought one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land, put substantial improvements on it and sold advantageously. He then returned to Kansas and invested in land which he sold in the next three years, before coming back to Hall County to take up his residence in Cairo.

Mr. Ravens married Miss Amanda Warner, who was born in West Virginia in 1845 and died in 1914. They had the following children: George, who died in Illinois; Frank, who also died in Illinois six weeks later; Amelia, the wife of E. E. Bellamy, died on her husband's farm in Michigan; Rose, the wife of Mr. Jessen, a gardener in California; Jennie, the wife of Fred Willis, a farmer in Hall County; Lewis David, a farmer; Mable, the wife of John Cady, an undertaker at Beatrice, Nebraska; and Rena, the wife of C. A. Clark, a farmer in Hall County. Mr. Ravens is a member of the Lutheran church. He has never been active in politics but has held minor offices in the order of Odd Fellows, with which organization he has been connected for many years.

GROVER CLEVELAND RAVEN, cashier of the Farmers State Bank of Cairo, Nebraska, has been identified with banking institutions ever since he entered business life, having been connected with the above financial

institution since its organization. He has won new methods, while at the same time his personality is such as to make friends for any business house with which he may be associated; as a result he has a wide circle of these at Cairo.

Grover Cleveland Raven was born in 1884, in Linn, Kansas, the son of Herman and Theresa (Loop) Raven, natives of Germany. They had five children, of whom Grover C. is the eldest, the others being: Jacob, who lives in Portland, Oregon, is a ship builder; George and Marvin, who are bankers; and Anna, a clerk in a store, in Linn, Kansas. The parents of Mr. Raven came to the United States in the sixties and directly after landing came west to locate in Linn, Kansas, later purchasing a farm in Washington County. For some years the father operated an elevator at Linn and was considered a successful business man. He gave political support to the Democratic party and held so high a place in the community that he was elected a justice of the peace, serving many years in that capacity.

Mr. Raven obtained his education in Linn and because of inclination and natural gifts early entered business life, soon becoming assistant cashier of the Exchange State Bank of Linn. He also served as bookkeeper of the National Bank of Commerce, of Kansas City, Missouri, for two years. In 1910, on the organization of the Farmers State Bank of Cairo, he came to the institution as cashier, an association which has continued to the present time. This bank is capitalized at \$15,000, with a surplus of \$3,000 and deposits of \$230,000. Its officials are: C. C. Hansen, president; Fred Voss, vice-president; Grover C. Raven, cashier; and T. M. Sorensen, now a soldier in France, assistant cashier.

Mr. Raven married, in 1905, Miss Mertie Jones, who was born in Linn, Kansas. Politically he is a Democrat and served as chairman of the village board for one year, while fraternally he belongs to the Odd Fellows and the Woodmen.

CHARLES HENRY DE SOE, for many years a well known farmer and orchardist in Hall County, was born near Sandusky, Ohio, in 1846, and died in Cairo, Nebraska, January 25, 1898. He was one of a family of five children, being one of the three sons who came to Hall County. His brother George De Soe was a Civil War veteran who embarked in business for a time in Wood River as also did Orrin De Soe, a second brother,

both of whom dealt in agricultural implements. They subsequently returned to Ohio.

Charles Henry De Soe was reared and educated in Ohio and followed farming until he enlisted in the First Ohio Heavy Artillery for service in the army during the Civil War. He served one year and to the end of his life was interested in the Grand Army of the Republic, belonging to Simon Cameron Post. On account of failing health he went to Colorado and while there purchased mining stock which proved a good investment and which he later traded for two hundred and eighty acres of land in Cameron township, Hall County. He resided on this farm for about twenty years, in the meanwhile greatly improving it, setting out and caring for one of the finest orchards in the county at that time. He also carried on general farming and took pride in raising fine stock. After retiring from his farm he moved to Concordia, Kansas, where he remained four years before coming to Cairo, where his last days were spent.

Mr. De Soe married Miss Hannah Cole, who was born in Ohio in 1855. One son, James A. De Soe, carries on the farm industries and is a well known livestock dealer. Mrs. De Soe is a member of the Baptist church. Mr. De Soe was a Republican in his political views, was an honest, straightforward man, strict in the fulfillment of every obligation, and all the acquaintances he made in his own and in other neighborhoods held him in the highest possible esteem, so that his sunset years were passed in prosperity and happiness.

JAMES HENRY HULETT, one of the best known citizens of Mayfield township, Hall County, came here as its first permanent settler, and he still owns the land that he bought forty-five years ago. He may truly be called a pioneer of the county and perhaps no resident of the township is more highly respected. His reminiscences of old days cover the sod house period, the dry years and the grasshopper invasion, and he can tell also of the brave struggles that he and his neighbors made before they were able to break the barriers that nature seemed to place in their way. At the present time Mr. Hulett is one of the county's most substantial retired farmers and stockmen, and is a justice of the peace.

James Henry Hulett was born in 1841, in Preble County, Ohio. His parents were Amos and Sarah (White) Hulett, the former of whom was born in 1812, in Vermont, and died in 1896, and the latter born in Rutland, Ver-

mont in 1818 and died in 1898. She was the eight generation, a direct descendant of John and Priscilla Alden. They were married in Ohio and then moved to Illinois to establish their pioneer home, the father of Mr. Hulett securing the last pre-emption claim of eighty acres in Whiteside County, for which he paid \$1.25 an acre. He was a cabinetmaker by trade and a skilled mechanic, was early a Whig in his political leaning but later a Republican and held local offices, and both he and wife were fervent members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Of their children James was the eldest, the others being: William, who lives retired at Ames, Iowa; Robert, a retired farmer at Morrison, Whiteside County, Illinois; and John W., who owns a ranch in Montana.

A country school provided Mr. Hulett with his education and he remained on the home farm until he entered the service of his country during the Civil War. He was appointed as paymaster's steward and served one and one-half years in the United States Navy, cruising from the east coast of Florida to fifteen miles above Charleston, entering the service at Port Royal and discharged at Charleston. In 1874 he left Illinois for Nebraska driving a "bunch" of cattle the entire distance. He brought capital with him and when he looked about for investment, found land that pleased him in Hall County and shortly afterward he owned the first claim taken in Mayfield township, which he has since owned. Like his neighbors Mr. Hulett and family lived at first in a sod house and were as comfortable and independent as any, although he had the advantage of having money with which to start putting up buildings. In the course of time the present comfortable and substantial structures took shape and proportion and other improvements followed, and additions were made to the original acreage. Mr. Hulett now owns two hundred and forty acres of valuable land. In the early days he did some freighting from Grand Island. Every one at the present time is familiar with the word "aid" but Mr. Hulett heard it many years ago when the settlers and their families and stock would have perished in Nebraska because of the devastations of the grasshoppers between 1874 and 1876, had not men like himself traveled over the ravaged fields with sustaining food. He was one of the Aid Society.

Judge Hulett married Anna Olds, who was born in 1846, at Bonn, Canada, and died in Hall County in 1913. They had the following children: Rexford E., an electrical engi-



MR. AND MRS. J. H. HULETT

neer employed with the Canada Cement Company, in the city of Winnipeg; Howard L., conducts the home farm, carrying on a general farm line and feeding hogs during the winter; and Effie J., who died in 1901. At the time of her lamented death she was a student in the High School in Grand Island. In politics a sturdy Republican all his life, he has served as town clerk and as justice of the peace. He belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

LEROY WELLINGTON GOSS. — In naming the early families which settled in Hall County in the neighborhood of Cairo that are still well represented here, that of Goss will quickly come to mind, Leroy W. Goss still possessing his farm of one hundred and sixty acres in the same township where he homesteaded in 1872. He has been a continuous resident here and has done his part in bringing about the fine agricultural development that marks this section.

Leroy Wellington Goss was born in 1850, in Oswego County, New York, the son of Oliver and Sophronia Goss, both natives of the Empire state. He was one of four children, the others being: Orsemous, who is deceased; Ada, the wife of Albert Thomas, a dairyman in Jefferson County, New York, and Arleta, who also lives in New York.

Leroy W. Goss came to Hall County in 1872 and soon secured a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, situated six miles south of Cairo. Later he went to Wyoming to work on a railroad, but shortly returned and began the cultivation of his land, breaking the virgin sod with a yoke of oxen. It was not until his second year on this prairie farm that he owned a wagon. Today Mr. Goss has fine improvements on his place which include a comfortable farm house, but when he first settled here he lived in a sod house, as did most of his neighbors. He engaged in general farming and raised cattle and stock until he retired in 1909.

Leroy W. Goss married Miss Laura L. Holly, who was born in Jefferson County, New York, in 1853, became the mother of the following children: Minnie, the wife of Henry Vierk, a mail carrier at Cairo; Leon H., assistant treasurer of the Cudahy Packing Company, Chicago; Bernice, the wife of Emory Herriman, a carpenter living in Oregon; Nora, the wife of L. E. Van Winkle, a farmer in Hall County; Mabel, the wife of George Mortimer, in the automobile business at Shelton; Blanche, the wife of C. C. Stahl

of Lincoln; and Ruth, who is the wife of Herman Vierk, a farmer of Buffalo County, Nebraska. All his children have been given educational advantages and all are well fixed in life. He has never been much of a politician in the sense of following the dictates of any political party but he always casts his vote as a good citizen, giving support to the candidate who in his estimation is qualified for the office. Mr. Goss can relate many interesting stories of the early days in Hall County.

HANS JOERGENSE RUNGE, well known and highly respected in Hall County who has been a resident of Cairo since 1904, is engaged in the business of buying cream for the Harding Cream Company of Omaha, with which dairy company he has been connected for the last sixteen years. He was born in Holstein, Germany, in 1855, a son of Hans J. and Catherine (Ranmiers) Runge. His father was killed while Hans was serving in the army, his horse accidentally falling on him. The mother was later married to John Goss, and two daughters born to that union are living: Mrs. Margaret Paulson, of Grand Island, and Mrs. Lina Soll, of Wyoming.

Hans J. Runge has been a hard worker all his life. He started as a laborer when he was a boy, remaining for nine years with his first employer. In 1887 he landed in the United States and came directly to Grand Island, where he was first engaged as a general laborer but as soon as he became known he made friends through his industry and honesty and found employment with the grocery houses of H. D. Hennings, William Baker and Hayden Brothers. After that he rented land and engaged for a time in farming. In 1904 he removed to Cairo and since then has managed the cream business of the above mentioned Omaha firm, a business connection of long standing which has been mutually profitable.

Mr. Runge married Augusta Lange, who was born in Germany in 1840 and is now deceased. The following children were born to them: Rudolph, who works in the railroad shops in Grand Island; William M., who is a farmer in Hall County; John, a farmer in Buffalo County; Ernest, who works at Grand Island in the railroad shops; Fred, a sailor in the United States navy; Charles, with the United States Engineers serving in France; Peter, also with the American Expeditionary Force in France, belongs to the artillery; Anna, who lives at Grand Island; August, a soldier in the United States army; and Emil, a schoolboy at Cairo. Mr. Runge and family

attend the Baptist church. In politics he is a Democrat. He belongs to the Plattduetchen society, to the Fraternal Union and the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Runge is a man whose word is as good as his bond at any time.

JESSE M. RUTH, owner and proprietor of the Cairo Pharmacy, in Cairo, Nebraska, and interested here along other lines of modern business, impresses a stranger as one of the most progressive, alert and enterprising citizens of this community. He is a native of Nebraska, born at Emerick, Madison County, in 1882, the elder of two sons born to his parents, Phineas W. and Rachel (Collingwood) Ruth. The second son, Silas B. Ruth, who resides at Spokane, Washington, is sales manager of the Ryan Fruit Company.

The father of Mr. Ruth was born in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, in 1856, came to Madison County, Nebraska, and still resides in that county, being one of the prominent business and public men of Newman Grove, now serving as treasurer of Madison County. When he first located here he was practically a poor man, but soon secured a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, took an active part in the development of that section and kept on acquiring land until he now owns many acres on the Canadian frontier and valuable realty at Newman Grove. He is an important factor in the Republican party there, having served two terms as county assessor and was a member of the first city council of Newman Grove. He is one of the pillars of the Congregational church and fraternally is identified with the Odd Fellows and the Woodmen. He was in business as a contractor and builder and did much work at Newman Grove, but is now retired from this line of activity. The mother of Mr. Ruth was born in Pennsylvania in 1860 and is deceased.

Jesse M. Ruth was graduated from the Newman Grove schools in 1896 and for the next four years was engaged as a bookkeeper for the Crowell Lumber and Grain Company, when he entered the drug store of C. V. Anderson as clerk and student remaining there until the fall of 1902, when he entered the school of pharmacy in Creighton College, from which he was graduated in 1904. For the next two years he was with the drug firm of Sherman & McConnell, and then went to Bloomfield, Nebraska, where he conducted the Corner Drug Store until 1908, before coming to Cairo to enter the employ of Dr. Tische, taking charge of the Cairo Pharmacy. In 1909 Mr. Ruth purchased the business but has

continued to conduct it under the old well known name. Under his ownership it has been greatly improved and the scope of the business widened. In addition to carrying a complete line of fresh pure drugs, patent medicines, including The Penslar's Line, also Hess & Clark's products, livestock remedies and the innumerable toilet and other preparations now found in every first class drug store. Mr. Ruth has added other departments and handles cut glass, jewelry, wall paper and paints. He has one of the finest soda fountains in Hall County and his entire establishment would be creditable to a much larger city. He has shown unusual enterprise along other lines, notably when he founded the Gem Theatre, in 1915, of which he is the owner.

Mr. Ruth married Miss Rena B. Cain, who was born in 1884, at Creston, Nebraska, and they have three children, namely: Winifred, Laverne and Kenneth, all of whom attend school. The family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics he is active as a Republican, and in fraternal life his connections are with the Masons, the Odd Fellows, the Highlanders and other leading organizations.

KARL ALFRED RASMUSSEN, one of Cairo's most successful young business men, has won his present prosperity honestly and fairly through his own efforts. Many young men acquire good business prospects but few of them, perhaps have to do so much alone and unaided as did Mr. Rasmussen, who, when but eighteen years old, came to a far off land to make his way among total strangers. It is much to his credit that he has done so well. He was born in Denmark, July 28, 1889, and his parents and two sisters and three brothers still live in that country.

Karl Alfred Rasmussen attended school near his birthplace and was only twelve years old when he began to learn the blacksmith trade, entering upon a certain period of apprenticeship, in the meanwhile cherishing an ambition to come to the United States, which he was only able to gratify by borrowing his passage money for the voyage to this country. After landing in America he made his way to Dannebrog, Howard County, Nebraska, where Oscar Carlson employed him in his blacksmith shop for sixteen months. Mr. Rasmussen then came to Cairo, where he worked for eighteen months for Fred Erickson, at the end of that time buying the shop from his employer. It was just a plain, ordinary blacksmith shop but it was the beginning

of Mr. Rasmussen's business success for in the course of time he put up a first class blacksmith building with modern appliances, twenty by one hundred and thirty feet and a second building almost as large and now hadles farm implements of all kinds in addition to modern blacksmithing, making a specialty of acetylene welding. He is also manager of the city water and light plants.

Mr. Rasmussen married after he came to Hall County, Miss Anna Eggers, who was born here and they have one daughter, Helen Dora, who attends school. Mr. Rasmussen has not identified himself with any political party but casts an independent vote as his own excellent judgment dictates. He belongs to the order of Odd Fellows and also to the Danish Brotherhood.

AMOS HENRY SHATTUCK, pastor of the Baptist church in Cairo, is a man whose intellectual acquirements and broad vision have made him take interest in many lines of useful effort that have given him marked leadership in both business and public affairs in this village. He has been one of the invigorating forces here since 1908. He was born in 1897, near Winona, Minnesota, and was but two years old when he became a resident of Nebraska.

The parents of Mr. Shattuck were Amos and Elizabeth (Thackery) Shattuck, the former of whom was born in New York in 1830, and the latter in 1850, in Indiana. Both are deceased. They had the following children: Mrs. Emma Harpham, who is deceased; Mrs. Abby Mott, who lives in Iowa; Eugene G., employed in the freight department of the Burlington Railroad at Hastings; and Amos Henry, who resides at Cairo. The father of the above family went to Indiana in early manhood and from there to Minnesota prior to 1870, and in 1872 removed with his family to Adams County, Nebraska. He homesteaded there and acquired a forty acre tree claim, the latter being of note because it was one of the very few that proved profitable. While he resided on his farm he made many improvements although, like his neighbors, he suffered hardship and loss at times, particularly from the violent wind storms that swept over the level prairie. His son recalls one of these furious storms during his boyhood, on which occasion the barn was blown entirely away and the family horses had to be brought into the house with the family until its violence subsided. His father, by setting out trees, did his part in bringing about the changed

conditions that now prevail, Amos H. Shattuck remembering the early conditions and the first tree planted in Adams County. When his father retired from the farm he settled in the village of Juniata, where he lived the rest of his life. He was a man of sterling character, a faithful member of the Dunkard church, and so trustworthy in public affairs that his fellow citizens elected him to many political offices. At the time of his death he owned a large body of land and across his farm lay the old California trail.

Amos H. Shattuck remained at home with his father until he was eighteen years of age and then went to Washington, working there for one year as a carpenter. After coming back to Adams County, he engaged in farming for a year. In September 1892 he entered the Grand Island Academy and afterward the Baptist College, from which he received the degree of Ph. B., and afterward, from the Chicago University, the degree of Bachelor of Theology. Soon after graduation he located in Illinois and served as pastor of a Baptist church there for one year, then accepted an appointment as a missionary to Utah, remaining in that territory for one year. Prior to coming to Cairo, Nebraska, where he became pastor of the Baptist church, he had been stationed for a time in California. Here Mr. Shattuck has proved the invigorating quality of his citizenship by not confining himself alone to his pastoral work. On the other hand he embarked in business in the line of contracting and has put up a number of the town's substantial business houses, in the meanwhile being manager of the Nelson Lumber Company. An active and conscientious Republican, he has accepted political responsibilities and has served in school offices, as a police magistrate and is a justice of the peace.

Reverend Mr. Shattuck married Miss Clara L. Craig, who was born in 1875, at Jacksonville, Illinois, and they have the following children: Gordon, I. C., Ruth, Francis Rae, Clara Lucille, Paul Craig, Bessie Evangaline and Amos Bruce, the eldest being a sophomore in college at Ottawa.

PETER ELLIOTT, who came to Hall County, Nebraska, at a time when homestead claims could be secured here and plans made for future development that has really come to pass, purchased land which has never passed out of his ownership. The old farm is nicely located in South Loup township, within three miles of Cairo.

Peter Elliott was born in the state of New

York, in 1862, one of a family of six children born to his parents, Peter A. and Mary (Sevier) Elliott, natives of the Empire state. The father died there but the mother passed away in Nebraska. The father was a hard working man all his life and was respected wherever known, while the mother was a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Besides Peter they had children as follows: Sarah, the wife of Comstock Penn, a retired farmer; Viola, the wife of Ephraim Fowler, a retired farmer living at Arcadia; and Mrs. Nellie Walker, Lucy and Tilly, all of whom are deceased.

When Peter Elliott came from New York to Hall County, it was with the intention of settling here permanently. He homesteaded eighty acres and secured a pre-emption of forty acres near Arcadia, in Valley County. Later he came to Hall County and bought three hundred and sixty acres of land. Times were hard from the first for he could make only fifty cents a day working on a ranch and that counts for very little when one's cash capital does not exceed \$7.50. Perhaps Mr. Elliott remembered, however, that once he had worked on a farm for two months for \$5, for in those days people were unfamiliar even with such words as millions. After securing his land he built the regulation sod house, a kind of dwelling that, in spite of its disadvantages, has often been called exceedingly comfortable, where the family lived until better times came and another farm house was built. Mr. Elliott and his family went through the dry years, 1890 and 1894, and suffered losses in crops and cattle as did their neighbors.

Mr. Elliott married Mertie Bower, who was born in Vermont in 1869; they have had five children: Nelson, a farmer in Hall County; Sylvia, the wife of Joe Burry, a farmer in Hall County; Minnie, the wife of Ralph R. Sherlock, a farmer near Angora, in Morrill County; Percy, deceased; and Florence, the wife of A. R. Dickinson, who is a farmer.

M. Elliott now lives retired in the village of Cairo. For some years he served as school director in his district and he has also been road overseer. In politics he is a Democrat, and he belongs to the Modern Woodmen lodge in Cairo. Mr. Elliott can relate much that is interesting concerning early days in this section of Nebraska.

NIELS C. NIELSEN, manager for the W. H. Harrison Company, owning a lumber yard in Cairo, has been a resident of Hall County since 1892. All his life Mr. Nielsen

has been a steady, hard working man and through his industry he has accumulated a fair competency, while his sound judgment and fair dealing, have won both business and personal friends in a land far from that in which he was born. His birth took place on the island of Jutland, Denmark, in 1859. His parents were Chris and Anna Nielsen, the former of whom died in Denmark, where the latter yet lives in her ninety-first year. Of their four children, two live in Nebraska, Niels C. and Chris, the latter of whom conducts a store at Rockville. The father owned a farm of 144 acres and was considered prosperous.

Mr. Nielsen had some school advantages in his boyhood and then worked as a farm hand in Denmark until 1881 when he came to the United States. He made his way to Chicago, in which city he found many of his countrymen doing well in business and highly respected, and he remained there for a time working for a market gardener. Following this employment he went to the lumber regions of northern Michigan and worked in a sawmill in the deep woods during the season, but 1884 found him farther west on a farm in Howard County, Nebraska. He then learned the mason and plastering trade and when not otherwise busy found employment in this line. For some years he was in a sawmill business in Washington, but in 1897 he came to Hall County to work in the lumber yard of C. H. Bogue & Co.; subsequently he entered the employ of the W. H. Harrison Company of Cairo, having been associated with this firm for twenty-two years.

Mr. Nielsen married Sena Jensen, who was born in Denmark in 1875, and they have four children: Agnes, the wife of Albert Tagge, a farmer; Edna, the wife of Ray Ingalls, who owns an elevator; Clyde, in the government service, in the quartermaster's department, and Mildred, who resides with her parents. Mr. Nielsen votes with the Republican party and is somewhat active in local affairs, having served both as village and as school trustee. He belongs to the order of Odd Fellows.

MELVIN L. HODGES, prospering as the result of his intelligent efforts in the stock industry, belongs to a well known Nebraska family that has been prominent in Hall County since 1897. Mr. Hodges was born at Shelton, Buffalo County, Nebraska, August 6, 1892. His parents were Lucian M. and Carrie (Atchley) Hodges, both of whom were natives of Ohio, educated and well bred people,

who came to Nebraska and located near Cedar Bluffs, Saunders County, in 1885. Two years later the father bought a farm near Shelton, and in 1897 moved to Jackson township, Hall County, locating three miles southwest of Wood River. That remained the family home, where the father died February 14, 1910, and the mother January 26, 1914. They had five children: Mrs. Minnie K. Bly, Everett L., Melvin L., Mrs. Blanche J. Williams, and Elmer J.

Melvin L. Hodges had educational advantages in the Wood River high school and at a business college in York, Nebraska, while practical training for his life work was gained on the home farm. Following the death of his parents he bought the interests of the other heirs and now owns one hundred and sixty acres, which is valued at over \$200 an acre. It is highly improved and Mr. Hodges and his family enjoy a beautiful modern residence. He makes stockraising his leading farm feature and has done well, especially with his registered Duroc-Jersey hogs.

At Wood River, on April 17, 1918, Mr. Hodges married Miss Mabel M. Williams, a daughter of Oliver P. and Cora (Gillett) Williams, natives of Illinois, who have the following children: Charles B. Williams, Mrs. Jennie Hodges, Mrs. Mabel M. Hodges, Ruth, Edward P., John H., Bethel and Otis. Mr. and Mrs. Hodges are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a Mason in good standing and has advanced as far as the fourteenth degree in the order. He is not active politically but is interested as a good citizen in all that concerns his country at home and abroad.

HENRY C. ORVIS, spending the evening of life in a comfortable home in Grand Island, is an honored veteran of the Civil War, and during the days of peace since that memorable struggle has had various experiences as a pioneer in Kansas and Nebraska. His account of the trials and hardships of the early days may almost seem incredible to the present generation who are accustomed to the comforts and conveniences of the present day, and the life record of such a man cannot help but inspire those who may have the opportunity to read this volume.

Henry C. Orvis was born in Durand, Illinois, September 18, 1849. His parents were Victor M. and Mary L. (Tyler) Orvis, the former born in Vermont while the latter was a native of New York. As a farmer and a shoemaker the father reared a family of ten

children. Henry C. was the fifth in order of birth, the others being: John R., Mary E., Mrs. Matilda Wells, Mrs. Harriett M. Moore, Mrs. Delilah Smith, all of whom are deceased; Mrs. Lucinda L. Adams of Dubuque, Iowa; and three who died in infancy.

Mr. Orvis was reared in his native state and in recalling his youthful days he says the first money he ever earned was feeding an old wooden cane mill, with a horse as the motive power, grinding cane to make sorghum molasses. When he was fifteen years and ten days old a recruiting officer came to the home and wanted young Henry to become a soldier in the Union army during the Civil War. As the lad was anxious to go the father gave his written consent and at Marengo, Illinois, September 28, 1864, he enlisted in Company D, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry. It was sent to Memphis, Tennessee, where the men were put on patrol duty watching the movements of General Hood's command. Mr. Orvis took part in a number of skirmishes, his company going to Vicksburg and later to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where he served to the end of the war, being mustered out of service and receiving an honorable discharge at Springfield, Illinois, June 28, 1865. He was a gallant defender of the nation's cause and was always found at his post of duty.

In 1879 Mr. Orvis moved to Kansas, with a team of horses and a capital of ten dollars in money and the remainder of his worldly possessions loaded on a wagon. His home was a dugout. Crops were poor owing to the drouth. He lost one of the horses and traded the other for a yoke of oxen. He hauled freight from Waukeency to the settlement of Prairie Dog Creek, a distance of sixty-five miles, a trip requiring five or six days. He slept under the wagon in all kinds of weather.

In 1881 he made a trip to Custer County for corn, and bought corn raised on the ground where the court house stands in Broken Bow. There was nothing raised in Kansas and he would take a load of pigs and selling them would trade them for corn. On the way back he slept in an old sod house and turned his oxen in the corral.

That same year he and his brother John C. went to Iowa, settling in Brush Creek, Fayette County. Here Mr. Orvis was united in marriage September 22, 1867, with Miss Frances E. Richardson, a native of Peoria, Illinois, a daughter of Josiah and Rhoda Richardson, natives of Massachusetts. Soon after this event Mr. Orvis and his wife went to Morton County, Kansas, where after losing five consecutive crops from drouth they decided to



H. C. ORVIS AT AGE FIFTEEN



H. C. ORVIS

remove to a more congenial climate. In the fall of the year when there were five or six inches of snow on the ground, his children barefooted, with his worldly possessions loaded on a wagon drawn by a yoke of oxen they travelled one hundred and eighty miles, camping out at night and his cash capital consisted of one dollar and fifty cents with which they made the entire trip. That winter he found employment hauling coal at a dollar per ton a distance of eight miles from Minersville to Concordia, Kansas, and to help provide for the needs of the family the wife taught school. The next spring he returned to the homestead and engaged in farming while the wife continued to teach. The son Winnifred was a small child and Mr. Orvis fastened a box on the cultivator and took the little fellow with him to the field all day long. In the fall of 1883, Mr. Orvis again made a move and became one of the early settlers of Custer County, Nebraska, making the trip there with a wagon drawn by a yoke of oxen, secured a homestead near West Union, where he resided for fourteen years. While living here his wife died March 14, 1891. November 23, 1893, Mr. Orvis was again married to Mrs. Emily N. Lohry, who was born in Steuben County, New York. Her parents were John G. and Dilla (Johnson) Van Houtin, the former born in Steuben County, New York and the latter a native of Connecticut. She also was a pioneer of Nebraska, locating here at an early day and so suffered many of the privations and hardships of the early settlers. By a former marriage Mrs. Orvis had eight children: Mrs. Maggie L. Thorpe; Harry; Mrs. Minnie Verly; John; Mrs. Kittie Belle Desert; Mrs. Grace Marsh; Walter C., and Thomas D. Mr. Orvis is the third old soldier husband of Mrs. Orvis, she seeming to have a preference for veterans. In January, 1891, in company with Mr. S. D. Butcher, of Broken Bow, Mr. Orvis made a trip with team and wagon to the Pine Ridge country, arriving there three days after the Battle of Wounded Knee. They took more than forty views of interesting scenes in that vicinity.

After a busy, eventful life Mr. Orvis now occupies a comfortable home in Grand Island, surrounded with all the comforts and many luxuries of life, a condition which he justly deserves. He has been as faithful in days of peace as when following the Stars and Stripes on the battlefields of the south. Mr. Orvis maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades by membership in the W. A. Whipple Post, at Burkett, his home being near the Soldiers and Sailors home of Burkett.

DANIEL LYHANE, a well known and highly respected resident of Hall County for many years, will long be remembered as a man of high character, sterling honesty and great industry. He was born in Ireland, in May, 1858, and died on his valuable farm in Jackson township, Hall County, Nebraska, May 29, 1917.

Daniel Lyhane lost his father by death when he was two weeks old. Later when his young mother found an opportunity to come to the United States, she left her child in the care of strangers, but she did not forget him. In the land across the sea she married again and when Daniel was eight years old she sent for him to join her in Nebraska. He learned the painter's trade in addition to farming, easily making friends because of his genuine kindness and good will.

On May 5, 1884, Mr. Lyhane married Miss Mary C. Kerr, at Aurora, Nebraska. Her parents, James and Mary (O'Hare) Kerr, had the following children: Mrs. Margaret Savage, James D., Mrs. Mary C. Lyhane, Mrs. Delight L. Caveny, and Mary T. Mr. and Mrs. Lyhane had three children born of their own: John G., an engineer, resides in Cheyenne, Wyoming, married Lillie McElharen; Mary E., the wife of Thomas Mullen, a mechanic in the railroad shops in Grand Island, has one daughter; and Maro D., who resides at home, is a graduate of the Wood River high school.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Lyhane bought land near Aurora, Nebraska, on which they resided for nine years. In 1893 they came to the present home farm, Mr. Lyhane purchasing eighty acres at that time and through industry adding to it until now the family owns two hundred and forty acres, valued at \$200 an acre. Maro D. Lyhane is successfully carrying on farming and stock-raising. Mrs. Lyhane has a beautiful country home here, built at a cost of \$6,000. The Lyhanes are members of the Roman Catholic church.

NORMAN J. ELDRIDGE, an enterprising business man and progressive agriculturist of Hall County, is a representative of a pioneer family that came here to settle in the wilderness sixty years ago. Industry, enterprise and frugality have always marked this family, prosperity resulting from these qualities, and the old homestead secured in 1859 still belongs to the Eldridges.

Norman J. Eldridge was born in Wood River township, Hall County, Nebraska, a son

of William G. and Sarah S. (Shenton) Eldridge, the former of whom was born in Indiana and the latter in England. They were married at Wood River, November 11, 1860, by Fred Hedde, and the following children were born to them: Mrs. Anna S. Winslow, Norman J., Mrs. Mary E. Calnor, Jasper J., and Mrs. Fannie R. Williams. William C. Eldridge came to Hall County from Attica, Indiana, in 1859, being accompanied by his brother, Jesse F., and their father, Jasper J. Eldridge. He pre-empted the northeast quarter of section fourteen, range eleven, Wood River township, was married in the following year and this land continued to be the family home. The father of Norman J. died here December 13, 1908, and the mother on November 27, 1916. Mrs. Eldridge was an estimable woman in every relation of life and was not only precious to her own family but was universally beloved.

Norman J. and his brother Jasper J. Eldridge have always lived on the old homestead, where in a general way, they have always been associated together in business. On February 13, 1899, they entered into a regular partnership. They own the old home place, which is worth \$200 an acre, and also own an irrigated tract of one hundred and sixty acres, near Douglas, Wyoming. They carry on general farming and have profited greatly in their stock business and at the time of writing have just completed plans to engage in raising registered Hampshire Down sheep on an extensive scale. In building up their fortunes, they have gained a reputation for business integrity that is entirely deserved. Mr. Eldridge remembers when Indians were still in this neighborhood and when it was not an unusual thing to see a herd of buffalo.

At Grand Island, on April 10, 1910, Jasper J. Eldridge married Miss Annie E. Rickard, the only child of T. L. and Catherine A. (McDermot) Rickard. Mr. and Mrs. Eldridge have two sons: Jasper W., six years old and Jesse L., two years younger. The latter had the distinction of being the youngest purchaser of Liberty Bonds in Hall County, when he invested at the age of two and a half years. While the Eldridges are not active politically, they are fine, upstanding citizens and dependable in every way when the welfare of Hall County is under consideration.

WILLIAM M. REED. — With our country just emerging from its participation in the World War, it is only natural that more than ordinary attention be paid to the record of

those who have been the gallant defenders of the nation in time of peril, and the subject of this record is deserving honorable mention.

William M. Reed was born in McDonough County, Illinois, March 7, 1896, a son of George W. and Maria (Stoneking) Reed, both of whom were born in Illinois, the father, May 31, 1834, and the mother March 4, 1862. They were married in the fall of 1887, and in 1899 became residents of Hall County, Nebraska. George W. Reed was a soldier during the Civil War, serving in an Illinois regiment during the last three years of that terrible conflict. He took part in twenty-two hard fought battles, and was one of those who escaped being wounded. He maintained pleasant relations with his old army comrades by membership in the G. A. R. He was successfully engaged in farming for many years, but is now making his home at Purcell, Colorado. His wife succumbed to typhoid fever March 2, 1890. They reared a family of six children, as follows: Isaac M., Francis B. Henderson, Emma L. Hely, Joseph S., William M. and Elnor L. Pence.

William M. was reared on the farm and completed the course of study prescribed for common schools in 1912. When just past his eighteenth birthday, he enlisted in the United States Regular Army, March 11, 1912, at Fort Logan, Colorado. While at Fort Bliss he had the misfortune to have a leg broken by the kick of a horse. No sooner had he recovered from this when the other leg suffered the same fate by having a horse fall on him. He was at Douglas, Arizona, when Villa and Caranza had their three days fight starting on Thanksgiving morning. He and five comrades were sitting on the school house steps when the outlaw, Villa, crossed the line and fired on the First Artillery at Agua Prieta. When the Mexicans spied our subject and his comrades they became somewhat reckless in the use of fire arms, which caused the soldiers of Uncle Sam to come down from their seats and as Mr. Reed does not relate what took place after that it is left for the reader to surmise. As a member of the machine gun company of the Twentieth Infantry, with the Third Battalion and the Twelfth Infantry of Regulars, he participated in the skirmish with the Mexicans when they crossed the line at Nogales, Arizona. This seems to have been a red letter day for the Jones', all of the ten wounded men were of that name.

While stationed at New Orleans he met and fell in love with Miss Anna M. Oldenwalder, whom he married on the 12th of June, 1918. She remained in her parent's home until her

husband was released from the army and put on the reserve list, when he returned to that city and brought his young bride home with him and they are now making their home on the farm in Wood River township. A portrait of the subject of this record will be found on other pages of this volume, and it is needless to say that in the years to come he will be found as loyal as when following the Stars and Stripes as a member of the United States army.

GEORGE B. FRAZELL, one of Hall County's substantial men and representative American citizens, has been well and favorably known here for many years. He is a man who built up his fortune through personal effort and in doing so has always commanded the respect of those with whom he has been associated.

George B. Frazell was born at Oquawka, Henderson County, Illinois, February 19, 1857, the fifth in a family of seven children born to George B. and Jane (Strickland) Frazell. The other children were: Warren, a soldier in the Civil War; Mrs. Amelia Martin, deceased; Ray, a veteran of the Civil War; Mrs. Philena Romans, who survives; Mrs. Leona Gregg, who is deceased, and Jennie, also deceased. The paternal grandparents were Warren and Jane (Van Galder) Frazell. From a chronological history of the Frazell family that George B. Frazell has in his possession and justly prizes highly, he can prove that his ancestors came from France between 1620 and 1625 and landed at Plymouth Rock, Massachusetts. The early Frazell family was prolific and the vigorous descendants spread over many states and the name is held in respect in many sections of the country in addition to Hall County.

When George B. Frazell was five years old, his father, a cooper by trade, passed out of life and the child was made an orphan as his mother had died a year earlier. A family by the name of Martin sheltered him but were not kind and when less than seven years old the little boy ran away, going to an uncle named Moses Frazell, with whom he remained until he was twenty years old. He worked on his uncle's farm in the summer seasons but went to school in the winter time and thus acquired a fair amount of general book knowledge. He has not forgotten his days on the old farm, however, when he hoed corn through the long hot summer days and felt the joy of a capitalist when his wage of a dime was placed in his hand.

In the fall of 1884, Mr. Frazell traveled by

prairie schooner from Warren County, Illinois, to Shelton, Nebraska. He bought eighty acres of land situated on section 5, Jackson township, Hall County, contracting to pay \$10 per acre, but forced to go into debt for the greater part of it. He worked this land for two years and then accepted an offer of \$20 per acre and after selling it went to the western part of the state prospecting for cheaper land. Finally, however, he returned to Hall County and bought eighty acres in the same section as before, settled on it and has remained ever since. He now owns two hundred acres that have a market value of \$200 per acre, and in addition owns an attractive modern residence at Shelton. His farm is considered one of the best alfalfa farms in Nebraska.

In Warren County, Illinois, on November 2, 1882, Mr. Frazell married Miss Anna Snell, who was born in Henderson County, Illinois, the only survivor of ten children born to Levinston and Esther (Freeman) Snell. The mother was a native of Kennebec, Maine, and the father of Indiana. To Mr. and Mrs. Frazell the following children were born: Jessie M. Harvey, Eugene, Erma F., Bernice B., and Lura I. Of these Harvey and Bernice B. are deceased. Jessie M. is the wife of Clyde Burkard, in the insurance business at Shelton, and they have two children. They belong to the Methodist Episcopal church. Mrs. Burkard is a graduate of the Shelton high school. Eugene Frazell operates his own land near his father's. He married Inez Dubbs and they have three children. They attend the United Brethren church. Erma F. is the wife of Milo Faser, a farmer near Kearney, and they have one son and one daughter and are members of the United Brethren church. Mrs. Faser is a graduate of the Shelton high school, also attended the Normal school at Kearney and taught school for one year prior to her marriage. Lura I., the youngest of the family, resides with her parents. A graduate of the Shelton high school and a teacher for two years, she is also accomplished in music and teaches the same. She is prominent in social circles and with other members of her family, has been exceedingly active in Red Cross and other patriotic movements. Mr. and Mrs. Frazell belong to the United Brethren church. For eighteen years he has been a member of the township school board and foremost in all laudable enterprises for the welfare of the county.

NATHANIEL P. DICKINSON, one of Hall County's most highly esteemed citizens,

has spent forty-seven useful years here. After valiant service as a soldier in the Civil War, Mr. Dickinson, in the spring of 1872 came to Hall County and took a soldier's homestead in section 4, Jackson township, where he resides. He was born July 25, 1842, at West Northfield, Massachusetts, the only survivor of a family of four sons and four daughters born to Porter and Ardelia T. (Williams) Dickinson.

Nathaniel P. Dickinson remained at home to give his father assistance on the farm until he was nineteen years of age, in the meanwhile having attended the common school and enjoyed four terms in the West Northfield high school. He had been reared to love his country and believe in the principles on which the mighty union of states had been founded, hence, the precipitation of the Civil War found him ready to fight for its preservation. He enlisted in the Union army, at Burlington, Vermont, November 19, 1861, entering Company F, First Vermont Cavalry, and served three years and two months before receiving his honorable discharge at the place of enlistment. In Mr. Dickinson's military record of forty-two battles and skirmishes in which he participated, may be found the following suggestive list: Banks' retreat, May 24, 1862; Occupation of Culpepper Court House, Virginia, July 12, 1862; Barnett's Ford, July 18, 1862; Orange Court House, August 2, 1862; Kelley's Ford, Virginia, August 21, 1862; Waterloo Bridge, August 24, 1862; Thoroughfare Gap, August 28, 1862; second battle of Bull Run, August 30, 1862; Chantilly, Virginia, September 1, 1862; Ashby's Gap, September 26, 1862; Manassas Junction, October 20, 1862; Warrington, November 25, 1862. The record of this one year was repeated in those that followed. When his whole duty was done, Mr. Dickinson gladly returned from the awful carnage of the battlefield to his former peaceful life on the farm and remained in Massachusetts until March, 1872, when he entered upon a new career by becoming a pioneer settler in Hall County.

Before two months had passed by Mr. Dickinson had a comfortable log cabin nearing completion on his claim, which became a home indeed when his marriage was completed, at Gibbon, Nebraska, on May 17, 1872, to Miss Harriet E. Gleason. This was the first recorded marriage in Buffalo County. Miss Gleason was also born in Franklin County, New York, and there awaited Mr. Dickinson's preparations in Hall County for their future joint home before joining him at Wood River for their marriage. The little cabin proved

acceptable in every way and after taking possession, Mr. Dickinson immediately set about planting sod corn and starting a garden and in all his work found an indefatigable and cheerful helper in his young wife. In commenting on those early days, Mr. Dickinson mentions that their nearest neighbor was Seth Lee, located two miles north, who had arrived on the same train with him at Grand Island and they entered their claims on the same day. Mr. Dickinson brought with him \$500, but after purchasing a team, wagon and necessary farm equipment, a cow and a hog, his money was about gone. There was never any lack of meat for the larder as game was plentiful at that time in this section. Hard work was the rule of the day for a long time but Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson had expected that feature of pioneering and with faith and courage faced and overcame hardships, as later they have together borne some family bereavements. They now own two hundred and eighty acres of valuable land, their farm being improved with two sets of substantial buildings.

Mrs. Dickinson's parents were Sherman C. and Rhoda (Goodrich) Gleason, both of whom were born in towns bearing the name of Benson, the mother in Vermont, and the father in New York. He was a soldier in the War of 1812. Of their seven children, Mrs. Dickinson and one brother, Sherman L. Gleason, who resides with Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson, alone remain. To Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson the following children were born: Ardelia, who died February 3, 1898, was a highly educated lady, a graduate of York College and for seven years a popular teacher; Alma Filia, who died January 28, 1896, at that time was a member of the class graduated with honors in the previous year from the Wood River high school; Ada J., the wife of Frank A. Dority, a farmer near Shelton, Nebraska, and they have two sons, Verle and Wayne, and Ellen F., who died May 5, 1916, was the wife of Burt Jones. Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson are members of the United Brethren church. They are known far and near for their sterling worth and neighborly kindness.

RICHARD MOORE.—A story as interesting as any romance might be made of the life of the late Richard Moore, who was one of Hall County's earliest settlers and during a long and busy life, a man of sterling worth. Although some years have elapsed since he passed away, there are many men still living in the neighborhood of Wood River, who well remember his neighborly kindness, his honest

business methods, and the good judgment and sound common sense that, with his personal courage, made him a tower of strength for others.

Richard Moore was born in County Cork, Ireland, in 1835. His parents were Patrick and Anna S. (Collins) Moore, who had four children born to them; Michael, Patrick, Richard and Mary. The father was not what was considered a poor man, when he left Ireland, but of all his money, chest and boxes shipped on a sailing vessel when the family started for the United States in 1847, no trace was found after the surviving members of the family landed. The voyage consumed seven weeks and during the passage ship fever broke out and the father of Richard Moore died and was buried at sea. While detained in quarantine on Ellis Island, the mother of Mr. Moore and little sister Mary, both died, and Michael died soon afterward. Of the family only two remained, Patrick and Richard, who found shelter in the home of a cousin, in the city of New York.

In 1859 the two Moore brothers made their way to Hall County. They squatted on a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land located two miles west of Wood River, and as soon as the land was surveyed, Patrick pre-empted this land and Richard pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres adjoining on the west, moving onto it about the time of his marriage. For those days he was in good circumstances, in comparison to many others, and his good fortune was increased when he secured as his wife the admirable woman who so cheerfully bore early hardships by his side and through her good management and frugality helped to build up his fortune.

On February 18, 1862, Mr. Moore married Miss Honora Noonan, at Iowa City, Iowa. She also was born in County Cork, Ireland, being fourteen years old when she came with her parents and two brothers to Iowa. The names of her parents were Maurice and Catherine (Fitzgerald) Noonan, both born in Ireland. They had eight children: Margaret, Mary Anne, Catherine, Elizabeth, Honora, Daniel, Patrick and John. To Mr. and Mrs. Moore nine children were born: John, a farmer near Wood River, married Tillie Gillespie, and they have three children; Richard, a railroad man and lives at Salt Lake City, Utah, married Carrie Richmond, and they have one daughter; Elizabeth, the wife of Michael Carey, a retired farmer of Salt Lake City, has three children; Mary N., who died June 2, 1898, was the wife of Austin Ryan, a painter by trade, living in Hastings, Nebraska,

left two sons and one daughter; Margaret and Catherine, twins, of whom the latter is deceased, the former being the wife of Patrick Mahoney, a farmer near Wood River; Francis, a railroad man with home at Salida, Chaffee County, Colorado, married Rose Ross and they have one daughter; Nora, the wife of Michael J. Carey, a farmer near Wood River, has four sons, and Anastatia, who is deceased.

Mrs. Moore still resides on the old homestead which is endeared to her by many memories. She tells of her early married life here, when savage Indians might be expected to raid the little settlement at any time and when Mr. Moore never went to his fields to work without strapping on his revolver. On account of the solidity of their house and their generous hospitality, it was a haven of refuge on many occasions and Mrs. Moore at one time entertained a house full of frightened neighbors for a space of two weeks. The neighbors settled within a radius of five miles of Mr. Moore in 1859, were the following: Anthony Moore, James Jackson, John Mahar, Edwin O'Brien and Mrs. M. Keefe. With all these and many, many others, Mrs. Moore became well acquainted and perhaps no one in this section is more highly esteemed than she because of her unvarying kindness. The homes of her children are open to her, but she prefers her own home and the management of her own affairs. She is a faithful member of the Roman Catholic church. The death of Mr. Moore occurred March 22, 1910.

CARL F. RICKERT, who has spent many years in Hall County, would probably be surprised if all the friends he has made here would gather around him to wish him well, reminding him how often in old days he had helped one or another of his neighbors by friendly advice, by cheering word, or, where all were poor, spared of his scant earnings in case of distress. Mr. Rickert now lives retired on his farm in Jackson township, but is known and highly respected all over the county. He was born in Germany, April 19, 1855. His father's name was Jacob T. Rickert. His mother died when he was very young, leaving one son and one daughter, the latter's name being Mrs. Marie Moore. For some time the father worked for the German government as a contractor.

Carl F. Rickert grew up in a community where even the little children worked, and after his mother died, he was set at the task of watching geese to keep them from eating

the field crops and for this service he received three pence a day. A part of his daily duty was to gather the goose eggs and he confesses that sometimes, when his one sandwich of coarse black bread was not satisfying enough for his growing appetite, he would manage a little fire in a secluded place and boil one of the eggs for his own delectation. This was a very risky procedure, however, and would have brought punishment from the owner of the geese if discovered. Later he herded cattle and in the meanwhile attended the schools of his class and secured a good foundational German education. He married in 1877 and in 1881 came to the United States. After coming west for two years he farmed in school section No. 16, Harrison township, on land which he leased, and in 1883 when he settled on that place with his family, he had a wife, three children, one cow and twelve chickens. He lived on the same land for fifteen years, making many improvements on the place. At the end of that time, through circumstances over which he had no control, he had to let his property go at a sacrifice. In early days the eighty acres he now owns changed hands on one occasion when the trade was completed for \$20 and a bottle of whiskey. This land is now valued at \$150 an acre and the improvements are worth at least \$5,000.

In Germany, on August 25, 1877, Mr. Rickert married Margaret Bauman, who was born in Germany and died in Hall County, Nebraska, November 25, 1918. Her parents were George and Catherine (Rave) Bauman and she was the youngest of their nine children, and two of her sisters live in the United States: Mrs. Johanna Brenchenbach, of Brooklyn, New York, and Mrs. Emma Stenge, of Grand Island. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Rickert: Frederick, Amanda, George, Bertha, Charles and Christina. Frederick married a young woman who was a Red Cross nurse in Europe in 1917-18 and received a gold service medal for her work during the war; Amanda is the wife of John Kink, a farmer near Shelton. George resides with his father on the home farm and is operating a half section of land for himself. He is one of the most enterprising and progressive young agriculturists of Jackson township, taking a great deal of interest in breeding Belgian horses, and having magnificent pedigreed jack at the head of his stud. Bertha is the wife of Otto Schroeder, farming his own land near Alda. They have six children. Charles is a farmer near Wood River, married Nora Leonard, and they have four children. Christina is the wife of Henry Swartz, who

owns and operates a farm near Stoneham, Colorado. They have three children. Mr. Rickert has witnessed many changes since he came first to Hall County and his stories of people and events of early days possess much interest.

JOHN A. EWING, who is one of the recognized capitalists of Hall County, came to Wood River in 1872 with his widowed mother, five brothers and three sisters. He was born in Allegheny County, New York, September 26, 1857, a son of Robert and Mary (Ferguson) Ewing, both of whom were born in Scotland. Of their children the following survive: Mrs. Helen Crawford, Mrs. Mary West, John A., and Edward F. The father died in 1871.

John A. Ewing was fourteen years old when he lost his father, but fortune was kind to him in having a wise and resourceful mother. He attended school as opportunity was afforded and continued to work on the farm, agricultural pursuits always engaging his attention from the time in early boyhood when he earned his first money by dropping corn for a wage of ten cents a day. Later Mr. Ewing taught school and is listed with the early educators here. He has always taken an interest in the public schools, and for four years was chairman of the county board of commissioners that not only built the new county courthouse, but did much to place the schools on their present solid foundation. Mr. Ewing is a heavy landowner, his possessions aggregating seven hundred and ten acres, all lying in Hall County except three hundred and ten acres in Lincoln County.

At Wood River, Nebraska, May 16, 1882, Mr. Ewing was united in marriage to Miss Laura B. Dubbs. Her parents were William W. and Mary E. (Coy) Dubbs, who had children as follows: Mrs. Laura B. Ewing, Mrs. Etta May Rinderer, Ralph E., John H., Mrs. Elizabeth Holden, Mrs. Mary M. Turney, Willard, Walter, George, Marion F., Raymond B., Emmett C., Mrs. Inez Frazell and Daniel. Mrs. Ewing came to Wood River in the spring of 1872. She is an active worker in the Christian church.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ewing five children have been born: Mary G., William R., John A., James A. and Theophilus H. The last named is the military member of the family and in the soldier section of this work will be found the photograph and service record of this young hero. Miss Mary G. Ewing was graduated from the Wood River high school. For

fifteen years she served most acceptably as a teacher, but at present fills a responsible position in the Quartermaster's Department, at Washington, D. C. William R., the eldest son, who was graduated in the class of 1904 from the college at Fremont, is an electrician. He spent one year in the State University and has taught school for three years. John A., who assists his father, lives on the home farm. James A., who is farming a part of his father's land, married Florence Ooley, and they have three children: Beulah, and Laura and Lawrence, twins.

Having spent so many years in Hall County, Mr. and Mrs. Ewing have a wide acquaintance. The entire family has reflected credit on the community and friendly interest is felt for all. Mr. Ewing was reared in the Presbyterian faith. He is a member of the fraternal order of United Workmen, and for ten years Mrs. Ewing was financial secretary of the Degree of Honor while she resided in Cameron township.

THOMAS H. CONNOR, a representative citizen of Hall County, is a substantial farmer and stock raiser in Jackson township, where he owns a large body of highly developed land. Mr. Connor came to Hall County with his parents, more than forty years ago and he has been a continuous resident in the neighborhood of Wood River ever since.

Thomas H. Connor was born at Holmesburg, Pennsylvania, July 4, 1861. His parents were William and Catherine (Welch) Connor, who had the following children: Thomas H., Francis P., Mrs. Mary Billert, William A., and Mrs. Catherine Tallmire. In the spring of 1878, the father came with his family to Hall County and bought one hundred- and sixty acres of land situated two miles west of Wood River. Thomas H. attended school before the family removed to Nebraska, and while yet a boy was able to help with the family income by working in a calico print factory at Holmesburg, where he received a wage of \$4 a week, and occasionally had twenty-five cents of this salary to devote to his own entertainment. After coming to Hall County he assisted his father and afterward embarked in general farming and stockraising on his own account. His valuable farm of two hundred acres is located three and a half miles west of Wood River and all of it is under a fine state of cultivation. His excellent improvements include a handsome modern residence equipped with comforts and conveniences.

On March 2, 1886, Mr. Connor married Miss Elizabeth Quinlan, the ceremony taking place at Omaha. Mrs. Connor was born at Iowa City, Iowa, a daughter of Patrick and Mary (Carney) Quinlan, natives of Ireland, who had children as follows: Mrs. Margaret Shanahan, Mrs. Catherine Dennis, Michael, Mrs. Ellen Henley, Mrs. Mary Power, William, Mrs. Jennie Baldwin, Mrs. Elizabeth Connor, and Mrs. Alice Reardon.

To Mr. and Mrs. Connor six children have been born: William P., in the drug business at Wood River, is a graduate of Creighton College of Pharmacy in Omaha, married Ellen Maughan and is a Fourth degree Knight of Columbus; Charles F., who is deceased; Leo T. and Charles V., both of whom have honored Hall County through military service, have extended mention in the soldier section of this work; Bernard F., assisting his father on the farm, and Alice M., in school at Hastings, Nebraska. Mr. Connor and family are all faithful members of the Roman Catholic church, and in that connection and every other, are held in the highest esteem. Mr. Connor is a Knight of Columbus and has been a tireless worker in its war activities, also for the Red Cross and for the success of the Liberty loans, in all these movements earnestly working for what true American citizenship means. He has been moderately active in politics, but the only public office he has ever accepted is that of road overseer, which office he has held for the last twelve years. He belongs to the order of Modern Woodmen.

DALE P. STOUGH, District Court Reporter for the Eleventh Judicial District, with District Judge Bayard H. Paine, is the Associate Editor of the Hall County History. Mr. Stough has compiled the greater part of the statistical matter used in this work, and has written a number of the chapters in the history. His industry and initiative have been of invaluable assistance to the editors of the work.

Mr. Stough was born June 29, 1888, at Bigelow, Holt County, Missouri. His father, Charlie Bion Stough, at that time was a railroad brakeman on the St. Joseph-Villisca branch of the Burlington railroad system. For a short time his father worked on the St. Joseph and Grand Island road. After a venture in the grocery business in St. Joseph, Missouri, the father of the subject of this sketch returned to railroad work, residing for a time at Villisca, Iowa, and moved on Dale's fourth birthday to Creston, Iowa. Charlie B. Stough



DALE P. STOUGH

came from a family that had lived in Ohio and Pennsylvania since early in the eighteenth century, when the first Stough to come to America fled from Germany with a refugee German princess. His mother's family, the Greenwalts, were a Holland-Dutch family. Mr. Stough's mother was Mina Bigelow Stough, a descendant of the old English family of Bigelows.

It was in the public schools of Creston, Iowa, that Dale received his education. He was graduated from the Creston high school in June, 1905. A year later he finished a commercial course from the Crest City Business College. For the next two years and three months he was engaged as a local reporter for the Creston *Daily Morning American*, and as a clerk in the division railroad offices of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad at Creston and timekeeper of construction work on the Western Iowa division of that road. In September, 1908, he came to Nebraska and entered the law school of the State University of Nebraska. During his freshman year in college he served as reporter for the law school on the *Daily Nebraskan*.

In the summer of 1909, Dale went to Omaha and worked as a stenographer in the general offices of the Union Pacific Railroad, until later in the summer when he became registrar and librarian of the Creighton Law College, and clerk to the secretary (now dean) Paul L. Martin, and in that capacity was enabled to complete his law course. He received his L.L. B. degree in May 1911.

After considering many tentative points of location for the practice of his profession, Mr. Stough came to Grand Island in June, 1911, and prepared to open a law office in the Ryan Building. In a few weeks, upon consultation with a number of Grand Island lawyers, he decided to go to Ravenna, where there was then no law office open for general practice, and practiced there that summer. But in the fall of that year, 1911, he became associated with Former Supreme Judge James R. Dean of Broken Bow, returned to the Supreme Bench in 1917. For the next three years and a half he practiced law in Custer and adjoining counties.

During his residence in Ravenna and Broken Bow, Mr. Stough served at both places as secretary of the Retail Merchants Federation. At Broken Bow, Mr. Stough served as superintendent of the Sabbath school and as clerk of the church of his affiliation, St. John's Episcopal. In political circles he served as secretary of Democratic County Central Com-

mittee and secretary of the Sixth District Congressional Committee in 1912.

In January, 1915, Mr. Stough went to Lincoln to become secretary to Chief Justice Conrad Hollenbeck of the Nebraska Supreme Court. Upon Judge Hollenbeck's death, which occurred two weeks after his inauguration, Mr. Stough remained with Chief Justice Andrew M. Morrissey for three years. During that time Mr. Stough was author of the History of the Nebraska Supreme Court, which was published in December, 1917, by the Lawyers' Coöperative Publishing Company of Rochester, New York, the leading monthly law magazine, "Case and Comment."

In December, 1917, Mr. Stough returned to Grand Island, as District Court Reporter, and took up his residence once more in the city of his choice.

On his twenty-fifth birthday anniversary, June 29, 1913, Mr. Stough was united in marriage to Miss Cassie Mary Beeler, of Davenport, Iowa. At the time of her marriage, Miss Beeler was Dietitian and Assistant Superintendent of the St. Luke's Hospital of Davenport. They have one child, a daughter, Ida Mildred Stough, five years of age. Mrs. Stough is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Beeler, and was born at Perry, Iowa. She was educated in Worthington, Minnesota, Harris, and Des Moines, Iowa. Her father was a native of Wurtemberg province, and son of a high court judge in that state. Her mother was born in Alsace-Lorraine of French and German parentage, and educated in Zurich, Switzerland. Mrs. Stough has three brothers and six sisters, lying in Iowa and Minnesota. She is an accomplished musician, being both a piano and violin player, and contralto singer. With the spread of the influenza epidemic during the past year, she temporarily gave up her musical studies, overcame the difficulty of leaving home duties and the care of her little daughter and spent considerable portion of her time nursing the afflicted, and enrolled in the Red Cross Home Defense. In December, 1918, she took charge of the City Emergency Influenza Hospital, which was then conducted in the old Brewster Hotel property and superintended it during the last weeks of its career.

Mr. Stough was a member of the Lancaster County Council of Defense in 1917, resigning when he came to Grand Island. During 1918 he served as a four-minute man and in such other ways as he could. He is a close student of transportation and traffic matters with a view of specializing upon that phase of legal

matters upon his return to the practice in the future.

WILSON H. FULMER, successfully operating a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, situated four and a half miles west of Wood River, in section 22, Jackson township, is one of Hall County's good farmers and patriotic citizens. He was born in Pennsylvania, March 10, 1862, the only child born to L. B. and Elizabeth Fulmer. His father fell on the battlefield at Gettysburg, in the Civil War.

Wilson H. Fulmer attended the public schools and made his own way from youth, working as a farmer and also in a grist mill. In 1900 he came to Nebraska and two years later settled in Valley County, where he engaged in farming for four years. The next four years he spent in Ohio but returned to Valley County, from which section, in March, 1918, he came to Hall County and rented the farm in Jackson township.

On September 17, 1889, Mr. Fulmer married at Lockhaven, Pennsylvania, Miss Emma J. Allen. Her parents were Christopher and Lydia M. (Horner) Allen. She had one sister, Catherine, who is deceased. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Fulmer: Gertrude, the wife of William Christiansen, of Wood River; James A., who died January 20, 1919, formerly assisted his father on the farm; Raymond D., a soldier in the Army of Occupation, in Germany, is particularly mentioned in the soldier section of this work; Zeola H., who resides at home, is a graduate of Davis Creek Academy, in Valley County; Harvey G., a student in the Wood River high school, and Ava O., attending school. Mr. Fulmer and his family are members of the Presbyterian church. Beside parting with his son for service in the World War, Mr. Fulmer has many times testified to his good American citizenship, taking an interest in all necessary war work and investing in Liberty bonds to the limit of his means.

MICHAEL P. HANNON, owner of the Evergreen Farm and one of the leading stockmen in Hall County, has spent almost his entire life on Wood River, and has been in the cattle business since boyhood. He was born March 19, 1865, in Kentucky. His parent were Daniel and Mary (Francis) Hannon, who had the following children: Michael, Sarah, John, Patrick, Maria and Winnie. During the Civil War the father was a fireman on a gunboat, and shortly after its close came

as a pioneer to Hall County, settling near the present site of Wood River.

Michael P. Hannon was four years old when his parents came to this county, their neighbors in 1869 being: Patrick Neville, F. C. Dodge, the Lamberson brothers, James and Patsy Crane, Thomas Francis, Patrick Dugan, John Mullen and Lawrence Kilkeney. There were many Pawnee and Omaha Indians in this vicinity and, while they were never considered dangerous, their thievish ways made them a great nuisance. On one occasion as Mr. Hannon relates, the family dinner was much delayed because his mother had trustingly hung her cooking utensils on the outside of the log cabin over night, only to find them gone in the morning and never returned. This was a calamity for in those times it was not very easy to replace domestic articles of any kind. Mr. Hannon was eight years old when the Wood River settlement experienced the greatest storm that has ever swept over Hall County, in which hundreds of cattle perished in the Platte River.

From boyhood Mr. Hannon has devoted himself to agricultural pursuits and has made Evergreen Farm notable because of its fine products. With the first money he earned he bought a calf; that was the beginning of a business in cattle that has made him the foremost factor in the cattle industry in the county. He feeds and ships from three to seven car loads annually. His beautiful estate consisting of four hundred and eighty acres, is situated in Jackson township, four miles west of Wood River, and he is said to have some of the finest alfalfa land in the state. He would not consider less than \$250 an acre for any of his land, which is quite an advance over the price his father paid in 1869 when he settled one and one-half miles east of Shelton.

On June 7, 1893, Mr. Hannon married Miss Bridget O'Brien, a daughter of Patrick and Mary (McCue) O'Brien, and they have had a family of nine sturdy sons born to them: Daniel, a farmer and in the stock business near Shelton, was educated at Wood River and in the Grand Island Business college, is an Elk and a Knight of Columbus; Edward F., about completing his law course in Creighton College, belongs to the Knights of Columbus; Earl, preparing to enter the agricultural school of the State University; Howard, a high school student in Wood River, and Michael P., William M., Charles R., Walter J. and Gordon, all of whom are at home. Mr. and Mrs. Hannon may well be proud of this fine family, all of whom have been carefully reared

in the Roman Catholic church. Mr. Hannon has always taken an active part in township affairs and has been particularly useful in the matter of the public schools. Largely owing to his earnest efforts Jackson township has its first class school with two competent teachers that carry the pupils as far as the tenth grade. He has been assessor of Jackson township continuously since 1898, with the exception of four years. In all war work he has proved untiringly patriotic, and is chairman of the Council of Defense.

T. H. FRITTS.—Long before the world had any conception of the mighty uses to which electricity might sometime be applied, there were scientific investigators who gave close study to everything pertaining to this force as then known, and thereby made the discoveries that have been so revolutionary in almost every line of activity. It was about a quarter of a century ago that T. H. Fritts, who is so well known in Grand Island became interested in the electrical business, which interest has continued to the present day. He is vice-president of the Central Power Company of Grand Island.

T. H. Fritts was born in Lyons, Burt County, Nebraska, November 3, 1872, a son of Gideon and Martha A. (Cockrell) Fritts. They were born and married in Ohio and moved from there to Burt County in the early sixties. The father acquired land on which he lived until his death in 1914, at the age of seventy-nine years. Mr. Fritts' mother still lives on the old home place. Of their seven children the following survive: W. J., who lives on the old homestead in Burt County; a daughter, now Mrs. Eckleen, lives in Lyons; the subject of this review who has lived at Grand Island for the past thirteen years, and Arcelia, who lives with her mother in Burt County.

Gideon Fritts was one of the founders of the Presbyterian church in Burt County and the first organized meeting of the congregation was in his house. He gave liberally to church purposes and was the largest donor to the church which yet stands on the main street in Lyons. In his political convictions he was a Democrat. Before coming to Nebraska as a permanent resident he had been a soldier in the army during the Civil War and as long as he lived was a rigid supporter of temperance, law and order.

Mr. Fritts had the educational advantages afforded by the elementary and high schools of his community and then became employed

as an apprentice in the electrical business in South Omaha, being engaged in various branches of this industry for seven years. For two years he was otherwise occupied, before returning to the business in which he was trained, taking charge of an electrical plant at Wayne, Nebraska, for five years. In June, 1906, he came to Grand Island to become manager and vice-president of the Central Power Company, in which he is financially interested. His time is largely taken up with the duties of this position as he has charge of all the company property in seventeen towns in Nebraska, to which electric power is supplied.

Mr. Fritts was married in March, 1892, to Miss Josephine Higley, who was born in Decatur, Nebraska, a daughter of Lewis D. Higley, who settled in the early eighties in Burt County. Mr. and Mrs. Fritts have two children: Victor, who is connected with the Western Electric Company of Chicago, and Bernadine, the wife of Robert E. Pfeiffer, who is manager of the Central Power Company's plant at Kearney. Mr. Fritts is an earnest and public spirited citizen but is not unduly active in politics, being an independent voter. Fraternally he is identified with Lodge No. 604 Elks, Grand Island.

JESSE C. BURKERD, a highly esteemed retired citizen of Wood River, has been identified with the development of Hall County for almost fifty years. He is the owner of a large amount of valuable property in the county and of choice real estate in Wood River. He was born in the city of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 7, 1849. His parents were John and Hannah (Siverly) Burkard. Of their fourteen children but three are living: Mrs. Theresa Wise, Jesse C. and Julius W. The parents were natives of Germany. They settled in Milwaukee after reaching the United States, where the father was a carpenter and ship builder, and in 1852 removed to Appleton, Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming until his death in 1862.

Jesse C. Burkard was three years old when the family settled near Appleton and he remained at home until his father's death, when he joined his brother Nicholas, at Clinton, Illinois. While attending school near his brother's farm, he worked for board and clothes for two and a half years, and worked for other farmers in De Witt County for seven years, until he came to Hall County and took an eighty acre homestead inside the railroad limits. This was in 1871. Later he

bought two hundred and twenty acres of adjoining railroad land, paying \$5 an acre. This land Mr. Burkard still owns and it is at least worth \$125 an acre today. He continued on the farm during many years but in 1888 secured a satisfactory tenant and moved into Wood River, where he owns the handsome residence in which he has lived since.

On March 18, 1873, Mr. Burkard married Miss Achsah J. Guy, who was born at Mechanicsburg, Ohio, a daughter of Samuel K. and Calista (Plummer) Guy, who had the following children: Wesley, Milton, Achsah, Aden and Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Burkard have had three children: Nellie and Nettie, twins, and Frederick. Nellie, deceased, was the wife of C. W. Hooton. She is survived by three children: Erma A., the wife of Elmer Wiggin, of Wood River; and Alice and Lawrence Hooton, both of whom live with their grandparents in Wood River. Nettie is the wife of Edwin Rounds, in the furniture and undertaking business at Wood River. They have two daughters. Frederick Burkard is a graduate of the Wood River high school, and is also a graduate pharmacist. He is conducting a drug store in Scotia, Nebraska. He married Emma Shimmerman. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. and Mrs. Burkard are active workers in the Methodist Episcopal church in Wood River and are interested in many worthy charities and public welfare movements. They have a wide social circle both in town and country. Mr. Burkard has been a very successful man in his business undertakings, and in his time has handled money in large amounts, but he has never forgotten the first twelve cents he ever earned, by directing a stranger through a belt of pine timber. To this first capital he kept gradually adding until it amounted to twenty-two cents and then he became the proud owner of what every boy longs for, a pocket knife. He relates a story of his early boyhood that has probably been retained in memory because of the impression a day of real enjoyment left to a little boy whose pleasures were neither varied nor numerous. It was on a memorable Fourth of July that his father gave Jesse and his brother Lewis five cents each, with which to celebrate the day in proper manner. The mere matter of walking four miles to the scene of patriotic goings on and with the certainty of having to walk the distance back, did not in the least interfere with their anticipations of pleasure. They sturdily trudged off and reached Bachelor's Hill warm and thirsty. Jesse immediately expended his fortune in a

glass of cooling liquid which the brothers divided, while Lewis saved his for fire crackers that had to be exploded before dark because the lads remembered that the chores awaited their home coming, and they did not dare delay. At last two tired and happy boys reached the home farm and probably their day's adventures served them for conversation many months afterward. Mr. Burkard laughs heartily as he tells this story and its pathos will be echoed in the heart of many another who reads it, remembering a boyhood that had more serious tasks than opportunity for healthy "fun."

EDGAR SAMUEL LEAVENWORTH.

—Some one has said, "Expect great things, attempt great things and great things will result." This may not be true in every case, but in the life of the subject of this record it most undoubtedly is.

Edgar Samuel Leavenworth is a native of the Green Mountain State, and was born at Hinesburg, Chittenden County, not far from Lake Champlain, March 6, 1859. His parents were Abel E. and Mary G. Leavenworth, both of whom are now deceased. Abel E. Leavenworth was an honored veteran of the Civil War, serving as Captain of Company K, Vermont Volunteers. He was a finely educated man and for twenty years was principal of the Vermont State Normal School.

Edgar S. had exceptional educational advantages and graduated from Beaman Academy, at New Haven, Vermont. His first business venture was when a young man of nineteen he engaged in a mercantile enterprise, on borrowed capital, with an experience of only three years as a clerk in a store in New Haven. He successfully conducted this business until 1880, when he disposed of the business and went to Dakota Territory, establishing himself in the same line of business at what is now Melville, North Dakota, becoming a pioneer in the community. When Foster County was organized he was elected its first treasurer and held the office two terms.

Subsequently he became a resident of Hall County, locating at Wood River, where he now owns six hundred and seventy acres of land and is accounted one of the substantial men of the county. For twenty-two years Mr. Leavenworth has made a specialty of feeding sheep and his operations in this line have reached extensive proportions, feeding as high as forty-eight thousand head in one year. Other enterprises have been benefitted by the sound judgment and keen business ability of

Mr. Leavenworth and his name is on the directorate of the First National Bank of Wood River.

October 30, 1884, was solemnized the marriage of Edgar S. Leavenworth and Miss Emma E. Gifford, a daughter of Henry O. Gifford. They are members of the Presbyterian church, and in politics Mr. Leavenworth is a Republican. He is also a thirty-second degree Mason, and is a member of the Shrine and Knight Templar orders. He is public spirited to a high degree and is president of the commercial club, and belongs to the order of the Loyal Legion.

MRS. ELIZABETH HORN, one of Wood River's most highly esteemed residents, has passed the greater part of her life in Hall County. She was born in Germany, September 30, 1860. Her parents were Carl and Mary (Sweiger) Schultz, both of whom were born in Germany. They had seven children, four daughters and three sons. The father was a carpenter by trade, a good workman and a man of steady habits, but as he saw only a poor future ahead of him in his native province, with a family growing up around him, he decided to emigrate to America and endeavor to secure land in the hope of succeeding as a farmer. He came to the United States reaching Grand Island, Nebraska, in 1871, and in the following year homesteaded five and a half miles southeast of Wood River, in Hall County. His family joined him there in 1873, and on that old homestead Mrs. Horn lived until her marriage. Her people, like other pioneers in this section, had to work hard in order to make a living, but they were naturally industrious and frugal and they succeeded much better than many others.

On September 22, 1875, Elizabeth Schultz was married to Mildred Horn, in Grand Island, Nebraska. He also was a native of Germany, born in Bavaria, and was only nineteen years old when he came to the United States, and was a young man yet when he enlisted for service in the Civil War. He served three years as a member of the Sixty-eighth New York Infantry, participating in several great battles, and was twice wounded. By trade he was a shoemaker and after the war was over he came to Sidney, Nebraska, where he conducted a shop until 1873, when he came to Grand Island. Soon after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Horn went to Fort Hartsoff, where he conducted a shoemaking shop for two years, working mainly for the soldiers at the fort. In 1877 he built a shoe shop at

Wood River, which he operated for twenty-nine years. Ill health fell upon him, however, and he had to give up work, and for a number of years prior to his death, which occurred June 1, 1913, he had been an invalid, tenderly taken care of by his faithful wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Horn's two oldest children were the first born in Wood River. There are five of the family living today, namely: Mary M., Charles P., Henry W., Anna B. and Otto J. Mary M. is the wife of Otto Abraham, a machinist at Gering, Nebraska. They have five children and are members of the Presbyterian church. Charles P. is in the employ of the Foster Lumber Company, at Pickrell, Gage County, Nebraska. He married Lena Lawson and they have three children. They belong to the Methodist Episcopal church, and he is a Mason. Henry W. is foreman of a lumber yard at Basin, Wyoming. He married Nina Teesinger and they have one son. They attend the Methodist Episcopal church, and he is a Mason. Anna B. and Otto J. both reside with their mother in the comfortable residence she owns in Wood River, to which she has but recently welcomed home this youngest son, who deserves extended mention for he is a hero of the great World War now mercifully ended.

No history of any section of the United States will be complete if it eliminates the story of the heroic actions of the gallant men who marched into what were for many the very jaws of death, in a foreign land, with almost unbelievable courage, and the wounds that many must bear during the rest of their lives, should by every one be esteemed noble badges of honor. In giving the interesting military record of Otto J. Horn, it may properly be recalled that his father was a brave soldier of the United States in other days, and that courage and loyalty are but natural inheritances.

Otto J. Horn enlisted March 4, 1918; was sent to a medical school at Fort Riley, Kansas, where he was trained four weeks, and then was sent to Camp Crane, Allentown, Pennsylvania. After two weeks of training there, he was attached to a medical unit that left an American port April 14, 1918, on the United States vessel Von Steuben, formerly a German raider, the Crown Prince Wilhelm. This ship was a part of the great northern convoy, and was attacked by a German submarine when about three days off the coast of Ireland, but reached Brest France, on April 20, 1918. Two days later Mr. Horn left Brest for a casual replacement company at Blois, France, where he was assigned to Ambulance Company

No. 2 of the First Division. This company was sent to the front on May 27th, to the sector known as Death Valley. While Mr. Horn was busy performing his dangerous duty of helping carry off the wounded to the rear, his protective mask was shot off his face by shrapnel, but he immediately put on another mask and continued his merciful work, when the second mask was shot from his face. By this time he was so nearly overcome by the enemy's gas that he hardly had strength to stagger to the form of a soldier already dead, wrench off the mask from one who would never need it again. He adjusted it to his own face but then lost consciousness. For eighteen hours he lay undiscovered, then was rushed to a hospital where he was a patient for five weeks. He was then transferred from the ambulance company to Company D, Sixteenth Infantry, First Division, which was sent on July 18, into the memorable fight of Chateau Thierry. Again he was wounded by shrapnel and being injured in three places, was carried from the field and for seven weeks lay in a hospital recovering from his injuries, when he was again sent back to his old organization. On September 17, while making preparations with his company for the big drive on St. Mihiel, he fell on the field from shell shock and lay there for three days before he was discovered. Again he was in the hospital and remained there until November 21, when he found himself sailing for home on the ship Nansemond, which arrived at Hoboken on December 7, after a stormy voyage. He was sent to Ellis Island Hospital and on January 21, 1919, was discharged on the surgeon's certificate of disability, at Plattsburg, New York, reaching his home and his rejoicing mother four days later. Mr. Horn is very modest concerning his bravery but his friends and fellow citizens are proud of him.

MARCUS R. ABBOTT, one of Hall County's representative men for many years, an early settler near Wood River and a dependable man in every relation of life, was born at Hatley, Province of Quebec, Canada, February 15, 1844, and died in Hall County, Nebraska, May 4, 1912. He was the third in a family of seven children born to Abiel B. and Sabra (Young) Abbott, the others being: Edward K., Othman A., Mrs. Luella Stokes, Ai H., Mrs. Martha North, and Edgar P.

The parents of Marcus Riley Abbott moved from Canada to Illinois in his boyhood and he completed his education at Belvidere, in

Boone County, where he was graduated from the high school. He served through three years of the Civil War, and was a corporal in Company G, Ninety-fifth Illinois volunteer infantry, that participated in the battles of Shiloh and Vicksburg, and was distinguished with his comrades for many exhibitions of personal bravery. In 1867 he accompanied his brother, Othman A. Abbot, to Hall County, the latter locating in Grand Island, Marcus R., however continuing farther west and for a time worked on a ranch in California. In 1872 he returned to Hall County and took up a homestead situated four miles south of Wood River, which property, many times enhanced in value, belongs to his surviving family. In those early years of occupancy, Mr. Abbott added to his income by working as a clerk at times in the general store of James Jackson, in Wood River, and also taught school in District No. 5, where old Wood River was started in 1867. For thirty-five years Mr. Abbott remained on his farm, having developed and improved it until it is one of the most attractive and valuable properties in the county. He continued to add to his acreage until he owned four hundred and eighty acres of fine land, a tribute to his industry and business judgment. He was widely known and was always identified with the worthy enterprises that proved beneficial to this section. He was a charter member of the Masonic Lodge in Wood River.

In her father's home, four and a half miles southwest of Wood River, on November 26, 1876, Mr. Abbott married Miss Carrie E. Weldon, who was born in Oswego County, New York, July 5, 1859, third of four children born to James M. and Jane (Irving) Weldon, who had two other daughters and one son: Fidelia and Adelia, twins, and James M. The father of Mrs. Abbott served in a heavy artillery regiment from New York during the entire period of the Civil War, and escaping all its dangers, continued a soldier in the United States army two years longer. Mrs. Abbott was liberally educated. Prior to coming to Hall County in 1873, she was a student in the high school of Sand Creek, New York, afterward attending school in Grand Island during the fall of 1873 and the spring of 1874. During the fall of 1875 and spring of 1876, she taught school in district 27, four miles southwest of Wood River, further teaching experience being interrupted by her marriage in November of the latter year to Marcus R. Abbott. For thirty-five years Mr. and Mrs. Abbott resided on their homestead, as mentioned above, but since Mr. Abbott's death she

has occupied her attractive, comfortable residence in Wood River. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Abbott, a daughter and a son, Sabra J. and Roscoe C. The former, principal of the Wood River high school, is a graduate of this school and also the Baptist College, Grand Island. She resides with her mother and both are prominent in the city's church and social life. The latter, a graduate of the Wood River high school and of the Nebraska State University, has been instructor in chemistry in the university for the last four years. He married Miss Hazel Gooden, a daughter of Albert L. and Emma (Fee) Gooden, and they have one daughter, Barbara.

Mrs. Abbott is a member of the Eastern Star and during two terms was worthy matron. During the past two years she has been a faithful, indefatigable worker in the Red Cross movement, being chairman of the organization at Wood River, which may well be proud of what it has accomplished in the great and merciful work in which is has so patriotically engaged, there being to its credit 2,000 hospital garments, 1,800 knitted articles and 8,000 surgical dressings. Both she and daughter are active members of the Presbyterian church and their benefactions to many charities will never be wholly known.

SAMUEL A. SHERRERD.—One of the representative men of Hall County well and favorably known over its entire extent, is Samuel A. Sherrerd, a prominent merchant in Wood River. He came first to Hall County in 1877 but did not establish a permanent residence until about a decade later. Mr. Sherrerd is a notable example of a self-made man, and the story of his progress from orphaned childhood to his place among men of worth and responsibility, teems with human interest. It illustrates the positive value of industrial persistency and personal integrity.

Samuel A. Sherrerd was born at Scranton, Pennsylvania, January 14, 1860. His parents were John and Rachel (Furman) Sherrerd, natives of Pennsylvania, both of whom died when Samuel A., their fifth child was but two years old. Their other children were: Frank, William, Mary, and Mrs. Lydia Bennett. By a former marriage Mrs. Sherrerd had one daughter, now Mrs. Emma Gilmore. The father was an educated man and for some years was a bookkeeper for the Scranton Coal and Iron Company.

When orphanage fell upon him, Samuel A. Sherrerd was not left a public charge for he had a warm hearted aunt, Mrs. Samantha

Shipman, who took him to her home and cared for him until he was six years old, when it was thought best by his relatives that he should go to his uncle, Peter Barber, who conducted a drug store. It is probable that Mr. Barber aimed to make a druggist of his nephew and while attending school Samuel assisted, as a dependable boy can, in various ways about the house and in the store and picked up a not inconsiderable knowledge of business. It seems, however, that his natural inclinations were not along the line of his uncle's business and therefore the trade he started to learn was that of a jeweler. When he was fifteen years old he left the shelter of his uncle's home and went to Philadelphia where he secured a position with the firm of Lippincott and Company, manufacturers of soda water and equipments, who had a concession at the Centennial Exposition. Two years later, in 1877, he came to Hall County and in considering the business field offered by the pleasant little village of Wood River, he noted the following business houses: a general store conducted by A. G. Hollister and James Jackson; Edward McDermott's blacksmith shop; Charles Horn's shoe store; Dr. Gibson's drug store; James Kennedy's saloon; James A. Shick's hotel; a livery stable conducted by James Williams and Carl White; an old stone burr flour mill operated by the Thorp Brothers; and a one-mule dray line run by Fred Swartz.

None of these business enterprises appealed to Mr. Sherrerd, so he went to the farm of his uncle Joseph Furman, who lived one mile north of Wood River and hired out to him as a general helper. He remained on the farm long enough to learn the harnessing of a team and the use of a plough, but soon decided that still another line of work would be more congenial if he could find it. He was young enough to welcome adventure and this he found on many occasions after he reached Walcott, Wyoming. For three years he was a cowboy in that state. He then made his way to Fort Collins, Colorado, and it may be said that there, for the first time, he went into the line of work for which nature evidently intended him, becoming an employe in a dry goods store and continued there until he returned to Wood River, Nebraska, having maintained, during these years of absence, friendly communication with a number of its residents. When Mr. Sherrerd settled here permanently, he went into the jewelry business, but through subsequent expansion he has become proprietor of one of the largest general mercantile establishments in this section of the county.

In 1907 he erected his handsome cement and stone business building, with dimensions thirty eight by ninety-five feet situated on the corner of Ninth and Main streets, Wood River. In addition he owns a beautiful modern residence. He has always been a careful, conservative man in business and when serving in public office, as he frequently has done, has maintained the same attitude. Mr. Sherrerd was postmaster of Wood River during the entire administration of President McKinley, and subsequently, at different times, has served as a member of the town board.

At Wood River, November 15, 1888, Mr. Sherrerd married Miss Cora Shick, who was born in Ohio, a daughter of James and Christina (Morrison) Shick, who had other children, as follows: Mrs. Addie E. McElvain, Mrs. Bessie Root, Welcome, Frank and Elizabeth Mercer. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Sherrerd: Earl, who was a soldier in training at Camp Funston for service in the World War when the peace armistice was signed; Ruth, the wife of Tracy F. Tyler, a teacher in the Fremont high school; Rachel M., a student in Drake University, at Des Moines, Iowa; Helen, who has assumed duties in her father's business, is a graduate of the high school in Wood River and also of the Conservatory of Music, in Grand Island; and James, a student in the Wood River high school. Mr. and Mrs. Sherrerd have one granddaughter, Ruth Geraldine, the child of Mr. and Mrs. Tyler. Mr. Sherrerd and his entire family are members of the Presbyterian church, in which he has served as deacon. For many years he has been a member of the different Masonic bodies.

As an echo of early days in Hall County, the following incident coming under Mr. Sherrerd's observation, may be of much interest to readers of this history that is being made as complete as possible. It was in 1879, while Mr. Sherrerd was working for his uncle Mr. Furman. One fine morning a rough appearing young man rode up to Mr. Furman's door and introduced himself as Albert Spear, an acquaintance Mr. Furman had made some time before at Medicine Bow, Wyoming, and with true western hospitality he was invited to make the farm his home. He accepted without demur and remained a not too welcome guest for three weeks, or until he was captured by detectives who were on his trail. As the story was afterward revealed, he had been a carpenter with a bridge gang at Medicine Bow and from there had gone to the Black Hills, ostensibly to dig for gold, but evidently fell into bad company and was made the

leader of a band of fourteen outlaws who decided that robbery would bring them gold more quickly than the pick and "washing." After several minor successful robberies, the gang held up a government treasurer coach that was hauling bullion from Deadwood to Sidney. The robbers secured about \$140,000 but in the melee Spear was said to have killed one of the government guards. After his arrest, which strangely came about through his desire to have in his possession a picture of his mother that had been put away in a trunk, to which one of his gang comrades had access. When Spear escaped after the robbery he took advantage of his acquaintance with a reputable man like Mr. Furman, and not only accepted board and lodging, but brought his ill gotten wealth with him and concealed it in an old hog pail that he buried under a pile of manure in Mr. Furman's farm yard. This money was recovered for the government. He was taken back to Wyoming and was sentenced to the penitentiary for life and served ten years, when he gained his release through a curious situation that came up between the treasurers and other officials of Nebraska and Wyoming. This was in reference to Wyoming having no penitentiaries at that time, hence Nebraska was called on to incarcerate all criminals, and when Nebraska, quite naturally it would seem, presented a bill, Wyoming declined to pay it, with the result that the doors of the Nebraska dungeons swung open to alien prisoners. No doubt there are many who will read this true record who have also read romances on the same subject and with the same reputed ending, for it is said that in a large western city that shall be nameless, there later was a man of wealth and high official position, who was honored, trusted and respected, under another name, who once was the mail thief of this little tale.

RUDOLF DURTSCHI, who has large and valuable farm and stock interests in Hall County, is one of the truly enterprising business men of Wood River. He was born July 15, 1880, in Ness County, Kansas, the only son of John and Leopoldina (Jacob) Durtschi. His father was born near Berne, Switzerland, and his mother in Austria, both of whom came young to the United States, the father in 1872. After their marriage in Ness County, Kansas, they lived on a farm until 1883, when they came to Nebraska. The father bought land near Bellwood, in Butler County, where they still live. They have three children: Rudolph, Mrs. Rosa Fruth, and Ruby. Miss Ruby

Durtschi is a graduate of the Albion high school and of the Normal school at Kearney, and subsequently a student in Leland Stanford University.

Rudolph Durtschi obtained his education in the public schools and assisted his father and sometimes the neighbors as a farmer. Following his marriage he moved to Boone County where he bought land near Albion and engaged in farming and raising stock until the spring of 1908, when he came to Hall County. Here he purchased five hundred and forty acres, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation. He breeds registered Shorthorn cattle and Poland-China hogs. He also owns a tract of twenty acres adjoining Wood River, on which stands his comfortable residence. Aside from his agricultural interests, Mr. Durtschi is connected with important enterprises in Wood River. He represents the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company, of Lincoln, Nebraska, and carries the largest volume of insurance risks on farms, in this neighborhood. He is president of the Central Nebraska Elevator Company, at Wood River, which handles coal as well as grain. He is also secretary of the Central Nebraska Fair Association at Grand Island.

At Bellwood, Nebraska, March 22, 1905, Mr. Durtschi married Miss Etta Judevine, who was born at Bellwood, and is the youngest of five children born to Frederick C. and Mary E. (Page) Judevine, the former a native of Wisconsin, and the latter of Fort Wayne, Indiana. Mrs. Durtschi has three brothers and one sister: Royal, Frank, Clifford, and Mrs. Ethel Byers. Mr. and Mrs. Durtschi have three children, two daughters, Gladys M. and Lorna L., both of whom attend school at Wood River; and one son, Ronald R., who is three years old. Mr. Durtschi is not active in politics but is a citizen who feels his responsibilities as a prominent business man, and he readily and liberally co-operates in all movements for the benefit of city, county and state when his judgment approves.

MILTON C. WINGERT, a representative of one of the old families of Hall County, is a progressive business man who, with his three sons, is carrying on a rather remarkable gardening enterprise in the environs of Wood River that is meeting with profitable results. The Wingerts do a large wholesale business and successfully compete with California growers.

Milton C. Wingert was born in Perry County, Pennsylvania, November 12, 1859.

His parents were Peter S. and Maria (Reynard) Wingert, natives of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. Their children were as follows: Salmon M., Mrs. Mary E. Schisler, Mrs. Anna M. Allen, Mrs. Alice C. Adwers, Mrs. Ida V. Millhollen, George W., Milton C., Mrs. Emma J. Squires, William C. and Jeremiah A. Peter S. Wingert was a farmer all his life. In 1866 he removed to Warren County, Illinois, and from there to Hall County, Nebraska, in 1873, locating a homestead ten miles northwest of Grand Island. The family lived in a sod house at first and their hardships were many. From 1874 to 1876, with other pioneer disadvantages, they had to endure the ravages of the grasshopper pest. They possessed the true pioneer spirit, however, and with courage, industry and frugality came safely through a period of general distress. Mr. Wingert and his wife reared their children in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Milton C. Wingert was fourteen years old when the family came to Hall County. He went to school as the opportunity was afforded but his advantages were not comparable to those he has given his own children. He well remembers early days here and the necessary family economics, when his resourceful mother browned rye and barley grains to take the place of accustomed coffee, and when a dime for a Fourth of July celebration seemed like a fortune to him. General farming continued to be his business until he entered upon his present gardening enterprise. He owns ten acres at Wood River and because of his unusual success in the past, in 1919 is renting fifteen additional acres. His land is irrigated systematically and is under the highest state of cultivation. He is assisted by his sons, Albert, Ralph and Miles, all of whom are deeply interested as they may well be in so profitable a business. Their main crops are cabbage, sweet potatoes and onions. As an indication of the extent of their shipping business, it may be stated that in 1918 they sold seventy tons of cabbage alone, for \$90 a ton. They grow their own plants in hot beds, having 3,000 feet of space under glass, and get their plants out ahead of the California markets, having new cabbage ready to ship by the 20th of June. Mr. Wingert owns his business quarters on Main street, Wood River, and also a comfortable, attractive residence here.

At Grand Island, Nebraska, in 1886, Mr. Wingert married Miss Roberta Calhoun, who was born in Illinois. Her parents were Noah and Julia A. (Parkinson) Calhoun, the former of whom was born at Bedford, Pennsylvania, and the latter in Jo Daviess County, Illinois.