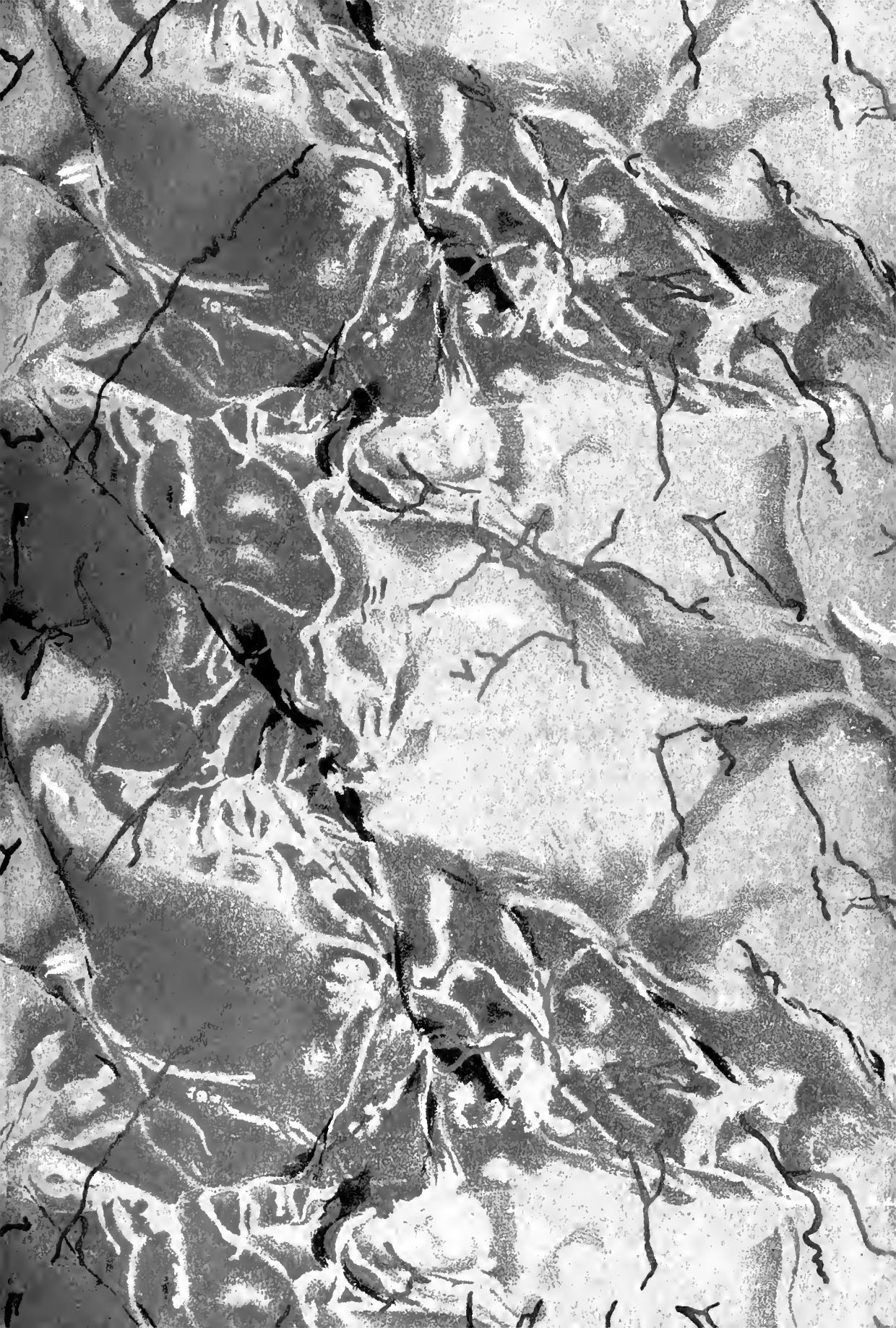


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YORK COUNTY

NEBRASKA

AND ITS PEOPLE

Together with a Condensed History of the State



T. E. SEDGWICK

Supervising Editor



A Record of Settlement, Organization,
Progress and Achievement



VOL. II
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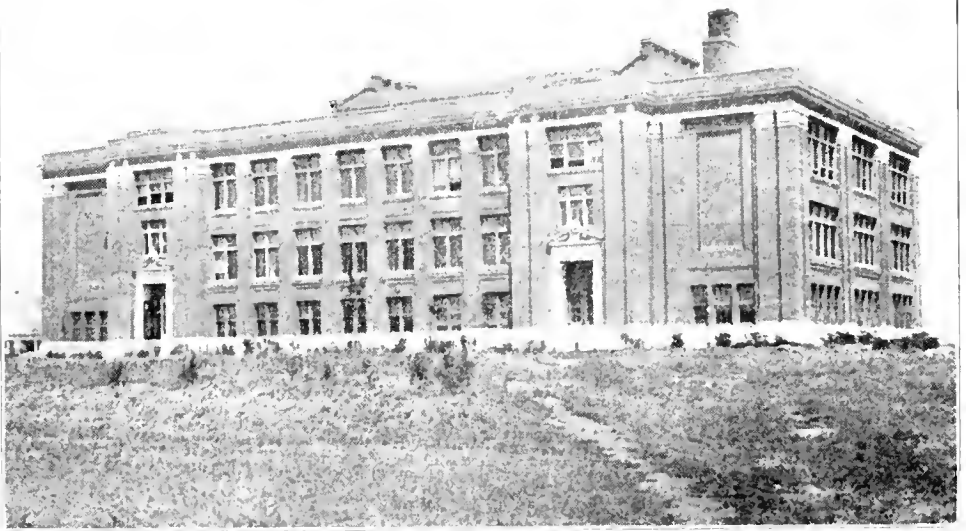
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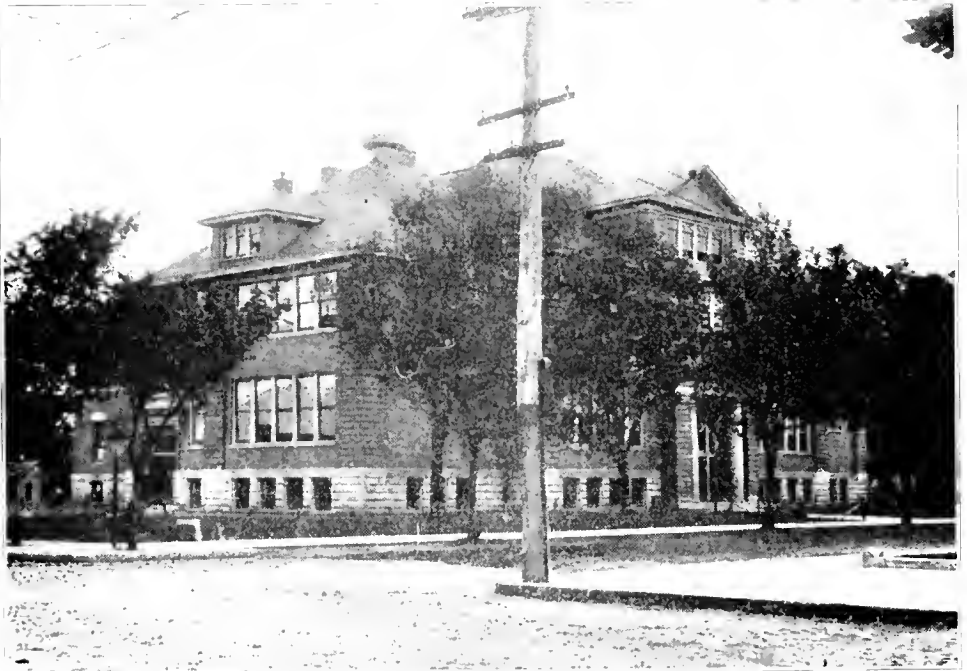
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HIGH SCHOOL, YORK



CENTRAL SCHOOL, YORK

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SCHOOLS

The first public school in the western half of York County was held in a little dugout over on Lincoln Creek in 1872, with Mrs. A. Linsley as teacher. The district was eight by twelve miles in extent and known as District No. 15. As the country was settled up the district was divided and other little soddies were built. Then a "frame school" was started in Owens Bros'. old store building, which stood on Mr. Steinberg's farm. In 1881 the first little school house was built in Bradshaw. To this additions were made from time to time as needed. But this, the toil and savings of many years, like the most of Bradshaw was laid in ruins in one brief hour.

Bradshaw has graduated two of her principals into the office of county superintendent, Mr. E. S. Franklin, in 1887, and E. C. Bishop in 1899.

The following teachers have served as principals of the Bradshaw schools since 1881: Misses Sylvia Butler and Carrie Moffitt; Messrs. George Greer, A. B. Coddington, E. S. Franklin, Charles Harlan, William Bartz, H. B. McDermid, W. T. Oats, Fred Archard, W. S. Wright, W. T. Utterbeck, T. A. Gierins, J. H. Frew, E. C. Bishop, R. F. Marquis and J. N. Peck.

OTHER LOCALITIES

The beginning of school work, which in almost every instance was practically coincident with the settlement of the locality, is detailed throughout the accounts of the settlement of the various townships and towns.

YORK SCHOOL DISTRICT

York School District was organized June 14, 1871. It included a territory five miles square, in which the city occupied about the central position. Notice of the formation of this district was served upon the entire voting population residing in its limits. In the school records the names of the male residents of the district are

entered, which will give the reader an idea of how sparsely the county was settled at this period, and also the names of the early settlers of the now prosperous city. The total number then claiming a residence in the above territory, which included the City of York, was only twenty-two and were the following persons: H. M. Detrick, G. W. Dixon, W. L. Draper, Thomas Myers, Gottlieb Hofer, J. H. Bell, F. O. Bell, A. B. Tutton, K. S. Tutton, A. E. Hendricks, J. P. Miller, James J. Holley, Jehabod Cook, M. B. Noel, A. J. Day, Isaac Crable, C. F. Day, Edward Bates, L. D. Brakeman, D. A. Ritner, R. Charlton, and August Bonge.

A. B. Tutton was elected director, A. C. Montgomery, moderator, and Dr. Thomas L. Myers, treasurer. No further steps were made towards perfecting the organization until January 15, 1872. At a meeting held at this date, the district voted to issue bonds to the amount of \$2,000 for the purpose of purchasing a building site and erecting a schoolhouse. This building was completed in season for a summer school, which was taught by Miss M. A. Hill. During the winter session of this year J. Cochran was employed as teacher. The first school established in York was taught by A. C. Montgomery in the winter of 1870-71. The old pre-emption house served as a schoolhouse, and twenty-two pupils were in attendance, some coming a distance of eight miles. It was maintained by subscription and was of two months' duration. Mr. Montgomery received his wages in wood, grain, cash, or whatever the settlers could best give from an individual standpoint.

At the annual meeting of the board in 1879, it was decided to call a special election, and submit a proposition to the citizens of York, for issuing the bonds of the district to the amount of \$58,000 for the purpose of erecting a new school building, the old house having become too small to accommodate the fast growing school population. This election took place May 16, and was universally favored. A building was commenced immediately, and it was completed in 1881.

YORK SCHOOL BOARDS

There are numerous offices in each community which are real labors of love. One of these is a membership upon the Board of Education. Not for munificent salary, nor for high honor, does the enterprising citizen of the community serve at this post year after year, but for the love of doing some service in building up the public school system. It is the public school system which is the real bulwark of this wonderful nation of ours. It is the public school where the sons and daughters of rich and poor, capitalist and laborer, banker, farmer, clerk, merchant, business man and every class and creed attend upon an equal basis, that has served the most to leaven our American melting pot into a real democracy.

Right from the start, in the earlier days when a board of three ruled the school affairs of the little Village of York, certain faithful spirits began their perennial careers of service in this field. In 1876, Charles Le Count was director, T. D. Knapp, moderator, and H. C. Kleinschmidt, treasurer of School District No. 12, the York district. Mr. Kleinschmidt remained as treasurer until 1878, when Charles Le Count assumed this post and held it until 1883. A. C. Montgomery served as director in 1879 and in 1880 F. A. Bidwell became director and served until 1883. D. T. Moore was moderator in 1879 and 1880, T. D. Knapp in 1881

and Henry Seymour in 1882. The board had as fourth and fifth members in 1881 and 1882 H. M. Detrick and John A. Etherly.

In 1883 the board was composed of Henry Seymour, chairman; F. A. Bidwell, secretary; Charles Le Count, treasurer; H. M. Detrick, and L. J. Gandy. In 1884 S. A. Newell came on. In 1887 Henry Seymour and S. A. Newell were still serving, N. V. Harlan had come onto the board, destined to perform a long period of service, and L. L. Sorriek, M. Sovereign, and E. A. Gilbert finished the roster.

EARLY TEACHERS

Among the very earliest contracts for teachers shown on the board's minutes in the office of the secretary of the Board of Education at York are those with Albert Logan, made July 8, 1876, for three months' service for \$150. And on September 6, 1876, a contract with Mary L. Betcher provided for three months' service for \$120 and Nellie Gunnell was hired in 1879 at \$30 per month. Prof. M. Bridges was principal of York schools in 1880, at a salary of \$80 per month. His teaching staff consisted of Kate Keckley, grammar room, and Emma Hays, intermediate room; Effie Cutter and Annie Knapp, the other rooms.

In 1884 Mr. Bridges was still principal, with a salary of \$100 a month, and his staff of teachers, receiving \$40 per month, were Hattie Woolley, Anna Knapp, Ada S. Roe, Mary McCray, Alice Crownover, Vana Crownover, Sylvia Butler and Flora Wyekoff. The staff in 1887 showed: Central Building, between Grant and Nebraska avenues on Seventh Street, Prof. C. S. Edwards, principal; Misses Carrie Matthews, Lucy Gould, Ella Montgomery, Appa Lineh, Jennie Raper, Ella Graves, and Bella Vance. At the West Ward Building, southeast corner of Sixth and Division Avenue, Misses Vana Crownover, Effie Detrick and Mary McKenzie were teaching. In the North Building, on the southwest corner of Pine and Fifth streets, Misses Hattie Woolley and Flora A. Barton held out.

LATER SCHOOL BOARDS

In 1890 the board roster shows Mrs. Wing, F. B. Daggy, N. V. Harlan, L. L. Sorriek, Mrs. Carseadden, and E. A. Gilbert. Prof. Corbett was principal. The year 1891 found the same members serving, except that upon the resignation of L. L. Sorriek, Mrs. W. F. Reynolds was chosen to fill his place. In 1892 Mrs. Wing, Mrs. Reynolds, Messrs. Daggy and Harlan remained, and Mr. Marcellus came on the board. In 1893 the board was Reynolds, Myers, Harlan, Daggy, Newman, and Gilbert. In 1894 Mrs. Ella Harrison and E. S. Franklin and E. A. Baker came on the board, Harlan, Mrs. Reynolds, and Gilbert holding over.

B. G. Moulton was elected principal in 1894 and Eunice Coy as assistant. In 1895, Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. Reynolds, Messrs. Baker, Franklin, Harlan, and Gilbert continued to serve together. The year 1896 found Mrs. D. C. Bell serving, the balance of the board being the older members. In 1897 Reverend Baker was succeeded by J. E. Evans. In 1898 the board remained intact, Evans, Franklin, Harlan, Gilbert, Mrs. Bell, and Mrs. Reynolds. In 1899 Mrs. Reynolds gave way to Mrs. Jerome and the balance of the board remained.

On June 3, 1895, the board had entered into a contract to employ Prof. W. W. Stoner as principal of the high school and Mrs. W. W. Stoner as eighth grade

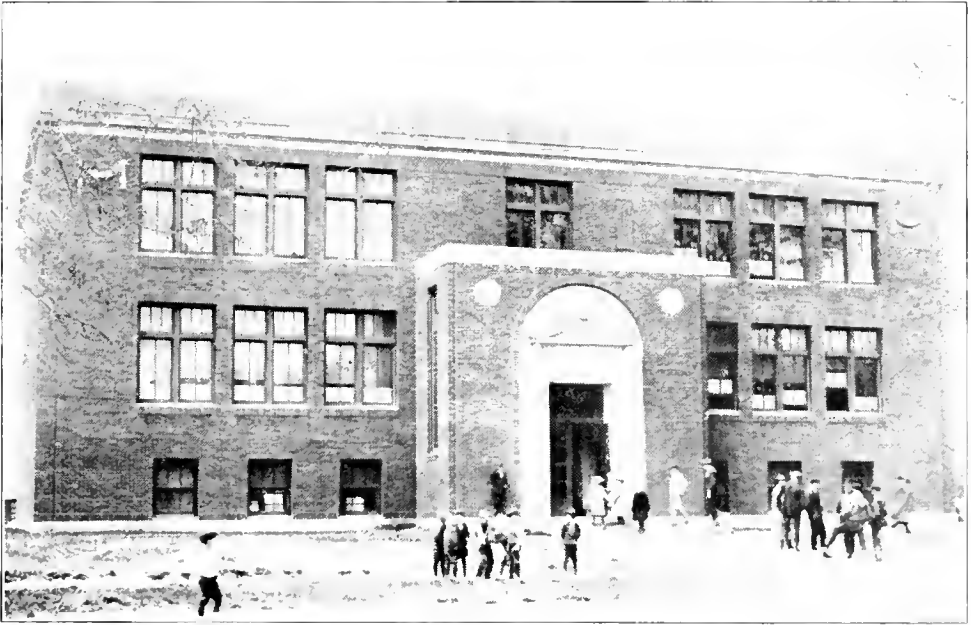
teacher, at a joint salary of \$1,000 per annum. At this time Professor Moulton stepped up to the elevation of superintendent of York Schools. Doris McMaster was made assistant principal of the high school in 1897.

This brings us down to 1900, when the board of 1899 remained in office, except that Mrs. Bell was succeeded by Mrs. E. A. Warner. Prof. C. R. Atkinson succeeded Superintendent Moulton in 1900. This left the board as Mrs. Jerome, Mrs. Warner, Messrs. Gilbert, Harlan, Evans, and Franklin. The year 1901 brought a couple of noticeable changes, when Messrs. Franklin and Harlan gave way to Doctor McConaughy and H. M. Childs, the remaining members being Gilbert, Evans, Mrs. Jerome and Mrs. Warner. In 1902, two more new members came on, George W. Shreck and G. H. Holdeman succeeding Gilbert and McConaughy. The board in 1903 were Harris M. Childs, George W. Shreck, G. H. Holdeman, John E. Evans, Adelaide Jerome and Phila H. Warner. Professor Atkinson had resigned the superintendency and Prof. Stoner assumed this post. In 1904 Dr. McConaughy succeeded Evans and began a long term of service. Nineteen hundred and six witnessed some changes, Jessie R. Myers, Julia T. Bell and Etta Hoyt coming on the board to serve with Childs, Shreck and McConaughy. Nineteen hundred and seven found the same board serving. In 1908 one change took place, George M. Spurlock succeeding Mrs. Myers. In 1909 Mrs. Jessie R. Myers returned, A. M. White succeeded Mrs. Julia Green Bell, and Mrs. Hoyt remained with Messrs. Childs, Spurlock, and McConaughy; 1910 and 1911 saw no changes in the board and this sextette served harmoniously together for three years. In 1912 five of them remained at the task and Mrs. Mary E. Bradwell displaced Mrs. Etta V. Hoyt. In 1913, four of the faithful sextette and five of the 1912 board remained, Childs giving way to Henry W. Brott; 1914 found this board remaining intact. At a bond election on June 5, 1912, to provide \$80,000 bonds for building three new school houses, the vote was decisively against the proposition, being 123 for and 586 against. The vote was distributed by wards:

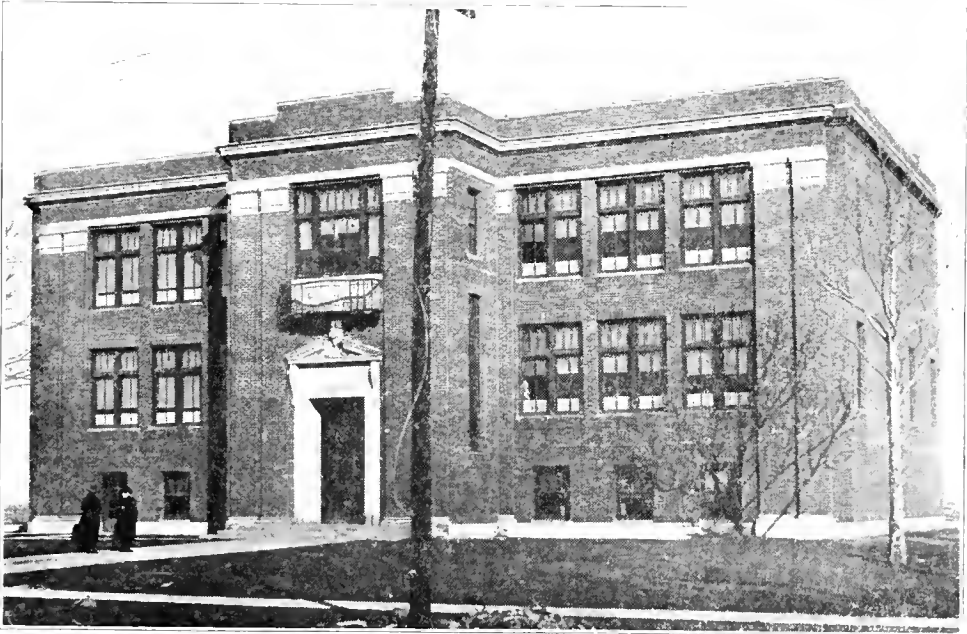
	For	Against
First Ward.....	41	185
Second Ward.....	38	127
Third Ward.....	16	91
Fourth Ward.....	25	183

In 1915 a few changes resulted upon the board, Dr. W. L. Bernard and King taking the places of Myers and Bradwell. The year 1916 saw Dr. McConaughy succeeded by A. C. Hubbell. Nineteen seventeen saw two new members, W. W. Wyckoff and C. R. Keckley succeed Spurlock and White. On March 20, 1917, an election was held at which \$225,000 bonds were voted for the construction of three new buildings. This resulted in a vote by wards:

	For	Against
First Ward.....	372	75
Second Ward.....	341	95
Third Ward.....	178	60
Fourth Ward.....	265	100
Totals	1,156	330



LINCOLN SCHOOL, YORK



EDISON SCHOOL, NORTH WARD, YORK

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For some time, W. B. Johns had been serving as principal of the high school and Geo. S. Cook as treasurer for the board. Nineteen seventeen saw not only the inauguration of the very heavy program for the building of the three new buildings, but the necessity of another election on August 7, 1917, called for another issue of \$60,000 bonds for the new Central School Building. With the money realized from sale of property and these two issues, the new Central Building was built at a cost of some \$175,000 and the other two buildings completed, over \$300,000 being put into this new, but thoroughly modern school plant. The election of August 7, 1917, showed a vote upon the \$60,000 bond issue, of

	For	Against
First Ward.....	100	50
Second Ward.....	98	71
Third Ward.....	44	37
Fourth Ward.....	84	56
Totals	326	214

In 1918 Wyckoff, King, Brott, Keckley and Hubbell remained on the board and Mrs. Pearle Felton succeeded Doctor Bernard. Superintendent Stoner resigned and Prof. James B. Crabbe, of Laramie, Wyoming, was elected on June 5, 1917, to take his place. M. S. Jones was principal of the high school. Nineteen nineteen saw two changes on the board, Dean C. E. Ashcraft of York College and Effie Detrick displaced Hubbell and Brott. This leaves the same board as have been serving in 1920 and early 1921, Miss Effie Detrick, Mrs. Pearle Felton, Dean C. E. Ashcraft, Atty. W. W. Wyckoff, who is secretary of the board, Mr. King, and C. R. Keckley. Superintendent Crabbe resigned in 1918 and was succeeded by York's present efficient superintendent, F. A. Graham, who came here from Missouri Valley, Iowa. W. E. Nelson is the present principal of the high school.

York now has a thoroughly modern school plant that will compare with any in the state. Its high school gives a complete college preparatory course, a splendid normal training course, a vocational agricultural department (Smith-Hughes courses and home economics), and a splendid commercial course.

The teachers of the York schools in January, 1921, are:

A. W. Graham	Mrs. W. C. Noll	Zora Wunderlich
W. E. Nelson	Mrs. Lottie Meek	Cassye Baugh
Edna Ittner	Veva Boren	Clara Beck
Ruth Watson	Jessie Stewart	Hazel Chapin
Jennie Muir	Ruth Callender	Ruth Peterson
A. L. Speece	R. E. Townsend	Edith Lambert
Mildred Holts	E. V. Deason	Esther McDonald
Harriett Holley	Clara King	Mrs. Kathryn Morrow
Lurlie Lee	Matie Hall	Myrna Hall
Bess Alexander	Cora Conaway	Bertha Brooks
Louise Mc Nerney	Lillian Shanks	Mrs. Hester Brown
Hazelle Hedbloom	R. L. Clark	Ruth Chapin
Charles Cox	Helen Wells	Clara James
Helen Copsey	Guy Davis	Cecile Newbold

Margaret James	Ethel Thompson	Myrtle Freeborn
Mrs. Sybil Askine	Gladys Hitchcock	Mrs. Russell Rogers
Mrs. C. E. Anderson	Hazel Foster	Mrs. Franklin Hunt

HISTORY OF YORK COLLEGE

The forerunner of York College was Gibbon Collegiate Institute at Gibbon, Nebraska. This institution had been bought in 1886 from the Baptist people, and was conducted as an academy. It was a success for three or four years, but the size of the town and the lack of full co-operation made it impracticable to continue its existence.

In the summer of 1890 several cities made propositions to the trustees for the re-location of the school and for making it full college grade. Kearney and York were the leading bidders, and the following persons constituted the first board of trustees: Judge D. T. Moore, Rev. E. A. Leeper, D. D., Lee Love, Judge N. A. Dean, C. J. Nobes, D. E. Sedgwick, M. D., Judge A. C. Montgomery, Rev. J. C. Countermine, D. D., F. O. Bell, Judge G. W. Post, Rev. G. F. Deal, and Rev. F. W. Jones.

Its Beautiful Site. A more beautiful site could not be found in the State of Nebraska—a gentle eminence in the eastern part of the city, the highest ground in York County. Here, on a campus of eleven acres, the first building was erected, and dedicated in June, 1892. It is a splendid edifice of brick and stone, 88x99 feet, basement and three stories, beautiful in architectural design and in approaching the city from any direction can be seen for many miles.

Excellent Equipments. The building is well furnished and well equipped and unusually well planned for college purposes. The recitation rooms are large and light. The commercial room covers nearly half of the second floor. The chapel will seat about six hundred. The literary halls are among the finest in the state. The library contains about 1,500 volumes, and the reading tables are constantly supplied with an abundance of the best periodicals of the day. The museum has several hundred feet of shelf-room filled with specimens in geology, zoology and botany. The laboratories are well supplied with apparatus to facilitate the work in the natural sciences.

Another Building. Another building has been projected and the work begun. The foundation was laid and structure was completed in 1903. Its dimensions are 80x36 feet, four floors, containing thirty-five rooms, besides halls, closets and bath-rooms. It is heated by steam, as is the main building, and both supplied with city water and electric light. This building is devoted to the conservatory of music and ladies' dormitory.

It contains an executive board of six members, all residents of York, whose duty it is to carry out the will of the board of trustees.

Such strong managing boards are an assurance to all patrons that their interests are carefully guarded and wisely conserved.

Since the founding of the institution, the following ministers have served as presidents: Jeremiah George, A. M.; William S. Reese, D. D.; William E. Schell, D. D.; Melvin O. McLaughlin, D. D.; Hervin U. Roop, Ph. D., LL. D.

Reverend George, A. M., D. D., served as president from August, 1890, to August, 1894. The average yearly enrollment during his term was 176.

Rev. W. S. Reese, Ph. M., D. D., succeeded President George and served three years. During this time the average yearly enrollment was 149. The large debt incurred by the erection of the main building became a heavy burden during this administration, owing to financial panic and crop failure.

Rev. William E. Schell, A. M., D. D., was called to take charge on August 3, 1897. That was a dark hour in the history of the institution. Every dollar of a great debt was due and suits entered for collection. There was nothing in the treasury to stay the impending crisis. Some of the trustees advised giving up the work. Every member of the faculty had resigned except J. E. Maxwell, M. S., professor of Natural Sciences, and Mrs. D. E. Sedgwick, director of the music department. No catalogue had been issued.

The details of the five succeeding years cannot here be given. It is enough to say that the entire situation has been changed. The debt is liquidated. The sum of \$2,000 dollars has been expended for additional equipments and \$6,000 in good pledges is now on hand for another building. The courses of study have been strengthened, the faculty enlarged, and York College has taken high rank among the institutions of Nebraska and the West. The average yearly enrollment during the five years of President Schell's term has been 281—over three hundred yearly for the last three years.

The faculty in 1903 were:

William E. Schell, A. M., D. D., president and professor of philosophy (Western College, Toledo, Iowa, June, 1890, A. B.; June, 1893, A. M.; Lane University, Leocompton, Kas., June, 1902, D. D.).

J. E. Maxwell, M. S., vice president and professor of natural sciences (Nebraska Wesleyan University, June, 1894, B. S.; June, 1895, M. S.).

Sareva Dowell, A. M., professor of Latin and Greek (Amity College, College Springs, Iowa, June, 1893, A. B.; June, 1898, A. M.; post-graduate work in Europe).

Theodore Jorgenson, A. B., professor of modern languages (Western College, Toledo, Iowa, June, 1900, A. B.; post-graduate work in Europe).

Annie P. Jorgensen, A. M., professor of mathematics (Nebraska State University, June, 1899, A. B.; June, 1902, A. M.).

Lena E. Schell, A. B., assistant in English and history (York College, June, 1902, A. B.).

M. D. Adams, M. Acc'ts, principal of the College of Commerce and professor of commercial branches and shorthand (Gem City Business College, Quincy, Ill., June, 1898, M. Acc'ts).

Ruth Smith, director of the Conservatory of Music and instructor of piano, pipe organ, reed organ, harmony, general theory, history of music and voice culture (Western College Conservatory, June, 1899, diploma in piano course; June, 1901, diploma in voice; Victoria College of Music, London, June, 1902, diploma as associate in piano).

Max Baumeister, instructor on violin (studied in Omaha and St. Louis, then five years at the Bavarian Conservatory, Wuerzburg, Germany, court musician).

L. E. Porter, principal of the School of Expression and instructor in elocution and physical culture (studied at York College, and Columbia School of Oratory, Chicago).

Lauriette Dowell, principal of the Art Department and instructor in drawing and all lines of art work (studied at Tarkio College, Tarkio, Mo., and Nebraska State University).

G. E. Driver, college pastor (educated in England; traveled extensively in Europe and Palestine).

Students. The aggregate of the enrollment for 1892-1904 was 2,556. The students have always been of a most excellent class and the graduates are toiling in fields of usefulness this wide world over, **even in India, China and Philippines.** In Chicago, Washington, St. Louis, Omaha, Kansas City, Denver, Cheyenne, St. Paul, Minneapolis, San Francisco, Lincoln and in almost all the cities and towns of Nebraska they are doing a good and honorable part in the business and professional work of the world. Their ranks include college professors, ministers, missionaries, civil service men, lawyers, physicians, merchants, musicians, machinists, superintendents of schools, teachers, public officers and other vocations worthy of note. And many, though not completing courses, have gone forth after terms of years of profitable association and study, with increased knowledge, improved gifts and larger life, and are now filling useful positions in the industrial pursuits and professions of this busy age. The passing days, ever and anon, bring back the story of their success and their joy in having made York College their choice.

Fifty-eight of the business men of York and eighty-four of the teachers in charge of schools in York County in 1904 were old York College students.

The present board of trustees for 1920-1921 are :

Officers

N. A. Dean, president

Chas. Bissett, treasurer.

R. E. Townsend, secretary

York County

C. A. McCloud

L. S. Loomer

N. A. Dean

Wm. A. Harrison

J. R. McCloud

Arthur Thompson

Nebraska Conference

Rev. W. F. Brink, Angus, Nebraska

S. C. Caldwell, Swanton, Nebraska

J. W. Rollings, Dayton, Ohio

F. L. Pothast, Pickrell, Nebraska

George Barrett, Gibbon, Nebraska

F. J. Hale, Omaha, Nebraska

Colorado

A. A. Nieman

W. H. McCormick, Berthoud, Colorado

R. W. Harlow, Pueblo, Colorado

Alumni Association

Paul Porter, A. B., Swanton, Nebraska

W. H. Morton, A. B., Fairbury,

Chas. Bowers, A. B., York, Nebraska

Nebraska.



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C. A. McCloud	Wm. Harrison
N. A. Dean	A. W. Thompson
J. R. McCloud	

The college faculty serving in 1920-21 are:

Hervin U. Roop, Ph. D., Le. D., LL. D., president, logic and educational psychology.

M. O. McLaughlin, A. M., D. D., vice president; member of 66th Congress. Charles E. Ashcraft, dean of the Liberal Arts College; A. B., Campbell College; A. M., University of Chicago; B. D. Bonebrake Seminary; one year post-graduate work at the University of Chicago; philosophy and English Bible (1913).

Charles Bissett, treasurer and registrar; Ph. B., San Joaquin Valley College; A. M., University of Kansas; B. D., Bonebrake Theological Seminary; graduate work, University of Chicago, one year; history and social science (1913).

Howard C. Feemster, A. B., Drury College; A. M., University of Nebraska; mathematics (1906).

J. Clifford Morgan, A. B., Campbell College; A. M., University of Kansas; Latin and Greek (1914).

E. Ethel Clarke, A. B., A. M., University of Kansas; modern languages and English (1914).

William C. Noll, A. B., York College; A. M., University of Nebraska; biology (1918).

Lewis Franklin John, college pastor (1915); A. B., Otterbein University; B. D., Yale University; D. D., Otterbein University.

Georgiana Adams, A. B., A. M., University of Nebraska; chemistry and physics (1919).

Daniel H. Verder, M. A., Harvard University; English (1919).

Edity Cone, B. S., University of Nebraska; domestic science (1915).

Edith M. Callender, A. B., York College; academy English (1913).

Charles H. Amadon, dean of Hulitt Conservatory of Music; New England Conservatory of Music; voice, violin and wind instruments (1914).

Eda M. Rankin, M. B., University of Nebraska; piano (1912).

Gladys Pearson, assistant in piano.

Mrs. Elmira Graves Koon, Art Institute of Chicago; art (1916).

Ruth Chapin, director of Model School.

Emma Fye, dean of women.

Vincent V. Moore, business manager, School of Commerce; bookkeeping.

Iona Gejger, bookkeeping.

Ella Pederson, stenography and typewriting.

Mina Francis Porter, commercial English, arithmetic and spelling.

E. V. Deason, penmanship.

O. S. Gilmore, commercial law.

Harriet Holly, physical culture for women.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE FACULTY

The president is ex-officio member of all committees.

Classification—C. E. Ashcraft, Edith Callender.

Course of Study—C. E. Ashcraft, Chas. Bissett, H. C. Feemster.

Library—Chas. Bissett, E. Ethel Clarke, J. C. Morgan, D. H. Verder.

Student Organizations—H. C. Feemster, Wm. Noll, Edith Cone, Georgiana Adams.

Chapel Attractions—C. H. Amadon, Eda Rankin, Edith Callender.

Athletics—E. Ethel Clarke, Charles Bissett, Harriet Holly.

Publicity—Edith Callender, E. Ethel Clarke, J. C. Morgan, Edith Cone, William Noll.

Dates—C. H. Amadon, C. E. Ashcraft, Chas. Bissett.

Lecture Course—C. E. Ashcraft, C. H. Amadon, Chas. Bissett.

Debating and Oratory—D. H. Verder, E. E. Clarke.

Schedule—The faculty.

REV. WILLIAM E. SCHELL, A. M., D. D.

President of York College Since August 3, 1897

William E. Schell was born in Carroll County, Indiana, October 25, 1861. He is of German decent, related to some of the best families of the land and his kin are found in the United States Congress, among financiers, bishops and scholars of wide reputation.

His mother died when he was but a child. His father, a prominent Chicago business man, went down in the panic of 1873. This left the lad to face the world alone, long before he had reached his teens. With the true spirit of German independence he remained away from his relatives, leaning upon his own efforts for success. He taught school at the age of fifteen, was in the mercantile business in his early twenties, bending his energies, meanwhile, in the direction of a college course, which he completed in due time at Western College, Toledo, Iowa, in June, 1890, with the degree A. B. and with highest honors.

After graduation he served for three years as pastor of the U. B. Church, DuBois, Nebraska.

The next two years he was the York College pastor. Being an indefatigable worker, fully appreciating the various needs of the church and one upon whom God has set his seal of approval, his years in pastoral labor were fruitful in an unusual degree, many being added to the church year by year. But during these years so crowded with pastoral duties he still found time for study, and in June, 1893, he took the degree A. M.

Then followed nearly three years of service as presiding elder of York district before he was called a second time to the presidency of York College, the first call being declined three years before.

Though a modest, unassuming man, President Schell is an excellent financier, prepossessing in appearance, an eloquent speaker, possessed of good judgment, keen insight, rare tact, and a faculty of bringing things to pass.

He has served the church as a member of two general conferences and as a

director of the board of missions. He has served a four years' term on the board of education, which has the supervision of all the colleges of the denomination.

He has been a member of the Nebraska College Association for several years and has served as secretary and as president of the same. He has been elected to membership in a number of national associations of scholars, and his name appears in several biographical encyclopedias, while in June, 1902, Lane University, LeCompton, Kan., honored him with the degree D. D.

His services have been repeatedly sought by other institutions, but at the earnest solicitation of his many friends he has continued in his present relation.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. Two Christian associations are maintained by the students. The Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. both have meetings every week in their own halls. Both are branches of the international Christian associations. The Christian associations help to develop and maintain the moral and religious life of the student body.

Various committees are at work. Bible and mission study classes are conducted, making the associations a most valuable auxiliary to the spiritual life of the college.

Student Volunteer Band. The Student Volunteer Band is composed of young men and young women who have pledged themselves to foreign missionary service and who are considering the great problems of world-wide missions.

Literary Societies. The college has four literary societies—the Amphictyon and Zetageathea for young men, and the Philomathean and Zetaethean for young women, each of which offers its privileges to students in any department. These societies have large and well furnished halls and direct their own affairs. They afford excellent means for social and literary culture under the most wholesome Christian influences.

College Periodicals. The Sandburr is a monthly college paper edited and published by the students; its contents are interesting and helpful and it furnishes a live link between the college and the students of other days. The Sandburr will be mailed free of charge to each regularly enrolled student.

Bulletins are issued from time to time for instruction and inspiration of our constituents.

A neat pocket manual for free distribution, containing valuable information for new students, is published yearly by joint committees of the Y. M. and the Y. W. C. A.

Athletics. The athletic association of York College is composed of all the students. They elect their own board for the control of the different sports. Two members of the faculty are elected to act with the board. Coaches are provided for all the sports. Football, baseball, track, tennis and basketball are encouraged. Our gymnasium is one of the best in the state, having regulation size floor, running track, lockers and shower baths. The college backs the athletic association financially.

Oratory and Debate. An oratorical and debating association is maintained. Its affairs are managed by an executive committee of four members, consisting of three student members and the debating coach. It has charge of all inter-class

debates, inter-collegiate and oratorical contests. College credit is given for work properly done in this department. In addition to the credit given, the alumni offers a prize of twenty dollars to the one winning first place in the preliminary state oratorical contest. All students winning places on college teams will be given instruction and training under the head of the expression department at the expense of the college. Some features of the present plan are new, and under the new system a lively interest in debate and oratory has developed.

Total Enrollment

College	78	Harmony	10
Academy	39	Art	38
Summer School	94	Duplicates	136
School of Commerce.....	168		———
Voice	73	Net enrollment	516
Piano	152		

THE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS IN 1920

There are three buildings on the campus, the Administration Building, Hulitt Conservatory and the Gymnasium.

The Administration Building is 88x99 feet. It is built of brick and is three stories high above the basement. It contains the chapel, recitation rooms, library, office, literary halls and laboratories.

Hulitt Conservatory is 36x80 feet and is modern throughout. It is built of brick with limestone trimmings and is three stories above the basement. The first story is used by the conservatory of music and the other two are used as a ladies' dormitory and will accommodate forty-two girls. The basement is well equipped for serving meals.

The Gymnasium is 40x80 feet. It is made of brick and is one of the best college gymnasiums in the state. It is modern in every way, having a hard maple floor of regulation size, a running track, lockers and shower baths.

The college has a commodious campus of eleven acres where all the out-of-door sports can be maintained. In addition to this the city of York grants the privilege of using the city park located just south of the college campus.

YORK COLLEGE NOW COMPRISES THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENTS

1. The College of Liberal Arts (Standard).
2. The Academy (or Standard High School).
3. The School of Commerce (the York Business College).
4. The School of Home Economics (cooking and sewing).
5. The School of Expression (elocution, public speaking).
6. The School of Music (voice, piano, violin, public school methods, pipe organ, wind instruments).
7. The School of Fine Arts.

LABORATORIES AND LIBRARY

The college is provided with chemical, physical, biological and geological laboratories. The chemical laboratories are well equipped with all the apparatus for general, inorganic and organic chemistry; also qualitative and quantitative analysis. The laboratories are supplied with water, sinks, gas and other necessities. The physics laboratory is thoroughly equipped with all the necessary apparatus for teaching of physics in a first class way. The biological laboratory is well equipped with first class compound microscopes, microtome, camera, etc. The geological laboratory has a large number of fine specimens of fossils, rocks and minerals. A special room is fitted up for the geological work.

Library. The library has received a substantial gift of \$10,000 from Andrew Carnegie. The interest, amounting to \$500 a year, is spent in purchasing the best books for a working library. Our library ranks among the best in the state. It is of sufficient size now to offer a number of library courses. Daily papers and many of the best magazines are to be found on the reading tables of the library.

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

A majority of its students are from Christian homes. The college therefore seeks to furnish such religious training as will supplement and conserve the sacred influences of the home. It believes in heart culture as well as head culture and encourages every agency and activity that tends to promote Christian influence.

Every school day chapel exercises are held in the college chapel and all students are required to attend. Members of the faculty and occasionally students lead these exercises. Bible classes are conducted and credit given both in the college and academy. Mission study classes are conducted by the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. Study of comparative religions and non-Christian faiths is presented in the college.

All students are required to attend at least one religious service every Sunday in the church of their choice.

YORK'S SUPPORT

We want posterity to know of the interest York County takes in this institution, so allot the space to let the York Republican of August 26, 1920, tell that story:

The prologue in the final act of the drama, entitled "Raising the Endowment of York College," was given at the Y. M. C. A. rooms on Monday evening. On that occasion members of the county organization met with the trustees of the school for the purpose of launching the campaign in York County outside the city of York. The drive in the city was made last spring and netted \$103,000 before the subscription takers folded up their subscription blanks and left the field. Now the county is to be invited to do its part.

The financial goal of the college has been fixed as follows: \$150,000 for York County, \$150,000 for the United Brethren denomination in Nebraska and Colorado, \$200,000 from the denominational funds devoted to Christian education.

These sums invested in securities are expected to raise the sum which is yearly needed to bridge over the financial gap between what the students pay in tuition and what the expenses of the institution are. With the endowment raised and the finances of the school established, improvements, both in the equipment and the work of the school, can be undertaken: without the endowment the school is headed for the financial rocks.

A number of progressive people from the county attended the meeting. A dinner was served at 7:00 o'clock. After that had been properly discussed and disposed of, C. A. McCloud, chairman of the board of trustees of the school, took charge of affairs and in a brief speech outlined the financial needs of the college.

The college is the property of the people of York County, declared Mr. McCloud, and they should for financial reasons, if for no other, come to its support. He declared that if another community were bidding for the school and there was a prospect of its being moved elsewhere, a sum of a half million dollars could be raised over night to retain it. Some of the same spirit should be showing itself when the school is in financial need to guarantee the stability of its finances so that the future work of the school can be laid out and protected. Mr. McCloud declared that every acre of land in York County is enhanced in value by reason of the school being located here, and that if every acre has been increased one dollar—a conservative estimate—that increase alone is sufficient to raise an endowment to provide the present and future financial needs of the school.

Other speakers, whose remarks brought out the value of the school to the community and the duty devolving upon the citizens of York County to assist it with their gifts toward the endowment and also with their good will and interest, were A. W. Thompson, Dr. O. M. Moore and J. G. Alden.

Dr. H. U. Roop, president of the school, gave much interesting detail about the work of the school. They have two goals in view, a financial goal and student goal. Their financial goal is the one above detailed, creating a total endowment of a half million dollars. The student goal is twice the number of students enrolled last year.

Doctor Roop stated that two things are essential before the school can avail itself of aid from the large educational funds established for the aid of colleges by the men of great finance interested in educational objects—there must be an endowment of not less than \$100,000 and a student body of not less than 100. These conditions will soon be met and then the college can apply for aid from the foundations in establishing professorships, founding chairs and erecting new buildings. He is sanguine the endowment hopes will be realized and the college put on its financial feet so that it can with this school year begin to stretch out for its waiting, beckoning future.

A very complete canvass of the county is to be made under direction of a captain and team for each township. Some work in the county has already been done with good report. The captains of the teams who will do the soliciting work in company with volunteers from the school and from York City are: Stewart, Herman Diers; Thayer, David Price; West Blue, A. E. Caldwell; McFadden, Merl Harner; Henderson, J. R. Mouer; Brown, P. H. Epp; Waco, R. F. Getty; Morton, Wm. Myers; Arborville, S. Harvey; Bradshaw, Dr. Geo. Morrison; Loekridge, R. L. Brill; Baker, B. S. Kuhn; Leroy, Harvey Pickrel.

THE YORK ACADEMY

In the fall of 1871 C. S. Harrison of Eastville, Ill., was asked by Geo. Harris, land commissioner of the B. & M. Railroad, to take charge of a colony to be located in York, Neb., with F. A. Bidwell, land agent. He first came to view the situation in September, 1871. There were then but six buildings and those on a very small scale, one being a sod house. At this time there was not a tree, shrub or flower on the whole townsite. It was simply a dry, dreary, monotonous prairie. The grass was short and the country had a parched and pinched appearance.

He told the commissioner that if he took charge of a colony he must have a nucleus around which to build it. So the commissioner asked him what he wanted. He told him that he wanted forty acres of land deeded to the Congregational Church for an academy and wanted it joining town on the west side. The forty acres were received without the cost of a dollar and deeded to the Congregational Church when it was organized. Then circulars were put out calling attention to the "Mayflower Colony," with a New England academy attachment, and that began to draw the people till by such advertising about six hundred people came to York County. It brought in a better class of people than the other towns secured. This was due to the fact that church and school was the watchword instead of saloons and gambling dens.

The next thing to be done was to make the land available. So Mr. Harrison and Mr. Bidwell bought lots on the west side of town and when other people came in they commenced to settle near the academy land. G. P. Chessman came soon after and also built in that locality.

When an impetus was given in that direction, then it was thought best to sell thirty acres of the land and put up the building from the proceeds, retaining ten acres for the campus. To Mr. Chessman and Henry Seymour the community was largely indebted for the success of the enterprise. Sufficient land was sold to commence the building of a two story building 30x50 feet with an addition for entrance and bell tower. It was in the awful year of the grasshopper scourge, but the noble building went up like a great hope rising out of despair. For the times it was a large building. The lumber was hauled from Fairmont as there was no railroad in those days. As it was to be a Congregational school the advisability of opening it was brought before the Blue Valley Association, and a committee of three brought in a report against opening it, as it was too near Doane College. Sentiment has changed since then. Doane College realizes the need of academies as feeders. There are now four of these in the state sending students to Doane.

In the meantime, however, the building was not idle. For some time it was given to the public school, as it had rooms adapted for their work. Not long after its erection the M. E. Conference located their state college in York and the doors of the academy were cordially thrown open to them. In the meantime it was used as a Congregational church.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL COLLEGE OF NEBRASKA

This institution of learning, located in this city, owes its origin to the Nebraska Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which, at its session in the fall of 1879, established it under the name of the Nebraska Conference

Seminary. However, during the first three years of its existence the school developed so rapidly that the Annual Conference, at its session in 1873, found it necessary to raise the grade of the institution; and it was accordingly incorporated as the Methodist Episcopal College of Nebraska, and opened as such in September, 1883.

The educational advantages offered here to the youth of our young state are certainly of a high grade. A full classical course of six years is preparing many of our young men for the learned professions. The philosophical course, requiring five years for its completion, pays special attention to the philosophies and physical sciences. The scientific course, also of five years, differs from the last principally in that it carries the student farther into the higher mathematics, paying somewhat less attention to the study of languages; it is arranged with the design of qualifying the student, by a thorough drill and study in mathematics and physical science for scientific pursuits.

Other shorter courses are open to the student who does not wish to remain so long at college, yet desires to enter upon life's work with a better preparation than he can get at the high schools. Such is the literary course, requiring but three years of study. It embraces studies from various departments of art, science, history, philosophy and language. This is a very popular course.

There is also a normal course requiring three years' work, specially designed for those wishing to qualify themselves for the profession of teaching. It introduces those studies which are essential to the teacher in his special work, and gives prominence to those studies required under the laws of Nebraska for a first grade certificate.

The fact is also recognized that there is necessarily among us a class of young people who must fit themselves for business with the least possible delay, having no leisure for the acquirement of any knowledge, however useful and desirable except such knowledge as develops the indispensable qualifications of the business man. With special reference to such needs we have the business course, discarding all studies but those absolutely indispensable to the successful prosecution of business. In this course the student is taught bookkeeping, practical rapid business penmanship, commercial law, business forms, commercial arithmetic, rapid calculation, etc.

As an appropriate introduction to any of these courses we have an English preparatory course of one year, covering the common English branches of study.

If for any special reason the student wishes to select studies from the various courses, he may do so under the advice and discretion of the faculty.

Diplomas are granted and appropriate degrees conferred upon the graduate in any of these courses.

The museum of this institution is a noteworthy feature. Fine collections have been added from time to time. Lately the Bower's cabinet, one of the finest collections in the West, representing the patient toil of a lifetime of an eminent scientist, has been purchased by the trustees and added to the museum.

Students have free access to the library, are furnished with apparatus to illustrate natural science, and with instruments for surveying, etc.

Great care and judgment have been exercised in the selection of the faculty for our college; the chairs of the various departments are filled with persons of

wide experience, broad culture, of acknowledged competency and literary standing. As at present constituted, the faculty in the literary department consists of the following:

Rev. E. Thompson, Ph. D., S. T. B., president and professor of ethics and psychology.

Ella A. Thompson, M. E. L., preceptress, professor of English language and history.

Rev. Wm. Peck, A. M., professor of German and French and instructor in military science.

Dexter P. Nicholson, M. S., professor of natural science.

Rev. A. R. Wightman, professor of Latin and Greek.

Professor Smith, A. M., professor higher mathematics.

Edwin R. Andrus, M. Accounts, professor of commercial science.

The art department of the college is accomplishing a great work in our midst. It is certainly a rare treat to visit the art rooms, study the fine productions of art, and note the skill and progress of the students. This department is taught by Ella Thomson, instructor in portrait painting and crayoning.

Miss Louisa Vance, instructor in drawing, pastel painting, etc.

Our music department offers a fine opportunity to the student for music culture. It is constantly growing in magnitude and influence. The instructors in this department are:

D. B. Worley, M. G., professor of musical composition, vocal music and organ.

Miss Anna Reavis, M. G., professor of piano music.

Miss Montie Harper, M. G., professor of violin and assistant on piano.

Connected with the college is the ladies' hall, in which young ladies may room and live in the family of the president, under the special charge of the preceptress.

The financial basis of the college is good. While its endowment fund is indeed not yet sufficient to sustain the heavy financial burden of an institution of this kind, yet this fund is daily increasing. As an evidence of the hold this college has upon the sympathies of the people of this state may be mentioned the fact that one man, Hon. J. W. Small of Fairfield, contributed lately the sum of \$15,000 to its support. Besides this, the simple fact that the college is under the control and management of one of the great religious denominations of the land, which is pledged to its support, is sufficient to insure its permanency and success.

A fight was put up to retain this school, as shown better by the following story from the Democrat in November and December, 1888:

Voters should bear the fact in mind that the location of the university at this place largely depends upon the result of the vote next Saturday. Three of the board of control have expressed themselves as willing to vote for the location at York if the bonds carry. The great complaint that has always been urged against our city in matters of this kind has been our want of railroad facilities. Parties living north or south of this place find it impossible to reach York unless by traveling a hundred miles out of their way. With this great drawback removed, we are informed that our chances are good to secure the university. There is no question whatever that the bonds will carry in the City of York, and there should be none in the adjacent townships. A vote for the bonds is a vote indirectly for the location of a great institution of learning in our midst.

List of Contributors for the Location of the University at York

F. L. Mayhew.....	\$2,000.00	Jas. D. White.....	50.00
F. O. Bell.....	1,000.00	E. A. Gilbert.....	50.00
McNeal and wife.....	1,000.00	Hackney & Son.....	50.00
F. F. Mead.....	1,000.00	J. Ragan.....	50.00
G. W. Post.....	1,000.00	E. J. Wightman.....	50.00
Mrs. J. W. Small.....	1,000.00	H. Kleinschmidt.....	50.00
G. A. Beck.....	500.00	W. D. Stuart.....	50.00
W. M. Knapp.....	500.00	A. B. Test.....	25.00
M. Sovereign.....	500.00	D. Hutchison.....	25.00
E. P. Warner.....	500.00	August Baker.....	25.00
Lee Love.....	500.00	F. N. Rial.....	25.00
N. M. Ferguson.....	500.00	C. T. Macy.....	25.00
A. B. Coddington.....	250.00	Clem Wilde.....	25.00
J. M. McKenzie.....	250.00	Ella Graves.....	25.00
J. R. Beveridge.....	250.00	N. Kennedy.....	25.00
A. Montgomery.....	250.00	W. Frew.....	25.00
D. E. Sedgwick.....	250.00	J. N. Plumb.....	25.00
W. E. Morgan.....	250.00	F. C. Merrifield.....	25.00
D. Hiesler.....	250.00	F. Sovereign.....	25.00
J. V. Gardner.....	250.00	R. F. Chipperfield.....	25.00
John Galagher.....	250.00	Mrs. Blackburn.....	25.00
P. H. Isham.....	100.00	Mrs. Jackson.....	25.00
E. B. Atkins.....	100.00	E. Vandeventer.....	25.00
Doctor Carscadden.....	100.00	M. M. Wildman.....	25.00
C. C. Cobb.....	100.00	Mrs. L. A. Weed.....	25.00
A. F. Bloomer.....	100.00	H. S. Braucht.....	25.00
O. P. Sheldon.....	100.00	W. H. Eagleson.....	25.00
S. C. Grippen.....	100.00	Geo. Holgate.....	5.00
W. J. Lynch.....	100.00	W. L. Morgan.....	25.00
J. Sollenberger.....	100.00	J. K. Lewis.....	25.00
W. T. Scott.....	100.00	R. M. McKaig.....	\$2,000.00
G. H. Jerome.....	100.00	E. M. Cheney.....	1,000.00
Mrs. H. T. Davis.....	100.00	J. H. Mickey.....	1,000.00
Doctor Forristall.....	100.00	J. W. Barnes.....	1,000.00
W. Kneeshaw.....	100.00	F. G. Mayhew.....	1,000.00
F. B. Daggy.....	100.00	F. K. Atkins.....	500.00
Ewen & Butler.....	100.00	Kate Harrison.....	500.00
D. E. Sayre.....	100.00	E. M. Battis.....	500.00
T. J. Hatfield.....	50.00	Mrs. Crapser.....	500.00
S. P. Buckmaster.....	50.00	Ladies M. E. Church.....	500.00
F. A. Croighton.....	50.00	M. B. Atkins.....	500.00
Leroy Hill.....	50.00	Wm. Cowell.....	250.00
E. McCarty.....	50.00	Doctor Farley.....	250.00
G. W. Markham.....	50.00	M. P. Harrison.....	250.00
Venie Harrison.....	50.00	J. C. Lenox.....	250.00
J. A. Johnson.....	50.00	A. C. Snyder.....	250.00

D. P. Nicholson.....	250.00	L. F. Smith and wife.....	50.00
M. E. Sunday School.....	250.00	Will Wyckoff	50.00
A. R. Wightman.....	250.00	A. O. Faulkner.....	50.00
E. W. Mosher.....	250.00	H. J. Porter.....	50.00
Mrs. G. Harrison.....	200.00	John Frew	50.00
S. Alexander	200.00	N. A. Sherman.....	25.00
C. S. Edwards.....	100.00	P. W. Dale.....	25.00
A. J. Newman.....	100.00	J. L. Sleeper.....	25.00
J. S. Morrison.....	100.00	Wm. Bernstein	5.00
G. H. Wehn.....	100.00	O. Washburn	5.00
T. D. Knapp.....	100.00	Anna Beck	25.00
Duke Slavens	100.00	L. F. Newville.....	25.00
J. M. Bell.....	100.00	Blanche Burns	25.00
W. L. Whedon.....	100.00	Mrs. C. Beveridge.....	25.00
A. D. Wyckoff.....	100.00	G. H. Jerome.....	25.00
B. H. Westervelt.....	100.00	Lottie Cornwell	25.00
A. Brubaker	100.00	Annie Harrison	25.00
T. Eddy Bennett.....	100.00	C. A. Ewen.....	20.00
G. A. Hobson.....	100.00	T. L. Baily.....	25.00
Woods Bros.	100.00	Jennie Osborn	25.00
O. H. Blackburn.....	50.00	Geo. Flock	25.00
G. F. Ingalls.....	50.00	John Atkinson	25.00
H. E. Wells.....	50.00	L. R. Bickley.....	25.00
Harper	50.00	Robbie Coddling	25.00
Mrs. Doctor Sedgwick.....	50.00	Mrs. McKinzie	25.00
R. McCarty	50.00	John Bishop	25.00
Buckmaster & Knight.....	50.00	Goldson Prewitt	25.00
M. A. Green.....	50.00		

WESLEYAN HISTORY

The following press excerpt describes the development of Nebraska Wesleyan as the outgrowth of pioneer experience. Over forty years ago a college was founded at York. For five years there were graduating classes. In 1886 a joint university commission representing the annual conferences and the then existing colleges of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Nebraska evolved a plan of consolidation for one university. A board of trustees was organized to consist of seven trustees from each conference in Nebraska. The charter was granted in 1887. Since then the alumni have been given places on the board. With the opening of classes on the present site of Wesleyan in University Place, September 18, 1888, there were thirty students. The institution has multiplied that number many times.

Nebraska Wesleyan alumni are found in twenty-eight states of the Union and about a dozen countries. The student body is drawn mainly from Nebraska, but large numbers of students from neighboring states also attend. The faculty has been largely increased this summer. Also a number of the professors have received this summer advanced degrees for work completed in other institutions.

YORK BUSINESS COLLEGE

The York Business College was founded during the summer of 1901, and commenced operations September 10th of that year. President Jacobs, the founder of this school, has had four years' experience as teacher of commercial and shorthand branches, and this, combined with his business and executive ability, has accounted in large part for the success of the school.

Before the opening of the school the second floor of the Wirt Block, consisting of ten large and convenient rooms, was secured for the use of the school. Two of these rooms have since been thrown into one to make room for the greatly increased attendance and other rooms have been secured until in 1903 the York Business College occupies in all thirteen rooms.

The furniture and equipment are everything that could be desired for business college work. The offices for business practice, the furniture of which was manufactured expressly for its use, contain large counters, containing drawers, book vaults, and every convenience known to the modern accounting house. The typewriting room is well equipped with new Remington and Smith Premier typewriters, mimeograph, etc. A library of several hundred volumes occupies one end of the large recitation room. An elegant piano, which is used in the chapel exercises, literary, etc., occupies a corner in the large commercial room. The furniture throughout is such as might be expected in a well-equipped business college.

For night school, literary, receptions, lectures, etc., the school is lighted by electric lights. The city water in the hall connecting the rooms is a great convenience.

The attendance at the York Business College has shown a remarkable growth. While the school opened September 10, 1901, with nine students and increased to 125 during the first year, it began its second year's work with an enrollment of twenty-five the first day, and on January 1, 1903, had a much larger attendance than it had one year before.

The graduates of the first year number thirty-five, many of whom hold some of the most important positions in the business world. Among its graduates may be found the most successful teachers, stenographers and accountants, while many have entered other fields of usefulness. But whatever vocation they have entered, they are eminently successful and their success reflects credit upon their alma mater.

Five courses of study were offered by this school, viz., commercial, post-graduate commercial, shorthand and typewriting, reporting shorthand and normal. These courses are practical, and while short they give the student the training necessary in his chosen line.

The teachers were specialists in their respective branches and took great interest in the individual welfare of each student. Professor Eberly, the penmanship specialist, made a wide reputation as a plain and ornamental penman. The colored cards written by him were very attractive. Professor Jacobs was eminently successful in placing his students and graduates in good positions. During the year he received many calls that he could not fill.

A brief history of the York Business College would not be complete without mentioning in a special way the great commencement exercises which were held in the York auditorium, April 10, 1902. The large auditorium was packed with



YORK BUSINESS COLLEGE AND NORMAL SCHOOL

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OF AMERICA

friends, and Chancellor Aylsworth of Cotner University delivered a very interesting address upon "The Modern Era of Education." Excellent music was rendered and at the close of the exercises President Jacobs presented diplomas to twenty-six graduates. After the commencement exercises a banquet was held in the business college. A graduation banquet was also held June 15, at which time the second class of the York Business College graduated. The next commencement exercises were held about April 1, 1903.

In the brief period which marks the existence of the York Business College it has made a remarkable record, and its future even promises a greater success than the past has achieved. It has already taken front rank among the business colleges of the West.

After President Jacobs terminated his connection with this institution, about 1905, it was taken over and for many years very successfully conducted by Buckley Brothers.

In 1916 the school became affiliated with York College and, under the auspices of that institution, is managed by Prof. O. V. Moore.

PRESIDENT G. M. JACOBS

Sketches of Professor and Mrs. Jacobs prepared in 1903 showed that President Jacobs, founder of this school, was born in Nemaha County, Kansas, November 10, 1878. His education began in a little country schoolhouse, and, upon graduating from the common school, he entered the commercial department of Campbell University, Holton, Kan., from which he graduated in the spring of 1896. The next year was spent in the Western Normal College, Shenandoah, Iowa, from which he graduated March 22, 1897. Mr. Jacobs is also a graduate of the shorthand department of the Fremont Normal School. He holds five diplomas, two of which confer degrees. In his work as teacher, which covers a period of nearly six years, he has ever been a close student, which accounts in a large measure for his success. September 3, 1901, he was married to Miss Imogene Houser, a charming young lady of Illinois.

Mrs. G. M. Jacobs was a native of Illinois. She, like her husband, was reared in the country, and after completing her course in the district school entered the high school at Lincoln, Ill., and upon her graduation she entered the Illinois Woman's College at Jacksonville, where her literary education was obtained.

Mrs. Jacobs, having a strong desire for business college work, entered the commercial department of the Eureka (Ill.) Business College, graduating in the spring of 1900. The following year was spent in the study of shorthand at York, Neb., where she graduated with high honors June 12, 1901. She is conversant with both the Pitman and Gregg systems, and has proved an eminently successful teacher. Mrs. Jacobs took an active part in teaching and management of the York Business College, and its early success was due in no small degree to her untiring efforts.

THE URSULINE CONVENT

This wonderful institution was located at York in 1890. The following account details the part played by the citizens of this community in receiving it and starting it upon its grand work here:

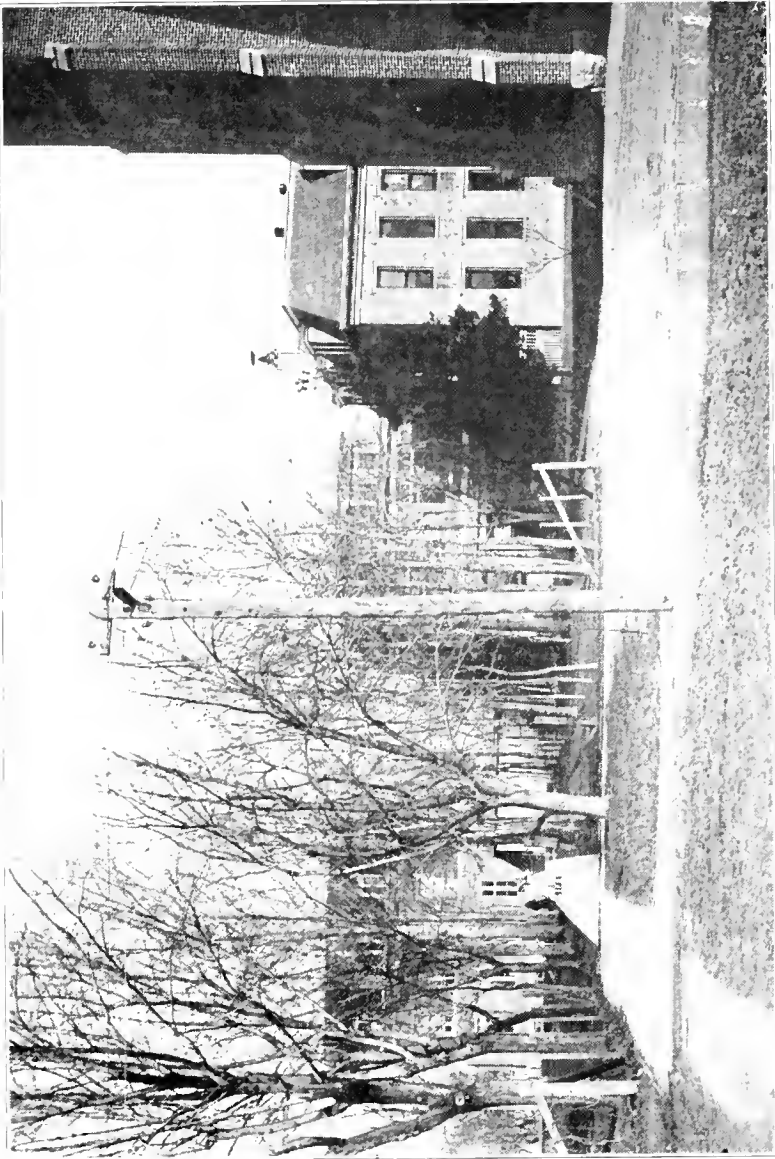
Considerable talk and some little work has been indulged in the past week, in regard to securing the Ursuline School for York. The board of trade has held two meetings and on Tuesday night a mass meeting was held and the matter thoroughly discussed. The committee appointed by the board was endorsed and considerable enthusiasm was manifested. It was decided to relieve the syndicate property of debt which is about \$9,000 by subscribing ninety shares of \$100 each. To affect this indebtedness it is estimated that nearly or about \$6,000 can be collected from the contracts of the lots that have been sold, leaving but about one-third of the indebtedness to raise in cash. A person who subscribes one share or \$100 will probably not be called upon to pay over \$30 of the amount, the balance of his \$100 being realized from the lots already sold. Judge Post, C. J. Nobes, and F. O. Bell each headed lists with subscriptions of five shares, or \$500 each. Other good subscriptions have been taken, and with one last effort the matter can be brought to a successful issue and the necessary amount pledged in a very short time. From the Peoria Journal of Monday morning we learn that the Sisters have made the sale of the convent property at Peoria and are ready to come to York just as soon as their proposition is accepted here. The citizens' committee who have the matter in charge are M. Sovereign, G. W. Post, C. J. Nobes, N. P. Lundeen and George E. Corcoran. If the committee does not find you, hunt them and put down your name for a few hundred.

In deference to the wishes of those who conduct this institution, the compiler has refrained from any personal roster of those in charge or attendance thereat, and given the space that is allotted to this noble enterprise to a short, historical account of the order. So thoroughly and completely does each member of this order merge her personality into the order to which she dedicates her life, that this is entirely appropriate, for they prefer the tribute paid to the noble order rather than to the individual. The institution at York was opened by a band of Ursulines driven from their German home by the Kulturkampf, after they had worked for some time in the diocese of Peoria, Ill.

From time to time notable improvements have been made to the plant at York, and it is now a well-equipped and very successful school.

St. Angela's Hall, a more recent addition to the Ursuline Convent, was dedicated on Thursday, May 6, 1909, by the Rt. Rev. Thomas Bonacum, bishop of Lincoln. This new building, fully equipped, was an addition of much worth to the Ursuline Convent and an improvement which the patrons of the school fully appreciated.

The Ursulines. A religious order founded by St. Angela de Merici for the sole purpose of educating young girls. It was the first teaching order of women established in the church, and up to the present date has adhered strictly to the work of its appointed mission to lay the foundations of an educational order. Angela for seventeen years could do no more than direct a number of young women who were known as "The Company of St. Ursula," but who continued to live in the midst of their own families, meeting at stated times for conferences and devotional exercises. The many difficulties that hindered the formation of the new institute gave way at last, and in 1535 twelve members were gathered together in a community with episcopal approbation, and with St. Angela de Merici as superioress. The movement was taken up with great enthusiasm and spread rapidly throughout Italy, Germany and France. Within a few years the company numbered many



URSULINE CONVENT, YORK

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houses, each independent. Constitutions suited to the work of the institute were developed and completed shortly before the death of the foundress in 1540. In 1544 the first approbation was received from Paul III and the Rule of St. Augustine adopted. Many important details were left unsettled at this time, and as a result several congregations developed, all calling themselves Ursulines but differing widely in dress and customs. The largest and most influential of these were the Congregation of Paris and the Congregation of Bordeaux. In 1572 St. Charles Borromeo, cardinal archbishop of Milan, obtained for the new congregation the status of a monastic order with enclosure. In some of the older European convents, in Canada and Cuba, strict enclosure is still observed; in other sections, though nowhere entirely abolished, the enclosure has been modified to meet local conditions. A bull of final approbation was given in 1618 by Paul V.

In the early part of the seventeenth century an appeal was made from Canada for bands of religious women to undertake the arduous task of training the Indian girls to Christian habits of life. It met with an instant and generous response. In 1639 Madame de la Peltrie, a French widow of comfortable means, offered herself and all that she had to found a mission in Canada. In May of that year she sailed from Dieppe accompanied by three Ursulines and three hospital sisters. At Quebec the latter founded a Hotel Dieu, the former, the first Ursuline convent on the western continent.

The superioress of the new foundation was Mother Marie de l'Incarnation Guyard, whose heroic virtues won from the Holy See the title of venerable in the year 1877, and the process of whose canonization is about to be presented. The earliest establishment of the Ursulines in the United States also owes its origin to French initiative. In 1727 Mother Marie Tranchepain, with ten companions, embarked from L'Orient to found their convent at New Orleans. After years of struggle a firm foothold was secured, and the Ursulines still flourish in the city of their original foundation. A notable feature of Ursuline labors in the United States may be found in the history of the Rocky Mountain missions, where for years they have labored for the Indians, and have established ten flourishing centers. From these western foundations have sprung two branches in Alaska.

In accordance with the wish of Leo XIII, a congress of Ursulines from all parts of the world convened at Rome during the fall of the year 1900. Representatives were sent from the United States, South America, Java, and all parts of Europe. Under the auspices of the Sacred Congregation of Bishops and Regulars, the Roman Union of Ursulines was then formed, with the Most Reverend Mother Mary of St. Julien as the first mother-general. Cardinal Satolli was appointed the first cardinal protector. To this union belong over a hundred communities, and aggregations are made from year to year. The united communities are divided into eight provinces as follows: Italy, Austro-Hungary, Hungary, the East of France, the West of France, Holland-Belgium-England-Germany, the North of the United States, the South of the United States, Spain and Portugal. Many large and important communities still retain their independent organization. Of late years the Ursulines have suffered severely in France and Portugal. The members of the expelled communities have become affiliated with other foundations both in Europe and the United States.

The habit of the order is of black serge, falling in folds, with wide sleeves. On ceremonial occasions a long train is worn. The veil of the professed religious is

black, of the novice white. The guimpe and bandeau are of plain white linen, the cincture of black leather. There are two grades in each community: the choir religious, so called from their obligation to recite the office daily in choir; and the lay sisters. The former are occupied in teaching, the latter in domestic duties. Candidates for either grade pass six months' probation as postulants in the community in which they desire to become stabilitated. This period is followed by two years of preparation in a central novitiate at the expiration of which the three vows of religion are pronounced temporarily for a term of three years. At the end of the third year the profession is made perpetual. In some Ursuline communities solemn vows are taken, and there papal enclosure is in force. The vows of the Ursulines in the United States, though perpetual, are simple. From their earliest foundations the Ursulines have been thorough and progressive teachers. Their system might be termed eclectic, utilizing the effective points of all methods. The European houses are for the most part boarding schools; in the United States combinations of boarding and day schools. The nuns also conduct many parochial schools, which, like the others, comprise all grades, elementary, academic, and college courses. The first Catholic college for women in New York State was founded by the Ursulines at New Rochelle in 1904. The Ursulines in several other parts of the United States have followed this precedent, and are laboring practically to further the higher education of women. The German Ursulines, who were expelled through the influence of the Kulturkampf and readmitted after an exile of ten years, are permitted to resume their teaching, but for pupils of high school grade only. In Europe and America alike the Ursulines make it a point to secure state approval, and avail themselves of every advantage offered by the public institutions.*

EARLY SCHOOL STATUS

The following reports prepared in 1884 will show the status of the public school system in York County at that time, and the various data upon the school system of the present, some forty years later, will show the great progress made during that period:

Summary of the County Superintendent's Report for the Year Ending April 3, 1884

To make it of more interest, I shall briefly compare in part the reports of last year and this:

Number of school districts, 1880.....	85
Number of school districts, 1881.....	86
Number of frame school houses, 1880.....	61
Number of frame school houses, 1881.....	71
Besides these there are ten sod houses and one brick.	
Total enumeration for 1880.....	3,627
Total enumeration for 1881.....	3,993
Increase	366
Number of teachers, 1880.....	128
Number of teachers, 1881.....	101

* From the Catholic Encyclopedia, Vol. XV, pages 228-229, by Mother Mary Fidelis.

Decrease	27
Districts having six months' school, 1880.....	43
Districts having six months' school, 1881.....	64
Increase	21
Number months' school, 1880.....	148
Number months' school, 1881.....	555
Increase	107
Number children attending school, 1881.....	2,557
Average attendance for county, 1881.....	1,660

These two items cannot be given for 1880, as the reports of that year were incomplete.

Value of school property, 1880.....	\$31,245.09
Value of school property, 1881.....	35,465.84
Increase	4,220.75
Paid teachers, 1880.....	12,215.28
Paid teachers, 1881.....	13,053.57
Increase	808.29
Total cost of schools, including expenditures of all kinds, whether paid or not, 1880.....	26,983.36
do 1881.....	23,278.87
Decrease	3,704.49
Total indebtedness, 1880.....	17,141.90
Total indebtedness, 1881.....	17,071.53
Decrease	70.37
Number institutes, 1880.....	1
Number institutes, 1881.....	1
Number attending institute, 1880.....	45
Number attending institute, 1881.....	72
Length of institute, 1880.....	1 week
Length of institute, 1881.....	2 weeks
Number of days employed by county superintendent for 1881	266
Compensation per day.....	\$3.00
Total compensation for year.....	\$798.00

It is not improper to remark in this connection that the last named amount includes all expenses connected with the office, they being paid by the superintendent.

Number of visits by superintendent for last year were eighty-one.

In this respect, it will be seen he has fallen somewhat short of his duty, as the law requires him to visit each school at least once during the year. But, owing to the great amount of other work, the severe winter, and several weeks lost by sickness, he has been unable to meet this requirement.

Series of Text-Books

The committee on text-books met Saturday and after carefully examining several standard series selected the following which they recommend for adoption through-

out the county. The first column shows the price when an old book is given in exchange; the second shows the regular price.

Webster Franklin First Reader.....	\$0.10	\$0.18
Webster Franklin Second Reader.....	.15	.30
Webster Franklin Third Reader.....	.20	.42
Webster Franklin Fourth Reader.....	.25	.54
Webster Franklin Fifth Reader.....	.35	.90
Harper's Introductory Geography.....	.25	.50
Harper's School Geography.....	.60	1.10
McVicar's Elementary Arithmetic.....	.20	.35
McVicar's Complete Arithmetic, Part I.....	.30	.57
McVicar's Complete Arithmetic, Part II.....	.30	.57
Swinton's Language Primer.....	.15	.28
Swinton's Language Lessons.....	.20	.38
Swinton's Language English Grammar.....	.30	.56
Warren's Class Word Speller.....	.10	.18
Barnes' Brief History.....	...	.75
Dalton's Physiology .....	.52	.84
Duff's Bookkeeping .....	.26	.44

It will be observed that these books are extremely cheap, much cheaper than those now in use, and by examination they will be found to be decidedly better. Of course the action of this committee is simply advisory. Districts are at liberty to adopt or not as they think best. I am not in favor of a frequent change of books but the great variety which we now have in our schools render them very ineffectual and calls for a united effort to remedy the evil. The publishers through their agents agree to keep these books on sale in the county for the prices as given in the right-hand column. It will be understood that each district is expected to make its own arrangements with agents about the introduction of the books. Where the districts buy their books in quantities to sell to the scholars or for use free, better prices than either the "exchange" or "retail" prices as given above can usually be made. A full and authoritative report from the committee will appear in the next issue.

E. E. ARMOR.

Typical of the progress made throughout the county by the various towns, may be taken the following description of the progress of school work in Gresham in 1920.

A fine report of the activities of the Gresham schools during the first week and much interesting information about the schools was given in the Gresham Gazette. Since many friends of education in other parts of the county may be interested in knowing what their ideals and plans are in Gresham the items are here reprinted.

Gresham schools opened Monday morning with a record attendance in all departments. In the high school every seat is occupied, with more students still coming.

Vocational agriculture, the new course added this year, starts with a class of

twenty boys. This work is given under the auspices of the National Government, the State of Nebraska and the Gresham School District. Three-fourths of the salary of the instructor is paid by the state. Mr. W. A. Dunbar of De Kalb, Mo., a graduate of our State University, and for the past three years in charge of vocational agriculture in Scottsbluff, is the teacher in charge of the new course in Gresham.

The high school course has further been enriched by initiating a teachers' training last year and this year this course is being carried out in strict conformity with the state requirements. Fifteen pupils from the junior and senior grades are registered for the normal training work. The State of Nebraska provides a fund of one thousand dollars for the biennium which is paid to schools offering this course as prescribed by law.

Gresham is fully accredited to the State University and all students who finish the course of study and graduate are prepared and are given a certificate of entrance to any college or university without examination.

The work in the grades below the high school is carefully graded and is in charge of able, well trained and experienced teachers so that the education of the children through the common branches is thorough and well done. The teachers are: Miss Ellen Doan, primary; Miss Ruth Gudgel, intermediate; Miss Cordia Brittell, second intermediate; Miss Elma McGinley, grammar; Mrs. Bertha M. Lindstrom, music; Miss Alma Ash, English and history; Mrs. Beryl Walford, Latin; Miss Annie G. Davidson, mathematics and normal training; Mr. W. A. Dunbar, vocational agriculture; A. F. Becker, superintendent of school and instructor in science.

CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

In 1920 considerable effort has been directed by school authorities to launching the new consolidation law. A very large amount of work has been accomplished in the state during the year along the lines of consolidating rural schools under the act passed by the 1919 Legislature. Thirty-two districts have been formed, and others are in progress. This makes a total of nearly 100 consolidated districts in the state, the others having been made under the act that has been in force for a number of years. The fact that half as many have been made in two years under the new act as under the old one, which has been in force for a number of years, is pointed to as proof of its superior value as a method, and of its popularity.

Under the old act, whenever a group of rural districts desired to consolidate, all they had to do was to get together and lay out the territorial lines. Then if each district, at an election, approved of it, it came into being. As this work developed it was seen that between these districts there would be many strips of territory that it would be neither desirable or possible to consolidate or annex at some time in the future.

The new law aims to prevent this. The first step is the organization, made mandatory under the law, of a redistricting committee. This lays out the limits of various consolidated districts. Its action is binding on no school district except as to territorial limits. The initiative must be taken by those who want the district. In the open territory—that is, outside of the high school districts—if twenty-five per cent of the people file a petition an election is called and the district created or the proposition defeated. This latter has happened in a few cases only.

HOW NEW LAW WORKS

Where a high school district exists, a consolidated district can be created if fifty-one per cent of those living outside the high school district file a petition and the high school district board consents.

The objections to the consolidated system are based largely on the fact that the taxes are higher under it than under the old small district plan, and also to the methods of transportation. Children are picked up by the motor bus or horse-drawn vehicle at the junction of the road with the farmhouse lane or grounds, and it sometimes happens that they must walk through a lot of snow or mud and then wait in the cold. Routes are arranged, however, and a time table adhered to that reduce their discomfort to a minimum.

The consolidated school does cost more to each individual taxpayer, but he gets more for his money. It gives him a four-year high school course in addition to the eight grades, and enables the boys and girls to stay at home while taking high school. The parents are spared the expense of board and tuition where, as in the past, they went to the nearest high school.

Purpose of Consolidation.

The great purpose of the consolidation of rural schools is to give the country child educational advantages. This system will provide:

- First—A well organized, well equipped and properly conducted rural school.
 - Second—Enough children in the classes to make the work interesting and vital.
 - Third—Enough territory to make the district efficient, financially.
 - Fourth—Well-trained, efficient teachers, with an effective and agreeable division of labor.
 - Fifth—Proper system of gradation and classification of pupils.
 - Sixth—Longer recitation periods.
 - Seventh—An enriched course of study.
 - Eighth—High school advantages for every country boy and girl.
- Nebraska and other states have found it impossible to secure these advantages in the one-room rural school.

The first election to approve or reject the work of the county school re-districting committee was held on Saturday last in Benedict and the decision was decidedly in favor of approving the work of the committee. This newspaper has heretofore and many times called attention to the amount and perplexities of the work which has been done by Messrs. Geo. Westwood, H. B. Bottum, and Supt. T. C. Lord, members of the re-districting committee. They spent many long hours in digesting information and facts which would enable them to comprehensively establish district boundary lines. It required much travel, many conferences with patrons and the exercise of good judgment to arrive at a general conclusion. Even then changes were forced by the pressure of public opinion. But when at last the job of the committee was completed, the members surveyed their work, concluded they had done the best they could and have since stuck unanimately and unswervingly to their findings. It brings the members of the committee a decided sense of satisfaction that the first verdict upon their work is favorable.

The election, held in Benedict, effects a readjustment of boundary lines of a number of districts. Districts 84, 68, 100, 59, 91, and 16 are entirely or almost so absorbed in the newly created district. Districts 57, 53, 85, 78, and 79 are partially included. The vote stood 191 for and 98 against. There are about 325 voters in the proposed district and the number who voted is large considering the condition of the roads which made going to the polls a difficult matter.

The territory affected by the new district contains about two hundred school pupils. There are possibly fifty more children in the territory eligible to attend the school. The district will include a fraction over thirty-three sections. The assessed valuation of the property in the district is \$722,000.

It will become the duty of the county superintendent to call a school meeting for the new district shortly. The patrons will elect a school board of six members and from this board the officers of the district will be selected.

It is very probable that this election will be followed soon by another in the Bradshaw neighborhood. Petitions are being circulated there and it is reported that a sufficient number of signatures have been obtained to issue the call.

The success of the first election gives courage to the friends of consolidated schools to believe that other elections in prospect will have a favorable verdict at the hands of the voters.

Residents in the boundaries of a proposed new school district No. 6 voted on the consolidation of the districts now in the territory on Wednesday, January 5th. The election was held in the Bradshaw Town Hall. If District No. 6 had been established the Town of Bradshaw would have been the center of the territory and adequate buildings to accommodate the larger schools would have been called for, but it was voted down, 148 for to 186 against consolidation. District No. 3, which was established at Benedict recently, will probably arrange to begin school work under the new plan in the fall of 1921, and the facilities afforded by the Benedict schoolhouse will be supplemented by moving one or more of the schoolhouses from the country districts to town.

CHAPTER XIV

RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS OF YORK COUNTY

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF YORK—PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—A. C. MONTGOMERY'S PAPER—DOCTOR MC CONAUGHY'S PAPER—CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH—CHRISTIAN CHURCH—UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH—HOLY TRINITY CHURCH—BAPTIST CHURCH—ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC—UNIVERSALIST—GERMAN REFORMED CONGREGATION—FIRST LUTHERAN—UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH—GERMAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN—HOSPITALS—OTHER CHURCHES—FEDERATED CHURCH.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF YORK

The York Methodist Episcopal Church traces its history back to June, 1871, when a little class of sixteen Methodists was enrolled at the home of David Baker, who lived on Beaver Creek about two miles from the present city. Brother Baker was a pioneer Methodist class leader, and it seems that his zeal and leadership brought about the organization of the class. The details of the proceedings are not obtainable, for the organization of a Methodist class is not a stately affair in worldly terms and in those pioneer times it was far away from being formal and ostentatious.

The records show that on May 14, 1871, the Rev. W. E. Morgan of the Rock River Conference preached in Brother Baker's house. Mr. Morgan was looking up a homestead and intended to remove to Nebraska in the fall. The knowledge of this fact seems to have caused Mr. Baker to collect the names of Methodists in the vicinity of York and informally to constitute a class. This was undoubtedly in June. On July 2, 1871, the presiding elder of the Beatrice district, the Rev. J. B. Maxfield, held the first quarterly meeting in a grove near Mr. Baker's house. The little class at that time, or perhaps a few weeks before, was placed in charge of W. H. B. Wilson, a local preacher. The first relation this minister held to the York class is not clear, but it is plain that on the 2d of July he was in charge and the following persons had been enrolled: David and Elvira Baker, J. H. Bell, Thomas Bassett and wife, L. D. Brakeman, Mary Brakeman, Ella Brakeman, Thomas Myers and wife, John and Mary Murphy, S. W. Pettis and Amanda Pettis, Mrs. M. Shackelford, and Mrs. Sarah N. Moore.

During the summer occasional services were held at Mr. Baker's house. On October 16, 1871, Mr. Morgan was transferred to the Nebraska conference and appointed to York circuit, then consisting of the entire county. On the 29th of October the first services by a Methodist preacher in York were held by Mr. Morgan, in an unfinished building on the west side of the square, known as Brahmstadt's and Kleinschmidt's store. There were no doors or windows in the building. Carpenters' benches, nail kegs and boards served as seats.

During the winter services were held at Mr. Baker's. On February 9, 1872, the first trustees were appointed, as follows: David Baker, J. H. Bell, T. C. Tagg, and A. Deems, the latter serving also as recording steward.

The first quarterly meeting in the town was held by Rev. H. T. Davis, presiding elder of the Lincoln district, in April, 1872. The meeting was held in the old B. & M. land office.

At this meeting steps were taken for the building of the first M. E. Church of York. Its dimensions were to be 24x36 feet. The lumber to build the church was hauled from Lincoln on wagons, L. D. Brakeman being one of those who thus assisted in the construction. The church was located on Seventh Street and Platte Avenue, where the old parsonage now stands. It was enclosed during the summer and while the church walls were being built the people did not neglect the assembling of themselves together, and services were conducted in a store building, in the schoolhouse, and afterwards in the church home of the Presbyterians, who had completed their house of worship.

In 1873 the sum of \$100 was secured from the Church Extension Society. The house was completed and dedicated on September 14th by Dr. Miner Raymond of Garrett Biblical Institute at Evanston, Ill. All who remember that day unite in pronouncing it one of the great days in the history of York, and especially of the York M. E. Church. Eleven hundred dollars were subscribed and the building presented to the church with several hundred dollars more than the indebtedness provided for.

Edwin Buck was the next pastor. He held a very encouraging revival meeting in the winter of 1875 and 1876. The interest spread all over the county and people came ten and twelve miles to attend the services. As one result of this revival the first Methodist Sunday school was organized February 27, 1876.

The first parsonage was built in 1877 and consisted of two rooms, which afterward formed the west part of the remodeled parsonage, so long occupied and so fondly remembered by the later pastors.

Following Edwin Buck as pastors were E. J. Willis, 1877-78, and W. S. Blackburn, 1879-80. The increase in congregation and membership was so great that the need for a larger room in which to worship became imperative.

In 1880 the church building was sold to the Swedish Lutherans and removed to its present site, southwest corner of Eighth Street and Platte Avenue. Then for five years services were held first in the old City Hall, the building long occupied by Marshall's carriage factory, and then in Bell's Hall. God continued with his people in these places, and during the three years' pastorate of Rev. G. A. Smith, 1881-83, the work was carried on with faith and courage, with corresponding rewards for faithful work.

In 1883 Rev. H. T. Davis was appointed to the York station. There were 271 members. The history of the church during the three years of Brother Davis' pastorate is full of interest and is fittingly told in his book, "Solitary Places Made Glad."

In the winters of 1883 and 1884 Bell's Hall was the scene of revival meetings that will never be forgotten. After these meetings all seemed to think that the time had come to build a church, as the results of the meetings had added largely to the membership. After some discussion as to place, the board decided upon the corner of Seventh Street and Nebraska Avenue as the most desirable location. It

was decided that the church should not cost more than twelve thousand dollars, and the work was not to begin until ten thousand dollars was subscribed.

On the 20th of April, 1885, the subscription for the new church was taken, amounting to \$10,360. Work was immediately begun, and at conference time the church was well under way. Brother Davis was returned to York to complete his work. This occupied the most of the time during the first part of the year. The work was pushed, the basement was finished and informally dedicated December 6, 1885. The press account of this occasion stated that:

"The new M. E. Church was dedicated last Sunday by Bishop Warren. The day was all that could be asked, a beautiful sunshine invited hundreds of our people to attend the impressive service. The church has a seating capacity of about nine hundred and fifty but over thirteen hundred were crowded into the building and a number turned away. The dedication services were conducted by the bishop, who announced that \$8,000 was needed to clear the church from debt. In an incredibly short space of time over \$8,600 was pledged for this purpose. The other churches in the city were closed on Sunday morning to allow all their members to attend. The church is beautifully finished and furnished throughout and is a credit to the painstaking congregation who have accomplished its erection and the pride of the liberal people, of the city."

February 27, 1886, the church was completed and dedicated by Bishop H. W. Warren. The seating capacity was larger than the present auditorium, with basement and classrooms.

Rev. Duke Slavens followed Brother Davis with a pastorate of two years of good and efficient work. Rev. W. K. Beans was the pastor one year, and held a revival meeting which will always be held dear in the memory of those attending. It was wonderful, indeed. Brother T. B. Hilton was the pastor one year and continued the work, and Rev. A. C. Crosthwaite gave three years of his most earnest effort with the best of results. In fact, when Rev. J. W. Stewart came as the pastor the members had begun to feel as old people do who have gone through many hardships and have at last builded a home in which to spend their old age, and welcome their children and grandchildren, and feel that their troubles were about over. But alas! misfortune will come. One calm, beautiful night on October 16, 1895, while prayer meeting was in session, in the lecture room, fire was steadily making its way through the roof of the building, and by the time it was discovered it was too late to save the building: and while members and friends stood by and watched with tears running down their cheeks, and exclamations of sorrow and regret coming from their lips, the beautiful church home was burned to the ground. It was the second year of the drouth, and it was deemed almost an impossibility to rebuild.

Sister congregations offered to share their church homes, but the membership was large and it was thought best to secure a room, though it might be small and inconvenient, where regular services could be held without interfering with the rights of others. As in the early days there was no room suitable for a place of worship. But the Sunday after the fire found the congregation assembled in an empty store room on the south side of the square, fitted up with a pulpit, a few pews, and the organ, which had been saved from the fire, and chairs sufficient for the seating capacity. After a stirring sermon from the pastor, Brother Stewart, made an appeal for money to rebuild the church, and in an incredibly short time

\$6,000 had been subscribed, and it was settled that the M. E. Church of York would not be homeless for a very long time.

The task was an arduous one, and many who had been very helpful in building both of the other churches were unable, because of the financial stress, to subscribe even one dollar and be sure of paying it.

The work of collecting went on, and the people assembled in their uncomfortable quarters through the frosts of one winter and the heat of the next summer, holding regular services, Sunday school and prayer meetings, the pastor talking and preaching at such a disadvantage that he was advised by his physicians to stop, or his throat might be permanently injured. But he persevered, trusting in his Heavenly Father for strength to carry on his work. The building went on, and Wednesday night, October 17th, the anniversary of the burning of the brick church, the new stone church was dedicated to the Lord amid the rejoicings of members, friends and neighbors. The church had cost \$12,000, and was dedicated entirely free from debt. Bishop McCabe officiated, aided by the untiring and faithful pastor, Brother Stewart.

Since the building of the stone church, the growth of the church has been steady. The membership enrolled in January, 1903, was 743, of whom ninety-eight were probationers.

The thirtieth anniversary of the church was observed June 30 and July 1, 1901, with appropriate services.

The old parsonage property was sold in August, 1902, and a new and modern parsonage was built north of the church.

In 1904 Rev. F. A. Colony became pastor and served for some five years, when Rev. Alexander G. Bennett came and served this congregation for another five years; then Rev. W. C. Wasser, who came in 1914, was his successor. In 1918 Rev. F. M. Sisson was sent to this congregation, and in 1920 he was succeeded by Reverend De Wolfe.

The following two short announcements concerning Reverends Bennett and Sisson are appropriately placed here:

"This announcement from the Twin Falls (Idaho) Daily Times will interest many York people:

"Dr. A. G. Bennett delivers his last sermon in the M. E. Church on next Sunday morning. For some weeks the bishop of the area has been considering the transfer of Dr. Bennett to Great Falls, Mont., in exchange with the Rev. Edgar L. White, who has been in charge there for the past seven years. At Great Falls a great edifice is planned to be built soon, and as Doctor Bennett has had considerable experience in this line, there was a request made for him in that important pastorate. Though he has been in Twin Falls only one year, there is now a building activity of no mean proportion going on in the Methodist church, including a fine new \$11,000 Austin pipe organ, and an interior dome to auditorium with beautiful decorations and general enrichment and remodeling. Also a commodious parsonage has been purchased facing the city park on Second Street East. Doctor Bennett has had a creditable year here, and popular regret is expressed over his departure, yet with general good wishes for his success in his new field. The pastor and family will leave Twin Falls on the 16th, in the meantime the pastor attending annual conference at Canyon City, Oregon, to make his report."

"Rev. J. W. Embree, superintendent of the Hastings District of the Methodist

Church, was in York on Monday, and presided at the session of the Fourth Quarterly Conference of the York church. At this meeting, Judge Spurlock of this place was endorsed as one of the nine delegates from the Nebraska conference to the General Conference, which meets at Des Moines, in May, 1920. These delegates are elected at the session of the Annual Conference, which meets this year at University Place, September 9th. Judge Spurlock has represented the Nebraska conference at the last three sessions of the General Conference, which meets every four years, and is the supreme governing body of this church. At this session of the local quarterly conference the pastor of the York church, Dr. F. M. Sisson, announced his intention to retire from the active ministry at the end of this conference year, in September. Doctor Sisson has been in York two years, coming here from Fremont, where he was pastor for nine years. He has been an active minister in the Methodist Church for forty-five years, serving important charges in Illinois, and for many years in Nebraska. While he has not announced where he expects to live after his retirement, it is probable he will go to Fremont, where it is understood he owns a comfortable residence."

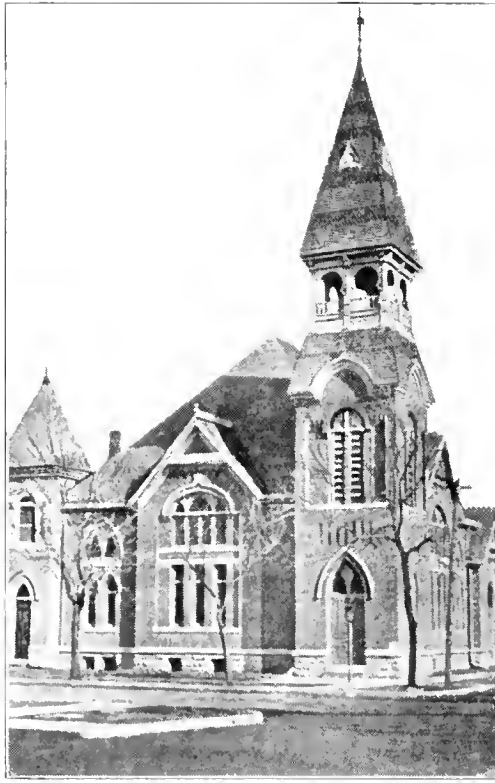
"On December 11, 1912, occurred the reopening of the renovated auditorium and the dedication of the new building.

"Congregations which completely filled the church attended both morning and evening. It was a money-raising day and in the morning a call was made for \$7,000, which was fully subscribed. At night in ten minutes \$120 more was subscribed to buy a new piano for the building and some more needed things in connection with the plant.

"Leading in the financial appeal was a veteran gentleman whose dignified presence and eloquence had telling effect, Rev. Dr. Thomas C. Hiff, of Denver, known far and wide in American Methodism. Thirty local laymen went to work with a will among their friends, and in a very few minutes the victory was won, and the people sang for joy. The total cost of the new three-story Sunday school building and the heating, frescoing and improving the main building and grounds was \$15,000, of which \$8,000 was subscribed before beginning work. Preacher Bennett and his people have been hustling now for about eight months, and feel gratified at the successful outcome. G. W. Shreck, chairman of the building committee, and A. M. White, chairman of the trustees, have put forth their best efforts to furnish the equipment for religious work on the large scale planned by the pastor. Before the Sunday closed there were five persons who gave themselves to the Christian life and membership of the church. The sermons of Rev. Dr. Hiff and Rev. Dr. Billingsley were uplifting and profound. The afternoon meeting was addressed by the visiting ministers, and by Messrs. Shreck, Spurlock, Bissell and Wightman, Rev. Dr. B. W. Marsh presiding. At 9:30 in the morning Doctor Marsh, the York district superintendent, conducted the Lord's Supper in the new building. The dedication service was held at the close of the night service, in charge of Doctor Hiff.

"Tonight Doctor Hiff delivers his famous lecture on the 'Sunny Side of Soldier Life,' with Major Pembleton making martial music. All old soldiers are to be special guests of the church.

"Tomorrow night at 6:30 a men's banquet will be held in the new dining room, Dr. J. N. Plumb presiding. Rev. Dr. Marsh is to be the chief speaker. Thursday is given to the Ladies' Aid Society for their annual bazaar. Friday night



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, YORK



FIRST METHODIST CHURCH, YORK

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the Sunday school workers are to hold a banquet at 6:30. Miss Margaret Brown, state elementary superintendent, will be the speaker.

"Next Sunday another great occasion is planned. Preacher Bennett declares he has engaged another great speaker for both morning and evening in the Rev. Dr. W. A. Brown of Chicago, missionary superintendent of the International Sunday School Association. All the pastors and Sunday school workers of the city and county are invited to meet at 3 o'clock, when Doctor Brown, Miss Brown and others will deliver addresses.

"This new, modern arrangement for Sunday school and social work is a model in convenience and completeness. York may well be proud of this enterprise, so successfully brought to conclusion. It is one of a very small number of churches in the west that has such a building. Preacher Bennett says, 'York Methodists have done their duty nobly, and it certainly makes a preacher happy.'"

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The major portion of the following historical account of this institution is taken from anniversary papers prepared by Elders A. C. Montgomery and Dr. Robert McConaughy. Mr. Montgomery's paper was prepared for the twentieth anniversary and Doctor McConaughy's for the thirtieth.

A. C. Montgomery's Paper

Twenty years ago there were only four buildings in what is now known as the City of York. Two of these were frame buildings and two were made of sod. Scattered throughout the adjacent country were several other buildings of different kinds, making some twenty houses in all. The occupants of these frontier homes were for the most part religious people. The great majority of us had been born and educated amid the religious influences of the East. Consequently we were never entirely without the ordinary means of grace, for we brought our father's God and our father's Bible and hymn book with us. Armed with these, we frequently assembled in some one of our private dwellings and read and prayed and sang, as men and women only can read, pray and sing under similar circumstances. Moved as it were, by a common impulse, a number of us anxious for our families and the public good, came together July 22, 1871, and organized ourselves into a Presbyterian church. There being no building in which we could meet, we assembled under the wide-spreading branches of some stately elms which stood on the south bank of the Beaver, just where the center of the mill dam now is. Rev. George R. Carroll, afterwards of Wyoming, Iowa, was at that time district missionary for the Presbytery of Missouri River, which embraced western Iowa and all of Nebraska. He was present and presided over the deliberations. He also preached an appropriate sermon and led us in prayer to the throne of God. It was on God we waited and, as we believe, it was according to His will, that we then and there entered into the following covenant: Whereas, we believe that the worship of Almighty God is a solemn duty as well as a high and holy privilege, and is calculated to secure the highest good of our race both in time and eternity, and whereas, the church of Christ in its organic capacity is the great instrument through which God is pleased to work in elevating, blessing and saving the world, we so

earnestly request the organization of a Presbyterian church of which we may become members, and to which we pledge our cordial support. Only eight persons signed their names to the foregoing instrument and became charter members, viz: A. C. Montgomery, Mrs. A. M. Montgomery, Robert Charlton, F. O. Bell, Mrs. Dixon, R. R. Crawford, Mrs. B. A. Crawford, and Mrs. Hattie E. French. A. C. Montgomery was elected elder, in which capacity he had previously served the United Presbyterian Church at New Vernon, Pa. Being thus duly organized, the church entered at once on its life-long work of saving souls. Its membership, as we have seen, was small and so was its material wealth. It had no building and no money wherewith to secure one, hence it continued during the summer to worship as best it could in the grove where it was organized. Here was also held in connection with the church a union Sabbath school which proved a great blessing to us all.

In 1872, by the assistance of the Board of Church Erection, we were able to build our first house of worship. It was a very unpretentious structure, being only 24x40 feet. It still stands on the corner of Lincoln Avenue and Eighth Street and was the first church edifice erected in the city. It cost about a thousand dollars, which at that time seemed a large amount of money to be invested in a church in a city where fine corner lots like those of Mr. F. O. Bell and Mr. Cheney could be purchased for five dollars. Mr. Robert Charlton was chairman of the building committee and on the 17th of November, 1872, the very day the church was dedicated he died. Rev. H. P. Peck, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Lincoln, preached the dedicatory sermon.

In 1880 our congregation had grown beyond the capacity of the first building, so we were under the necessity of enlarging it. This was done at a cost of \$4,000, and gave us quite a large audience room in which we worshipped till 1887, when the building once more became too narrow for us and, under the leadership of Rev. T. N. Riale, we began to take subscriptions for the beautiful brick edifice in which we are this day assembled. During the twenty years of its existence the church has been served by eleven elders, six of whom are still on duty (1903):

A. C. Montgomery.....	1871-1900	Dr. R. McConaughy.....	1887-1900
D. P. Temple.....	1876-1886	Ira Smith.....	1889
W. W. Gilfen.....	1879-1887	E. D. Marselus.....	1889-1900
S. C. Grippen.....	1885-1886	Prof. H. R. Corbett.....	1891
G. P. French.....	1885-1888	Edwin W. Bell.....	1891
William Bell.....	1887-1890		

Elder Montgomery has served the church during its entire existence. Elder French was drowned in Lincoln Creek August 23, 1888. Elder William Bell "fell asleep" April 19, 1890. In 1889 the church adopted the rotary system of eldership.

The church during the first eight months of its existence had no regular preaching. Rev. Mr. Smith of Seward occupied the pulpit in March, 1872. Rev. D. B. Fleming preached during the latter part of the same year in York and also in Fairmont. In 1873 Rev. T. K. Hedges took charge of the church. He was followed by Rev. A. S. Powell, who remained two years. In 1877 Rev. W. T. Gibson was the minister in charge. Rev. B. F. Sharp entered upon his labors with the church April 1, 1878, and continued seven years. Rev. A. T. Ashley followed and

remained only six months. In 1886 Rev. F. N. Riale commenced his ministry with the church. He was so successful that the sickly child soon became too large for its wardrobe, and it was evident that a larger and better one must be provided. Dr. Riale immediately set to work to see what could be done in the way of raising the necessary funds. He met with a generous response and the corner-stone was laid with appropriate ceremonies in the year 1887. Mr. Riale remained fifteen months and left us in the midst of our building difficulties. He was succeeded by the Rev. S. M. Crissman, who remained one year, during which time the new church was dedicated and the sickly youth of fifteen years had grown into a healthy boy of seventeen.

This church building was dedicated September 2, 1888, with an elaborate program covering both the morning and evening services. There were five ministers present. Rev. S. M. Crissman preached the morning sermon, and Rev. Duke Slavens of the M. E. Church the evening sermon. Doctor Riale unfortunately had most of the subscription list in his head rather than on paper, and being several hundred miles away and having his head with him, the list was not available, so that on the morning of the dedication it was found necessary to provide for the entire indebtedness, amounting to \$13,000. About \$8,000 was raised and a loan of \$5,000 made for future generations to pay.

Doctor McConaughy's Paper

Once more the church began looking for a new Moses to take the helm and lead her people out of the wilderness, for there seemed yet to be much land to possess and some debt to take care of. A star in the East was seen, and as everything great comes out of the East, it was natural to follow up this luminary and see whether it was of the proper magnitude to guide the destiny of this chosen people in their new and enlarged sphere. A nearer approach and intimacy satisfied us that all was well, and the Rev. John D. Counterline, D. D., came all the way from the State of New York to accept the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church of York. He was the first pastor the church had ever had. Although eighteen years old and having had nine ministers, not one of them had ever been installed as pastor. Doctor Counterline was able, aggressive, and zealous in the good work, the church once more began to move onward and upward in members and influence, the remaining church debt, which by this time had increased to \$8,000, was paid off and the mortgage publicly cremated.

Once more we were in a wilderness, looking for a Moses or a Joshua, but we were not long in waiting. Again we looked toward the East, and behold, a star was right in our midst. He was shining in another denomination and had come over from Iowa to deliver a lecture at the college. He was invited to preach for us, a call was given and accepted, and on July 1, 1893, Rev. B. M. Long was installed the second pastor of the church of York. The mantle of Elijah dropped easily upon the shoulders of this Elisha, and was gracefully worn by him for six years, or until August 1, 1899, when he accepted a call to the Second Church of Lincoln. It can be said of him as of his predecessors, he was zealous, earnest, consecrated, talented, and the work and influence of the church widened. The legacy of the parsonage debt was growing larger rather than smaller, and other debts were accumulating. The church was perhaps overreaching itself, and the pastor went to work to lift the load. He succeeded, and the \$2,000 mortgage was lifted from the

manse. Having resisted several flattering offers during the years of his sojourn here, having served the church longer than any previous pastor, with one exception, that of Father Sharp, having delivered us from another debt, though leaving us with a smaller one, the presbytery transferred him from one of its churches to another. The line of succession appeared to have been broken. We wandered farther and farther. We appeared to be up against the Red Sea. There were many Elishas, but the mantle would not light. Once it dropped on the Rev. James L. Countermine, D. D., but he flung it aside, and it came down on the broad shoulders of the Rev. Andrew Thompson Wolff. He was an eastern star, but came out of the northern heavens by way of South Dakota, and landed in our midst in January, 1900. He was soon after installed as the third pastor of the York church. Doctor Wolff took rank among his predecessors as a man of ability, an eloquent preacher, and a consecrated man, but the church was out of joint, everything was at cross-purpose. We were all out of tune. The work of the Lord was hindered. We were accumulating another assortment of debts, and in one year he asked to be released. The church had lost its old-time prestige. We were like the prodigal, feeding on husks, and, like the prodigal, we soon came to our senses, realized our condition and started on the return trip. While we were on the way, and not a great way off, behold! "Father" Creighton ran out to meet us, fell on our neck, said he was from Missouri and would "show us" the way out of all our troubles. He has done it, with the aid of "The Elder Brother" Marshall.

The church held its annual congregational meeting December 30, 1902. At this meeting encouraging reports were read from all the societies in the church and officers elected for the ensuing year.

The church officers were as follows:

<i>Elders</i>	<i>Trustees</i>
Ira A. Smith	B. F. Marshall, Jr.
M. H. Kirkpatrick	W. L. Kirkpatrick
Dr. Robert McConaughy	E. A. Warner
W. E. Bell	R. M. Rankin
F. H. Runner	James A. Barr
Robert James	

Bookkeeper—A. B. Chatterton.

Church Treasurer—J. R. Shreck.

Organist and Choir Leader—Mrs. Robert McConaughy.

Reverend Creighton remained with this flock until 1909, when Reverend Thomas F. B. Smith became their pastor. After a faithful service of almost ten years he was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. E. E. Ennhoff.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The Congregational Church was organized in F. A. Bidwell's B. & M. land office, near where Cobb's store was, on Sunday, May 12, 1872, by Rev. O. W. Merrill, superintendent of home missions in Nebraska. The six charter members were: Austin Harris, Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Bidwell, and Mr. L. D.

Stilson, who still resides in York. The first four presented Congregational letters, the last a Baptist letter, while Mrs. Bidwell united on confession. Eight others who had promised to join united afterwards. Rev. C. S. Harrison, superintendent of the Mayflower Colony, gathered the church and sent for Superintendent Merrill to come and organize it.

The church was incorporated June 24, 1872. The first communion service was on June 23, 1872, Rev. C. S. Harrison preaching and Rev. W. S. Hills conducting the service. During the next two years services were held in the new schoolhouse, built in 1872 on or near the site of the present high school building, and also on alternate Sundays in the Methodist Church, on the corner where the Methodist parsonage now is, and in the Presbyterian Church, corner of Lincoln Avenue and Eighth Street. Then from 1874 or 1875 to 1882 they were held in the Academy Building, which stood on Academy Avenue facing the end of Seventh Street, which then ended at Academy Avenue. Its location is now a part of Seventh Street. The proceeds of the sale of the building went into the new church, while the lumber, when it was torn down, was used in building the two houses just north of Doctor Sedgwick's residence.

During a part of 1882 services were held in the City Hall, which was the second story of the building on the north side of Sixth Street and west corner of the alley, one-half block west of the northwest corner of the square. The church building was dedicated December 31, 1882. With lots and furnishings, its cost or value was a little over ten thousand dollars. The church was improved, and stained glass windows added in 1887.

From June, 1872, to March, 1873, Rev. William S. Hills supplied the church while living on a homestead some eight miles southwest of York. From March, 1873, to October, 1881, Rev. C. S. Harrison, the real founder of the church, was pastor, except one year, 1875-76, when Rev. H. Herrick Johnson acted as pastor. Some twenty or twenty-five times Mr. Harrison came from Illinois to fill his appointments, a round trip of about one thousand miles. Of course he had a pass, on account of the work that he was doing in getting colonists for York and Arborville. It is to Mr. Harrison more probably than to any other person that York owes her countless trees, a forest where was once a prairie, and also her freedom from saloons. During his pastorate there was a liquor war and one day two roughs from North York started out to brutally beat, if not kill, Mr. Rice and Mr. Harrison. They were beating Mr. Rice and crying "Kill him," when Henry Seymour of the Congregational Church knocked them both down. Fearing that he might be expelled from the church for it, Mr. Harrison assured him that instead of expelling him they would canonize him. Mr. Harrison, after a remarkably useful career in the pioneer work of church and academy building, at the age of seventy, resided in York, supplied churches and carried on a nursery. When he left the church in 1881 it had 100 members.

Rev. C. H. McIntosh was pastor from January, 1882, to June, 1884. He was the only pastor the church ever had, who came first as a candidate.

Rev. Henry S. Harrison was pastor from September, 1884, to July 1, 1886. It was his only pastorate, and it was a successful one, sixty or seventy uniting with the church. He was called to a position on *The Advance*, of Chicago, of which he afterwards became the proprietor. He was instantly killed on the railroad near Chicago in November, 1894.

Rev. Robert S. Lindsay was pastor from March 30, 1887, to May, 1889. For nine months preceding his pastorate the church was supplied much of the time by professors in the Methodist College, then located at York. Mr. Lindsay was the first pastor to live in the new parsonage, which was built in 1887, costing, with the lot, about \$2,500. Seventy or eighty united with the church during his pastorate. Since leaving York he has preached in Ohio, at Columbus and Geneva.

Rev. Edward A. Leeper was pastor from June 2, 1889, to October, 1892. Upwards of one hundred and fifty united while he was pastor, while the losses by removals and otherwise were over one hundred. Since leaving York, Mr. Leeper has preached at Wellsville, N. Y., and Dover, Ohio.

Rev. Roselle T. Cross became pastor February 15, 1893, and remained until 1906, the longest in the history of the church and the longest of any church in York, except the Catholic. His and Mr. Harrison's pastorates cover more than half of the history of the church. More than two hundred and fifty members were received into the fold by him. The losses during his pastorate were less than the gains. On January 1, 1903, the church had a membership of 311.

Reverend Cross was succeeded by Rev. W. H. Medlar, who stayed but a short time, when this church was again favored with a pastor, Rev. R. S. Lindsay, who has now served these people for practically fourteen years.

R. T. Cross, Pastor. Rev. R. T. Cross was born August 21, 1844, at Richville, St. Lawrence County, New York, where his father, Rev. Gorgam Cross, was Congregational pastor forty years. He studied in a common school, and in the Oberlin Preparatory Department and Oberlin College, from which he graduated in 1867. He studied theology one year at Union Seminary, New York City. He worked his way through college, mainly by teaching school in the winter. He taught six months in Austinburg Academy at Austinburg, Ohio, and for five years, from 1869 to 1874, was principal of Oberlin Academy, or Preparatory Department, as it was then called. During part of the time he preached for the First Church at Oberlin, after Mr. Finney resigned. The ministry was his chosen life work and in 1874, after a few months' study at Andover, he took a pastorate at Hamilton, N. Y. In the summer of 1876 he accepted a call to Colorado Springs, Colo., where he remained until 1887. While at Colorado Springs he built a new church, received about two hundred and forty members, organized the church at Manitou, and, with some of his Sunday school boys, discovered the "Cave of the Winds" at Manitou. In 1881 he organized a new church in Denver, built a building for it, and remained with it over eight years. During nearly two years of that time he also served as superintendent of home missions in Colorado and Wyoming, organizing churches and raising money for church buildings. He was pastor in Minneapolis, Minn., from 1889 to 1893. In February, 1893, he came to York, where he has remained ten years. He is author of "Home Duties," "Clear as Crystal," and of two or three books published later, also of several serials, and of several hundred newspaper and magazine articles. In 1898 he received the degree of D. D. from Oberlin College, and in 1902 the same degree from York College.

In 1869, at De Soto, Wis., he married Emma A., daughter of Rev. Lewis Bridgman. Of the five children born to them, two died in infancy. Leora M. graduated at Oberlin in 1898, Judson L. studied theology at New Haven, Conn., and Cleveland R., also a graduate of the Oberlin College.

Sunday School. This is the oldest Sunday school in York. It was organized

in the spring of 1872 as the York Union Sunday School, under a tree on Beaver Creek, just below Wright's mill. During the first year it met in the schoolhouse, then in the Presbyterian Church, then in the Methodist Church till 1875, then in the Academy. The Methodists withdrew in 1876, and the Presbyterians in 1877. The average attendance in the ten years, beginning with 1893, has been as follows: 160, 197, 197, 193, 156, 165, 160, 159, 152, 177. In some of these years the number included the home department. The early superintendents were: F. A. Bidwell (6 years), Henry Seymour (2 years), C. C. Cobb (2 years), Geo. B. France, Dr. D. E. Foristall, Frank Knapp (2 years), Charles Daniels, W. K. Williams (2 years), J. B. Maylard, Frank A. Hannis (2 years), Miss Abbie Whitney, Rev. E. H. Baker (2 years), John E. Evans (5 years). Merle S. Brown, Miss Whitney and Mr. Hannis served for many years as assistant superintendent.

Christian Endeavor Societies. The Senior Christian Endeavor Society was organized during Rev. H. S. Harrison's pastorate, in March, 1885, with thirty-five members. Charles M. Boynton was president. The other officers were Mabel Chilcote, Flora Wyckoff and Mr. J. B. Maylard. It was the second society organized in the state. In October, 1888, the third state convention was held in this church. There were 162 delegates and thirty-one visitors. The senior society has had a continuous existence.

The junior and intermediate societies have existed intermittently.

The Woman's Missionary Society. It was organized February 14, 1883, with Mrs. J. Seymour as directress. The other officers were Mrs. Cobb, Mrs. Spees and Mrs. H. Seymour. It began with six members and increased to twenty the first year. It pledged seven dollars the first year and fifty the second year. The presidents have been Mrs. J. Seymour, Mrs. Cobb, Mrs. M. E. Morgan, Mrs. Harrison (mother of Rev. H. S. Harrison), Mrs. Grippen, Mrs. Geo. P. Chessman, Mrs. E. H. Baker, Mrs. W. Sanford, Mrs. G. F. Northup, Mrs. A. Stevens and Mrs. R. T. Cross. In 1886 there was a mission band which was kept up until the Junior Endeavor was organized. The woman's society has raised in all in twenty years about \$1,550.

The thirty-fifth anniversary of the organization of the Ladies' Missionary and Aid Society of the Congregational Church was celebrated September 29, 1920, when in response to invitations about seventy members and their husbands, friends and guests gathered together and helped to make one of the most memorable events in the history of our society. After the first hearty handclasp and words of greeting to our visitors from Polk and York were over, all partook of and seemed to enjoy the bountiful dinner. At about 2:00 o'clock the president called to order for the short program. First was a duet by Mrs. Winnifred Lackey and Mrs. Clark Stouffer, which was followed by a few words of welcome by Mrs. Stouffer. A response to this was given by Mrs. R. J. Overstreet, who in her pleasant, inimitable way recalled many of the events of their first meetings, sometimes in sod houses, and of the pleasures and encouragement received by missionary teas and other social gatherings, in the years which followed their organization in 1885, when six earnest, consecrated women met at the call of the pastor's wife, Mrs. Storm, to organize a missionary society. The first officers were: President, Mrs. L. P. Ensign; treasurer, Mrs. B. W. Newton; secretary, Mrs. R. J. Overstreet. Mrs. F. N. Recknor then read the minutes of the first meeting for us, and also the names of the eighteen charter members, four of whom were present: Mrs. L. Diehl, Mrs. R. J. Over-

street and Mrs. F. N. Recknor of York; Mrs. Geo. Bingham of Arborville; two others of York were not present, Mrs. L. S. Loomer and Mrs. P. Church. Mrs. Recknor followed with many other interesting items of the early days of the society and their labors in the "old church" under circumstances not always the most favorable and of their first real live missionary's visit. Four officers we found had given from ten to eighteen years of continuous, unstinted service—Mrs. Overstreet, Mrs. Loomer, Mrs. Recknor and Mrs. E. L. Gray, the latter having been treasurer for eighteen years. Mrs. James Arnold and Mrs. Diehl were asked to give a few reminiscences. Mrs. Hastings then read a list of the members who had answered the call to higher service, and this was followed by a touching poem, "He Giveth His Beloved Sleep," read by Mrs. A. O. Whittemore, and the program was closed by a solo by Mrs. Lackey.

Ladies' Aid Society. A band of ladies in the church, who had given suppers and entertainments for the church treasury, organized themselves in the spring of 1878 into the Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society. Mrs. C. S. Harrison was president. For five years the earnings were divided between home expenses and missions. In 1883 the missionary society was organized by itself. In 1878 the Ladies' Aid paid \$195 for a bell; in 1881, \$300 to meet a note; in 1882, \$300 for the new church; in 1885-6, \$375 for chandelier and stained glass windows; in 1891, \$500 for the debt; in 1893, \$200 for a furnace in the parsonage, etc. From 1885 to 1896 they raised \$2,791, or in all up to 1903 nearly \$5,000. This money was raised chiefly by sewing and cooking. In 1891 an industrial store, open on Saturdays, was started, from which \$1,119 was realized in six years. The annual chicken pie supper, held on election evening in November, has been a feature of their work. The Ladies' Aid has been an important factor of the church activities.

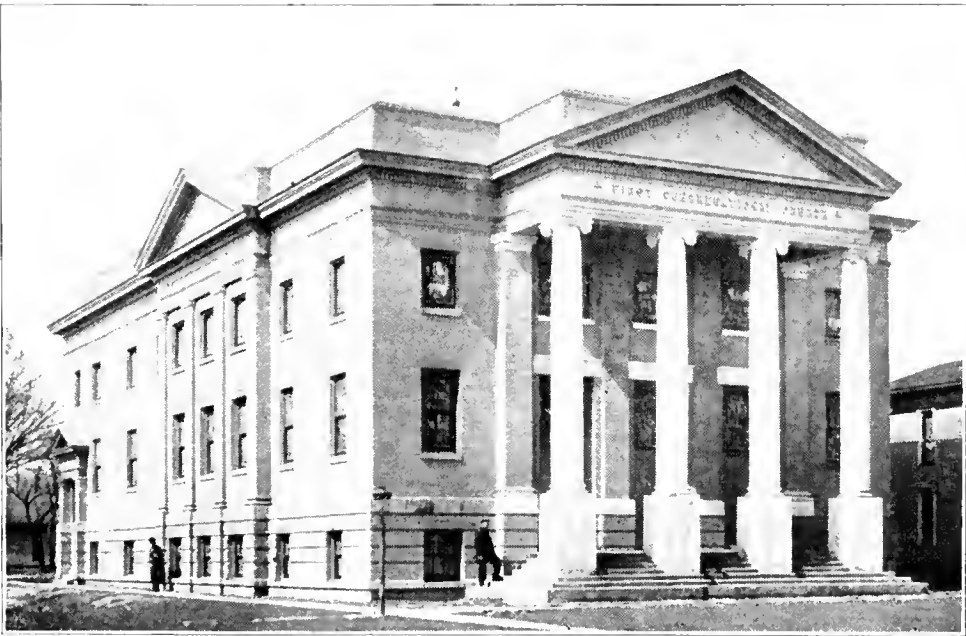
Very much of historical value was conserved in the account now reproduced of the dedication in 1913 of this congregation's new, wonderful house of worship:

Without regard to church membership or creed the people of York and vicinity united with the members of the Congregational Church in the joyful dedication of their new church building in March, 1913. The handsome structure, which represents the generosity and self-sacrifice of many, was erected during the winter which has just closed in what seems a short space of time for the completion of so fine a building. The first excavation was made on September 12, 1912, and six months and one week from that time the building committee accepted the church from the contractor. It was first planned to have the formal dedication on Easter Sunday, but the desire to choose a day for the ceremonies when other churches would feel free to join in the delightful services led to the postponement of the occasion for one week.

The first Congregational Church of York was organized forty-one years ago this spring, and of the eight men who have served as pastors during that time three were present on Sunday: Rev. C. S. Harrison, who was the second minister in charge of the work, serving the church from 1874 to 1881; Rev. W. H. Medlar, whose pastorate covered the years between 1904 and 1907, and the man who has led to a successful culmination the building enterprise, Rev. Robert S. Lindsay. Mr. Lindsay first came to York in 1887 and after a brief pastorate returned to his Ohio home. Six years ago he again listened to the call of the West and once more took charge of the York church. The success of his labors is evidenced by the unity in his church and the happy conclusion of the building enterprise.



CHRISTIAN CHURCH, YORK



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, YORK

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MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK

The first service of dedication day was held at the usual hour for morning worship. The sermon was delivered by the Rev. W. W. Newell of Chicago. Appropriate music was exquisitely rendered by the church choir under the leadership of Miss Blanche Cox. At three o'clock in the afternoon the capacity of the building was taxed to accommodate those who gathered for the service. The pastors of all the York churches with ministers from other cities present were seated upon the platform and had parts in the opening service. The sermon was delivered by the Rev. T. M. Shepard of the First Congregational Church of Lincoln, who was followed by Doctor Newell in a brief address. A solemn dedication service of great beauty, which had been prepared for the occasion by Reverend Mr. Lindsay, was participated in by the pastor and people and the final dedicatory prayer was offered by the venerable Father Harrison. The ritual used declared the church to be dedicated for "social service, intercourse and fellowship; for help to the needy; for strength to the weak; for every form of service that will hasten the coming of the kingdom; for the succor and consolation of the poor and wayward, the troubled and the weary, the discouraged and the feeble, the widow and the stranger."

In the evening the Reverend Dr. Newell was again the speaker. The soloists of the day were Claudia Schell, Miss Charlotte Van Wickle and Mrs. G. W. France. Not the least interesting feature of the services of the day was the taking of pledges sufficient to allow the building to be dedicated free of debt. That this might be done it was necessary to secure promises of \$15,000, but large as the amount seemed, it was all cheerfully given and so infectious was the spirit of giving that additional offerings were placed in the hands of the building committee on Monday. The securing of pledges was in charge of Doctor Newell, whose tactful appeals made this portion of the exercises as interesting and profitable as any other. While the greater burden of the debt on the building was, of course, assumed by members of the church who gave most generously, there were also numerous contributions from other friends. The Woman's Guild added to their first pledge of \$4,000 one of \$2,500. The Sunday school is responsible for the payment of \$1,000 and other organizations of the church will do their share. The total cost of the church and its furnishings is \$32,000.

The building is fully equipped for all the work of the modern church. The basement story contains dining-rooms and a convenient kitchen. A Sunday school room adjoins the auditorium on the first floor and the seating capacity is added to by the graceful balconies. The auditorium and the additional rooms when thrown together will seat 750. The first impression on entering the church is that the seating capacity is small, but closer observation shows that the audience is so placed as to be near the pulpit and that the accommodations are greater than they seem. Doctor Newell complimented this feature of the building, saying that the church had not spent money building a large auditorium but had planned to care for every phase of active church life. The church is said to be one of the best equipped in the state. The finishings and furnishings are all in oak; the walls are tinted in cream and brown and the opalescent art glass dome and windows harmonize with the colorings. The pipe organ was brought from the old church and rebuilt by the makers, Hook and Hastings. The choir loft will accommodate forty persons. The best heating system known was installed and is connected with city heating plant. The electric lighting has been cared for with as much care

as the balance of the equipment and is very complete and efficient—partly direct and partly indirect. The lighting system was installed by C. D. Shreck and the interior decoration was executed by the R. D. Fountain Company. Four fine art windows grace the building three of them put in by friends of three of the oldest living members of the church, the Rev. C. S. Harrison, Mr. G. P. Chessman and A. D. Wyckoff being so honored. The window in the south was given by Mrs. John Hyder in memory of her husband.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

In this sketch no effort is made to mention in detail all happenings good or bad in connection with the history of the Church of Christ of York, Neb. The present organization of the Church of Christ (commonly known in York as the Christian Church) was organized in North York, May 28, 1883, by R. C. Barrow. The minutes of this organization read as follows:

“York, Neb., May 28, 1883—We the undersigned agree to associate ourselves together as members of the Church of Christ in North York, acknowledging no creed but Christ and no discipline but the Bible, and pledging ourselves to live to the best of our ability in accordance with the teaching of the inspired word.”

There were over thirty names written under the above as charter members of the organization

June 3, 1883, Dr. T. J. Hatfield, W. W. Williams and J. S. Hiatt were elected by the congregation as elders and H. H. Bowker as deacon. Soon the brethren decided to build a place of worship in North York and as the result a substantial frame building 28x48 was erected and dedicated June, 1884, by Rev. D. R. Lucas. This was a time of rejoicing for the little flock and added permanency to the work so well begun. Unfortunately, a few years after the dedication of the church troubles of harmful, deep and lasting influence entered into the organization which cooled the spiritual life and hindered the numerical growth of the church for a number of years. Notwithstanding the unpleasant memories and happenings, the Church of Christ in North York, in Christ's name, conquered foes and won victories.

The following are the names of the men who have ministered for the church since its organization: Brother T. J. Burton, A. W. Harney (who was the pastor three times), T. J. Oliver, J. H. McSparron, H. A. Limon, T. L. Reed, Joel Fisher, T. A. Maxwell, J. A. Kierfle and G. James Chapman, who entered upon his fifth year as pastor of the church.

It was unfortunate for the church that it was first built in North York instead of the more populous part of the city. In 1898, during Brother T. A. Maxwell's energetic, progressive and wise ministry, the church edifice fortunately was moved from North York to the beautiful and centrally located site, corner of Eighth Street and Platte Avenue. Soon after this move the church began to increase in prestige in the community and in good works. In February, 1899, Brother G. J. Chapman was called to assist in a revival which resulted in several additions to the church. Soon after the church tendered Brother G. J. Chapman a call as pastor, which he accepted and began his pastoral labors April 31, 1899. He found the church in some uncomfortable circumstances; the membership was small, somewhat in debt. The building, besides being small was in need of repairs outside

and inside, and several of the members were not regular in attending services or in meeting upon the first day of every week to break bread. During the first year of Brother Chapman's ministry all debts were paid and several persons being converted were added to the church. The second year besides paying the pastor an increase in salary, \$500 was raised for repairs and beautifying the old building and the substantial growth of the membership continued without ceasing. Old unpleasant memories were forgotten and dismissed and all hearts united in Christian love and fellowship. As Mr. Chapman entered his third year's pastorate the old building was found inadequate to accommodate the congregations that met to hear him preach and thus hindered the progressive and continued growth of the church. A new building was agitated and finance solicited. Plans were agreed upon, the old building was torn down (except the belfry) and the present beautiful, substantial and commodious edifice was erected by contractors D. Y. Hieslar and A. G. Chessman. The new building was dedicated by Z. T. Sweeney of Columbus, Ind., October 27, 1901. All indebtedness was provided for and thus marked the gladdest day in the history of the York church.

The building has a seating capacity of 500, and is valued, including lot, at \$7,000; is furnished with beautiful curve seat and curve back pews, stationed on a slant floor, heated with two splendid furnaces, lighted with electricity and the city water attached to the baptistry. The auditorium is 48x50, and the lecture room 16x32, the two classrooms are 8x10 each, the pulpit is large and fronted by a large arch. The ceiling of the auditorium is 22 feet high and thus makes one of the best auditoriums in the city and a most splendid room in which to speak. The success in building stimulated and increased the faith of the pastor and congregation and the year just closed has been one filled with victories for the Church of Christ in York. The spiritual life of the church is good, and thus the organization is endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace, and the prestige and standing of the church in the community has been much increased.

In 1906 Brother Thomas A. Maxwell returned for a short stay. His successor for a short period was Rev. W. E. Brandenburg, and in 1914 Rev. A. T. Ritchey began a pastorate which has lasted now for seven years.

Sunday School. There are 150 enrolled in the Sunday school and the school is thoroughly awake and enthusiastic in the study of the Word, and meets all appointments for home and foreign missions. J. B. Frickey was for years an efficient and well beloved superintendent and had assisting him fifteen officers and teachers.

Y. P. S. C. E. Senior. We have fifty-two active members in the senior Y. P. S. C. E. These meetings were attended by from fifty to seventy-five enthusiastic young people. An hour was seldom long enough for all to take part who were moved to do so. The society supported an orphan in India and payed its home and national apportionments for missions and bore a part of the financial burden of the church.

Christian Woman's Board of Missions. The C. W. B. M. had a membership of twenty-two and met once a month for prayer and the study of missions. The prayers and good works of these sisters were felt by the entire church membership.

Y. P. S. C. E. Juniors. The juniors numbered fifty and met once each week for prayer and study of the Bible. The children were especially interested in the building of orphanages in heathen lands.

Ladies' Aid Society. This society has for years met once each week to do work of most any sort that would bring them money to help the needy and the work generally. Much was trusted to the hands of these earnest and hard working sisters.

This congregation has consistently maintained a wide awake and well attended Sunday school, a splendid Y. P. S. C. E. and Christian Woman's Board of Missions.

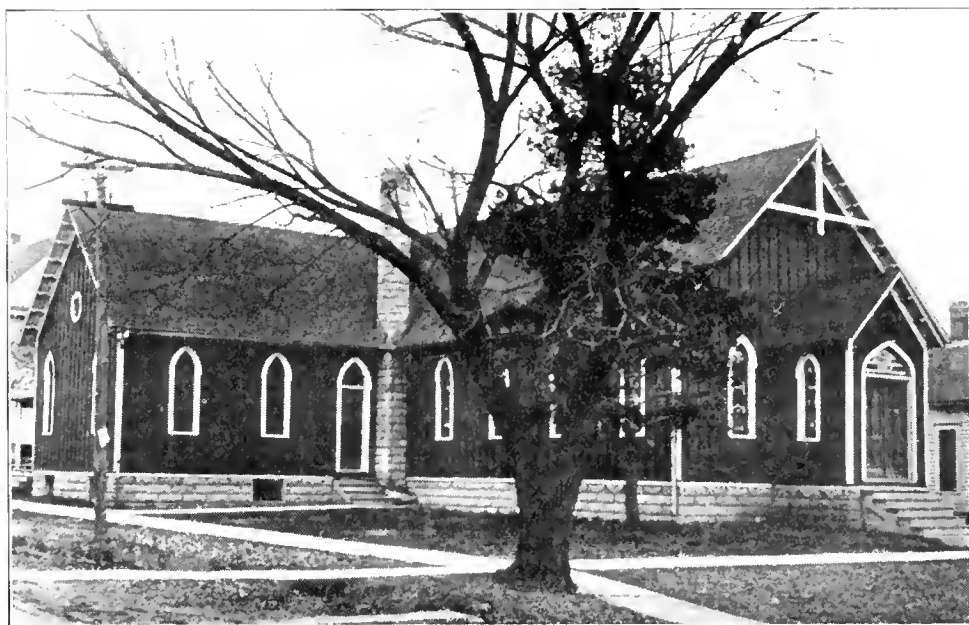
THE UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH OF YORK, NEB.

The church of the United Brethren in Christ has always been distinctly an American church. Phillip William Otterbein, the founder, and his coadjutors inculcated into the minds and hearts of their followers the equality of man. The iron bands which had bound them to the time honored churches—German Reformed, Mennonite, etc.—were forced asunder under the Spirit of Jesus Christ; so affectionately and tenderly uttered by the cultured evangelical son of Germany, when he fell on the neck of the Spirit-filled Mennonite and said, "We are brethren." If there is any virtue in a name, the name of this denomination has borne down upon the wings of the century the prayer of Christ for spiritual unity and brotherhood. The great life of Otterbein bequeathed to the United Brethren Church a testimony in death which still lingers in the church as a call to consecrated and holy living. "Jesus, Jesus, I die, but thou livest, and soon I shall live with thee. The conflict is over and past. I begin to feel an unspeakable fullness of love and praise divine. Lay my head upon my pillow and let me be still."

In the year 1887 the local church at York was organized with thirteen charter members. Only three remain—N. A. Dean and wife and Geo. Spears. The organization was perfected in the Universalist Church on E. Seventh Street, with Rev. E. W. Johnson presiding elder. Services were occasionally held in a store building in North York. The need of a church house pressed heavily upon this young society, so that they early purposed to build a house. Two lots were purchased on Grant Avenue, corner of Twelfth Street. The first board of trustees consisted of N. A. Dean, William Jappath, Peter Hellier and J. S. Lohr. Revs. G. H. Swartz and J. J. Lohr served as pastors during 1887 and 1888. Early in the year of 1889 a new church house was completed upon the lots mentioned above. Having a church building with but a small society, they felt the need of a revival effort. Evangelist Geo. K. Little was secured, whose labors were graciously blessed by God in a very successful campaign. A large number testified to conversion and some fifty were received into church fellowship. During this period the minister traveled a circuit, preaching at two other appointments. In March of this same year Rev. T. K. Surface accepted the pastorate, and, considering the division of his time, witnessed good results. At the March conference of 1890 J. M. Haskins was appointed to York. He remained but one year and was succeeded by Rev. D. W. Proflitt. After laboring for seven months Mr. Proflitt resigned. The presiding elder secured Rev. G. D. Stromire, whose ministry continued for seventeen months. Seventy new members were received and the various departments of the church strengthened. Negotiations were perfected in 1892 for the sale of their church property, the transfer being to a society of the German Methodists.



UNITED BROTHERS CHURCH, YORK



TRINITY CHURCH, YORK

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The church officials were considering the erection of a more commodious church building and in the meantime they accepted an invitation to conduct their services in the college chapel. The annual conference of March, 1893, appointed Rev. W. E. Schell as pastor. In consulting the conference minutes and local records, we find that success attended Mr. Schell's ministry. The site of the present church was purchased, but because of drouth and a stringency in money no effort was exerted to build. Reverend Schell's pastorate was severed at the expiration of two years, when the conference elected him presiding elder. Rev. T. W. Jones was pastor from March, 1895, to 1896. His ministry was marked with intense sincerity and nobleness of purpose. R. A. Longman succeeded Reverend Jones. He gave acceptable service, received twenty-five new members, and closed his year's work with good reports. Rev. H. D. Crawford followed as minister and served during a short conference year of six months, dividing his time with the college as field collector; very little was accomplished in forwarding local church interests. The ministry of Rev. H. J. Gunnels was highly appreciated by the church. His removal from the state at the expiration of one year was regretted. At the conference of September, 1898, Rev. W. Hart was assigned to York Church. He labored with continuous diligence and very apparent results.

Rev. E. F. Bowers commenced his pastorate in September, 1899. The work yielded excellent results, and by the end of the conference year plans for a new church building developed into an encouraging prospect of success. In 1900 the project was begun. The trustees and building committee, which consisted of N. A. Dean, Adam Seed, W. C. Buchanan, Phillip Fink, J. L. Medlar and Henry Jacobs, prosecuted their work with commendable zeal. After about eighteen months' pastorate Rev. Bowers resigned. This unexpected resignation somewhat obstructed rapid advancement. Nevertheless, forward was the watchword. In September, 1901, Geo. E. Driver was appointed and unanimously accepted as pastor. Following the pastorate of Reverend Driver this church has been favored with the services of E. B. Mauer, Wren J. Grinstead, C. S. Long, J. W. Burkell, who served for more than five years, G. P. Graham and C. S. Parker.

The new church house of this congregation was completed and dedicated in December, 1901. Rev. George Miller, D. D., officiated and a subscription of \$3,000 was secured to free the property from debt. The building is a brick structure and is splendidly located on East Seventh Street and York Avenue, one of the finest sites in the city. The dimensions are 50x70 feet. The arrangement of the auditorium with Sunday school room, four classrooms, and pastor's study afford a most convenient house for all purposes. The inclined floor is seated with opera chairs, with a seating capacity of 600. The total valuation of grounds and buildings is \$8,000.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

The Episcopal Church in York has been in existence some thirty-nine years, and a somewhat checkered career it has had. It was organized under the name of St. Mary's Mission at a service held in Bell's Hall on October 3, 1881, when the first bishop of Nebraska preached to a congregation of some one hundred and fifty people. G. H. Jerome was appointed warden, J. M. Young treasurer, and G. H. Jerome secretary and lay reader; the services were continued at intervals by

Revs. F. O'Connell and G. H. Hawkins. At a later date services were held in the Swedish Church.

After a somewhat protracted interval services were again held in Bell's Hall in 1885 by the Rev. E. A. Wells of Central City, and at a later service in the Congregational Church several children of R. J. Coles, T. Houston and J. Porter were baptized; Bishop Worthington on the same evening preached his first sermon in York, and again appointed G. H. Jerome warden, with R. J. Coles treasurer and J. N. Jerome secretary, with the latter Geo. Newman and Wm. Manning lay readers. It was decided that from now on services were to be held once a month, and \$1,250 was subscribed towards diocesan missions.

For a time services were held in the Swedish Church by Rev. E. A. Wells, who formed the first Ladies' Guild of the church with the following officers: President, Mrs. McCann; secretary, Mrs. J. N. Jerome; treasurer, Mrs. Talbot. Plans were perfected for using the Swedish church permanently with a lay reader in charge when priestly ministrations were not available.

During one of Bishop Worthington's services he confirmed the following persons: James Houston, W. B. Houston and Andrew Houston.

At a meeting held subsequently to this service the name of the mission was changed to Trinity Mission and was served under that name until April 11, 1886, by Rev. E. A. Wells, G. H. Jerome being lay reader.

The records of the next ten years are not available, though three clergymen were at various times residents in the parish, namely, Mr. Gardiner, who performed the first marriage ceremony in the church, uniting in wedlock Mr. and Mrs. Papin, who were strong members of the church; Mr. Simpson, who baptized the present warden's daughter, Stella, and Mr. Baxter, under whom the church may be said to have had its most prosperous times. At intervals during this period the bishop visited the parish and several confirmation services were held.

The Rev. W. P. N. Wharton, M. A., of the University of Durham, first officiated in Holy Trinity Church in October, 1896, when he took up his residence at Fairmont as local missionary. His work brought him to York the third Sunday of each month. He commenced residence in the city September 1, 1897, officiating until August of the following year. During his tenure of office Bishop Graves of the Platte confirmed ten persons. Subsequently Mr. Wharton removed to St. George's Church, LeMars, Iowa.

After a period of some three years Bishop Williams sent the Rev. T. Percival Tate to take charge of the mission. And since his advent, mainly owing to the energetic work of the members of the Ladies' Guild, presided over at first by Mrs. Pick and later by Mrs. Eroe, the church has taken on a new lease of life. Mr. Crawford, the energetic Sunday school superintendent, ably assisted by Mr. Sorren J. Hedelund, was a great source of strength in holding up the present incumbent's hands, and the prospects are good for a sure and steady increase in church membership.

The late Bishop Williams always visited the little church, to find a splendid welcome and many were unable to find room in the crowded building to listen to his eloquent and inspiring words.

The people though small in numbers always responded nobly to the bishop's call for funds towards securing the permanent residence of the missionary, and

the members of Holy Trinity paid far more in proportion to membership than any church in York towards the salary of their ministers and the running expenses of the church.

The church has been repainted, electric lights put in, pavement laid down, sewerage tax paid, new stove erected, a complete set of altar hangings made, and all expenses promptly met as they fall due. Holy Trinity members have no cause to be ashamed of their efforts.

Since Reverend Tate left, Rev. A. E. Cash and J. Senior served this church in the next few years.

In 1916 to 1918 Rev. Geo. G. Tyner served this congregation.

BAPTIST CHURCH

In the fall of 1871 the South Platte Land Company agreed to donate, free of expense, two lots in the town site of York to each church which should erect a church building thereon. Today the First Baptist Church is the only church receiving such donation in the town, which has kept their church building upon the site originally selected.

The organization of the church dates back to August 23, 1873, when a small company were gathered into what might more properly be called a class. Some meetings were held in what was then called "the new schoolhouse," and at one of these meetings David Graham was ordained as a deacon of the church.

Until 1879 no regular pastor was located here, and with but a few scattered members it was difficult to keep up regular prayer or church meetings. In the fall of 1879 Rev. A. W. Peck moved into the county from New Jersey and began the work of collecting the names of Baptists who had moved here and of building up the church. The first baptisms were August 9, 1879.

October 18, 1879, at a service held in a vacant store room on the southeast corner of the square, a call was given to Reverend Peck to become pastor of the church, which was accepted, and he immediately began his work as pastor. For a year he worked hard to build up the membership and hold regular services. After this came a time when the church was without a regular pastor.

On July 26, 1883, Rev. A. W. Clark was secured as pastor, entering at once upon his work. The Universalist Church was secured as a regular place of worship, and the organization of a Sunday school was perfected, which began the work that has steadily kept pace with our town and community. At this time there were about thirty members connected with the church. Preparations were at once begun for the building of a church. A committee was appointed, money subscribed and plans submitted and adopted, and on February 21, 1884, the contract was let and the result we see in the present church building. The church was dedicated November 16, 1884, by Dr. Wm. Lawrence of Chicago and Rev. W. R. Connelly of the Home Mission Society of Nebraska. A bell had been presented and placed on the church by D. E. Sayer of York, just before the dedication. The Home Mission Society gave a donation of \$500 on the cost of the building. The church membership had increased to about eighty-five, so that as the church began the worship of God in its new home they were cheered by a good membership and large congregations.

The pastors of the church have been men well thought of and earnest in their endeavors to establish a fruitful church of God-fearing men and women in York and the surrounding community.

Reverend Peck lived on a farm two miles south of town, but was "in and out" among his people doing good.

Rev. A. W. Clark followed and was a builder in one sense, working with his own hands to erect a house of worship and then getting the people to worship. The first candidate for baptism in the new church was later one of the deacons, M. Castle, baptized December 14, 1881. The Baptist state convention met here during Reverend Clark's pastorate.

Rev. R. L. Halsey proved to be a missionary preacher, resigning his pastorate here to go to India as a foreign missionary.

Rev. W. G. Evans built up the church in many ways and won many into its folds by his preaching and teaching. He resigned to engage in the financial work of Grand Island College.

Rev. E. D. Bewick was a teacher of the scriptures and aside from the work of the church gave extra time to teaching the Bible and giving instruction. He closed his labors here to re-enter the work in Wisconsin.

Rev. B. F. Fellman came to the York church as a young man, and as such won many young people as well as old into the church. He also took up the work at Maple Grove schoolhouse during two summers. He was ordained while serving the York church. It was during his pastorate the Baptist state convention again met in York. About five hundred dollars was expended for fixing the interior of the church the last year of his pastorate. Brother Fellman left York to build up a church in South Omaha.

Rev. J. A. Meehan was called from Iowa to take charge here at York, and during his short stay of a year made friends and sought to build up a spiritual and earnest church membership. Brother Meehan left the church here to enter the medical school at Des Moines, Ia.

Rev. S. C. Green stayed from 1901 to 1904. It was by his efforts that the parsonage was erected in 1902, at a cost of over one thousand five hundred dollars. The church building was repaired also in this time and the large pedal organ added to the audience room of the church.

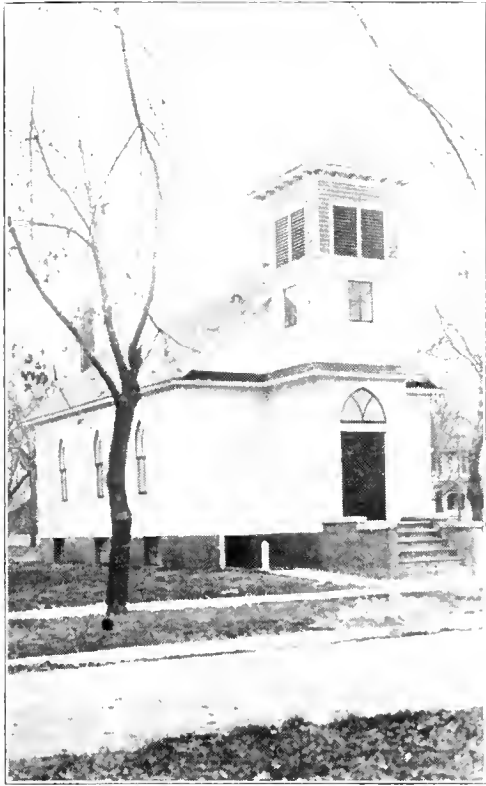
His successor was Rev. A. H. Ballard, who served this congregation for about five years, when Rev. F. W. Cliffe came to them. About five years later Rev. J. G. Dickson began a pastorate which lasted until Rev. L. R. Bobbitt came in 1918.

The church has granted ministerial license to three of its members: Brother L. F. Salee, in 1891; Brother C. R. Rockwell, July 13, 1890; Brother Marion Bollen, January 1, 1903.

Among the early deacons of the church who served in the past were David Graham, who died February 19, 1903; J. M. Stilson died September 12, 1902; E. V. Green, Daniel Longwell, William Ong (died June 20, 1888), J. W. Shoetler, Melvin McCracken, Louis Provost, and A. J. Wilkins.

Among the church clerks of early years we find the names of Thomas Porter, O. A. Stubbs, Prof. R. M. Bridges, and eleven others. William E. Stilson served for a long period in this capacity.

No church history of York would be complete without mention of Mr. Butterfield, father of E. A. Butterfield. He homesteaded the land where his son lived,



GERMAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, YORK



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, YORK



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, YORK

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building a small sod house about where the K. C. Railroad comes onto the farm, living here alone the latter part of 1870 and 1871. He sought the companionship of his fellow-man, and at times on Sunday would collect some neighbors and teach them from the Bible. We think that to him should be accorded the honor of being the first Bible class teacher upon the territory now covered by the City of York. We recollect him as standing beside a dry goods box, near a little building about where Murphy's blacksmith shop stood, in the spring of 1871, teaching from his open Bible to the three or four persons who would listen to him. These early pioneers builded better than they knew.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Joseph Catholic Church was first attended as a mission in 1877 by Father William Byrne, and by him organized into a church. It was under his charge until the spring of 1878, when he was succeeded by Father O'Brien, who was in attendance until 1880. Father Wallace attended during the years of 1880 and 1881 and was succeeded by Father C. J. Quinn of Utica. The church was commenced in 1879 and completed in 1881 at a cost of \$1,100. Father F. E. Clark and Rev. P. Lysaght served this parish and then came Father Thomas Cullen. In November, 1920, this congregation commemorated a service of thirty years by its present pastor, Father Cullen, described by the local press as follows:

Thirty Years in York

Father Cullen, as he is familiarly called by the members of his parish and York people in general, was honor guest at Hotel McCloud on Thursday evening. The event celebrating the close of thirty years of work for his parish and the community in which his parish is situated.

Dennis Meehan, with his fund of wit, was toastmaster. Judge George F. Corcoran, who has been a York resident even longer than Father Cullen, responded to the first toast, so was especially fitted to speak of the early day struggles not only of this church but of the community in general. He contrasted the limitations and hardships of early settlers with the church and community today, with its fine assemblage of buildings, and brought out the point that it was the same spirit of loyalty all through the years that has brought the church to its present status. August Zimmerer, in response to the second toast, also related experiences of the early settlers and the early work of the church. Mr. Zimmerer has been connected with the work of the choir in this church for many years. There were responses to toasts also by Mr. James Neville, Joseph Paschang, Philip Kennedy, and from Peter Meehan and Miles Duffy, who represented the young people of the parish, and their love and loyalty to Father Cullen. Father Hays, chaplain of the Ursuline Convent, gave a brief address, witty and eloquent. Reverend Hagan of Beaver Crossing was a welcome visitor coming to share in the honor paid a fellow-worker.

In behalf of the parish Mr. Meehan presented Reverend Father Cullen with a beautiful gold-headed cane, as a token of esteem and respect from his parishioners.

The tables were beautifully decorated with baskets of roses, the large bouquet of Russel roses at the speakers' table later being presented to Reverend Cullen.

Young ladies of the congregation efficiently served in waiting on the guests.

Music was furnished by Miss Rose Zimmerer at the piano and James Durbin, with violin. About one hundred and forty guests were present. Many good wishes were extended to Father Cullen for a long continuance of his work among his people.

Thirty years is a long time to labor in one field, yet as it is lived a day at a time it is short to look back upon. Father Cullen can see many successes crowning his score and a half years' work here. His coming was in the early days of his ministry, he having served but seven years at that time, and his work has been broken by but one vacation. He made a trip to Ireland for a last visit with his aged mother.

Out-of-town guests included many who have been members of St. Joseph's congregation. Among them from away who attended the ceremonies are found the names of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Wolfe and son, John, of Utica; Mr. and Mrs. Lamb and Mrs. Nychill of Ulysses, Mr. and Mrs. Miles Duffy of Hordville, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Duffy of Central City, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Boud of Alliance, who are on their honeymoon trip, Miss Catherine Gallagher, a niece of Father Cullen, and Miss Culley of Omaha.

UNIVERSALIST

The organization of this church dates back to June, 1880, at which date it was organized by Rev. L. S. Roripaugh, Rev. E. R. Earl, pastor. This house of worship was completed in April, 1881, and the property was valued at \$1,800. The trustees of the church were: John Ittner, J. D. P. Small, and Charles Le Count.

GERMAN REFORMED EMANUEL'S CONGREGATION

Corner of Nebraska Avenue and Eleventh Street

The first German emigrants from the Volga region of Russia to settle in York came here in November, 1888. Even before they had homes of their own or visible means of support, they appealed to the pastors of their denomination in Sutton, Neb., for spiritual supply, and in answer to this appeal, different pastors of the Reformed Church preached to these people for years.

The first resident pastor was Rev. J. Vollprecht, now of Humboldt, and under his pastorate the congregation was organized in 1891 as the German Reformed Emanuel's Congregation, affiliated with the Nebraska class of the Reformed Church in the United States.

The services were at first held in the homes, then in the building on Sixth Street, which was destroyed by fire; above Blackburn's store; and for six years above W. W. Wyckoff's office.

In 1906, under the pastorate of Rev. F. Maurer of Harvard, the congregation erected its first church home, the little frame building on the corner of Nebraska Avenue and Eleventh Street. From 1907 to 1908 it was part of the charge of Rev. U. Zogg of Sutton.

In 1910 the congregation declared itself self-supporting and elected Rev. W. Bonekemper; since November, 1911, the present pastor, Rev. J. Biery, has been in charge.

The five of the charter members still residing here in 1913 were: Mr. and Mrs. Peter Pfenning, Mr. John Hesler, Mr. and Mrs. John Reishig. The congre-

gation had 116 adult members, and as all were in comfortable circumstances, hoped to enlarge its present church edifice and build a parsonage.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF YORK

In October, 1902, a committee composed of Revs. M. D. Berg, J. N. Lentz, and A. B. Leamer, made a canvass of the City of York to ascertain the feasibility of establishing an English Lutheran Church. Meeting with encouraging results they appointed a Sunday service in the Swedish church on West Eighth Street and Platte Avenue. The response was so favorable that the president of the Nebraska Synod sent supplies for a time.

The following winter Rev. W. T. Kahse, a student of the Western Theological Seminary, Atchison, Kan., spent his Christmas vacation in York. He made a canvass for Lutheran people, and started a Sunday school. It was the intention of the president of the Synod to send supplies, but in the meantime the building having been rented to the Free Methodists, the Sunday school was disbanded and the supplies for the winter postponed.

In 1903 Rev. C. E. Sparks, a student of Wittenberg College, spent a summer vacation in York and succeeded in rallying the Lutheran forces. With the aid of the Board of Church Extension, he was enabled to secure the Fraternal Hall for Sunday services. He organized the Sunday school, and on August 2, 1903, the congregation was regularly organized by Rev. L. P. Ludden, D. D., the western secretary of the Board of Home Missions. There were twenty-nine charter members. The following comprised the official board: George Harr, L. M. Worman, S. F. Hansen, W. M. Swartzwelder, J. E. Johnson and C. D. Dreier.

From September 1, 1903, until April 1, 1904, Rev. J. G. Griffith, D. D., acted as a supply pastor. During his incumbency the Ladies' Aid Society was organized, six new members received and the church now owned by the congregation was leased.

June 1, 1904, Rev. George F. Scheese of Selinsgrove, Pa., took charge and served until November 1, 1904, when he resigned and returned to the East.

January 12, 1905, at the earnest solicitation of the South Platte Conference of the Nebraska Synod, Rev. R. A. White took charge and served the congregation until April 1, 1913. He found the membership very much discouraged and scattered. By heroic effort he rallied them and soon infused new life in the congregation. The Ladies' Aid Society has been a very important factor in the development of the work. Though only a few in number, they raised and expended about two thousand eight hundred dollars during the pastorate. Each year the church raised her full apportionment for all benevolent purposes. July 28, 1908, the church was bought for \$1,480. The transfer was made November 14, 1908. The trustees signing legal documents were R. A. White, Pastor L. M. Worman, C. D. Dreier and August Dreier. J. E. Johnson was one of the church council, but he was away from home at the time, so his name does not appear. Following the purchase were extensive repairs and renovations of the building. The old rickety tower was taken down, a new roof was put on, a basement was constructed underneath the entire church, the doors were changed from the center to the southeast corner, a beautiful art glass window was put in the east end of the church where the doors had been, an art glass transom was placed over the doors, a Gibbon furnace by which

the church is heated was installed, the interior was beautifully papered, the wood-work painted and grained, and beautiful oak pews installed. Besides these there were many smaller improvements made, which gives the congregation a delightful auditorium in which to worship. The membership is now about fifty-five. It would have been more than a hundred except for removals.

On January 23 Rev. R. A. White offered his resignation to take effect April 1, 1913.

Rev. C. E. Sparks of Auburn, Neb., was then called and began his work as pastor June 1, 1913. The church council constituted the new pastor, Rev. Sparks, M. L. Warner, Fred C. J. Voss and William H. Newcomer, Jr.

UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH IN YORK COUNTY, NEBRASKA

On April 10, 1879, at a session of the Des Moines Conference of the Evangelical churches of Iowa, it was resolved that York Center, Waco, and surrounding country be taken up as a mission to be known as York Center Mission. Rev. E. D. Einsel was sent as the first preacher in charge. A couple of years later some of the appointments were attached to charges outside of York County and York Center Mission was discontinued.

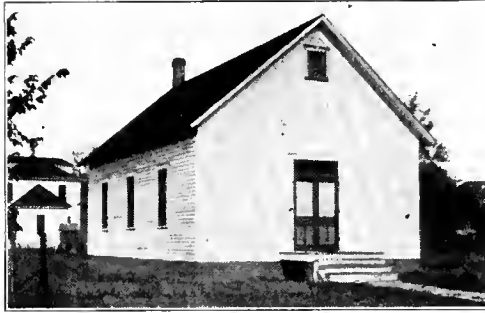
On March 13, 1903, at a session of the Platte River Conference of the United Evangelical Church, it was resolved that York and surrounding country be taken up and called York Mission. Rev. Arthur E. Miller was appointed the first pastor and with his wife and the families of E. Reisinger, E. P. McCoy, and Elias Anderson constituted the charter membership of the church. In May of the same year the lot at the corner of Grant Avenue and Eighth Street was purchased and on the first Sunday in June the first service was held in the building then there. This was a part of the Boyer's old drug store building. A class was organized on June 14, 1903, with twelve members. The corner-stone of the present church building was laid in the spring of 1907, and on October 27th, under the pastorate of Rev. W. C. Brewer, the church was dedicated to the worship of God. The property was valued at \$10,000. The membership of the church is ninety-three. The pastors have been as follows: Rev. Arthur E. Miller, 1903 to 1907; Rev. W. C. Brewer, 1907 to 1908; Rev. A. Essley, 1908 to 1909; Rev. B. Hiller, 1909 to 1913. Rev. Arthur E. Miller came again in 1913.

Mr. E. Reisinger was superintendent of the Sunday school during the first years of its existence.

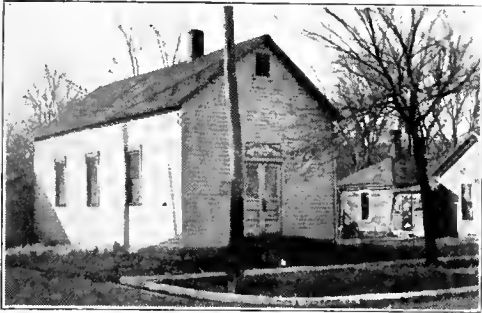
E. Reisinger, J. L. Browitt and Arthur E. Miller were the first board of trustees.

GERMAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN ST. JOHN'S CONGREGATION OF YORK

The people of this congregation are mostly German or of German descent, and most of them reared in Lutheran faith. The first settlers of the township came in 1869, and for the next three or four years homesteads were to be secured. In the year 1873 Rev. P. H. Gruber came to the neighborhood and preached. Next came Rev. Burger from Hampton, Hamilton County. The first church was a sod house erected in 1875. In 1878 Rev. P. G. Endres was called. In 1882 a schoolhouse was erected, 27x32x12. Mr. A. Reinhard was the first teacher. In 1885 Reverend



GERMAN REFORMED CHURCH, YORK



PENTECOSTAL CHURCH, NAZARENE, YORK



LUTHERAN CHURCH, YORK



ST. JOHN'S GERMAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, BEAVER TOWNSHIP



Endres died, and he was succeeded by Rev. P. G. Tung. In 1895 he was succeeded by Rev. P. C. Seltz. Under his charge the present house of worship was erected in 1903, this building being 42x86x24. In 1904 Reverend Seltz was succeeded by Rev. A. Bergt. In 1906 he died and Rev. F. Wunderlich came and has served this flock ever since.

The congregation consisted of twenty-one families when they organized in 1877. The membership later increased to 360. Two schools were maintained, one of thirty-six pupils, with F. Kiekhaefer as their teacher, and the other with forty-two pupils, with O. Wilk as teacher.

The elders were Herman Wellmann, H. R. Stuhr, and William Staehr; trustees, Henry Dinkelmann, Henry Goecke, Simon Obermeier. The school trustees were D. Naber and H. Morner.

The announcement was made in September, 1917, that three of the most prominent religious denominations were planning to unite in their spiritual administrations, and after a short time instead of maintaining three churches and carrying the necessary expenses they would unite in one and get along with but one preacher. The churches considering this union were the Presbyterian, United Brethren and Congregational. The latter denomination had worshipped during the summer with the Baptist and the Christian churches, and found the experiment a very gratifying one.

When the move was carried into effect the Presbyterian Church was used by the trio of congregations as their house of worship, and at first the Rev. L. F. John, pastor of the United Brethren Church, was the minister for the combined churches, with Dean Ashcraft assisting, one of them preaching in the morning, the other oftentimes in the evening.

Members of all three congregations took to the move with much favor. Two of the churches were then without pastors—the Rev. E. E. Emhoff, of the Presbyterian, and the Rev. E. Merle Adams both being in the army Y. M. C. A. services on leaves of absence from their congregations.

Reverend Emhoff returned to his flock and the Presbyterian Church withdrew. Late in 1920 the announcement was made of the fate of the "dual relation" continued by the other two.

Denominational inducements are responsible for the decision of the members of the Congregational and United Brethren churches to sever their federated church relations and return to the holding of separate church services. The federated church has been in operation a year on next October 1st. It succeeded a federation of three churches, the two referred to and the Presbyterian. The Presbyterian congregation withdrew from the federation when its pastor returned from overseas. Now the United Brethren people feel the pressure of the argument that the denomination supporting a college here should also have a church. And the Congregational people, who are to entertain the state meeting of the Congregational churches here in October, feel they should by that time and for that occasion be operating under their denominational name. Hence the decision to sever ties which have been mutually friendly and have resulted in a fine example of fraternity and good will, and is an earnest of the ultimate wiping out of denominational ties which is a thing very much desired among church people. The United Brethren people will return to their church edifice and continue under the leadership of Dr. L. F. John. The Congregationalists are considering calling a pastor.

OTHER CHURCHES

There are other churches in York County, upon which the compiler was not able to get the proper material, or the same was not furnished from sources to which attention was directed, and the oversight was not intentional. It might be added, though, that the Nazarene Congregation at this time are rendering very active service, under the leadership of Anne Nutter.

CHAPTER XV

FRATERNAL, SOCIAL AND WELFARE ORGANIZATIONS IN YORK COUNTY

EARLY LODGES, 1885, 1895, 1905—A. F. & A. M. AND MASONIC BODIES—NO. 35,
I. O. O. F.—ELKS—A. O. U. W.—G. A. R., ROBERT ANDERSON POST—CIVIL WAR VET-
ERANS, 1915—SPANISH WAR VETERANS, 1915—WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS—SONS OF
VETERANS—AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 19—SOCIAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER DAYS—
YORK COUNTRY CLUB—AVON CLUB—AMATEUR MUSICAL CLUB—REVIEW & ART
CLUB—WOMEN'S CLUB—YORK Y. M. C. A.—WOMEN'S COMMITTEE DEPARTMENT.

The compiler has not been able to secure detailed data from many fraternal organizations in the city and throughout the county. The following roster of societies in 1885, 1895 and 1905 will show the growth and multiplication of these orders. Most of those listed in 1905 were in actual operation ten years later in 1915 and practically all of them are still flourishing, more or less successfully, in 1920.

A very detailed historical review is herewith given of those which furnished sufficient data.

SOCIETIES

1885

Masonic Lodge No. 56, A. F. & A. M. Meets first Friday in each month at 7:30 P. M.

I. O. O. F. No. 35. Meets every Wednesday evening at Odd Fellows' Hall at 8 P. M.

G. A. R., Robert Anderson Post No. 32. Meets the second and fourth Thursday at Odd Fellows' Hall at 7:30 P. M.

Woman's Relief Corps No. 5, Auxiliary to Robert Anderson Post, G. A. R. Meets every second and fourth Thursday afternoon at Odd Fellows' Hall at 2 P. M.

Knights of Pythias, York Lodge No. 13. Meets every Monday evening at 7:30 P. M.

1895

Masonic Lodge, No. 56, A. F. & A. M. Meets first Friday in each month at 7:30 P. M.

Eastern Star. Meets the second Thursday in each month, in Masonic Hall.

I. O. O. F., No. 35. Meets every Monday evening at Odd Fellows' Hall at 7:30 P. M.

York Encampment No. 32, I. O. O. F. Meets every second and fourth Thursday night of each month in Odd Fellows' Hall.

Canton Paran. Meets the first Wednesday of each month in I. O. O. F. Hall.

Daughters of Rebekah. Evening Star Lodge No. 55, I. O. O. F. Meets every first and third Tuesday of each month in Odd Fellows' Hall.

Knights of Pythias, York Lodge No. 13. Meets second and fourth Monday nights of each month.

Home Forum Benefit Order, York Forum No. 686. Meets every first and third Monday evening in each month, in A. O. U. W. Hall.

A. O. U. W. Meets second and fourth Tuesday in each month at A. O. U. W. Hall. All visiting members cordially welcomed.

Tate Lodge Degree of Honor, No. 15, A. O. U. W. Meets first and third Thursday each month. Visiting members made welcome.

Modern Woodmen of America, York Camp No. 455. Meets every first and third Tuesday evening of each month at 7:30 o'clock in Woodmen's Hall, Wirt Block.

Royal Neighbors of America, Franklin Camp No. 49. Meets the first Friday afternoon and every third Friday evening in each month in Wirt Block.

K. O. T. M. Meets every second and last Wednesday evening in each month, in A. O. U. W. Hall.

I. O. T. M., York Hive No. 6. Ladies of the Maccabees. Meets first Wednesday at 2:30 P. M. and third Wednesday at 7:30 P. M. of each month. Glad to welcome visitors.

G. A. R., Robert Anderson Post No. 32. Meets the second and fourth Thursday at A. O. U. W. Hall at 7:30 P. M.

Woman's Relief Corps No. 5, Auxiliary to Robert Anderson Post, G. A. R. Meets every second and fourth Thursday afternoon at A. O. U. W. Hall, at 2 P. M.

Lyceum League of America, Yorktown Lyceum No. 1327. Meets every Friday at High School Building. Members of other Lyceums visiting in city are cordially invited to attend.

Company "A," First Regiment, Nebraska National Guard. Meets for drill every first and third Friday of each month.

SECRET AND BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES

1905

A. O. U. W. No. 32. Meets at Fraternal Hall second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

Tate Lodge No. 15, D. of H. Meets first Wednesday night and third afternoon of each month at Fraternal Hall.

G. A. R., Robert Anderson Post No. 32. Meets every second and fourth Thursday of each month.

W. R. C. No. 5. Meets second and fourth Thursday afternoon. Julia G. Howe Tent D. of V. Meets at Fraternal Hall.

Improved Order of Red Men. Ute Tribe No. 27. Meets second and fourth Wednesday of each month at Fraternal Hall.

I. O. O. F., Hall, 500 Grant.

York Lodge No. 35. Meets every Monday.

Evening Star Lodge No. 55. Meets every first and third Tuesday of the month.

P. M. C. P. No. 7. Meets first Wednesday of the month.

York Encampment No. 32. Meets second and fourth Thursday.

Knights and Ladies of Security No. 860. Meets first and third Monday at Fraternal Hall.

Knights of Pythias, Lodge No. 13. Meets second and fourth Monday of month at Fraternal Hall.

Knights of the Maccabees, York Tent, No. 11. No regular meeting place.

K. O. T. M., York Hive No. 6. Meets first Wednesday of the month.

Loyal Mystic Legion of America, No. 197. Meet first Friday of the month at Fraternal Hall.

Masonic Hall, south side of square.

York Lodge No. 56, A. F. & A. M. Last Friday of each month.

Solomon Chapter No. 33. Third Tuesday of the month.

Joppa Commandry No. 17, K. T. First Monday of month.

Grace Chapter No. 87, O. E. S. Meets second Thursday of the month.

Modern Woodmen of America, York Camp No. 455. First and Third Tuesday at Fraternal Hall.

Franklin Camp No. 49, R. N. of A. First and third Friday of each month at Fraternal Hall.

Royal Highlanders, Harlan Castle No. 66. First and third Thursday at Fraternal Hall.

Tribe of Ben Hur, York Court No. 64. Second and fourth Friday of each month at Fraternal Hall.

Woodmen of the World, Sherman Camp No. 5. First and third Monday, Fraternal Hall.

YORK LODGE NO. 56, A. F. & A. M.

October 1, 1874, the grand master of Nebraska issued a dispensation to the following Master Masons, viz: William M. Knapp, Lee Love, Malcolm G. Barney, Henry Smith, Andrew Rowley, Joseph D. P. Small, James A. McKillip, John A. Eatherly, Alfred A. Burtch, Charles Le Count, Samuel McConaughy and John W. Foster to open and hold a lodge of Master Masons, with W. M. Knapp as W. M. A charter was granted by the grand lodge on the 24th day of June, 1875, establishing York Lodge No. 56, A. F. & A. M., at York, Neb., with the above named Masons as charter members.

The worshipful masters of this lodge have been:

1874-77.....	William M. Knapp (suspended)
1877-79.....	George B. France
1879-80.....	William M. Knapp (suspended)
1880-81.....	Lee Love (died April 2, 1894)
1881-82.....	William Knapp (suspended)
1882-84.....	David E. Sayre (demitted)
1884-85.....	Emmet H. Dorr (died August 6, 1890)
1885-86.....	John Ziegler (died November 16, 1887)
1886-87.....	Robert Armstrong
1887-88.....	Daniel N. Blood
1888-89.....	George E. Peabody

1889-90.....	Albert O. Faulkner (demitted)
1890-92.....	George E. Chilcote
1892-93.....	William H. Reader
1893-94.....	Gustav F. Wruck (demitted)
1894-95.....	William H. Davis
1895-96.....	Elbert A. Butterfield
1896-97.....	Walter F. Reynolds (died February 24, 1912)
1897-99.....	Henry S. Harrison
1899-1901.....	Almon J. Ryan
1901-02.....	Daniel W. Baker
1902-04.....	Samuel E. Cain
1904-05.....	Bernard King
1905-06.....	George H. Holdeman
1906-07.....	George R. Reed (died February 18, 1910)
1907-08.....	Homer R. Hatfield
1908-09.....	Ezra H. Smith
1909-10.....	Joseph L. Browitt
1910-11.....	John W. Broadwell
1911-12.....	Joseph A. Jacobs
1912-13.....	Wilbur G. Liggett
1913-15.....	Ira C. Freet
1915-16.....	Charley M. Moyer
1916-17.....	Robert M. Rankin
1917-18.....	Lewis P. Green
1918-19.....	James H. Chain
1919-20.....	W. W. Buckley
1920-21.....	Harry V. Cain

The officers for 1919 and 1920 are:

Harry V. Cain.....	Worshipful master
Robert C. Stewart.....	Senior warden
Marion King.....	Junior warden
George E. Chilcote.....	Treasurer
John Muir.....	Secretary
Wendell Froyd.....	Senior deacon
Ira M. Rankin.....	Junior deacon
Frederick M. Staley.....	Tyler

The treasurers have been:

1874-81.....	Charles Le Count (deceased)
1881-82.....	Elbert A. Butterfield
1882-86.....	Elon Granger (deceased)
1886-87.....	Nathan V. Harlan (deceased)
1887-89.....	Stephen P. Buckmaster (demitted)
1889-96.....	Charles L. Meissner (demitted)
1896-1919.....	George E. Chilcote

The secretaries have been:

1874-76.....	John A. Eatherly (deceased)
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1876-78.....	Frederick W. Liedtke (demitted)
1878-79.....	Lee Love (deceased)
1879-80.....	David E. Sayre (demitted)
1880-82.....	Leonidas A. Brandhoefer (demitted)
1882-83.....	George S. Cook
1883-84.....	Frederick C. Power
1884-93.....	Willard L. Sheddon (demitted)
1893-94.....	William H. Race (demitted)
1894-1905.....	George R. Reed (deceased)
1905-14.....	Irvin A. Baker
1914-15.....	Henry F. Chapin
1915-16.....	Charles D. Shreck
1916-21.....	John Muir

SOLOMON CHAPTER NO. 33, R. A. M.

On the third day of June, A. I. 2415, A. D. 1885, the grand high priest of the Grand Chapter of the State of Nebraska issued a dispensation to Companions Robert Armstrong, William H. Bagnell, John W. Bennett, Daniel N. Blood, Jr., Leonidas A. Brandhoefer, John H. Chilcote, Robert J. Coles, Benjamin Crabb, Emmett H. Dorr, George B. France, Jonathan C. Kingsley, William M. Knapp, William H. Reader, Luther Reed, David E. Sayre, Horace Wellington and John Ziegler authorizing and empowering them to open and hold a chapter of Royal Arch Masons, at York, Nebraska, with Benjamin Crabb as M. E. H. P.; William M. Knapp, K., and Daniel N. Blood, Jr., S. Afterwards on the sixteenth day of December, A. I. 2415, A. D. 1885, the Grand Chapter issued a charter to the above named companions, establishing Solomon Chapter No. 33, R. A. M.

JOPPA COMMANDERY NO. 17, K. T.

The grand commander of the State of Nebraska issued a dispensation on the seventh day of October, A. I. 768, A. D. 1886, to the following Sir Knights, viz.: Wilton K. Williams, William M. Knapp, Jonathan C. Kingsley, Benjamin Crabb, William H. Reader, Robert Armstrong, George B. France, Daniel N. Blood, Jr., David E. Sayre, John Ziegler, Leonidas A. Brandhoefer, George C. Randall and James Small, empowering them to open and hold a Commandery of Knights Templar, at York, Neb., with Wilton K. Williams as E. C. On the nineteenth day of April, A. I. 769, A. D. 1887, the Grand Commandery issued a charter establishing a commandery at York, Neb., under the name of Joppa Commandery, No. 17, K. T., with the following named charter members: Wilton K. Williams, William M. Knapp, Jonathan C. Kingsley, Benjamin Crabb, William H. Reader, Robert Armstrong, George B. France, Daniel N. Blood, Jr., David E. Sayre, John Ziegler, Leonidas A. Brandhoefer, George C. Randall, James W. Small, Carl Anderson, John W. Bennett, Digory J. Colling, Robert J. Coles, Moses D. Einsel, Elon Granger, Julius F. Hale, John L. Hutcherson, Lee Love, Charles A. McCloud, Charles Nicolai, Charles J. Nobes, George W. Post, Frederick C. Power, David E. Sedgwick, Daniel C. Sleeper and Willard L. Whedon.

YORK LODGE NO. 35, I. O. O. F.

York Lodge No. 35, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was founded on the second day of October, A. D. 1872, under the administration of Grand Master D. A. Cline, who for several years so faithfully performed the duties of the office of grand secretary. York Lodge No. 35 was chartered by the following named members: W. H. Keckley, S. E. Gandy, J. P. Miller, Austin Linsley, D. A. Rittner, E. H. White, Francis Brooks, R. B. Stevens. York Lodge being founded in an early day in the history of York, worked under the most unfavorable circumstances for a few years; but through the energy and zeal of its members, gradually rose in strength both numerically and financially, until today it is in a strong and flourishing condition, their membership being over one hundred in good standing. No. 35 being started in the early history of York, gave it the advantage of securing a desirable location for a hall, having purchased the lot on the southeast corner of the square.

Its original set of officers were: Jas. P. Miller, noble grand; P. G. Butterfield, vice grand; Thomas Gray, secretary.

The list of members who have served as noble grand shows Wm. H. Keckley, S. E. Gandy, Austin Linsley, D. A. Rittner, E. H. White, Francis Brooks, J. P. Miller, R. B. Stevens, H. C. Kleinschmidt, W. B. Cummins, C. R. Keckley, A. Lee McClelland, Geo. R. Reed, W. T. Scott and W. E. Dayton.

The list of members who have served as secretary is: Thomas Gray, R. Tidyman, F. W. Loidtke, E. A. Butterfield, Geo. R. Reed, W. T. Scott, W. E. Dayton and H. C. Kleinschmidt.

This lodge entertained the grand lodge or state convention of the society in the fall of 1900 and the fall of 1919.

The present officers in 1920 are: Noble grand, Dr. D. D. King; vice grand, Milton Johnson; treasurer, A. C. Hubbell; secretary, A. B. Chatterton; trustees, C. A. Keefe, S. V. Johnson and J. M. Meadville. There are now 160 members.

YORK ENCAMPMENT NO. 32 I. O. O. F.

The York Encampment No. 32 I. O. O. F. was instituted February 28, 1889, with the following charter members: H. E. Baker, A. J. Wilkins, J. L. Ingrey, W. R. Knapp, J. D. White, Chris Hallstrom, N. P. Pearson, J. A. Johnson, G. F. Burr, S. S. Chapman, J. R. Brisbin, P. W. Dale, E. V. Green.

The first elective officers were: E. V. Green, chief patriarch; W. R. Knapp, senior warden; J. D. White, high priest; H. E. Baker, scribe; Chris Hallstrom, treasurer; S. S. Chapman, junior warden.

The 1920 York Encampment No. 32 directory presents members and officers: R. O. Allen, York; J. W. Barnett, York; H. G. Beckord, Waco; F. W. Berger, Bradshaw; John Bickley, Waco; Walter Berry, Waco; E. A. Bishop, Waco; T. E. Blount, Gresham; John Bowen, Waco; M. E. Boren, Fairmont; D. E. Button, D. D. G. P., scribe, York; C. A. Calkins, York; T. H. Carroll, Waco; A. B. Chatterton, York; Charles S. Cook, York; F. J. Edwards, York; G. E. Fair, senior warden, York; C. A. Franks, York; W. R. Furman, York; William Gassman, Waco; W. K. Geer, York; J. T. Gibbs, York; T. I. Grewell, York; C. E. Hart, McCool;

M. L. Halstead, York; H. E. Hedrick, World war veteran, Waco; Charles Huegel, McCool; Chris Hilbert, Waco; Olin Hitchcock, York; A. J. Honbaum, Waco; E. R. Howarth, McCool; A. C. Hubbell, York; A. D. Inbody, Waco; J. L. Ingrey, past grand patriarch, Salem, Ore.; S. V. Johnson, York; Monroe Jones, Waco; C. A. Keefe, York; M. B. King, York; D. D. King, World war veteran, chief patriarch, York; H. C. Kleinschmidt, treasurer, York; Herman Klone, Jr., Waco; J. M. Kirk, York; E. E. Lesh, Lincoln; A. L. Lierman, Waco; Thomas Marshall, McCool; A. W. Mason, York; J. B. McGinley, York; J. M. Meadville, York; J. W. Miller, Benedict; J. W. Pittman, past grand patriarch, York; C. O. Peterson, high priest, York; J. N. Plumb, World war veteran, York; F. L. Propst, York; Turner Pruiett, York; B. A. Root, York; W. J. Sahling, Benedict; J. C. Samson, Kearney; Byrd Shrum, Waco; J. D. Skaden, Waco; W. F. Snook, Waco; W. D. Stewart, York; E. D. Smith, York; A. C. Stream, Waco; J. G. Stream, junior warden, Waco; N. J. Stonecypher, Oelerichs, S. D.; R. G. Talbot, World war veteran, Benedict; W. L. Tompkins, York; George Westwood, Waco; J. D. Wheaton, York; A. J. Wilkins, Lincoln; J. R. Wilson, York; H. H. Winsor, Waco; H. R. Wollard, Burke, Idaho; C. F. Wood, McCool; T. F. Worthington, Waco; C. E. Wheeler, York; A. O. Wyman, York; D. J. Young, Waco.

ELKS

Lodge No. 1024, Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, was organized in April, 1906, with its first meeting place at Fraternal Hall. There were about fifty charter members. Those members who have served as exalted ruler are: C. A. McCloud, W. W. Wyckoff, John McFadden, George F. Corcoran, John M. Meradith, C. F. Stroman, W. H. Read, G. C. Long, R. B. Goble, F. E. McFarland, George W. France and George J. Wallace. Those who have been secretary are: F. E. Lloyd, A. E. Van Rankin, C. A. McCloud, and W. E. McCloud since 1914. The 1920 officers were: G. J. Wallace, exalted ruler; W. E. McCloud, secretary; H. O. Bell, leading knight; W. J. O'Donnell, loyal knight, and Murray Halstead, lecturing knight. There are now almost four hundred members. This lodge entertained the state convention in 1919 and in that same year one of its most loyal members, Judge George F. Corcoran, was state president, having been elected at the state convention in Grand Island in 1918.

A. O. U. W.

This organization has been represented in York by two lodges, comprised of representative citizens and business men of the "Banner City." York Lodge No. 32 was organized August 7, 1886, with twenty-seven charter members and bids fair to soon rank first among the lodges in the state.

York Legion No. 24, S. K., A. O. U. W., was organized in May, 1888, with thirty-three charter members, and like the parent order, it is having a steady growth in membership. This lodge occupies the A. O. U. W. Hall and meets on the first and third Friday evenings of each month. J. O. Steinbach, commander; W. W. Wyckoff, secretary, were the first to hold those offices.

YORK CAMP NO. 455, M. W. A.

This lodge was organized on November 9, 1887, and was chartered November 12, 1887.

Its first meeting place was I. O. O. F. Hall, corner Grant Avenue and Fifth Street.

The charter members were: Frank O. Clapp, L. D. Reader, George E. Schoettler, F. F. Osborn, W. R. Knapp, D. F. Boies, H. E. Herrick, H. L. Graves, F. C. Ballard, M. A. Green, A. G. Pruitt, Robert Rae, Allen Virgin, M. Torrance, John A. Smith, J. O. Steinbach, G. W. Shidler, E. R. Plummer, J. L. Ingrey, T. D. Buchanan, Ralph D. Neering, Lincoln Cox, B. A. Ward.

Of the above twenty-three members, only four still live and hold membership in this camp September 1, 1920, as follows: George E. Schoettler, Lincoln; A. G. Pruitt, Torrance, California; T. D. Buchanan, Omaha; and B. A. Ward, York.

Its original set of officers were: W. R. Knapp, V. C.; M. A. Green, W. A.; H. L. Graves, Ex. B.; F. F. Osborn, escort; Thomas D. Buchanan, sentry; Robert Rae, clerk.

The list of members who have served as vice consul are: W. R. Knapp, George F. Corcoran, E. S. Franklin, J. C. Petersen, A. G. Chessman, J. W. Derrick, George De Bord, Lee H. Mapps, F. J. Edwards, James A. Christ, E. N. Norwood.

The list of members who have served as secretary are: Robert Rae, J. L. Ingrey, George H. Kelly, M. M. Wildman, B. A. Ward, A. G. Pruitt, Amos C. Johnson, C. E. Callender.

The present officers are: E. N. Norwood, consul; L. H. Mapps, adviser; J. C. Petersen, banker; C. E. Callender, clerk; J. A. Christ, escort; C. B. Fenton, watchman; G. M. C. Hall, sentry; E. F. Ruch, B. A. Ward, and Fred H. Vincent, managers.

It now has 310 members, beneficiary, and two social, by its August, 1920, report. This camp is upon the readjustment rates to an adequate basis, based on the society's thirty years of experience and lost less than one per cent of its membership. It has always contributed to calls of relief and assisted worthy members in true fraternal spirit. Has supported a French war orphan for the past three years.

C. E. CALLENDER,

Clerk.

THE G. A. R.

York County has always been exceptionally loyal to the Civil war veterans and soldiers who served in any other war.

In the early days the old soldiers' reunions were events that could never be forgotten nor missed. Space will not permit going into any list of these many enjoyable occasions, but we will allow ourselves a detailed account of one held in 1880 and described by the Republican on August 18, 1880:

"The old soldiers' reunion last Saturday was an occasion of extraordinary interest. From Stewart to Henderson they filed in by scores and hundreds. D. Drauker, B. F. Cary and T. V. Smith formed the drum corps of the Robert Anderson Post. They were reinforced by Morgan H. Beech, fifer, and Billy McCullough, the old Orange man on the base drum of the Waco Post and they

with the Excelsior Band and Company D had the old soldiers to Gandy's maples on the hill east of town. There H. Q. Wright and his drilled squad of singers, with Mrs. Stilson at the organ, welcomed the heroes of the war for the Union. Colonel Crabb, the commander of the post, of course marshaled the cohorts and was in his happiest frame. Rev. E. C. Phiney of the Protestant Methodist Episcopal Church opened the exercises with prayer. Speeches were made by W. T. Scott, Doctor Knapp and Colonel Crabb, songs being interspersed. 'The Army Bean,' by the 'boys' was cheered to the echo. Tables were spread that would accommodate about four hundred at a sitting, and they were cleared two or three times. Speeches were made after dinner by William Bergen and D. R. Ralston, which were well received. After this the boys began to 'fall in' for the dress parade which was really the important part of the program. As the familiar call sounded, the old fire that had blazed out at Shiloh, Vicksburg, Lookout Mountain and a hundred other bloody fields, shone out on faces bronzed by years of sturdy toil since 'that cruel war was over.' Nine companies were counted off, commanded as follows: B. Crabb, colonel; John Lett, adjutant; S. E. Gandy, sergeant major; captains: A. J. B. Laycock, F. A. C. Ezerhart, D. F. A. Boynton, I. H. W. Fay, C. R. M. Lytle, H. J. W. Brabham, E. George Flock, K. H. Seymour, G. C. W. Hays. As far as we learned, the orderlies were as follows: Nathan Johnson, A. E. Hendricks, M. N. Myrick, G. W. Chapman, E. A. Warner, Albert Wilsey, G. A. Beck."

ROBERT ANDERSON POST

The activities of this post can be very comprehensively presented by giving the account of its organizations, its charter members, officiate and membership in 1895, from a little pamphlet issued at that time, and preserved these many years by Comrade John Lett. The same information for the Woman's Relief Corps will serve to signify who bore the burdens of the work of that wonderful auxiliary these many years.

To show how few of the comrades are still with us, there will be appended a roster of the eighty-seven Civil war veterans living in York County twenty years later, in 1915, and the reader will even there find many a name of beloved comrades who have answered the final roll call within the past six years.

ROBERT ANDERSON POST, NO. 32

Department of Nebraska, Grand Army of the Republic

This post was organized at York, Neb., January 23, 1880, with the following named comrades as charter members:

Charter Members

- Benjamin Crabb, late colonel Seventh Iowa Infantry.
- Lemuel J. Gandy, late private Company H, Seventh Iowa Infantry.
- Amos W. Gandy, late private Company E, Third Iowa Cavalry.
- Samuel Gandy, late private Company E, Third Iowa Cavalry.
- William M. Knapp, late lieutenant Company G, Fiftieth New York Infantry.

A. C. Montgomery, late lieutenant Company B, Eighty-second Pa. Infantry.
 David R. Ralston, late private Company H, 119th Illinois Infantry.
 John B. Laycock, late lieutenant Company I, Seventh Pennsylvania Infantry.
 John Lett, late private Company E, Eleventh Iowa Infantry.
 Elon Granger, late private Company I, Twentieth Iowa Infantry.
 H. C. Graves, late sergeant-major Company D, Sixty-fifth Illinois Infantry.
 J. W. Frost, late private Company I, Seventh Minnesota Infantry.
 Charles Penn, late private Company H, Twenty-fourth Iowa Infantry.
 George Flock, late private Company D, Sixth Iowa Infantry.
 Dillman Hutchison, late private Company I, Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry.
 A. H. Campbell, late lieutenant Company E, Fifty-third Illinois Infantry.
 T. L. Nichols, late private Company E, Third Wisconsin Infantry.
 W. H. Keckley, late sergeant Company E, Thirty-seventh Iowa Infantry.
 D. W. Keister, late private Company B, Twenty-eighth Pennsylvania Infantry.
 L. D. Mullen, late private Company C, First Indiana Cavalry.
 Jacob S. Gray, late private Company E, First Indiana Heavy Artillery.
 H. Q. Wright, late private Company I, Eleventh Illinois Infantry.
 T. V. Smith, late private Company A, Tenth Iowa Infantry.
 G. W. Allen, late private Company C, 148th Pennsylvania Infantry.
 F. M. Dillon, late private Company —, Twelfth Iowa Battery.
 A. M. Fansler, late private Company B, U. S. V. R. Corps.
 S. R. Lichtenberger, late private Company D, Fifteenth Illinois Infantry.
 N. M. Morgan, late private Company L, Second Wisconsin Artillery.
 John G. Eils, late sergeant Company E, Tenth Illinois Infantry.

In 1895, this sketch outlined the progress and status of this Post as follows:

"From this small beginning in 1880, the membership of this post has increased to 339 in 1895. Of course during these fifteen years many changes have taken place in our ranks, some comrades have been transferred to other posts in the county and throughout the country; others still, as will be seen, have been transferred to "The Silent Battalion" beyond the dark river. However, the majority of them are still residents of York County and vicinity.

Allen, G. W., 148th Pa., farmer	Bell, George, 3d Ky. Cav., miner
Allen, D. P., 2d Mich., farmer	Beyer, David, 146th Ind., tinner
Alberts, H. W., 1st Wisconsin Artillery, farmer	Beveridge, John R., 112th Ill., butcher
Allen, J. T., 138th Ill., merchant	Beck, George A., 13th Ill. Cavalry, farmer
Andrews, J. W., 4th Iowa Cavalry, farmer	Beck, Charles W., farmer
Addison, Julius A., 61st N. Y., farmer	Barber, Thomas L., 13th Wis. Art., farmer
Anderson, Charles, 11th Ind. Inf., plas- terer	Ball, Simeon N., 4th Wis. Cav., farmer
Austin, George, — Ill., farmer	Baldwin, S. S., 2d Ohio Cav., painter
Adams, W. R., 133d Ill., minister	Baldwin, John S., 2d Iowa, farmer
Alcott, L. C., 6th Mich. Cav., farmer	Baldwin, R. L., 22d Pa. Cav., barber
Bell, Andrew J., 35th Ohio, insurance	Bates, J. H., 7th Kan. Cav., farmer
Bell, George A., 2d Iowa, carpenter	Bates, Edward, 16th Ill. Inf., district judge

- Biek, John, 1st Iowa Inf., 5th Mo. Cav.,
 carpenter
 Bishop, William, 48th Wis., farmer
 Bergan, William, 62d Ohio, farmer
 Bowker, Homer H., 15th Ill. Inf., 2d
 U. S. V. V., police judge
 Blair, Cyrus, 11th Ill., farmer
 Blanchard, E. L., 3d Wisconsin, farmer
 Boslaw, C. G., 47th Ill., laborer
 Boynton, F. A., 7th Wis., farmer
 Buchanan, William C., 36th Ill., farmer
 Bowers, George W., Chi. Bd. Tr. Bat.,
 farmer
 Brooks, Jerome B., 11th Ohio, L. A.,
 9th U. S. V. V., farmer
 Brabham, J. W., 77th Ohio, farmer
 Brakeman, Lorenzo D., 169th Pa.,
 farmer
 Browning, H., 1st Mo. Art., butcher
 Bruner, F. M., 65th Ill., blacksmith
 Brubaker, A., 75th Ohio, coal dealer
 Brown, S. S., 3d Cal. Inf., farmer
 Brown, George, 48th Ill., farmer
 Brock, Charles P., 102d Ill., drayman
 Bullock, W. F., 2d Iowa Cav., farmer
 Bullock, R. J., 105th Ill., 44th Iowa,
 drayman
 Burns, Martin, 44th New York, farmer
 Buchanan, Z. S., 92d Ill., dairyman
 Burton, Thomas J., 101st Ind., minister
 Boyer, Joseph, 75th Ill., druggist
 Crofoot, John M., 23d Mo., laborer
 Castetter, D. S., 30th Iowa, contractor
 Campbell, A. H., 53d Ill., farmer
 Campbell, James, 94th Ill., farmer
 Cathcart, George, 65th Ill., drayman
 Carey, Benjamin, 36th Ill., farmer
 Carter, John E., 119th Ill., farmer
 Chittenden, E. F., 14th Ill. Inf., printer
 Clark, F. W., 4th Ill. Cav., farmer
 Chapman, Samuel S., 134th Pa., 3d Pa.
 H. A., painter
 Chapman, William G., 62d Pa., 155th
 Pa., painter
 Cole, W. O., 85th Ill., farmer
 Cook, George S., 47th Mass., Insurance
 Colt, P. H. K., 8th V. R. Corps, painter
 Conaway, John B., 5th Ind. B. T. L.
 O. V. C., 13th Ohio Cav., physician
 Cox, R. L., 84th Ill., laborer
 Creegan, John H., farmer
 Couch, Calvin B., 11th Ill. Cav., farmer
 Coy, L. R., 123d N. Y., farmer
 Conant, R. H., 33d Ill., farmer
 Corey, A. G., 44th Wis., farmer
 Crownover, F. L., 119th Ill., farmer
 Cross, J. H. N., 31st Iowa, farmer
 Cross, W. H., 9th N. Y. Cav., farmer
 Crabb, Benjamin, 7th Iowa, hotel
 keeper
 Cummins, William B., 2d Ill. Cav., ex-
 county judge
 Crawshaw, Adam, 14th U. S., farmer
 Cornell, A. C., 6th New Jersey, farmer
 Curtis A. B., 1st Wis. Cav., farmer
 Crosthwait, A. C., 103d Pa., minister
 Day, Charles F., 42d Iowa, farmer
 Day, Andrew J., 11th Pa., farmer
 Dale, Peter W., Chi. Bd. Tr. Bat.,
 farmer
 Dart, Wilson, 34th Iowa, farmer
 Davis, John A., 28th Iowa, farmer
 Davis, J. N., 36th Iowa, physician
 Davis, D. S., 126th Ill., minister
 Davis, A. S., 13th Ill., carpenter
 Davis, David, 51st Ill., carpenter
 Deremer, J. C., 50th Pa., laborer
 Dilley, W. T., 36th Ill., farmer
 Dillon, 12th Ill. Cav., farmer
 Dillon, F. M., 12th Iowa Bat., jeweler
 Dixon, George W., 131st Pa., shoemaker
 Doty, O. C., 4th Mich. Cav., carpenter
 Dorothy, C. H., 1st Minn., farmer
 Donovan, James W., 43d New York,
 farmer
 Draucher, David, 10th Iowa, policeman
 Draucher, A. M., 2d Iowa, farmer
 Douglass, J. M., 2d Ill. Cav., farmer
 Drake, Charles B., 141st New York,
 blacksmith
 Detrick, Hoyt M., 4th Iowa Cav.,
 farmer
 Dugger, George W., 32d Ill., 133d Ill.,
 farmer
 Dusenbury, William, 80th Ohio, farmer

- Durett, Henry, 3d Mich., plasterer
 Durett, Lewis, 27th Mich., plasterer
 Eells, John G., 40th Ill. Inf., laborer
 Eberhart, A. C., 10th Iowa Inf., farmer
 Eads, James R., 10th Iowa Inf., drayman
 Epley, Thomas C., 3d Iowa Cav., engineer
 Edwards, E., 27th Ohio, insurance
 Evans, L. L., 53d Ind., farmer
 Ellis, Harmon, 3d Iowa Cav., farmer
 Ellis, Joseph, 6th Iowa Inf., farmer
 Farley, Benjamin F., 69th Ill., physician
 France, George B., 21st Ind. Bat., attorney at law
 Flock, Morris, 36th Iowa, farmer
 Flock, George, 6th Iowa Inf., Ind.-Iowa Art., farmer
 Frost, J. W., 7th Minn., merchant
 Fenster, A., U. S. V. R. C., jeweler
 Farrel, J. B., 98th Ohio, wagonmaker
 Fay, Henry W., 47th Iowa, farmer
 Fuller, Henry E., 34th Ill., farmer
 Funk, E. H., 200th Pa., farmer
 Ferguson, Nelson M., 15th Ill. Inf., 147th Ill., real estate
 Fansler, A. M., — U. S. Res., farmer
 Fountain, Joseph, 12th Ill., painter
 Gandy, Lemuel J., 7th Iowa, pension attorney
 Gandy, Amos W., 3d Iowa Cav., farmer
 Gandy, Samuel E., 3d Iowa Cav., farmer
 Geiger, S. P., 24th Iowa, trader
 Gilbert, George E., 13th Wis. Bat., farmer
 Gilbert, Charles S., 11th Wis., carpenter
 Gilmore, Jacob R., 20th Ill., farmer
 Giauque, A. T., 5th Iowa, farmer
 Graves, 65th Ill., farmer
 Granger, Elon, 20th Iowa, carpenter
 Gray, Jacob S., 1st Ind. H. A., carpenter
 Graham, Rush W., 129th Ill., farmer
 Graham, Jonathan, 6th Ind. Cav., farmer
 Grobe, Henry, 15th Ill. Inf., farmer
 Goble, James, 23d Ind., farmer
 Haggard, Charles P., 3d Mo. Cav., farmer
 Harvey, George W., 7th Mo. Cav., farmer
 Harrison, John F., 17th Ohio Bat., 63d U. S. Col. Tr., farmer
 Hampton, John, 1st Iowa, farmer
 Hill, Charles, 26th Iowa, farmer
 Hager, John, 105th Pa., farmer
 Hamilton, James H., 17th Iowa, sheriff
 Hayes, Charles W., 1st Ohio Cav., farmer
 Hendricks, A. E., 2d Mo. Cav., farmer
 Hendrick, Daniel, 36th Iowa, farmer
 Heath, O. S., 18th Wis., farmer
 Heaton, E. M., 13th Ill., farmer
 Hiatt, W. J., 10th W. Va., farmer
 High, S. R., 15th Ill., contractor
 High, Solomon M., 3d Colo. Cav., contractor
 Howe, Sidney A., 65th Ill., contractor
 Howe, Benjamin, 39th Wis., barber
 Hoyt, Daniel W., 119th Ill., stock dealer
 Hutchison, Dillman, 36th Iowa, livery stable
 Hull, Peter S., 21st Pa. Cav., contractor
 Hudson, R. L., 10th Pa., farmer
 Huffman, L. D., 142d Ill., farmer
 Hunt, Henry H., 1st Mo. Eng'rs, contractor
 Hurlbut, George J., U. S. Navy, farmer
 Japhet, William M., 64th N. Y., laborer
 Johnson, Nathan, 49th N. Y., farmer
 Johnson, William, 127th Ill., farmer
 Johnson John, 14th U. S. Col. Tr., laborer
 Johnson, Wm. H., 15th Mich., farmer
 Jones, J. T., 3d Iowa Cav., banker
 Keith, George J., 3d Pa. Art., contractor
 Keister, D. W., 28th Pa., contractor
 Keckley, William H., 37th Iowa, farmer
 Keckley, Charles R., 22d Iowa, farmer
 Keeler, O. D., 100th Ill., farmer

- Kealiher, John, 2d Mo. Cav., farmer
 Kingston, J. W., 19th Mich., farmer
 Kirtland, H. J., 105th Ill., farmer
 Kingsley, J. C., 86th Ill., real estate
 Klump, Jacob, 39th Ill., farmer
 Knapp, William M., 50th N. Y., physician
 La Diew, N. J., 4th Ill. Cav., laborer
 Laycock, John B., 7th Pa., farmer
 Lett, John, 11th Iowa, farmer
 Le Count, S. N., 3d Wis., hardware
 Lefler, James H., 4th Ind. Cav., farmer
 Lemon, James, 44th Ill., farmer
 Lichtenberger, Sam'l, 15th Ill., farmer
 Logan, Robert D., 36th Ill., farmer
 Long, Horace, 18th Ohio, engineer
 Lytle, Robert M., 2d Iowa Inf., 20th Iowa Inf., farmer
 Love, William M., 81st Ind., farmer
 Leach, Robert E., 32d Wis., farmer
 Larkin, Carlos W., 34th Iowa, minister
 Larkin, John A., 6th Iowa, farmer
 McFadden, William, 44th Ill., farmer
 McTaggart, Neill, 77th Ohio, engineer
 Mayo, George W., 7th Ill. Cav., farmer
 Meeker, W. D., 28th Ill., pension attorney
 Metcalf, La Fayette, 35th Iowa, grain dealer
 Medlar, J. L., 92d Ill., farmer
 Meloy, David, 107th Ill., farmer
 McCabe, John, 1st Wis. Art., farmer
 McCarty, Edward, 4th Ill. Cav., farmer
 McCann, P. F., 15th Maine, blacksmith
 McClaes, J. H., 8th Ind. Cav., farmer
 McDaniel, William, 36th Iowa, street commissioner
 Martin, Jerima, 3d Wis., farmer
 Miller, James P., 4th Iowa Cav., 138th U. S. Col. Tr., auctioneer
 Miller, O. M., 30th Iowa, farmer
 Miller, Wm. H. H., 5th Ill. Cav., farmer
 Miller, W. J., 129th Ill., farmer
 Miller, Robert K., 4th Iowa Cav., farmer
 Miller, William, 9th Ind., farmer
 Miller, John W., 168th Ohio, barber
 Mills, E. P., 126th Ind., insurance agent
 Morgan, N. M., 2d Wis. Art., farmer
 Morgan, William E., 8th Ill. Cav., minister
 Moore, D. M., 64th Ill., farmer
 Moores, George D., 34th Ill., farmer
 Mosbarger, John A., 135th Ill., farmer
 Montgomery, A. C., 82d Pa., county judge
 Mullen, D. R., 1st Ind. Cav., railroading
 Munger, O. S., 50th Ill., blacksmith
 Mullihan, Sanford, 3d R. I. Art., timber
 Myers, George B., 135th Ind., farmer
 Myers, George, 10th Iowa, farmer
 Manning, R. S., 2d Ill. Art., farmer
 Myers, B. F., 151st Ill., farmer
 Myrick, Myron N., 16th Ill., 127th Ill., farmer
 Nichols, H. M., 1st Mich. Art., farmer
 Nichols, U. L., 3d Wis., farmer
 Newman, George S., 38th Ind., farmer
 Newville, Le Roy, 1st N. Y. Rifles, laborer
 Norton, Reuben D., 107th Ill., saddler
 Onthwaite, M. C., 128th Ind., merchant
 Otis, Anson M., 16th Wis., carpenter
 Osborn, J. A., 45th Pa., blacksmith
 Paine, J. O., 36th Iowa, farmer
 Potts, George, 40th Wis., farmer
 Parris, F. J., 14th Vermont, farmer
 Parker, W. R., 4th Wis. Cav., farmer
 Parker, J. H., 91th Ill., farmer
 Parker, W. H., 86th Ill., farmer
 Penn, Charles, 24th Iowa, blacksmith
 Pierson, T. B., 13th Iowa, farmer
 Pennington, Thomas, 11th Ill. Cav., farmer
 Pembleton, Martin, 104th Pa., tinner
 Pettis, Sedgwick W., 27th Wis., farmer
 Porter, Thomas, 44th Ill., farmer
 Post, George W., 46th Iowa, banker
 Powell, W. V., 39th Ind., farmer
 Prewitt, Goldson, 30th Iowa, carpenter
 Prewitt, James, 30th Iowa, farmer
 Pringle, Robert, 85th Ill., plasterer
 Purcell, Wm. B., 10th Ill., gardener

- Puryear, Philip, 4th Ind. Cav., merchant
- Ralston, D. R., 119th Ill., attorney at law
- Raper, Francis A., 84th Ill., tailor
- Randolph, J. F., 27th Mo., farmer
- Randall, W. H., 2d Neb., farmer
- Reed, George R., 166th Ohio, insurance
- Reed, John D., 133d Ind., attorney at law
- Reeves, Robert, 92d Ill., farmer
- Reisinger, Emanuel, 149th Pa., shoemaker
- Richards, Martin, 34th Ill., laborer
- Richter, William, 50th Ill., laborer
- Rittner, D. A., 140th Pa., farmer
- Ross, F. M., 13th Wis., trader
- Rogers, A. H., 29th Iowa, farmer
- Rossiter, George, 7th Ill. Inf., 106th Ill., farmer
- Rush, John W., 129th Ill., farmer
- Russell, William J., 88th Ill., farmer
- Ryman, B. F., 7th Ind. Cav., plasterer
- Sanderson, Wm. A., 34th Iowa, farmer
- Scott, J. C., 92d Ohio, carpenter
- Shockey, A. C., 135th Pa., stonemason
- Shockey, Jairus, 87th Pa., farmer
- Seymour, Benjamin, 22d Wis., farmer
- Seymour, Henry, 14th Ill. Cav., machinery
- Shafer, J. A., 84th Ill., merchant
- Shafer, Lewis, 6th Iowa Cav., farmer
- Shipman, Richard C., 6th Iowa Inf., contractor
- Shultz, D. H., 137th Ill., 11th Ill. Cav., farmer
- Shackelford, M. J., 86th Ill., farmer
- Shurlock, Park, 100th Pa., farmer
- Simmons, B. R., 2d Iowa Bat., farmer
- Slawson, Moses, 107th N. Y., farmer
- Sloan David, 26th Ind., farmer
- Small, James W., 2d Ill. A., stockman
- Sovereign, Milton, 31st Ill., real estate
- Smith, T. V., 10th Iowa, farmer
- Smith, Jacob, 19th U. S. Inf., farmer
- Smith, J. P., 17th Pa. Cav., farmer
- Smith, N. T., 1st Iowa, merchant
- Smith, S. A., 12th Ohio Cav., plasterer
- Smith, J. D., 12th Ohio Cav., laborer
- Spellman, Charles S., 10th Mass., miller
- Spaulding, Augustus, 9th N. J., farmer
- Steepleton, 66th Ind., carpenter
- Stewart, James, 2d Cal. Cav., farmer
- Stewart, J. W., 64th Ill., minister
- Stevens, Thomas F., 122d Ill., attorney at law
- Stilson, Lyman D., 49th N. Y., carpenter
- Stout, Abner, 7th Ohio Bat., farmer
- Swanson, Swan, 1st Mo. Engr's, farmer
- Taylor, W. S., 11th Wis., mechanic
- Thamer, Casper G., 47th Ill., farmer
- Torrence, George, 7th Wis., farmer
- Towle, John T., 3d Wis., farmer
- Tracey, J. A., 95th Ill., farmer
- Tussey, James, 34th Ill., farmer
- Vanberg, Charles, 5th Mich., farmer
- Walsh, John, 64th Ill., county jailer
- Walkup, David, 19th Iowa, farmer
- Walkup, John W., 19th Iowa, farmer
- Wellman, Alonzo, 105th Ohio, farmer
- Weitzel, M., 39th Ill., farmer
- Westervelt, Peter J., 146th Ill., shoemaker
- Warner, E. A., 5th Mich. Cav., farmer
- Wagner, S. J., 17th Ohio, farmer maker
- Wheeler, Lyman S., 25th Mass., farmer
- Wheeler, W. W., 4th Mich. Cav., farmer
- Wilsey, Albert, 147th Ill., farmer
- Wilcox, W. R., 25th Mich., farmer
- Wintersteen, P. N., 13th Ohio Cav., insurance agent
- Williams, O. W., 128th Ind., machinist
- Winnie, J. G., 16th N. Y. Art., farmer
- Winslow, L. B., 7th Minn., farmer
- Worley, D. B., 96th N. Y., professor of music
- Worley, J. C., 135th Ill., insurance
- Wray, E. S., 150th Ill., laborer
- Wright, Henry Q., 11th Ill., carpenter
- Wyckoff, A. D., 64th Ill., minister
- Wirt, Aaron W., 2d Bat., 18th U. S., grain dealer
- Wilcox, A., 4th Mich. Cav., blacksmith
- Young, Milton J., 62d Ohio, farmer
- Young, C. H., 1st Mich., farmer

YORK COUNTY'S CIVIL WAR VETERANS IN 1915 NUMBERED 87

Name	Residence	Company	Battery, Vessel or Regiment	From State of
Albert, H. W.	York	F	1	Wis.
Applegard, W. H.	Waco	D	11	Minn.
Augustine, P. S.	Stromsburg	H	188	Pa.
Arbuckle, D.	York	B	137	Ill.
Barber, Thomas	York		13 L. Art.	
Bullock, R. J.	York	H	105	Ill.
Buhk, Harry	York	K	4 Cav.	
Bowers, George	York			Ill.
Babcock, William	Lushton	G	Sharp S.	Wis.
Babcock, A. J.	Bradshaw		7 Art.	Ohio
Cooper, C. M.	York	H	6	Iowa
Couch, C. B.	York	H	11	Ill.
Cutler, R. E.	York	H	163	
Codgill, M.	York	F	28	Ill.
Calkins, H. J.	York	K	24	Iowa
Copsey, E. D.	York	F	8	Wis.
Church, P.	York	K	62	Pa.
Chapman, W. G.	York	K	62	Pa.
Custer, C. C.	York	L	7	Ind.
Cook, George S.	York	I	47	Mass.
Coburn, S. G.	Bradshaw	D	97	Ind.
Clark, R. O.	Bradshaw	B	85	Ill.
Detrick, H. M.	York	D	4	Iowa
Dereemer, J. C.	York	C	52	Pa.
Doty, O. M.	York	F	4	Mich.
Deason, N.	York	A	81	Ill.
Deboer, John	McCool	D	31	Ill.
Dey, John B.	Bradshaw	F	8	Iowa
Douglas, J. W.	Benedict	I	2	Ill.
Evans, Ezekiel	York	R	118	Ill.
Evans, J. J.	York	G	2	Ill.
Edsen, George C.	York	E	1	Neb.
Farley, B. E.	York	F	141	Ill.
Folts, George	York	B	40	Wis.
Fay, H. W.	Bradshaw	K	47	Iowa
Funk, Albert H.	Bradshaw	B	191	Pa.
Giauque, A. T.	York	H	5	Iowa
Graham, J. W.	McCool	K	197	Ohio
Gerris, John B.	McCool			
Hager, John	York	C	105	Pa.
Harwood, R.	York	C	110	Pa.
Hayworth, George	McCool	E	135	Ind.
Hohembaum, William	Waco			Pa.
Hastings, D. A.	Bradshaw	F	111	Ind.
Ittner, John	York	B	Body G.	Mo.

Name	Residence	Company	Battery, Vessel or Regiment	From State of
James, Robert.....	York	3	L. Art.	
Kerwood, T.....	York	B	106	Ill.
Kirtland, H. J.....	York	11	105	Ill.
Kingslover, C.....	Gresham	H	28	Wis.
Kisler, Henry.....	Arborville	B	152	Ind.
Keeler, O. D.....	Benedict	D	100	Ill.
Keith, G. J.....	Benedict			Pa.
Ledford, William.....	McCool			Ind.
Luny, J. L.....	York	G	1	Ill.
Love, William M.....	York	E	81	Ind.
Lanphere, H. C.....	Gresham			Ill.
Miltner, August.....	Waco	I	147	Ill.
McFadden, William.....	McCool	C	44	Ill.
Mays, G. W.....	York	A	5	Ill.
McClees, J. H.....	York	I	8	Ind.
Murphy, H. A.....	York	E	49	Wis.
McDonald, D.....	York		Navy	Neb.
Owing, Walter.....	Bradshaw	D	4	Mo.
Putnam, George.....	York	E	58	Ohio
Pembleton, M. L.....	York	A	104	Pa.
Pickrel, Harvey.....	York	A	14 Cav.	Ill.
Purington, Charles.....	Waco	I	46	Wis.
Robins, M.....	York	K	68	Ind.
Rogers, George.....	York	G	145	Ill.
Reisinger, E.....	York	D	149	Pa.
Ruch, Phillip.....	Bradshaw		17	Ill.
Stutlerdt, Heber.....	Waco	I	N. N. G.	Neb.
Smith, J. H.....	McCool	F	88	Pa.
Staley, F. M.....	York	E	132	Pa.
Summers, E. J.....	York	D	4 Cav.	Ind.
Smith, Jacob.....	York	F	1 Bat.	
Smith, S. A.....	York	I	12	
Somers, T. A.....	York	U	99	Ill.
Schoemaker, Albert.....	York	C	47	Ill.
Snyder, Casper.....	Lushton	B	31	Wis.
Tucker, J. M.....	York	K	11	Ill.
Thomas, W. A.....	Lushton	F	84	Ill.
Thamer, C. G.....	York	B	47	Ill.
Wolford, L. E.....	York	F	8 Cav.	Iowa
Weaver, A. R.....	York	B	29	Wis.
Wirt, Aaron.....	York	B	2 Bat., 18	Wis.
Warner, E. A.....	York	I	5 Cav.	Mich.
Wilkins, W. J.....	York	G	4	Ill.
Wilson, J. H.....	York	H	147	N. Y.
Welch, Jacob.....	Waco	H	78	Ill.
Wiseman, John.....	Henderson	K	62	Iowa

YORK COUNTY'S SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR VETERANS NUMBERED 17

Name	Residence	Company	Battery, Vessel or Regiment	From State of
Corcoran, D. T.....	York	A	1	Neb.
Conaty, H. J.....	Bradshaw	E	3	Wyo.
Halstead, Murry.....	Stromsburg	H	3	Neb.
Knapp, T. F.....	McCool	Band	2	Neb.
Karrer, F. W.....	Benedict	E	1	Neb.
Moulton, Fred.....	York	A	Navy	Cal.
Olson, A.....	York	A	Navy	Cal.
Price, Harry W.....	York	A	51	Iowa
Reisinger, Herbert.....	York	A	1	Neb.
Root, Dr. B. A.....	York	B	3	Neb.
Ramsey, Homer.....	Polk	H	3	Neb.
Smith, William.....	McCool	H	3	Neb.
Schroder, F. W.....	York	K	2	Neb.
Stepleton, John.....	York	A	1	Neb.
Stall, C. R.....	Waco	H	1	Neb.
Williams, Frank C.....	Gresham	B	23	Kan.
Wright, J. R.....	Lushton	K	31	Ky.

WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS

The first movement toward forming an auxiliary relief corps was when several comrades talked over the suggestion and afterward at a meeting of the post, early in 1883, a committee was appointed to request the attendance of the ladies to meet for consultation. Only one comrade and three ladies put in an appearance. Later on the post invited their wives and daughters to attend their next meeting, and ascertain how many would sign for a charter for a woman's relief corps for Robert Anderson Post. The result was very gratifying; between thirty and forty names were handed in, each accompanied with one dollar to pay for charter and badges. Post Commander Laycock wrote to national headquarters at Boston, Mass. (there being no department of Nebraska at that time). November 13, 1883, the commander instituted in the presence of the post the "Robert Anderson Woman's Relief Corps, No. 5, auxiliary to Robert Anderson Post No. 32," and installed the following as officers: President, Mrs. Juliet G. Howe; senior vice president, Mrs. Lizzie Newman; chaplain, Mrs. Barbara Chapman; secretary, Mrs. Nettie Hartin; treasurer, Mrs. L. D. Stilson; conductor, Mrs. Jennie Andrews; guard, Mrs. Lillian Baldwin.

Following is a list of the charter members of Woman's Relief Corps No. 5:

Juliet G. Howe	Ellen Johnson	Sarah C. Bullock
Lizzie Newman	Phoebe Addison	Barbara Draucher
Maggie Jones	Mariette Parkinson	Anna Davis
Nettie Hartin	Carrie Ellis	Rebecca McCarty
La Dell Stilson	Miranda Larkin	Alvira Flock
Maggie Chapman	Martha Carter	Margaret Gandy
Barbara Chapman	Amanda Baldwin	Annie Hendricks

Jennie Andrews	Susan Richter	Melissa Cross
Mary Meeker	Lizzie T. Reed	Phoebe Hull
Adeline Boynton	Alice Bowker	Calista Rossiter
Calista Myrick	Annie Campbell	Lilian Baldwin

	<i>Presidents</i>	<i>Secretaries</i>
1883.....	Juliet G. Howe.....	Nettie Hartin
1884.....	Juliet G. Howe.....	Nettie Hartin
1885.....	Ladell Stilson.....	Mary M. Reed
1886.....	Juliet G. Howe.....	Mary M. Reed
1887.....	M. E. Wheeler.....	R. McCarty
1888.....	M. E. Wheeler.....	La Dell Stilson
1889.....	Juliet G. Howe.....	Mary A. Small
1890.....	Emma Farley.....	Mary A. Small
1891.....	La Dell Stilson.....	Calista Rossiter
1892.....	Carrie B. Parris.....	Calista Rossiter
1893.....	La Dell Stilson.....	Louisa Bullock
1894.....	Carrie B. Parri.....	Louisa Bullock
1895.....	L. Burton.....	Louisa Bullock

AUXILIARY WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS NO. 5 IN 1895

A	Conaway, Matilda	Hoyt, Sarah M.
Anderson, Eliza	Cannon, Phoebe	Huffman, Lydia
Arnold, Martha O.	D	Hampton, Jennie
B	Davis, Mary	Hankins, Sarah A.
Burton, Lucinda	Detrick, Virginia C.	Hull, Tillie
Beck, Sarah	Day, Frances A.	I
Bruner, L. J.	Deremer, Maggie	Hgenfritz, Dora
Booker, Sarah E.	Dale, Almira	J
Barnes, Marinda D.	Durett, Sarah	Johnson, Julia F.
Brown, Julia A.	Dean, Belinda	Johnson, Mary E.
Bullock, Louisa T.	DeNoyer, Mary	Jackson, R. T.
Beggs, Mina	E	Japhet, Marietta
Bullock, Clara	Eads, Harriet	K
Blanchard, Ann	F	Klump, Jane
Bick, Augusta	Farley, Emma	Knogo, Carrie
Ball, Beulah	Flock, Elizabeth	L
Bryerton, Emma	Fisher, Ida M.	Larkin, Sarah
Bell, Lucy A.	G	Lefler, Sarah M.
Brooks, Mary O.	Gojger, Esther	Lefler, Walker May
C	Giller, Mary E.	Latham, Etta
Cook, Anna	Gandy, Carrie	Love, Mary M.
Crabb, Ruth	Garternicht, Amelia	M
Cross, Agnes	Graham, Mary A.	Morgan, W. E.
Crosthwaite, Emma H.	H	Moore, Mary
Cook, Mary	Higby, Elizabeth	McDaniel, C. A.
Coy, Sarah W.	Huff, Elizabeth	McDonough, Rosa

McCulley, Henrietta	R	Smith, Libbie
Mullibau, Sarah	Randolph, Octavia	Steinbach, Hattie A.
Martin, Alice	Raper, Elizabeth	Seed, Louise
Miller, Emma	Randall, Charlotte	Stewart, Mary G.
Miller, Freda	Richards, Sarah	T
Miller, Cynthia	Rouch, Lucy E.	Towle, Sarah M.
Miller, Maria	Reed, Mary	Tucker, Sarah
Medlar, Sarah	Reed, Mary	Tucker, Eva
Marsfield, Frances	Reynolds, Elizabeth	W
Moores, E. C.	Reisinger, Elizabeth	Wheeler, Mary E.
McTaggart, Mrs.	S	Wirt, Jane
N	Shackelford, Emma	Wohlgamuth, Elitha
Newell, Hanna	Small, Mary A.	Winnie, Carrie E.
O	Stevens, Abigail	Wilkins, Harriet P.
Osborn, Barbara	Shufelt, Emily	Wood, Ida M.
P	Shipman, Catharine	Wirt, Jennie L.
Parris, Carrie B.	Small, Aurelia F.	Winslow, Mary E.
Parker, Lydia	Spellman, Amelia	Wintersteen, May
Purcell, Mary	Shafer, J. A.	Worley, Catharine
Pembleton, Mattie	Sovereign, Nancy A.	

SONS AND GRANDSONS

The following press excerpt describes the start of this organization in York County:

Descendants of Veterans Organize Camp in This City

John Lett Camp is the name very properly bestowed upon an organization of Sons of Veterans effected in this city during the week of July 4, 1918. The new feature in local military affairs starts off with thirty-six charter members, and there is every promise that it will grow. Pat Barrows of Lincoln was the installing officer and he was assisted by State Auditor Smith, division commander; Paul Goss, senior division commander; L. W. Garoutte, counselor; Messrs. Hiram Myers, Frank Mills, G. E. Stille and George A. Dart, all of the capital city, were also present.

The officers of the new formation are: W. G. Liggett, commander; E. B. Koon, S. V. C.; R. M. Rankin, J. V. C.; W. W. Wyckoff, M. O. McLaughlin and J. H. Newbold, camp counsel; Rev. S. Harvey, chaplain; Rev. L. R. Bobbitt, patriotic instructor; Chas. F. Stroman, guide; L. F. Richardson, color bearer; Harry Shipman, inside guard; Lee Warman, outside guard; George DeBord, treasurer, and Raymond Woodrum, secretary.

Let us include a recent appreciation penned of the noble purposes of this organization:

SONS OF VETERANS

By invitation of Commander Lett we visited with him John Lett Camp S. of V. last Thursday night at Fraternal Hall, it being the regular meeting, the one proscribed for the election of officers. This visit awakened some thoughts, some reflections, which, while no one has suggested that they be by me given, yet

pardon me if in obedience to the impulse, always strong, I break into the good old Republican office long enough to delineate a few of these same reflections. First, that although the young organization is somewhat impeded in its onward push by certain conditions, yet we could not but admire the spirit manifested by those present at that meeting. They extended their lease of life by the selection of a full corps of officers which no doubt will come to the public from an official and, therefore, more authentic source.

We speak of the spirit of these Sons. Why should they not display spirit? Some, yes many, of these boys are gray headed, indicating that they were begotten and born while their honored fathers—and mothers—were yet in the full flush of their conscious achievements, the preservation of our Union, its flag returned with not a star of its blue field erased, not a stripe nor a line of its illustrious history torn nor besmirched. Begotten and born in the full tide of virile patriotism do we say, and is it any wonder that this large class now in full possession of the world's business and world's affairs should manifest somewhat of spirit? We are proud of them. They, with our Daughters of Veterans, who, as we learn, have effected a fine organization, strong both numerically and morally, are our rightful, our only logical legatees. We are proud of them, both and each, and feel a good degree of confidence in their will and ability to care for and perpetuate the proud legacy we so soon, even now, must bequeath them. May they prove true to their trust, a united country one, one respected and feared alike by the whole world; whose flag, untarnished, floats freely over all; symbolizing the central tenet of our good government, "Equal Rights for All, Special Privileges for None."

—A VETERAN.

THE AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 19, DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA

April 22, 1919, a group of ex-service men met in County Court room at the request of York County Commercial Club and founded the York County World War Veteran Association.

On April 29, 1919, they met again and elected Geo. H. Holdeman commander; Edward White, senior vice commander; D. D. King, junior vice commander; Harry Hubbel, secretary; and Leigh Lincoln, treasurer. This continued as such during the summer till September 25, 1919, when it was voted to transfer organization as a whole and take up charter of York Post No. 19, American Legion Department of Nebraska, which had been procured by fifteen members only in order to facilitate matters. The first officers after taking over American Legion charter were: D. D. King, commander; Wray Edwards, vice commander; Wendell Froid, secretary; and Edward Shrigley, treasurer. Wendell Froid later resigned and Peter Meehan was elected secretary.

The post has taken active part in all Decoration Day and other patriotic programs. Has held memorial services for departed comrades, etc.; maintains splendid club rooms, with ball room in connection; also houses the Woman's Auxiliary. York Post organized the first Woman's Auxiliary in the State of Nebraska under the rules as laid down at the Minneapolis convention.

The present officers are: D. D. King, commander; Wray Edwards, first vice commander; Edward White, second vice commander; Peter Meehan, adjutant;

Edward Shrigley, finance officer. The executive committee consists of the above officers and Geo. Hopkins, John Aultand and Irvin Askine.

The roster of membership of the American Legion Post late in 1920 shows:

George H. Holdeman	Emmet H. Ross	E. Loyal Roggy
Dexter D. King	Eda Helena Ziegelbein	Edward Myers
Brown C. Woodbury	Lucy Ree Inbody	Leigh Lincoln
Wendell Oscar Froid	Ralph Herman Stone	Ralph E. Monson
Harold J. Requartte	Louis Patrick Maguire	John J. Black
John R. Reisbeck	Rudolph A. Rademacker	J. A. Krumback
Reuben F. Blacketer	Peter A. Meehan	Lloyd Richards
James Stephen Casey	George Harrison Beyer	Harry H. Thompson
Walter Green	Alvin Leland Dodson	Lynn R. Sparling
Ernest Victor Ellis	Grant Baker	Walter L. Will
Alphonse G. Zimmerer	Francis Marion Hum-	Howard E. Mapps
Evan Holock	phrey	Ralph E. Cox
Kelly Lee Holcomb	Eugene F. Moore	Rae M. Piercee
Lyle M. Broek	Frank B. Stowe	Dr. J. N. Plumb
Rollie Clifford Johnson	Charles O. Sears	Daniel Chilcote
N. T. Rakestraw	Horace Olim Bottum	John R. Steel
Max S. Gleason	Thomas W. O'Brien	Richard G. Talbot
John M. Anderson	Floyd O. Cooper	Kenneth F. Wert
Lois A. Kirkpatrick	Lee Norman Anderson	Clifford Bisset
William Francis Keefe	Harry Wayne Summers	Russel J. Rogers
Chester Stanley Mc-	James William Browitt	Ira L. Baker
Kenzie	Harry W. Moore	Charles I. Hannis
Ralph James Danley	Guy T. Morgan	Edwin W. Otto
Fred Nelson Miller	William Green	John S. Gardner
Harlan Valentine Boyer	Guy Thomas Buswell	Maria S. Ziegelbein
Francis Edward Perry	Thomas J. Van Decar	Earl N. Samuelson
Roy L. Harrison	Earl E. Wood	Fred C. Voss, Jr.
Roseoe C. Hitchcock	Frank H. Price	Edwin R. Stimson
Clifford G. Hill	Paul E. Peterson	A. Geil
Archie R. Rhoads	Henry Williams	Floyd D. Cox
Percy W. Hardesty	John Alt	Arthur Bell
Simon S. Partlow	James S. Bell	Everett B. Bellows
Lowell L. Calhoon	Leonard H. Chambers	C. L. Brewer
James D. Hulett	James Thomas Peters	Lester S. Morrison
Ralph C. Proffitt	Marion B. Schmelzel	Charles M. Cox
John Edward Jeske	Tony E. Blount	M. F. Mulvaney
Earl Warner	Clarence A. Stephens	Elbert F. Bowers
Homer Lester Zentz	Clarkson N. Olmsted	Hugh A. Arnold
Henry A. Gillan	H. C. Carpenter	Herbert L. Loomis
Felix Wholstenholm	Irvin Askine	Paul H. Hopper
Arthur G. Schwarz	Floyd A. Rice	Leo V. Jacks
Clarence H. Bell	Warren F. Sturtevant	Roy H. Larson
Herbert August Freitag	Joseph E. Shrigley	J. K. Melcer
Lloyd Louis L. Lindberg	Roy D. Purcel	Andrew F. Irwin

W. W. Stevenson	John F. Kaliff	Horace S. McCartney
Tom L. Hayes	Clara B. McReynolds	Roy E. Fox
Roy E. Anderson	Elijah A. Levitt	Henry C. Becker
Lewis H. John	Carl W. Nelms	Marion W. Graham
Thomas H. Leddy	C. J. Wertz	Willard E. Bullock
Clarence W. Myers	Fred H. Richardson	Henry A. Hessler
Edwin Dean Chambers	Clyde E. McKinley	Charles H. Stewart
John Brehm	Alice G. Adlerback	Darrell T. Robertson
Lawrence W. Cox	Leo V. Beckord	Wm. J. Stewart
Andrew J. Eberle	Eugene A. Bishop	Henry W. Wellhuan
Charles Leader	George B. Hopkins	Walter W. Wellman
Frank Baker	E. G. White	Harry Hedrick
Floyd C. Thompson	W. Everett James	Walter R. Mohring
Harold L. Myers	Chas. Bradwell	Geo. A. Shroyer
Otto Leroy Kaliff	Clyde Little	Harry L. Hubbell
		Harry E. Palmer

The York Woman's Auxiliary No. 1 of the American Legion, Department of Nebraska held their first meeting at the District Court room November 28, 1919. This meeting was called by Dr. D. D. King, commander of the American Legion Post No. 19 of York, for the purpose of organizing the Woman's Auxiliary. At a meeting held at the Hotel McCloud December 5, 1919, a temporary constitution was adopted and the following officers elected: Mrs. J. C. McKinley, chairman; Miss Imogene Thomas, vice chairman; Mrs. H. F. Requartte, secretary; Miss Hazel Stowe, treasurer. The auxiliary has given a reception to legion and ex-service men, has furnished a reception room at the Legion Hall, helps to pay rent of hall and plans to aid the American Legion at all times.

Roy E. Carlisle	Frank H. Schall	Lawrence C. Robson
Fred A. Muir	W. E. Castile	Leo T. Sackschewsky
Clarence E. Foster	Edwin A. Busk	Woodson Spurlock
Earl D. Richards	J. E. McCarty	Chas. E. Croson
James G. Felton	Jas. J. Beauseigneur	Andy C. Eberle
Clark S. Pine	Elmer L. Spray	P. J. Van Vleet
Lawrence B. Myers	Frank L. Munro	Alpha Morrow
Charles L. Millholen	John L. Wochner	Ernest E. Berger
Alvin E. Chuman	Frank B. Voss	Veral S. Joekisch
Carl A. V. Samuelson	Frank W. Taylor	James L. Campbell
Hubert L. White	Floyd Stone	H. D. Casler
Elmer W. Shuttleworth	Geo. W. Noler	Alkana B. Cantrell
Frank T. Miller	Vern M. Elliott	Chester L. Miller
Sheridan C. Howley	Walter P. Matlock	Albert C. Carmichael
Chas. A. Baker	Thomas E. Dryden	H. C. Salmen
Earl E. Schmelzel	Dan H. Berger	Edward L. Gould
Carl W. Weber	Lloyd E. Cottrell	Howard A. Mansfield
Chas. M. Laird	Albert E. Whitehead	Adolph O. Smaha
Peter A. Dill	Walter B. Hillberg	Frank M. Bottum
Patrick M. McGowan	Geo. A. Jenkins	Benj. H. Coonley
Ralph E. DeBoer	Evan E. Miller	James Volyick

Edwin R. May	Ross Mansir	Walter Wieland
James B. McGuire	Ernest A. Marquardt	Roy M. Larsen
Wade M. McCallon	Bryce D. Tracy	Harry Roberts
L. V. Newman	Geo. R. Wilkins	Guy B. Thompson
Fred Carlisle	Chester L. Johnson	John E. Bennett
Archie Gray	Clarence M. Bray	John W. Schmalz
Louis E. Gould	Glenn I. Voyles	Fred P. McCarty
J. O. Rich	Dean W. Myers	Henry M. Hiebert

AFFAIRS OF OTHER DAYS

By way of calling back the mind to the character of social affairs of a couple decades ago, the following few excerpts have been chosen of various sorts of social activities that ruled in the social calendar of the past.

YORK DRIVING CLUB

The first matinee of the York Driving Club will be held at the fair grounds Saturday, May 27, 1893.

Program

Green race, trot or pace.

Three minute race.

2:45 mixed, trot or pace.

Half mile running race.

All races two best in three; entrance fee \$2.50 in all races. Entries close at 11:50 same day.

This club will make good races, open to the world, on July 4th.

YORK ATHLETIC CLUB

A meeting was held in the District Court rooms May 27, 1897, to further discuss the question of organizing an athletic club, which resulted in an organization to be known as the York Athletic Club. The organization starts out with a membership of forty members. The officers elected were A. W. Richardson, president; W. W. Wyckoff, secretary; T. E. Hamilton, treasurer. W. H. Boyer and Clyde Waterman were elected as directors.

OLD SETTLERS' PICNIC

The Old Settlers' Historical Society will hold its annual picnic and elect officers for the ensuing year on Saturday, October 2, 1897, at the courthouse in York. All old settlers and their families are cordially invited to be present. Come and bring well filled baskets. Hot coffee will be furnished free to all. The forenoon will be spent in a social good time, and the renewal of old acquaintance. The following program has been prepared for the afternoon:

Program

Called to order by the president.

Prayer by Rev. D. Broadwell.

Song.

Address of welcome, A. C. Montgomery.

Response by the president.

Recitation, Miss Anna Dean.

Song.

Annual address by Rev. J. H. Presson.

Recitation, Miss Bessie Lett.

Experience meeting.

Five minute talks on early experience. This is to give all an opportunity to tell why and how they came, what they did and how they lived, and why they stayed. Let this meeting be improved by all.

Recitation, Earl Myers.

Roll call of those who have resided in the county twenty years and over, by years.

Election of officers.

Song.

Benediction.

J. P. MILLER, *President*.

E. A. BUTTERFIELD, *Secretary*.

YORK MILITARY BAND—1891

The new band as it is now constituted is comprised as follows. The new instruments, which cost \$1,000, are now in full blast.

Cornet Bb, Douglas Klinck; cornet Bb, Geo. F. Abbott; cornet Bb, Harry Love; cornet Bb, C. C. Campbell; clarionet Eb, Dave Abbott; clarionet Eb, Jude Clark; clarionet Bb, Ruben Clark, Jr.; clarionet Bb, Doctor Hatfield; solo alto, Robert Rae; slide trombone alto, P. N. Elarth; slide trombone tenor, J. A. Parks; tenor Bb, Henry Seymour; saxophone Eb, L. H. Dale; saxophone Bb, Frank Smith; double bell euphonium, June Abbott; Bb bass, Wilson Tout; Eb bass, 4 valve, A. L. Gray; Eb contra bass, Elgin Klinck; bass drum, H. C. Waldrip; side drum, Fred George.

May, 1893

The following special from Aurora to the State Journal will be interesting to our readers:

At a meeting of the Aurora citizens' band and the York military it was decided to unite the two bands under the name of the Nebraska State Military Band. The following officers were elected for the following year: John S. Musser, president; W. H. Dood, first vice president; L. H. Dale, secretary; treasurer, H. E. Metzger; leader and director, C. C. Campbell. The new band has an instrumentation of thirty-five pieces and the players are all experts upon their various instruments. The new band will compare favorably with all the professional bands of sister states and will be heard from favorably in the near future.



THE "SUN," YORK

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YORK COUNTRY CLUB

In 1920 took place the organization and successful development of an enterprise which in years to come will stand out prominently in the social side of the community's life.

On August 20, 1920, the fine new clubhouse at the York Country Club will be formally opened. Workmen are busily engaged in putting on the finishing touches. The big dancing floor is having the final touches of the sanding machines and tomorrow it will invite the feet of the dancers at the opening ball.

The reception in the early hours of the evening will be open to the general public. All who so desire are invited to call and see the clubhouse and its appointments. The ball will open at 9:30 and this is for club members only, since the dancing floor is not large enough to accommodate all who might wish to take advantage of the opportunity to make the call of inspection.

Visitors will find a beautiful clubhouse on the brow of a hill which overlooks the city from the southwest. The house faces northeast and from its front porch a beautiful view of the city and surrounding country can be obtained. The house itself is a spacious building which has cost nearly \$15,000 to build and equip. The main floor has a reception room, ornamented with a great fireplace, two coat rooms and the dancing floor. The dancing hall is a spacious room entirely surrounded by windows which will insure fine ventilation and a cool evening atmosphere. The location of the house on the brow of the hill is such that every breeze, no matter from what quarter, is felt there. The porch, which runs the whole length of the front of the building, is spacious and always cool in the afternoon and evening.

The basement floor has locker and dressing rooms, a suite each for men and women, a game room and living quarters for the caretaker. Water is obtained from a well and pressure is supplied by a motor system and pressure tank. Electric service is supplied by a special wire running from the city. A sewerage system takes care properly of all waste.

The building itself is very ornate. It has a shingled exterior. The shingles have been dipped in shingle stain and the outside presents a very appropriate country club appearance in brown and white.

The country club is a place of great interest this summer. Besides having one of the finest nine-hole courses in this section, there are two model tennis courts which attract more players each afternoon and evening than can be accommodated. With the clubhouse open for social events and for the entertainment of non-playing members the club will be still more popular and the clubhouse a center of social life in the community.

The stockholders of the York Country Club held their annual meeting on Tuesday evening. The principal item of business was the election of six directors, five for a term of three years each, and one to fill a one year vacancy. The stockholders drafted these men for the six jobs: W. A. Harrison, Dr. G. H. Yoder, L. E. Foster, Dr. D. D. King, H. G. Hopkins and C. A. McCloud. The directors met later and chose officers for the coming year as follows: W. A. Harrison, president; W. G. Boyer, vice president; Dr. G. H. Yoder, secretary; J. R. McCloud, treasurer; Dr. W. F. Eckles, sergeant at arms. The stockholders took note of the fact that the ladies of the club have effected an organization for their mutual

pleasure and to stimulate social interest. The club members went on record as being very much in favor of extending encouragement and support to the ladies' auxiliary. The club's finances are in good condition. The year 1921 looks from this vantage ground as a most successful one in interest and prosperity.

A number of women's clubs, musical and social clubs were organized some twenty-five years ago which have played an important part in York's social life.

THE AVON CLUB

The Avon Club was founded on November 14, 1891. The charter members were: Mesdames George Chilcote, C. C. Cobb, C. M. Cowan, E. A. Gilbert, D. J. Hamilton, H. S. Harrison, W. A. Harrison, G. H. Jerome, John S. Knott, C. A. McCloud, John A. Pierson, A. J. Ryan, D. E. Sedgwick, S. H. Sedgwick, T. E. Sedgwick and Duncan Smith.

As the chief study for years was the works of Shakespeare the club was named the Avon. The club was federated in 1897 with Mrs. Ryan as its first president. During the years of its existence the members have studied Shakespeare, Tennyson's Idylls of the King, Parliamentary Law, Current Events and Book Reviews. They have also made a systematic study of the countries of Germany, France and England and the art of all countries.

The present year is devoted to the study of America. The Avon Club has been honored in having one of its members, Miss Hill, elected secretary of the State Federation of Woman's Clubs, and Mrs. Stephens is at present chief of the Reciprocity Bureau of the State Federation.

The membership is limited to twenty members and the meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from October to May.

The members when the club was about six years old were:

Miss Annie Beck	Mrs. Flora McCloud
Mrs. Ida Bell	Mrs. Lena Mead
Mrs. Emma Brown	Mrs. Lucy Northup
Mrs. Clara Carscadden	Mrs. Laura Post
Mrs. Lydia Clark	Mrs. Lottie Ryan
Mrs. Bertha Copsey	Mrs. Clara Sedgwick
Mrs. Maria Cowan	Mrs. Jennie Sedgwick
Mrs. Etta Harrison	Mrs. Jennie Stephens
Miss Mary Hill	Mrs. May Wyckoff
Mrs. Adelaide Jerome	

AMATEUR MUSICAL CLUB

This club was organized in 1894 under the name of the "Dilettante Club" with the following charter members:

Miss Mabel Cobb	Mrs. Floy McConaughy
Mrs. Maud Harrison	Mrs. Lena Parks
Mrs. Mabel Jeffery	Miss Grace Reynolds
Mrs. Winifred Kilner	Mrs. Jennie Sedgwick
Mrs. Clementine Long	Mrs. Maud Woods

The object of the club was to promote the knowledge and enjoyment of the art of music.

That it has not failed in its object is shown by the ever increasing interest of its members, this, 1902, being one of the most successful years since its organization.

The plan of study has been broad and comprehensive, including some of the best selections from the classic and romantic schools. Composers have been studied chronologically and according to their nationality so that members of this club feel that they have at least a bowing acquaintance with the best of them from the great Johann Sebastian Bach to those of the present day.

The study of the Symphony Suite and Danie Foren has been given prominence in such a way as to enable the student to understand and thoroughly enjoy the music of the great symphony orchestras.

One year's work included a study of the most popular of the standard operas. The name of this club was changed in 1897 to Amateur Musical Club.

Five open meetings and two artist's recitals have been given during the eight years of its existence.

The personnel of the club has changed greatly since its organization; out of the ten charter members five still remain.

That music clubs are a great educational factor in the development of good music all over the country cannot be questioned. They keep the singer, the pianist the violinist and the teacher in touch with the best that there is in music, and the Amateur Musical Club having had high ideals from the beginning will say that "the great purpose of music is to say a thing that you mean deeply, in the strongest and clearest possible way."

The stability of this organization's efforts and work is indicated by the following program of its twenty-fifth anniversary, Thursday, January 30, 1919.

Program

Mrs. Floy Lawrence McCaughy.....	Piano-organ
Mr. J. A. Parks.....	Tenor
Federated Ladies' Quartet.	
Harmonic Male Quartet.	
Solfeggietto	Bach
Nocturne Number 4.....	Schumann
Chant Polonaise	Chopin-Liszt
"Snowflakes"	Harmonic Quartet
The Mermaid's Song.....	Edward Baxter Perry
An Old Love Story.....	McDowell
Hungarian Etude	McDowell
Two Unpublished Songs: (a) "A Dream Song": (b) "Rain".....	J. A. Parks
The Banjo Picker.....	John Powell
The Juggler	Mowzkowski
Good-night, Good-night, Beloved.....	Lohr, Federated Quartet
Dragon-flies	James R. Gillette
Toccata	Dubois

Presbyterian Church, 8:30, no charge.

THE REVIEW AND ART CLUB

This was organized in 1896 with a membership limited to eighteen. The first year's work was the study of art, reviews of new books and Browning. The second year the same program was continued with a study of American art and three Browning dramas, "Colombe's Birthday," "A Soul's Tragedy" and "Luria." The third year the program was a survey of Greek and Roman architecture and sculpture, book reviews and Browning—eight short poems and three dramas.

In 1899 the plan of study was considerably changed. Each meeting was devoted to a discussion of one of the old masters, with current events to complete the program. In 1900 the club studied Dutch and early German art, English literature of Queen Anne's time, and current events. At the close of the year the membership was increased to twenty-four, and a program of foreign travel and English and French art was presented for 1901 and 1902.

The program for 1902 and 1903 is foreign travel and Shakespeare. The club was to meet every alternate Saturday at the home of one of the members. The study of art continued year after year was of great interest and profit. The ladies became familiar with the masterpieces of ancient and modern times and found genuine delight in preparing papers and collecting pictures. Every club member felt that while the study of art was pleasurable, there was the added satisfaction of constantly acquiring that which keeps her in touch with other club women and the rest of the world.

THE WOMAN'S CLUB

The Woman's Club was organized at the home of Mrs. C. C. Cobb, November, 1894. Its plan was to be a permanent organization, not to exceed thirty members. Its object was for self-improvement, mutual help, sympathy and counsel, and united effort toward the higher civilization of humanity. The club was composed of committees representing these lines of work, viz., home, education, art, literature, philanthropy and science. The underlying principle of the Woman's Club was the acquisition of knowledge, seeking to cultivate on broad grounds the spirit of unity and fellowship, enlarging their sphere of action until they include all classes and all lines of endeavor. It has been well said the club was maintained, not for the sake of the club, but for the members composing it, and with increasing knowledge of the needs will come increasing influence, which will help to put the best within the reach of all, and make all better able to decide what is really the best. Our Woman's Club began with the following charter members:

Mrs. C. C. Cobb	Mrs. W. Sanford
Mrs. R. T. Cross	Mrs. C. C. Boston
Mrs. J. W. Steward	Mrs. G. B. France
Mrs. Anna Clark	Mrs. G. W. Shreck
Mrs. L. M. Street	Mrs. Josie Sorrenberger
Mrs. M. J. Hammond	

Mrs. C. C. Cobb was elected president during the years of 1894-1897, with Mrs. G. B. France, Mrs. W. D. Mead and Mrs. Geo. Shreck as secretaries. Mrs. W. D. Mead was elected president during the years 1897-1898, with Miss Grace Moore secretary. Mrs. Cobb was again elected president from 1898-1899, with

Mrs. Emma Wellman secretary. Mrs. D. T. Moore was elected president from 1899-1902, with Mrs. Anna Clark and Mrs. E. M. Worthington as recording secretaries. Mrs. Cobb, elected president from 1902 to 1903, with Mrs. Worthington as secretary.

To indicate the stage of progress accomplished by the women's club work in York County, the following few excerpts from press accounts late in 1920 are here appended.

WOMEN AT WORK

Items of Interest from York Women's Clubs

The Home Economics Club in large numbers assembled at the "Y" for its regular 1:00 o'clock luncheon Monday. The hostesses were Mrs. C. D. Pritchard, Miss Olive Allen, Mrs. R. O. Bartlett and Mrs. Al Jess. The response to roll call on "The Most Pleasant Memory of Your Old Home" was interesting and varied and often mirthful. Mrs. C. F. Gilbert, club chorister, drilled the club on a "Negro Spiritual" of the upper south, "I Want to Be Ready, Just Like John." Mrs. Lena Mead read a fine paper on "The Daughter in the Home" that could scarcely be excelled. Some of the club daughters gave some tried recipes for fig pudding, corn flake cookies and cracked wheat breakfast dish. The club now has ninety-five members.

The Civics Club met in the administration room of the city library. The meeting was opened by repeating the Lord's Prayer in unison. Mrs. J. W. Little, the leader, presided. Roll call was responded to by a discussion of the good and bad influence of moving pictures. It was the belief that our theater managers would like to give the people the better films if they would ask for them and that it would have influence if the managers were informed when objectionable films were shown. On account of sickness in the family, Miss Eddith Haggard's paper on "Visual Education" was read by Mrs. A. E. Mead. The next meeting will be held December 20th when there will be a double program. There were several new members present and the meeting was of interest. The new secretary is Mrs. Edwin Miller.

Dean C. E. Amadon gave his lecture on the "Minuet and Other Forms." He said consider a period in music as a sentence. Put two sentences together and you have one theme of a composition. Two themes of two periods each put together form a movement. Miss Eda Rankin played on the piano an example from Beethoven's Sonata. The first theme is the chief theme. It is often repeated then a second theme played and the first repeated again in a movement. The Minuet is a rather stately dance form not used so much today. It is more simple than the Schertzo and starts with the chief theme. The Minuet from Haydn's Symphony in D was mentioned as an example. Professor Amadon closed with a plea for patronage of the "All Stars" music course with Eddy Brown appearing as the first number, November 29th. Miss Rankin, who has heard this violinist, recommended him as even better than Maud Powell.

The Nebraska Music Teachers' Association is an organization in its fifth year and has a membership of nearly seven hundred, mostly drawn from the larger cities of the state. It stands for good music and a hearty desire to foster the appreciation of this wonderful universal language.

The music department of the York Woman's Department Club met last Friday at the home of Miss Ruby Loomer and the program was in her charge. The topic for study was "Mountain Music." "My Heart's in the Highland" was sung sweetly by Mrs. Charles Amadon. Mrs. H. U. Roop sang "Billy Boy," a Kentucky folk song, with an interpretation worthy of a classic. Master Ivan Caldwell played "The Gypsies' Vengeance," from *Il Trovatore* by Verdi on the violin, his mother, Mrs. R. E. Caldwell accompanying him on the piano, and Mrs. Caldwell sang "Song of the Hills," by Carrie Jacobs Bond with Mrs. Charles Fisher at the piano.

The Harvard Woman's Club held a rousing meeting November 12th in the interest of the state endowment fund and has gone about raising money for the fund. The interest on this fund, only, is to be used to purchase stationery and pay postage and otherwise finance the state federation. Each club is asked to pledge one dollar per member, although it may pay a part of it each year. The York Woman's Department has paid its one hundred per cent pledge and is on the honor roll and the Fourth District, up to the present time, has made the most pledges of the six districts.

Woman's Club Notes

The first meeting of the music department of the Y. W. D. C. will be held at the home of Mrs. F. P. Van Wickle Friday, October 8th at 3 P. M. Prof. C. H. Amadon will begin his lecture course at this time. The admission fee to members for the year's work is \$1. Come prepared to get your ticket. There will be a short interesting musical program given as a prelude to the lecture. The department now numbers fifty-five members. The officers are Miss Ruby Loomer, leader; Miss Harriett Read, vice leader; Mrs. W. W. Buckley, recording secretary; Mrs. H. E. Detrick, treasurer.

Mrs. Charlotte Jacobs and Mrs. Winifred Ruwe have a music studio at 401 Lyric Building, 19th and Farnam Street, Omaha. Mrs. Jacobs is the paid soloist for First Centenary Congregational Church, Omaha. Dr. F. G. Smith is the pastor.

The Nebraska Federation issues quarterly a twenty-four page bulletin well supported by advertisers. Mrs. James T. Lees, 2012 A Street, Lincoln, is the editor. Members of clubs belonging to the state federation receive the bulletin free. If your name is not on the mailing list drop Mrs. Lees a card. The bulletin is issued in September, December, March and June. The September bulletin is due now.

Mrs. T. G. Winter of Minneapolis, president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, will be the Federation's delegate to the International Council of Women which meets at Christiania, Norway, this fall.

The state chairman for Ohio on the press and publicity committee of the General Federation is Mrs. G. E. McCormick, wife of the city editor of the Marion Daily Star, Senator W. G. Harding's newspaper. She is a trained newspaper woman and sends club news to eight leading Ohio papers every week.

The Nebraska Federation of Women's Clubs will hold its state convention in Fremont, October 26-29. The national president, Mrs. T. G. Winter, will be present October 28th. If you are not a delegate plan to go anyway as a visitor.

Literature department furnished an excellent program for the general club meeting of the York Woman's Club Monday afternoon.

Miss Ruth Keyes, the talented teacher of the York College School of Expres-

sion, assisted by one of her student boys, gave the play "Drifted Apart" in a realistic and sympathetic manner, and followed with a good two-part comedy entitled "Courtship of Yesterday and Today," which was very pleasing. Mrs. Robert McConaughy played McDowell's "Hungarian Etude" and responded to an encore with a waltz in E Minor by Chopin. The business session was opened by singing "Let's Have Everybody Neighbors," led by the club chorister, Mrs. Charles Gilbert. The committee to award the prize reported that the Home Economics Club had brought fifty-six new members into the general club, the Music department twenty-five and the Art department thirteen, giving the prize of five dollars to the Home Economics department. The general club now numbers 288 paid members and the president, Mrs. C. D. Pritchard, hopes it may reach 300 by anniversary day, February 7th. At present there are reasons to believe it will.

Mrs. W. A. Harrison, member of the club custodial home committee, reported visits to the farm and said "to try to do something for the dwellers out there was like trying to make bricks without straw." She said crochet hooks, embroidery hoops, yarns and materials were needed to help the girls to be useful. If we want to do anything for them we must first make them feel someone cares for them. The club placed in the hands of the committee a small sum of money to be used to make Christmas brighter by purchasing some of the little things that they need.

The Home Economics luncheon was held at 6:30 o'clock Monday at the "Y." Small tables were used, prettily decorated with fern leaves and red ash berries. The hostesses who prepared and served the luncheon were Mrs. L. E. Loomer, Ruby Loomer, Mrs. E. E. Welch, Cora Conaway, Pearl Conaway, Mrs. Kate Clark, Mrs. T. P. Rose and Mrs. Edwin Miller. After luncheon some time was spent in singing rounds and roll call responded to with favorite Scripture texts which showed that proper religious training had not been neglected in the tender years of the members of the club.

Miss Alice Florer, who has been engaged in institute and school inspection work for some years, was present and gave the club a good talk from her own experience about special types of schools. She mentioned the schools of Delaware County, Maryland, as being the best supervised and best organized rural schools in the United States. The schools there are of high type, high standard, have every modern convenience and the children stay in school. North Carolina has the poorest schools, most inexperienced teachers and pays the lowest salaries. Minnesota makes the largest appropriations. One county has school buildings costing from four to eleven million dollars. But there is a problem in our country, the children are not in school as they should be, five and a half million people do not read nor write. This makes them easily susceptible to the propoganda of unrest going about. America is a nation of sixth graders. A vast army of children leave school right around the sixth grade. This is because of lack of trained teachers and nervous excitement and unrest among grown-ups, which is passed on to the children, causing them to want to work to get money to spend for picture shows, cigarettes, candy, etc. The child that has all the money he wants to spend is not going to like school. We are doing splendid work along health lines in our schools, but we are not rallying to thrift lines as we should. Teachers and parents should work together to correct this delinquency and to keep us a balanced and sane nation. After Miss Florer's talk Miss Lurlie Lee, dramatic teacher for the York High School, gave two pleasant readings, "Between Two Fires," by Thomas Daly, and "The Folks Got Back," by

Riley, and responded to a hearty encore with Paul Laurence Dunbar's "Angelina Johnson."

The Music Club will meet Friday, December 10th, at 2:30 P. M., at the home of Virginia Clarke, 303 East Sixth Street. The subject for study will be "Fire Music." Sketch of Wagner's "Die Walkure," Mrs. Lena Mead; "Ho-yo-to-ho" (Die Walkure), Gadski; "Brunnhilde's Battle Cry" (Die Walkure), Gadski; "Story of Il Trovatore," Verdi, Effie Detrick; "Let My Tears Implore Thee" (Trovatore), Eames, Gogorza; piano duet, "The Anvil Chorus," Mrs. R. E. Caldwell, Mrs. R. E. Townsend; "Burn, Fire, Burn," Neidlinger, Camp Fire Girls.

At 4 o'clock Miss Cora Conaway will lead the club chorus rehearsal. These rehearsals are fine. All members of the Music Club are invited to take part in them and those who have not yet paid their dues are requested to come and bring them.

Gresham Woman's Club

The Gresham Woman's Club met at the home of Mrs. William Hills October 21, 1920. Notwithstanding the rain there was a good attendance present. Plans were made for the sending of delegates to the State Federation Convention which meets this week from Thursday to Friday. Mrs. Ethel Davidson was elected delegate and Mrs. Fern Gudgel, alternate. Roll call was responded to with current events. Among other items of interest was the fact that a number of the leading political women of the state have declared themselves for Arthur G. Wray of York for governor of Nebraska.

After the business session a very pleasing number was furnished on the Victrola by the hostess. Then the study of "The Next Generation" was taken up, with Mrs. Mattie Lindstrom and Mrs. Gertrude Lanphere in charge. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Fay Diers on the first Thursday in November at 2 P. M., instead of 2:30 as has been our custom. This will be Shakespeare day and the leader requests that all respond to roll call by giving a quotation from Shakespeare.

McCool Woman's Club

The McCool Woman's Club met in regular session at the home of Mrs. J. A. Giaque on Tuesday afternoon, September 28th. The president, Mrs. Nina Seng, presided at the meeting and a large percentage of members were present.

An especially honored guest of the club was Mrs. Slaker of Hastings, Neb., state president of the Federation of Women's Clubs. Mrs. Slaker gave a fine address, which was received by the women with great interest and feeling.

The regular business meeting and program followed, numbers on the program being given by Mmes. Jennie Philson, Jean Sadoris, and Sigred White.

Refreshments were served by the hostess at the close of the meeting. Mrs. Giaque was assisted in entertaining by her daughter, Miss Martha Giaque, and sister, Miss Hathaway.

YORK Y. M. C. A.

Feeling the need of a Y. M. C. A. in York, some of the citizens announced a meeting, and in response to the call a number of men got together and organized an association, February 26, 1889.

At the meeting which was held March 15th, the following directors were elected:

B. F. Farley, M. D., president	W. W. Giffen
W. K. Williams, vice president	A. B. Coddling
E. C. Knight, recording secretary	J. W. Carpenter
M. M. George, treasurer	J. C. Lenox
J. C. Kilner	

In June Edward A. Ford was engaged to act as general secretary and served until May 1, 1891, when C. K. Powell of Hastings, Neb., was employed and managed the affairs of the association faithfully until January, 1893, when Willard Mitchell was secured and conducted the work until 1894, when the active operations of the association ceased. At the time the organization closed its rooms it was perfectly solvent, having money in the bank and a town lot. When the association was first organized the upper floor of the building then known as the Times Building, but now occupied by the York steam laundry, was rented and, after some changes, was used until about October 1, 1890, when the rooms over the First National Bank were leased and fitted up and occupied until the work ceased in 1894.

The work of this infant Y. M. C. A. was crude and limited. The inducements were few and appealed to a very small number, owing to the small quarters, but at that time the best that could be had. There was very little opportunity to make an attractive place for young men. Many of our early directors are still residents of the city. They are: B. F. Farley, M. D.; W. K. Williams, Robert McConaughy, M. D.; E. C. Knight, T. J. Hatfield, A. B. Coddling, E. J. Wightman, E. A. Warner, L. Provost, W. F. Reynolds, M. D.; Adam Seed and F. A. Hannis.

Edward A. Ford, the first general secretary, is now laboring in Libreville, Congo Francais, West Africa, and his missionary work there is quite a success. Crayton K. Powell, who succeeded Mr. Ford, was an able and faithful secretary. His work is now in Colorado under the Presbyterian Sunday School Missionary Board. His successor, Willard Mitchell, is practicing dentistry at Davenport, Iowa.

Ira J. Beard became general secretary of the association in 1905, and in 1906 C. J. Stauffacher assumed this work. His successor was J. W. Kempton, who remained with this work for some six or seven years, and J. C. Oliver succeeded him. The present general secretary, De Witt Lee, came to the association almost five years ago, in 1916.

THE BUILDING MOVEMENTS

For several years prior to spring of 1902 it had been in the thoughts of several most interested in the cause of the Y. M. C. A. that York should have an association of a permanent character and substantial birth, but the time did not seem to be propitious, and all of our conferences ended in talk. But at the close of the state convention held in York, February 20 to 23, 1902, the pastors and a number of the business men held a meeting attended by Mr. Ober and State Secretary Bailey, at which time a provisional committee was appointed, which reported at a later date quite favorably on the undertaking. The committee met from time to time and a quiet canvass was made, but interest seemed to lag, and a vote was taken by the committee the sense of which was that if the public had no more sympathy in the undertaking than the committee, our time had not arrived. This

report was made to the state secretary, and did not receive a favorable indorsement. It was concluded to let the matter drop until the fall of 1902, when Evangelist Williams was expected to hold a union meeting, when, if it seemed favorable, there would be a final effort made.

Therefore, Sunday evening, October 5th, with the assistance of Evangelist Williams, the attempt was made, and in about two hours there was pledged \$9,600, which, within a few days, by the co-operation and help of a large volunteer soliciting committee, was increased to \$15,000.

On October 6th State Secretary Bailey called a general committee meeting, and with the appointment of additional members to said committee from the several churches which were not represented before, a general committee was formed, which including the pastors of the several churches numbered twenty-four members. Out of this committee our several committees were formed.

Purchasing committee reported the selection of several sites, one of which, centrally located, was approved of and purchased for the sum of \$3,100.

The building committee took immediate steps looking towards suitable plans and specifications. An office plan was at last adopted and approved. This plan contemplated the erection of a three-story and a high basement building. Professional offices were in the basement and on the second floor. The upper floor contains nineteen dormitories. The main floor of the building will be the working room of the Y. M. C. A. proper.

LAYING OF THE CORNER-STONE OF THE Y. M. C. A. BUILDING

Thursday, November 5, was Y. M. C. A. day for York, and it marked a period in the history of our city that will mean much for our young men and boys of the future as well as the present.

The committee having charge of the affair had been at work for some time trying to prepare a program commensurate with the occasion. Some of the speakers were not able to be present, among whom were Hon. Silas A. Holcomb of the Supreme Court, who sent a very kind letter of regret; Judge Sedgwick, Hon. W. J. Bryan, and E. E. Bennett of Lincoln.

The out-of-town guests were Gov. John H. Mickey, who made a brief address from the platform at the new building and, with the assistance of the contractor, put the stone in place, which bears the inscription "Y. M. C. A., 1903"; Rev. Dr. J. W. Conley, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Omaha; State Secretary Bailey, Dr. Henry B. Ward of the State University, and J. H. Waterman, store-keeper for the B. & M. Railway at Lincoln.

The service at the building was short, and consisted of the singing of "America" at the opening, a brief prayer by Reverend Harrison, short address by the governor and laying of the stone, singing "Blest Be the Tie That Binds," and adjournment to the M. E. Church.

Here the regular program of the day was carried out. Chairman W. D. Mead, Jr., presided and made a brief statement of the work as it had been done, stating, among other things, that more than five hundred out of the seven hundred or more pledges that were made for the building had been honored and fifty per cent of the money pledged had already been paid into the treasury. Doctor Conley of Omaha did not in the least disappoint the committee in their expectation. He gave the clearest and

most comprehensive address of the association work that has ever been delivered in our city. It is to be regretted that every business man in the city did not hear it. The reception at Fraternal Hall closed a day of delightful experiences. That gathering was only a shadowing of many more that will be held in the spacious building that is now being erected. Doctor McCaughy presided very gracefully. Secretary Bailey responded first and let his vast fund of enthusiasm loose upon the large audience. Doctor Ward, J. H. Waterman, Doctor Conley, G. W. Shreck, Governor Mickey, ex-Mayor Post, and others spoke briefly. A general good time was enjoyed, refreshments were served by the young ladies, and all went home feeling that the Y. M. C. A. cause had been pushed a long way forward in our city.

THE BUILDING

Our building covers one and one-half city lots, 12x45 feet, and faces east. The front is built of cream pressed brick with Bedford gray stone trimmings. It is designed with high basement, the first floor being four and one-half feet above grade-line, thus affording good light and ventilation for the basement story. We have two commercial front rooms with independent entrance from the street, that are commodious and attractive, having nine-foot ceilings and are 15.6x19.6 and 22x19.6 feet in size, respectively.

As seen in cut of front elevation, we enter through a wide and attractive entrance, between stone turned columns, ascending two flights of easy steps of four each. As we pass through the vestibule we face the public stairway leading to the commercial or professional offices on the second floor, which are arranged in suites of two and three rooms each, about 12x18. These offices have their independent lavatories and toilet, and are not connected with the association rooms proper. Coming through the first entrance, we turn slightly to the right passing the secretary's office into the parlor, 13x20 feet. At the rear of the secretary's office we have our director's office room, 17.8x11 feet.

Passing from the large lobby, we find on our right toilet and lavatory for this floor. Ascending $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet, we reach the gymnasium, and descending $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet, we reach the natatorium. The gymnasium is 40x60 feet, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ -foot ceiling, wainscoting and ceiling of selected yellow pine, with balcony running across the east end, and 22 feet along each side, large enough to accommodate about one hundred spectators.

The natatorium occupies space under the gymnasium, being 23x40 feet. We reach from this room the shower-bath, toilet and locker rooms. We have two shower-baths, one large and one private, also tub baths. The bowling room can be entered from the locker room, or from the hall leading from the game room. The bowling alley is full size, being 83 feet deep, 12 feet 6 inches wide, and about eighteen feet ceiling, well lighted and ventilated, having a concrete floor under the foundation joist on which the alleys are placed, the object being to secure steady and fast runs. Our bowling room has been pronounced an ideal one.

The second story, as already shown, is taken up by the five commercial offices in front, and the rear by the upper part of the gymnasium. In the space between we find the junior rooms and ladies' toilet. Ascending to the third floor nineteen dormitories, running from 10x12 feet to 12x18 feet, well lighted and ventilated, with clothes closet connecting with every room. We have on this floor convenient toilet accommodations and general lavatory privileges, also janitor's room.

MEMBERS OF BUSINESS MEN'S CLUB OF Y. M. C. A.

Allen, A. A.	Gocke, Gus	Moorhouse, J. W.
Adams, Prof. D. Frank	Gould, W. E.	McCloud, J. R.
Adams, L. B.	Grosshans, H. F.	McCloud, W. E.
Blum, Julius	Grosshans, J. F.	McConaughy, Dr. R.
Bell, W. E.	Grandstaff, J. T.	Marshall, Roy
Burnham, Frank	Holdeman, George H.	Myers, S. A.
Bennett, Rev. A. G.	Hannis, F. A.	Marshall, F. B.
Burnard, Dr. W. L.	Hanna, Dr. E. B.	Martin, A. J.
Bremer, George	Haas, P. J.	Meradith, Guy
Bell, J. M.	Hubbell, A. C.	Mittendorff, Louis W.
Beaver, Michael	Harrison, C. S.	Marsh, Rev. B. W.
Broehl, Charles	Holm, C. A.	Marble, L. W.
Bost, F. M.	Holliday, L. I.	Neill, Geo. W.
Bell, R. M.	Hitchcock, J. F.	Northrup, Roy
Bennett, Frank	Hodapp, Prof. E. P.	Newcomer, W. H.
Beardsley, W. F.	Hannis, Harold	Nelson, E. B.
Bemis, Gene	Hildabrand, Charles P.	Olson, John
Baker, Bert	Johnson, S. V.	Peebles, M. M.
Brown, C. C.	Johns, W. B.	Price, Alva
Burkett, E. C.	Johnson, A. G.	Pfeffer, Charles
Boslow, C. C.	Johnson, Bert R.	Pick, Joseph
Cotton, William	Jones, A. M.	Provost, L.
Childs, H. M.	Johnson, O. T.	Post, G. W.
Childs, J. S.	Kolling, C. H.	Plumb, Dr. J. N.
Clarke, E. S.	Keckley, C. R.	Peterson, Ingrid
Clapper, John	Kirkpatrick, W. L.	Post, Wallace
Crone, C. B.	Kilgore, Dr. J. M.	Phipps, S. V.
Campbell, M. T.	Kirkpatrick, M. H.	Price, Harry W.
Cline, Dr. J. D.	Liggett, W. G.	Perry, Benton
Chain, J. H.	Loomer, L. S.	Peterson, John
Christenson, John	Lindsey, Rev. R. S.	Pickerel, Harvey
Cline, William	Lawson, F. W.	Read, Wade H.
Callahan, Dr. B. O.	Little, J. W.	Radamacher, A. J.
Chilcote, George	Lancaster, Dr. J. S.	Roberts, Ernest
Chambers, O. M.	Lloyd, J. M.	Ritehey, Rev. A. T.
Carpenter, C. N.	Linstrom, C. O.	Shreeck, Chas. D.
Davis, W. H.	Mecker, M.	Sneller, D. C.
Detrick, H. E.	Martin, H. E.	Samuelson, S. B.
DeBord, G. E.	Meradith, Dr. J. M.	Stoner, Prof. W. W.
Dean, N. A.	Maguire, T. J.	Spurlock, Geo. M.
Ege, E. M.	Myers, John W.	Spurlock, B.
Edwards, Wray	Mansfield, S. E.	Schell, Rev. William E.
Fountain, R.	Moyer, Frank	Smith, Rev. T. F. B.
Furman, W. R.	Myers, J. C.	Shreeck, George W.
Gilbert, E. A.	Mead, William D.	Swanson, M.
	Metz, A. A.	Snyder, Dr. Frank

Stevens, A. W.	Tilden, Robert	Woods, E. B.
Sandall, C. E.	Thamer, C. G.	Wildman, Dr. B. C.
Shirey, C. E.	Van Decar, H. R.	Wray, Judge A. G.
Shidler, Dr. George P.	Van Decar, H. B.	Weller, Prof. J. A.
Schroeder, F. W.	Van Wickle, F. P.	Warner, C. H.
Stroble, Fred W.	Van Wickle, E.	Warner, E. A.
Stein, William S.	Valentine, F. E.	Wildman, M. M.
Thompson, Arthur	White, L. A.	Wildman, Dr. H. R.
Trauger, C. J.	White, A. M.	Wells, E. A.
Taylor, J. E.	Wyckoff, W. W.	Wilson, J. R.
Tinsley, F. M.	Wightman, E. J.	Weaver, O. W.
Tobkin, Dr. J. H.	Williams, E. W.	

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE DEPARTMENT

It has been requested that the membership list as well as the luncheon dates of the Women's Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association be published in the year book, to which all members say, "Amen" and feel greatly honored in having women of this type and character so closely connected with the work of the Y. M. C. A. and the Business Men's Club. It is an honor, indeed, to have a club of nearly two hundred men of all classes associated together for the purpose of the maintenance of a work of this kind in our city, and that our conduct in the past has been such that over one hundred of the most prominent and influential women of the city are willing to go on record with helpful hands, to do the work that we have before us in the future, as they have been one of the mainstays in the past, untiring in their work, contributing liberally to the finances, as well as serving the Business Men's Club banquets the past year, and as it will show in the monthly banquet dates that they are in for it another year.

The Ladies

Contributed by a Member

"And nature swears, the lovely dears,
Her noblest work she classes, O;
Her 'prentice hand she tried on man
An' then she made the lasses, O."

—Burns.

The banquets of the Business Men's Club are prepared by committees appointed from the membership of the Women's Committee of the Y. W. C. A. Home cooking is served in abundance, and no occasion arises for any man remarking about the pies mother used to make. Mother is in evidence on every hand at these banquets. York is blessed with women, domestic, good and pure, who have the culinary art reduced to a science and who can easily satisfy the fastidious taste of the most exacting epicure. As compared to the banquets prepared by these splendid home cooks, the ambrosia of the gods resembles common-place grub. The appreciation of the men is shown by the harvest hand appetites they bring along on banquet occasions and the way they feed. No use to ask anyone if he enjoyed the meal; his action at the table is proof conclusive "the way to a man's heart is through his stomach."

When all is over at the banquet board, a vote of thanks is extended to the ladies' committee. The men depart with the feeling: "Time's noblest offspring is the last."

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE OF THE Y. M. C. A.

Officers

President.....	Mrs. J. H. Bell
Vice president.....	Mrs. Roy Northup
Secretary.....	Mrs. Wade Read
Treasurer.....	Mrs. W. W. Stoner
Rooms committee.....	Mrs. A. O. Wyman

Members

Mrs. J. H. Bell	Mrs. Walter Baer
Mrs. Edwin Bell	Mrs. Ida Behling
Mrs. E. J. Wightman	Mrs. B. F. Marshall
Mrs. S. A. Myers	Mrs. C. B. Parris
Mrs. A. G. Wray	Mrs. Bert Van Decar
Mrs. F. P. Van Wickle	Mrs. N. F. Tilden
Mrs. Al White	Mrs. Roy Northup
Mrs. Tom Maguire	Mrs. Harry Price
Mrs. W. D. Mead	Mrs. R. McConaughy
Mrs. W. W. Stoner	Mrs. Arthur Thompson
Mrs. J. W. Kempton	Mrs. A. C. Snyder
Mrs. George Shreck	Mrs. W. M. Overstreet
Mrs. W. B. Johns	Mrs. I. N. Noll
Mrs. J. W. Raney	Mrs. G. W. Lundgren
Mrs. Wade Read	Mrs. W. G. Boyer
Mrs. W. L. Kirkpatrick	Mrs. F. A. Hammis
Mrs. A. O. Wyman	Mrs. B. F. Farley
Mrs. C. N. Carpenter	Mrs. W. D. Fisher
Mrs. B. F. Myers	Mrs. H. R. Van Decar
Mrs. W. G. Liggett	Mrs. E. B. Nelson
Mrs. George Jerome	Mrs. P. J. Haas
Mrs. Clarence Myers	Mrs. L. S. Loomer
Mrs. S. S. Varney	Mrs. A. A. Metz
Mrs. L. Shoemaker	Mrs. J. A. Dillenbacher
Mrs. John Lloyd	Mrs. George Neill
Mrs. L. A. White	Mrs. L. Provost
Mrs. Lyda Chambers	Mrs. W. A. Miller
Mrs. H. L. Vradenburg	Mrs. S. C. Cheney
Mrs. Charles Gilbert	Mrs. George Chilcote
Mrs. E. A. Warner	Mrs. C. B. Crone
Mrs. Dan Graves	Mrs. George Spurlock
Mrs. Tom Barber	Mrs. S. E. Mansfield
Mrs. Anna Foster	Mrs. J. H. Cowell
Mrs. Sarah Mullihan	Mrs. E. A. Wells
Mrs. G. W. Post	Mrs. J. F. Grosshans

Mrs. L. M. Lincoln
Mrs. W. Thorne
Mrs. M. E. Richardson
Mrs. Russell Starkey
Mrs. Joe Pick
Mrs. Charles Moyer
Mrs. Earl Yost
Mrs. J. C. McKinley
Mrs. J. M. Lloyd
Mrs. George De Bord
Mrs. L. B. Adams
Mrs. Julius Blum
Mrs. Alice Ewer
Mrs. A. A. Failing
Mrs. A. J. Ryan

Mrs. E. Y. Lawrence
Mrs. S. V. Johnson
Mrs. J. W. Davidson
Mrs. Peter Reimer
Mrs. J. A. Ludwig
Mrs. J. H. Chain
Mrs. Alex Bennett
Mrs. R. S. Lindsey
Mrs. R. A. White
Mrs. H. B. Hiller
Mrs. T. F. B. Smith
Mrs. T. W. Bonekemper
Miss Grace Moore
Miss M. A. Edwards
Miss Nell Sovereign

CHAPTER XVI

BANKING AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

EARLY BANKING IN YORK COUNTY—COMMERCIAL STATE BANK—YORK COUNTY BANK—FIRST NATIONAL BANK, YORK—YORK NATIONAL BANK—CITIZENS STATE BANK—MEAD STATE BANK—FIRST NATIONAL POST REGIME—EXTENSION OF ACTIVITIES INTO OTHER TOWNS—MERGER WITH FARMERS NATIONAL BANK—MC CLOUD REGIME, FIRST NATIONAL—CITY NATIONAL BANK—GERMAN-AMERICAN BANK—FARMERS STATE BANK—OTHER BANKS IN THE COUNTY—CONDITION OF YORK COUNTY BANKS, 1917-1920.

EARLY BANKING IN YORK COUNTY

The first bank in York County, a scalping concern, was established in York in 1875 by William McWhirter. The laws governing banks were very lax in those days, and no one ever knew what the capital stock of the bank was, but it is thought by H. C. Kleinschmidt, who was employed as clerk in the bank, that Mr. McWhirter had about \$1,500 invested in the banking business. There were no bank examiners in those days, and no law against usury, and one of the rules of the bank was not to buy any paper unless it was gilt-edged, and not to pay more than fifty cents on the dollar for good notes, and to pay forty-five cents on the dollar for county warrants, and charge three to five per cent a month for the choicest loans.

The first bank ledger in York County was opened by William McWhirter January 1, 1877. The book was six by seven inches and one-fourth of an inch thick.

The original book can now be seen at the First National Bank.

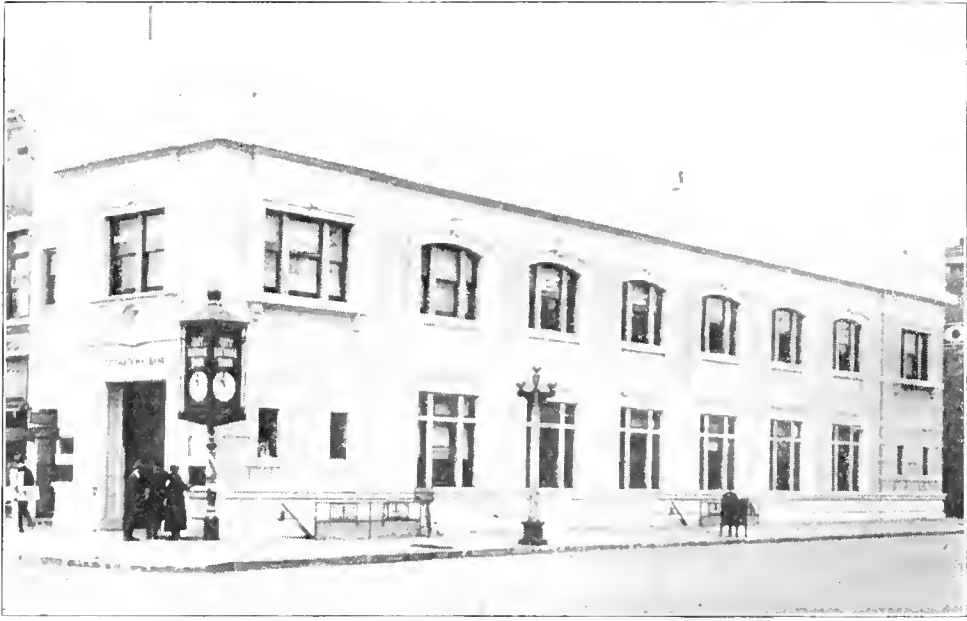
It seems from reliable information that Mr. McWhirter had been doing a private brokerage business for some time, but in 1877 he procured a little room on the west side of the square and started York County's first bank.

The first month's business shows the following list of depositors: L. J. Gandy, county treasurer; F. M. Ross, L. J. Gandy, F. O. Bell, C. S. Hesser, Brahmstead & Kleinschmidt, F. J. Greer, D. T. Moore, Sayre & Thompson, Aultman & Co., John Bittinger, Halstead & Multner, M. Sovereign, E. H. Bly, Mrs. John Fero, A. C. Montgomery, F. H. Gerard, David Erb, G. W. Wirt, and William F. Morrison.

The total of the deposits at the end of the first month was \$3,186.38. The first balance sheet showed up clear and plain. It never was footed up.

It is unnecessary to say he made seeds of money, and when he died in 1879 he was counted a rich man.

The banking business commenced by Mr. McWhirter was continued after his death by D. E. Sayre, who held the agency for Union Pacific lands, and F. K. Atkins, who had prepared a set of abstract records for York County. This business



CITY NATIONAL BANK, YORK



FIRST NATIONAL BANK, YORK

THE
PUBLI
ASTOR
TILDEN

was continued under the name of Sayre & Atkins until 1880, when it was incorporated as the Commercial State Bank.

THE COMMERCIAL STATE BANK

This bank was incorporated under the state laws October 4, 1881, to continue twenty years. It succeeded to the general banking business of Sayre & Atkins. Its officers during the first part of its few years of existence were: D. E. Sayre, president; F. Baldwin, vice president; F. K. Atkins, cashier; F. B. Daggy, and F. O. Bell also directors with the aforementioned officers. It was capitalized for \$50,000, and by 1882 had a paid-up capital of \$33,500. A fine brick building was built for its home. In February, 1886, the Commercial State Bank purchased the stock, charter, good will and real estate of the old First National Bank and moved the books and papers of that institution into its own location. But while the location of the old Commercial State was retained, the amalgamated institution took the name of First National, and the separate identity of the Commercial State disappeared. Shortly preceding its amalgamation with the First National, the officers of this bank had been: F. O. Bell, president; D. E. Sayre, vice president; W. J. Wildman, cashier; H. C. Kleinschmidt, assistant cashier, who it will be noticed were the corps of officers who took the helm after the merger.

YORK COUNTY BANK

Following the pioneer banking venture of William McWhirter, and competing with the Sayre & Atkins banking firm, came the private banking business of C. Langworthy, started in 1877. Mr. Langworthy became cashier, along with N. C. Rogers as president of the York County Bank. This bank operated through 1880 and 1881 as the competitor of the Sayre & Atkins banking firm, and its successor, the Commercial State Bank, and of the Farmers and Merchants Bank, with E. W. Mosher as cashier and W. A. Mosher assistant cashier. In 1882 Mr. Langworthy was president and A. C. Ward was cashier. Mr. Langworthy conducted the York County Bank in connection with the Seward County Bank at Seward. In 1881 he erected a two story banking building, 21x50, on Lincoln Avenue and Sixth Street. Before coming to York Mr. Langworthy had been cashier of the Monticello National Bank at Monticello, Iowa, and was equipped with fourteen years of experience in banking work.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

As already mentioned, W. A. Sharrar came from Lincoln, Neb., in 1879, and opened a private bank known as the Farmers Bank, which for some time bore the official title of Farmers and Merchants Bank. The business grew to proportions that led Mr. Sharrar and business associates to seek a larger field than that of the private or small state bank, and resulted in the organization of the First National Bank, which was chartered on April 23, 1882. It was started out with a capital stock of \$50,000, and the following complement of officers: R. C. Outcalt, president; W. A. Sharrar, vice president; R. C. Outcalt, C. W. Mosher, E. W. Mosher, W. A. Sharrar, directors; and E. W. Mosher, cashier. This centered the banking activities of the community into two channels—the Commercial State,

succeeding Sayre & Atkins, and the First National, conducted by the men who had promoted and built up the old York County Bank and the Farmers and Merchants Bank, which now disappeared from the boards. No one in York County in 1882 would have dared to prophesy that thirty-five years later there would be a bank in York with a capital and surplus of more than \$100,000, and in less than forty years a bank possessing a fine four story brick office building, one of the most palatial in the state. Yet that is the record accomplished by the First National Bank of York.

The banking situation in York was widened from two to three competing banks in a very short time by the entrance of a private banking business, which became the York Exchange Bank.

On February 11, 1886, the stock, good will, charter and real estate of the First National Bank was purchased by the Commercial State Bank, which moved it into the building of the Commercial State, but retained the name and identity of the First National for the new concern.

The officers and directors of the new bank became: F. O. Bell, D. E. Sayre, H. C. Kleinschmidt, F. B. Daggy, B. Lombard, Jr., Nelson C. Brock, W. J. Wildman and E. M. Cheney, directors. The officers were: F. O. Bell, president; D. E. Sayre, vice president; W. J. Wildman, cashier; H. C. Kleinschmidt, assistant cashier.

In February, 1886, articles of incorporation were filed for the York Savings Bank, designed to carry on a general banking business and also the business of a safe deposit and trust company. The capital stock was placed at \$100,000 and was very largely taken before starting business. This concern occupied the building vacated by the First National when the merger with the Commercial State was made, and its incorporators were D. E. Sayre, F. O. Bell, E. M. Cheney, F. L. Mayhew and Mrs. Kate Harrison, these names presenting a somewhat interlocking interest with the new First National Bank holdings. Mr. H. C. Kleinschmidt assumed the duties of cashier of the York County Savings Bank until the resignation of Cashier W. J. Wildman of the First National in December, 1886. He then took the post in the First National vacated by Mr. Wildman, and E. M. Cheney took his place with the York County Savings Bank for a time. Mr. Wildman retired to remove to Marquette, to be associated with F. K. Atkins in real estate and cattle interests.

The steady growth of the First National during this period is evidenced by its statements. Its resources on March 7, 1881, under the Outcalt-Mosher-Sharrar management, were \$451,705.49. In 1892 its statement showed resources of \$223,477.55.

In 1893 another radical change occurred in the management and ownership of the First National Bank when George Wallace Post, president of the York National Bank, and his associates bought the First National and consolidated the two banks.

THE YORK NATIONAL BANK

This bank was an outgrowth of the York Exchange Bank, which was started in September, 1882, as a private bank. In April, 1884, it was organized under the national laws as the York National Bank, with a capital of \$50,000. It soon accumulated an undivided surplus of \$6,000 on the credit side of the ledger.

Its officers and board of directors during the next few years were: President, Geo. W. Post; vice president, J. C. Kingsley; cashier, Lee Love; assistant cashier, E. J. Wightman. Directors: G. W. Post, Lee Love, Jesse Love, J. C. Kingsley, E. M. Cheney and W. L. White. The personnel of this board needs no fulsome comment. G. W. Post, familiarly known as "Judge" Post, was eight years district judge; was connected with the internal revenue department four years as collector, and was identified with the growth of York from its infancy. Messrs. Kingsley and Cheney were prominent real estate men, while Messrs. Lee Love, Jesse Love and W. L. White were capitalists and bankers, having interests in several financial institutions throughout the state. The York National Bank grew rapidly, and in 1891 had resources of over \$311,000, and before its merger with the First National Bank had outgrown its competitor. The personnel of the directorate and officers had changed slightly before its merger in 1893, when it stood: G. W. Post, president; W. K. Williams, vice president; E. J. Wightman, cashier; E. M. Cheney, Lee Love, G. P. Chessman and Jesse Love as the other directors.

E. J. Wightman, known commonly as "Jud," was promoted by the York National to cashier in March, 1891, after four years of faithful service as assistant cashier. Mr. Wightman, of course, went to the First National after the merger in 1893.

THE CITIZENS STATE BANK

In February, 1886, still another candidate for public favor in the banking field showed up in York, with the organization of the Citizens State Bank. It started with a capital stock of \$50,000, and built a new brick building during the first two years of its existence. Its officers were: J. W. Barnes, president, interested in buying and selling western land; vice president, D. E. Sedgwick, one of the pioneer physicians of York; cashier, W. A. Sharrar, who had been instrumental in the founding and development of the Farmers and Merchants Bank and the First National Bank, for its first few years of existence. C. A. McCloud, destined to play a very important part in later years of York County banking activities, was assistant cashier, and the other directors were E. P. Warner, later assistant cashier, an old resident of York and experienced operator in real estate and loans, and J. F. McConaughy, a prominent dry goods merchant, and later David Fisher, a grain buyer.

THE MEAD STATE BANK

Another banking venture started in York in April, 1888, when articles of incorporation were filed for the Mead State Bank. An account of the organization of this bank detailed it as follows: The capital stock is placed at \$100,000 with an authorized capital of \$500,000. The articles are signed by F. F. Mead, W. D. Mead, Geo. H. Jerome, S. H. Sedgwick, D. T. Moore, L. L. McIlvain, J. V. Gardner and S. C. Grippen. At a meeting of the stockholders held on Tuesday evening the following officers were elected: W. D. Mead, president; F. F. Mead, vice president; S. H. Sedgwick, assistant vice president; S. C. Grippen, cashier; L. L. McIlvain, assistant cashier. The new concern starts out with flattering prospects, and gives promise of becoming one of the strongest institutions in the city. Their elegant new building will be commenced on the northeast corner of the square in a few days, and will be an ornament to the city. The many friends of Mr. Grippen

will be glad to learn that he has identified himself with the new bank, as it insures that he will remain one of the pushing, enterprising men who are making York a great city.

Another account of the status of this bank, in 1888, narrated its growth as follows:

The Mead State Bank succeeded or rather is an outgrowth of the Nebraska Land and Loan Company that had operated for five years previous to May 1, 1888, when the present bank was organized under the state laws of Nebraska, with a paid up capital of \$100,000 and an authorized capital of \$500,000, each subscriber being directly obligated to twice the amount of stock held by him. The bank is vested with full power to act as trustees, administrators or guardian; also to issue debenture bonds, which are secured by real estate mortgages, upon improved real estate representing in no case over forty per cent of the appraised value of the property, and deposited with the Title Guarantee and Trust Company, Chicago, Ill., whose capital is \$1,600,000 and who hold said mortgages in trust for the lawful holder or holders of the company's debentures. The debenture bonds are issued in series of \$100,000, divided into \$300, \$500 and \$1,000 each, and drawing six per cent interest annually, which is paid semi-annually at the Title Guarantee and Trust Company of Chicago. The Mead State Bank, on the day it opened its doors, had no deposits assured, and at the end of thirty days issued the following statement:

<i>Resources</i>	<i>Liabilities</i>
Loans and discounts.....\$108,353.29	Capital stock .....\$100,000.00
Real estate, furniture, etc. 5,064.98	Undivided profits 1,449.91
Current expenses paid..... 219.30	Insurance 32.36
Due from other banks.... 17,442.25	Deposits 36,618.00
Cash on hand..... 7,050.48	
Total .....\$138,130.30	Total .....\$138,130.30

And still thirty days later, and sixty days from date of its organization, the totals are swelled to \$150,839.96. To practical financiers those statements duly attested speak volumes on the manner in which the management is handled. The elegant new structure of Warrensburg blue sandstone that is being built for the bank's quarters on the northeast corner of the square will, when finished, be the costliest and best equipped bank in this section of the country. The furnishings will be of antique oak, plate glass and brass finishings; it will be heated by steam and lighted by incandescant lights; one of the latest improved Herring double burglar proof safes will be used for cash and paper valuables. The officers and directors of the bank are as follows: W. D. Mead, president; F. F. Mead, first vice president; S. H. Sedgwick, second vice president; S. C. Grippen, cashier; L. L. Mellyvain, assistant cashier; directors, F. F. Mead, S. C. Grippen, W. H. Brevoort, L. L. Mellyvain and L. H. Sheeks.

W. D. Mead, the president, came to York ten years ago and opened a broker's office. In 1882 he took in as a partner his son, F. F. Mead, who is now first vice president. In 1885 they organized the Nebraska Land and Loan Company, which was succeeded by the present organization.

Mr. Sedgwick, second vice president, is an attorney of York, and from his standing in his profession and reputation throughout the state needs no fulsome comment.

Mr. Grippen, the cashier, was for years identified with the hardware business, and has a very extensive acquaintance with the farmer and agriculturalist throughout this section.

Mr. McIlvain was formerly a bookkeeper in the land and loan office, and later assistant cashier of the Tamora State Bank, until this bank was organized, when he accepted the present position.

The new building, a cut of which appears on the opposite page, is 24x60, three stories, and will cost when furnished and completed \$15,000. Mendelsohn, Fisher and Lowrie of Omaha are the architects; the floor will be tile and windows of plate glass with cathedral transoms.

While this bank is organized under the state laws of Nebraska to do a general banking business, it also deals in municipal, county and school bonds and makes first mortgage real estate loans a specialty.

Another bank which flourished in the late nineties was the Nebraska National of York. Earnest Davis was president for a time, and he was succeeded by T. B. Clawson, then cashier of the State Bank of Luskton. This bank met difficulties in the summer of 1897 and disappeared from the banking roster of the county.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK—POST REGIME

During the period between October, 1893, when George W. Post and his associates took the management of the First National Bank, until August, 1912, when Judge Post retired, the First National Bank showed a remarkable growth. During this period Judge George W. Post served as president and E. J. Wightman as cashier of this bank. Cashier Wightman was vice president a portion of this time. August Zimmerer was assistant cashier during most of this period. By 1902 this bank had reached a point where its statement of resources showed \$815,478.97; in May, 1905, this had reached \$981,488.01, and in December, 1907, had passed the million mark, being \$1,021,227.32, and the deposits were over \$700,000. Before 1916 the deposits had passed the million dollar mark. The directors who served with the above named officers through most of this period were G. P. Chessman, N. A. Dean, George W. Neill, T. W. Smith and George M. Spurlock.

Extension of Activities

During the régime of Judge Post and his associates at the helm of the First National Bank, they became associated with a number of other banks in York County. This tended to build up a cohesive system and made both the banks in these other towns and the bank at York that much stronger. During the régime of Judge Post he and his associates formed the First Trust Company in 1914. Before he came to the First National and during his connection with the old York National, Judge Post had organized and became president of the Bank of Benedict, November 27, 1889, and continued as its president until February 8, 1906, when that bank was converted into the First National Bank of Benedict. In 1910 G. W. Post was president, E. J. Wightman, vice president, and B. B. Crownover was cashier of that bank.

On May 14, 1897, Judge Post and his associates organized the State Bank of Bradshaw. He served as president until in 1906, when this bank was converted into the First National Bank of Bradshaw, of which new bank he served as president until August, 1912.

In 1910 the other officers of this bank were: E. A. Wells, vice president; J. F. Houseman, cashier; and C. B. Palmer, Jr., assistant cashier. In 1921 Mr. Wells is still vice president and C. B. Palmer, Jr., has succeeded to the cashiership. But since the change of ownership in the First National Bank at York, Charles A. McCloud has become president of this bank.

In June, 1889, Judge Post became president of the Blue River Bank of McCool and served as such until August, 1912. In 1910 T. W. Smith was vice president and Arthur I. Moore was cashier.

In April, 1902, Judge Post bought a controlling interest in the Bank of Lushton and served as its vice president until 1912. In 1910 E. J. Wightman was president and J. L. Ashmore cashier of this bank. Judge Post was also president of the Bank of Thayer, organized in 1890, of which E. J. Wightman was vice president, Otto Wutke cashier, and Ambrose Retzlaff assistant cashier.

In May, 1885, Judge Post had become president of the Farmers and Traders Bank of Waco and served continuously as its president until August, 1912.

Thus it will be seen that when Judge Post and his associates sold the First National Bank of York and their holdings in banks at Benedict, Bradshaw, McCool, Lushton, Thayer and Waco, they had formed practically a county-wide banking system.

Merger with Farmers National Bank

In August, 1905, another bank had been organized in York, named the Farmers National Bank, with a capital stock of \$50,000. Charles A. McCloud was president of this bank, C. A. Schrandt, vice president, A. B. Christian, cashier, and in October, 1906, William E. McCloud came from the cashiership of the Bank of Lushton and took the assistant cashiership until his election to the county treasurer-ship of the county in 1909.

But the purchase of the First National Bank in 1912 by the officers and stockholders of the Farmers National and the consolidation into the First National ended the separate career of this bank.

Upon the occasion of the sale of interests of Judge Post and his associates to the new owners, the management of the First National issued the following letter of farewell, explanation and greeting:

York, Neb., August 6, 1912.

To Our Customers and Friends:

By the time this letter reaches you, you will no doubt have learned of the change in the presidency of this bank. On account of health conditions in his family, Judge Post has sold his interest in the bank to Charles A. McCloud, George H. Holdeman, Robert R. Copsey, J. R. McCloud, Mrs. Hattie E. Conway and others. Mr. Charles A. McCloud has been elected as director and president of the bank.

Plans are under way looking to the consolidation of the Farmers National Bank with this bank, with an increased capital and surplus sufficient to meet fully the needs of the community.

It is a source of deep regret to me, as it is to all of the other officers and directors of the bank, to be compelled to sever the close business relations of many years of service with our retiring president. To Judge Post a large measure of credit is due for the success of the business in the past.

It is hardly necessary for me to introduce our new president. Mr. McCloud has been known to you as one of the successful business men and bankers of York for the past thirty years or more, and is well known throughout the state as one of our leading citizens.

I bespeak for him your hearty support and confidence. The other new stockholders are also well known to you as successful and responsible business men closely associated with the business affairs of our city and county. It is gratifying to know that none of the stock of the bank goes outside of York County. The bank will continue to be as in the past, a strictly home institution. All the stockholders of the bank live in York County except three, who own forty-five shares out of a total of 1,000 shares.

At the earnest request of the new stockholders I am retaining my interest in the bank and will remain in the same capacity as heretofore. The same familiar line of faces will greet you at the counter, and the business of the bank will be conducted on the same liberal yet conservative lines as in the past. I sincerely hope that everyone of you will remain loyal to the First National Bank and that you will help us in building up an even better and stronger institution.

Thanking you very sincerely for many favors shown, I am.

Yours very respectfully,

E. J. WIGHTMAN, *Vice President and Cashier.*

First National Under McCloud Régime

The period since 1912 has brought but a few changes in the official directory of the First National Bank. Prior to the last sale, E. J. Wightman was vice president and cashier, and August Zimmerer and A. C. Hubbell were assistant cashiers. In 1916 the officers were: C. A. McCloud, president; R. R. Copsey, vice president; J. R. McCloud, cashier; August Zimmerer, assistant cashier; Mamie Wood, assistant cashier; and H. E. Nordlund, assistant cashier. The officers in 1917 were: C. A. McCloud, president; T. W. Smith, George M. Spurlock and R. R. Copsey, vice presidents; J. R. McCloud, cashier; August Zimmerer, Allan C. Hubbell and Mamie Wood, assistant cashiers; and Harry Nordlund, auditor. In 1918 the officers were: C. A. McCloud, president; R. R. Copsey, vice president; G. M. Spurlock, vice president; T. W. Smith, vice president; J. R. McCloud, cashier; August Zimmerer, assistant cashier; Mamie Wood, assistant cashier; H. E. Nordlund, assistant cashier. Directors: George M. Spurlock, E. A. Wells, O. M. Moore, R. R. Copsey, Geo. W. Shreck, C. M. Moyer, H. D. Hall, L. S. Loomer, J. R. McCloud, T. W. Smith, A. W. Thompson, Dennis Meehan, C. A. McCloud.

The official directory of this bank in 1920 remained practically the same as that given above.

The management of the various banks in outside towns passed also to the McClouds and their associates.

Of the First National Bank of Benedict, J. R. McCloud has for the past few

years been president, Harley Nettleton, vice president, and B. B. Crownover, cashier.

The First National Bank of Bradshaw has as president C. A. McCloud, with E. A. Wells remaining as vice president and C. B. Palmer, Jr., as cashier.

Of the Bank of Lushton, C. A. McCloud is president, R. R. Copesey, vice president, and H. O. Merserve, cashier.

At McCool Junction C. A. McCloud is president of the Blue River Bank, with T. W. Smith remaining as vice president and R. F. Lord as cashier in 1920.

The Bank of Thayer: C. A. McCloud became president; R. R. Copesey, vice president; and Ambrose Retzlaff, cashier, vice Otto Wutke, who served for several years as cashier.

C. A. McCloud became president of the Farmers and Traders Bank of Waco, T. J. Kirby succeeded E. J. Wightman as vice president, and J. H. Fisher, who was cashier, remained with the new management.

So with these seven banks, these men so associated together have built up a line of banks with over \$600,000 capital and surplus.

THE CITY NATIONAL BANK

The City National Bank of York was organized in 1891 and through years of steady growth has built up a substantial banking institution in York, and its principal stockholders and officers, co-operating with the capitalists of the other towns of the county, have somewhat emulated the example of the First National group and built up a number of contributing and co-operating institutions throughout the county.

For many years Harris M. Childs was president of this institution, D. S. Zimmerman was vice president, Fred S. Bodie, cashier, and L. W. Childs, assistant cashier, and later C. H. Kolling became cashier.

A recent list of stockholders of the City National Bank, York Neb., showed the following:

Andreesen, Henry	Childs, J. S.	Houston, W. B.
Brooke, Richard	Chessman, Mrs. M. H.	Henton, George
Brown, E. E., estate	Cites, H. C.	Hartley, G. A.
Brown, Mrs. Jennie E.	Dean, W. H.	Hartley, Mrs. Elsie F.
Bell, J. M.	Dean, N. A.	Knott, J. S.
Barber, Thomas	Doran, John	Kuns, D. C.
Bell, W. E.	Dean, E. J.	Kolling, C. H.
Behling, Mrs. Ida	Davis, LeRoy	Kirby, T. J.
Beaver, C. N.	Edmisten, A. R.	Kolling, C.
Baldwin, F. H.	Erb, H. Q.	Lloyd, F. E.
Barr, James A.	Graves, Daniel	McCloud, Mrs. Flora S.
Borden, Mrs. Louise	Graves, Mrs. Martha H.	Majors, S. T.
Borden, F. L.	Gilbert, Mrs. Lois A.	Newcomer, W. A.
Childs, Anna Gertrude	Green, L. P.	Prohaska, A.
Craig, Bess	Gunlach, Mrs. M. M.	Prohaska, Joseph
Childs, Harris M.	Howell, Mrs. Rebecca	Peterson, Alex J.
Childs, L. W.	Hager, W. P.	Plumb, J. N.



AMERICAN STATE BANK, YORK

THE
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Righter, Mrs. Harriet S.	Seng, W. W.	Wildman, M. M.
Reynolds, W. F., estate	Saddoris, Ora	Wileox, Mrs. Anna Z.
Roberts, J. M.	Saddoris, Norval	Zimmerman, D. S.
Rea, M.	Swanson, N. B.	Zimmerman, Mrs. C.
Southworth, L. F.	Williston, M. H.	Zimmerman, J. and C.
Simmons, Ira R.	Wellman, A. W.	Zimmerman, Mrs. H. E.

In 1916 the officiate of this bank was: H. M. Childs, president; D. S. Zimmerman, vice president; J. M. Bell, vice president; J. E. Hart, cashier; B. Perry and L. W. Childs, assistant cashiers.

The following tribute was paid to President Childs after his death in 1917:

Harris M. Childs, one of York's bankers and one of the county's foremost citizens, died at his home at 615 East Sixth Street, Monday afternoon, September 10, 1917. Mr. Childs has been ill for many months and his death was not unexpected. The final services were held Wednesday afternoon.

Born in Iowa on June 24, 1859, he attended the public schools of his native state, and while yet a boy began work in his father's store. In 1890 he came to Nebraska, locating at Sterling where he organized a bank. Successfully conducting the Sterling Bank for nine years, he disposed of his interests therein and came to York. He bought an interest in the City National Bank and became its president, which position he held until his death. While not a politician Mr. Childs took an interest in public questions, and in 1904 he was a delegate from Nebraska to the republican national convention. He is survived by his wife and one son and two daughters.

Mr. Childs was a man of charming personality, a level-headed man of business and a progressive citizen. He took an interest in civic affairs and gave liberally of his time and money to advance every good cause brought to his attention. In his death the community loses one who performed splendid service, and whose place will not easily be filled.

The officers in 1920 are: C. N. Beaver, president; J. M. Bell and D. S. Zimmerman, vice presidents; J. I. Moore, cashier; and G. G. Stoll and J. E. Sheigley, assistant cashiers. J. E. Hart succeeded H. M. Childs, but in 1919 was appointed secretary of state banking board and later secretary of department of trade and commerce at Lincoln. This bank in 1920 has a capital stock of \$100,000 and surplus of \$128,000.

The group of capitalists and bankers who have managed the affairs of the City National Bank and built up that institution have developed the Farmers State Bank of Benedict, which was organized in 1912, and for a few years its principal officers were: H. M. Childs, president; W. S. Jeffery, vice president, and W. J. Sahling, cashier. Its officers in 1920 are C. N. Beaver, president; F. R. Waid and W. S. Jeffers, vice presidents, and E. W. Witten, cashier.

As mentioned before J. E. Hart, formerly cashier of the First National Bank of Gresham, was connected with the City National Bank at the time he was appointed in 1918 as secretary of the State Banking Department, which position he now holds as secretary of finance in the new civil code cabinet. When he removed to Lincoln, C. N. Beaver became president of the City National Bank.

The City Trust Company was organized in 1916, with H. M. Childs as president, J. M. Bell as vice president, and J. E. Hart as secretary and treasurer.

THE GERMAN-AMERICAN BANK

In 1905 was organized a bank which has grown until it has reached the second rank in the roster of York County banks. The German-American Bank was organized with a roster of officials some of whom have remained at its helm throughout the remarkable growth herein noted. Joshua Cox, formerly of Hampton, has been and is now president; James Forbes, vice president; R. S. Carscadden, cashier, and C. F. Stroman, assistant cashier. R. S. Carscadden became vice president before 1916 and C. F. Stroman, cashier. R. L. Brott was assistant cashier in 1918. In 1920, Joshua Cox remains president, R. S. Carscadden, vice president; E. S. Lawrence, cashier, and J. H. Krumbach, assistant cashier. H. W. Brott is a director and a vice president with R. S. Carscadden, also secretary of the American Trust Company. In 1918 this bank changed its name to American State Bank.

The following table tells the story of this bank's growth:

*Comparative Statement of the Deposits Each Year Since Its Organization,
June 5, 1905*

May 19, 1906.....	\$ 89,110.61
May 25, 1907.....	131,309.18
May 14, 1908.....	142,414.09
May 22, 1909.....	204,907.57
May 11, 1910.....	225,242.81
June 1, 1911.....	239,747.34
Aug. 31, 1911.....	270,517.09
Dec. 5, 1911.....	292,822.56
Mar. 16, 1912.....	328,223.20
June 14, 1912.....	335,807.84
Aug. 16, 1920.....	770,936.88

FARMERS STATE BANK

The youngest member of the banking institutions of York is the Farmers State Bank, organized in 1916, with John Doran, formerly of Burwell, Neb., as president; S. A. Myers, vice president; A. C. Hubbell, cashier, and B. E. Doran, assistant cashier.

In 1920, John Doran remains as president, S. A. Myers and J. W. Myers are vice presidents and A. C. Hubbell, cashier, and the remaining directors are Charles P. Hildebrand and Jasper Lawrence.

The following statement shows the growth enjoyed by this bank:

August 16, 1920—By Call of the State Bureau of Banking			
<i>Resources</i>		<i>Liabilities</i>	
Loans and Discounts.....	\$239,560.16	Capital Stock.....	\$ 50,000.00
Overdrafts	2,340.44	Surplus and Profits.....	6,631.05
Bonds	13,350.00	Deposits	194,972.44
Revenue Stamps.....	73.40	Bills Payable.....	40,000.00
Furniture and Fixtures...	5,300.00	Depositors Guarantee Fund	1,757.84
Expenses and Interest Paid	2,024.29		
Cash and due from banks..	30,713.04		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$293,361.33		\$293,361.33

OTHER BANKS IN THE COUNTY

Many of the other banks in the county have been somewhat covered in the notes made upon the historical development of the respective towns of the county. Both banks at Benedict and the First National at Bradshaw have been heretofore covered.

An interesting chapter of early banking history of the county was recited in the press of York, in May, 1889, concerning the incorporation of the first bank started at Bradshaw:

"The Bradshaw bank, at Bradshaw, has been incorporated with a capital, fully paid in, of \$20,000. The incorporators and board of directors are W. M. Kerr, president; G. W. Kirby, vice president; T. M. Shallenberger, cashier; John M. Ragan and Otto G. Smith. This bank will soon be one of the strongest financial institutions in the county. The president, Mr. Kerr, is one of the heavy capitalists of Hastings, and John M. Ragan, of the same place, is well known to our people. The cashier, T. M. Shallenberger, has been engaged in the banking business for the past six years at Bradshaw, and by his integrity and close attention to the demands and needs of his patrons has built up a well established and desirable class of custom. Mr. Shallenberger enjoys a personal acquaintance with nearly every man in the western portion of the county and by his genial and social disposition is enabled to count his friends by the hundred. The family of the Shallenbergers is one of successful business men. Six brothers are now in this state and all are actively engaged in the banking business. The four older brothers read law in their father's office at Toulon, Ill. and fitted for the practice of law. One by one, they came west and to Bradshaw and from there branched out in the banking business. The four older brothers are now cashiers—T. M. at Bradshaw, Eugene at Elwood, Ashton at Alma, and Onslow at Imperial. Percy is also in the bank at Imperial as assistant and Herman at Bradshaw, in the same position. Eugene served during the Cleveland administration as postmaster at Bradshaw. The Adams County Bank at Hastings, one of the strongest financial institutions at Hastings, is more or less interested in all of the above banks, and, working together, they are enabled to materially assist each other at certain times. All are strictly honorable young men, who are bound to come to the front in the near future as the solid men of the state. The incident is a very rare one, six brothers, all engaged in one line of business and all successful in their business ventures. The Democrat wishes this illustrious family continued success in their undertakings and a bright business career in the rustling state of their adoption. Every one of the six is a rustler and they must reap the rustler's reward."

For many years Bradshaw had only one bank. In 1912 the Farmers State Bank of Bradshaw was organized, with J. M. Cox as president, C. H. Bedient, vice president, and F. R. Belleville was cashier in 1916. In 1920, B. F. Mincks is president, C. H. Bedient still vice president; A. M. Strunk, cashier, and C. D. Minecks, assistant cashier.

Gresham has had the First National Bank since 1890: W. C. Norton, president; R. E. Byers, vice president; S. C. Oaks, cashier; W. E. Norton, assistant cashier; George R. Colton, Paul Dullum and R. S. Hirsch, directors. Noah Clem later became vice president and then president, W. N. Hylton was vice president. J. E. Hart succeeded Oaks as cashier.

In 1910 W. N. Hylton was president, R. S. Hirsch, vice president, J. E. Hart, cashier, and C. H. Ryan, assistant cashier. Later, H. I. Hylton became cashier, and in 1920 was vice president. E. B. Hart and H. E. Brown were assistant cashiers in 1916, and in 1920 H. E. Brown was cashier and J. E. Sperry, assistant cashier. W. N. Hylton was still president in 1920. C. E. Brown, H. E. Brown, A. L. Clem and B. K. Sperry were directors.

Gresham State Bank was organized in 1910. Its first officers were: A. F. Johnson, president; J. T. Quigley, vice president; W. B. Thorp, cashier. Board of directors: W. M. Rasp, D. W. Rogers, Ole Olsen, Charles Neujahr, George Cook, J. T. Quigley, Adam Schmidt, W. B. Thorp, and A. F. Johnson. Succeeding presidents were H. A. Eyestone and S. A. Lindstrom. Succeeding vice president was A. A. Eklund. Succeeding cashiers have been George B. Campbell, S. R. Severn; and David Jung.

The present directors and officers are: George Bond, Charles Neujahr, Herman Diers, Robert Heinika, S. A. Lindstrom, A. A. Eklund, David Jung, S. A. Lindstrom, president; A. A. Eklund, vice president; David Jung, cashier.

Statement of January 21, 1915, shows: Deposits, \$71,838.57; loans, \$58,137.46. In 1920: Loans, \$171,801.41; deposits, \$193,952.90.

The banks of Henderson have been mentioned at length in the notes on that town. The Bank of Henderson was organized in 1889 and for many years G. W. Friesen has been president, J. Friesen, Sr., and A. J. Friesen, vice presidents, the latter in 1920 still being vice president; P. L. Friesen, cashier, and P. P. Braun, assistant cashier.

The Farmers State Bank of Henderson, formerly the First National Bank, was organized in 1902. Its early officers were Jacob I. Kroeker, president; D. J. Kroeker, vice president; J. J. Kroeker, cashier, who now in 1920 is president; A. Franz, for many years assistant cashier. J. J. Goossen is the present vice president and B. E. Nachtigal, cashier.

The Bank of Lushon, the Bank of Thayer, the Blue River Bank at McCool and the Farmers and Traders Bank at Waco have been discussed in connection with the First National of York group.

The Farmers & Merchants Bank of McCool was organized in 1904. In 1910 E. R. Lincoln was president, W. C. Smith, vice president; W. W. Seng, cashier, and W. L. Seng, assistant cashier. In 1920, W. W. Seng was president, N. L. Seng, vice president, and W. L. Seng, cashier.

The Waco State Bank was organized in 1916 by H. M. Childs, as president; J. B. Erwine, vice president, and V. A. Warfield, cashier. In 1920 F. O. Steffen was president and L. E. Cooper, cashier.

The Farmers & Traders Bank of Waco had been organized July 7, 1884, with J. H. Sheeks as vice president, and then president. In 1885 Judge G. W. Post became president. C. O. Wilcox was the first cashier and W. L. White succeeded him. Following Judge Post, the presidents of this bank have been W. L. White, E. J. Wightman, and C. A. McCloud. Its vice presidents following Sheeks have been: H. C. Smith, T. J. Kirby, E. J. Wightman, and Henry Stuhr. Succeeding White, cashiers have been E. L. Harris, D. W. Hoyt, L. R. Bickley, R. S. Carscadden, L. J. Wilkins, and J. H. Fisher, who died in January, 1921. The directors in 1920 were C. A. McCloud, president; T. J. Kirby, vice president; J. H. Fisher, cashier; Robert Beckord, and R. R. Copsy.

CONDITION OF YORK COUNTY BANKS—1917

As a means of comparison of the various banks of York County with each other, and making a survey of the banking field of the county, a table is hereto appended giving the condition of the banks of the county in 1917, and another giving their condition in 1920. This table somewhat reflects the effect of the agricultural mishaps of the county in not showing a better ratio of growth for these three years.

In Good Old York County

A summary of the condition of the national and state banks and trust companies of York County, Nebraska, at the time of the last call. The state banks under date of August 21, 1917, and the national banks September 11, 1917, show a deposit of nearly \$7,000,000; loans of more than \$5,000,000; cash on hand of \$2,000,000; total resources, \$8,000,000; an increase in the last eight months of nearly \$2,000,000.

Banks	Deposits	Loans	Cash on Hand	Resources
First Nat. Bank, York...	\$1,781,394.06	\$1,585,631.58	\$ 474,993.39	\$2,282,528.14
City Nat. Bank, York....	764,187.81	691,831.02	191,783.80	1,087,065.57
German-Am. Bank, York.	911,607.17	602,190.04	273,230.76	895,278.92
Farmers State Bank, York	146,798.12	156,928.96	35,253.40	200,890.85
First State Savs. Bk., York	98,048.56	110,964.78	5,026.16	116,063.12
First Trust Co., York....	104,596.87	154,656.52	5,046.50	159,704.02
City Trust Co., York....	20,081.93	40,000.00	7,369.90	47,391.41
German - American Trust Co., York.....	.....	25,300.00	1,691.05	30,691.05
First Nat. Bank, Benedict	392,134.27	204,827.29	177,572.63	449,759.37
Farmers State Bank, Bene- dict	124,922.62	90,295.85	48,378.02	144,678.33
Blue River Bank, McCool	265,335.39	159,658.27	120,328.00	291,171.57
Farmers & Merchants Bank, McCool.....	152,600.09	125,931.48	41,091.46	172,816.47
Farmers & Traders Bank, Waco	288,305.12	112,035.39	191,329.37	310,524.76
Waco State Bank, Waco..	89,034.90	71,718.84	34,383.14	107,505.44
First National Bank, Gresham	315,593.86	250,274.11	104,254.08	380,585.92
Gresham State Bank, Gresham	206,869.69	163,695.14	66,933.25	229,141.93
Bank of Henderson, Hen- derson	287,988.67	254,150.99	59,369.77	316,938.64
Farmers State Bank, Hen- derson	186,732.13	173,968.79	31,042.69	207,095.05
First National Bank, Brad- shaw	298,002.31	163,024.48	174,328.38	368,972.86
Farmers State Bank, Brad- shaw	165,323.38	87,007.75	92,437.27	186,114.88

Banks	Deposits	Loans	Cash on Hand	Resources
Bank of Thayer, Thayer..	117,515.49	45,637.09	77,252.62	126,841.22
Bank of Lushton, Lushton	165,548.54	106,441.50	67,010.24	182,806.37
Total	\$6,882,615.58	\$5,376,473.20	\$2,280,105.88	\$8,394,865.86
December 27, 1916.....	5,122,629.81	4,243,805.06	1,792,008.62	6,690,733.44
Increase	\$1,659,985.77	\$1,132,668.14	\$ 488,097.26	\$1,704,132.42

YORK COUNTY BANKS IN 1920

A summary of the condition of the national and state banks of York County, Nebraska, about July, 1920, showed the following status:

Banks	Deposits	Loans	Cash, Etc.
First National Bank, York.....	\$1,600,000	\$1,609,000	\$281,000
City National Bank, York.....	700,000	625,000	115,000
American State Bank York.....	894,000	778,400	203,700
Farmers State Bank, York.....	230,000	254,290	35,000
American Trust Co., York.....	4,500	23,000	6,500
City Trust Co., York.....	40,000	60,000	2,000
First Trust Co., York.....	85,000	130,000	13,000
First State Savings Bank, York.....	111,000	124,900	9,320
Farmers State Bank, Benedict.....	127,000	118,470	20,790
First National Bank, Benedict	320,000	295,000	82,000
Farmers State Bank, Bradshaw.....	125,000	110,000	30,000
First National Bank, Bradshaw	210,270	251,640	30,020
First National Bank, Gresham	289,380	351,150	61,460
Gresham State Bank, Gresham.....	174,000	181,000	38,000
Bank of Henderson, Henderson.....	285,000	240,000	70,000
Farmers State Bank, Henderson.....	190,000	185,000	40,000
Bank of Lushton, Lushton.....	142,120	139,340	21,370
Blue River Bank, McCool Junction.....	217,480	209,000	40,000
Farmers & Merchants, McCool.....	150,000	125,000	43,000
Bank of Thayer, Thayer.....	99,270	85,830	20,520
Farmers & Traders Bank, Waco.....	190,000	169,000	42,000
Waco State Bank, Waco	140,000	110,000	35,000

York County bankers took advantage of the presence of the Liberty Bond drive managers in 1918 and organized the York County Bankers' Association. The following officers of the association were elected for the first year: J. E. Hart, York, president; Jarvis Yates, Bradshaw, vice president; E. S. Lawrence, York, secretary and treasurer.

The executive committee is composed of B. B. Crownover of Benedict, W. W. Seng of McCool and P. J. Friesen of Henderson.

CHAPTER XVII

THE PRESS OF YORK COUNTY

THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER—THE EARLY NEWSPAPERS—THE REPUBLICAN—THE TRIBUNE
—THE DEMOCRAT—THE TIMES—THE NEWS-TIMES—THE NEW TELLER—OTHER
PAPERS IN THE COUNTY—LAZY MAN'S CORNER—WHAT'S IN A NAME?—OLD-TIME
PRESS RAILERY—THE DAILY SQUAWKER.

THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER

No adequate historical review of any subdivision of American government or territory can be compiled without very extensive aid from the newspapers of the particular territory. History is formed from the actions of the people of the community, day by day, and it falls to the lot of the local newspaper to record this history as it is developed, and to do so while the facts and circumstances are fresh in everyone's minds. Therefore, not only should extensive reference and valuable reliance be placed upon the press of York County, but the following tribute can be appropriately paid to that important institution of the county's life in opening this chapter. The following is taken from the Union (N. Y.) Newspaper Dispatch, published therein in 1920:

"There are three most potent factors in the life, growth and development of a community. They are the church, the school and the newspaper, and this is in the order of importance.

"It is not our purpose here to eulogize.

"We will pass over the first two of these factors and perhaps treat of them later. If the churches were thrown out of this community no self-respecting person could stay here. With all our material prosperity we would soon drop back to conditions such as ancient Rome witnessed. And if the school were discontinued material progress would also stop and we would sink beyond redemption.

"The church is a public institution and is supported by voluntary contributions. The school is also a public institution and is supported by the state through taxation. The newspaper is a semi-public institution, but receives no public support. It has to earn its livelihood through the regular channels of competitive business.

"It is of the newspaper that we wish now to speak.

"If all the newspapers and other periodicals were discontinued today the effect would be somewhat similar to a mighty plague sweeping over the land. Darkness would creep in, the darkness of intellect as people would remain in ignorance of the happenings in localities only a few miles distant. Business would slow down, and telegraph communication would soon fall into disuse because no stimulus would come from the newspapers. Even the post-office receipts would dwindle, for much of its revenue comes in direct response to advertising.

"The newspaper is the third great agency in the advancement of civilization, yet it is underestimated more often than the first two. It is too often treated as merely a business proposition. Few people seem ever to get the vision that the true-blue editor has of using business to advance the interests of a whole community. The preacher has one job—to preach; the teacher has one job—to teach; but the editor, if he be true, has a triple job, and that is to teach and preach, and hardest of all, and with it all, too, to meet his weekly payroll, pay the other costs of production, and try to get a comfortable living—and we all have a right to that.

"Omitting the church and the school we can make claim without exaggeration that a true newspaper is of more real importance, does more good with less money, gives more for less money, than any other business in a community. It is true that some will point to the large industries that flourish in the community and say that those concerns with their big payrolls form the life of the community. This we answer is only apparently so. This appears to be so from a superficial materialistic survey of the field. But the life is more than the food and clothing. The big industrial plants deal in wealth that is produced by labor, but the newspaper, besides dealing in news, deals in bigger things—thoughts."

THE PRESS

The story of the press is that of civilization. Its history is that of the locality in which it is situated. It is the antiquarian, the historian, and the prophet. It makes or unmakes parties; establishes or destroys reputations; perpetuates, or by its sin of omission, allows to perish, the records of the day. What, then, can be more interesting than a history of the press itself—a history of histories? And when, as is the case with the newspaper press of York County, this history extends back to a period almost preceding the civilization of the locality; when it almost antedates the days of the generation and touches upon the lives and actions of those who established the community, their social doings and business pursuits, then is it necessarily of a historical interest, second to nothing which can be written. It is to be regretted that space will not permit of a more extended collation of extracts, touching upon the origin or the foundation of the things that exist today, the objection to such a presentation being that it would necessarily involve repetition of much of the early history of the city and county treated of in possibly a more appropriate place.

THE EARLY NEWSPAPERS

The Republican, a very detailed historical review of which immediately follows this opening paragraph, is the oldest of the present newspapers of York County. But it was preceded by a couple of newspaper ventures. In May, 1872, F. H. White started the York Monitor, which he conducted until the fall of 1873, when he transferred the plant to E. F. Clittenden. Mr. Clittenden immediately changed the name of his enterprise to the York Record. In April, 1875, Messrs. Morgan and Ross took over the newspaper venture and issued one number, when they sold their interest to Messrs. Scott and Miller. These gentlemen named their newspaper issues the Sentinel, and after six months' participation, Mr. Miller sold his share to F. H. Gerard and the firm became Scott & Gerard. In a short time Mr. Gerard became the sole proprietor. In April, 1876, Messrs. Morgan and Ross purchased the plant

THE YORK MONITOR

MARKET PRICES

VARIETY STORE

MONITOR

The York Monitor is a weekly publication containing market prices for various goods and services in York, Pennsylvania. It includes sections for 'MARKET PRICES' and 'VARIETY STORE', which lists various commodities and their current market values. The publication is owned and published by the York Monitor Company.

THE YORK MONITOR.

Published weekly, except on Sundays, at the office of the publisher, No. 108 North Third Street, York, Pa.

Subscription price, \$1.00 per annum in advance. Single copies, 10 cents.

Entered as second-class matter, March 29, 1879, under post office No. 218, at York, Pa., post office of general delivery. Accepted for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on July 1, 1918. Postage paid at York, Pa., July 1, 1918. Postmaster: Send address changes to THE YORK MONITOR, No. 108 North Third Street, York, Pa.

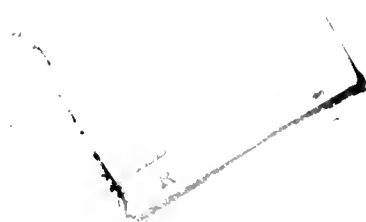
Advertisement for **BELL BROTHERS**, a lumber business. The ad features an illustration of a large lumber yard with stacks of timber and a building in the background. The text describes the company's extensive inventory of various types of lumber, including pine, spruce, and hemlock, and mentions their location at the intersection of Third and Market Streets in York, Pennsylvania. The ad also includes contact information for the company.

BELL BROTHERS,
LUMBER.

YORK COUNTY RECORD.

Advertisement for the York County Record, a weekly newspaper. The ad includes the newspaper's masthead and a detailed list of its various departments and services. The list includes sections for 'General News', 'Local News', 'Business', 'Real Estate', 'Legal', 'Medical', and 'Religious'. It also mentions the newspaper's circulation and subscription information. The ad is designed to attract subscribers and advertisers to the publication.

YORK COUNTY RECORD.
Published weekly, except on Sundays, at the office of the publisher, No. 108 North Third Street, York, Pa.



and changed the name to the York Republican. These changes are reviewed and noted in somewhat more detail, and carried forward in the following historical review of the Republican.

Upon the fortieth anniversary of its birth, the editor of the York Republican issued an elaborate birthday edition, wherein he not only reviewed the history of the paper but secured numerous reminiscences of "old timers" and those who had played a part in the "younger days of York" in making the wheels go around. The following historical review of the early days of the Republican, published upon April 28, 1916, serves as a very effective method of reviewing the beginnings of the press in York County:

"On April 28, 1876, at the suggestion of W. B. Cummins, at that time county judge, W. E. Morgan, a homesteader living three miles east of the county seat, bought the Sentinel of E. H. Gerard, rechristened it the Republican and sent out volume one, number one of the new newspaper. Its home was in the old B. & M. land office, built for F. A. Bidwell, on the west side of the square. The building outside was as meager as those pioneer days would suggest—a Washington hand press (Armstrong) and a job press of equally ancient pattern and a case of type to match. Some time in the spring and winter of 1872, or the spring of 1873, Mr. Whitehead started the Monitor, in Bell Brothers' store, on the site now occupied by Mr. Hannis. It lasted but a short time, but it was good while it lasted. Then E. F. Clittenden put out the Advocate on the south side of the square, and was followed by the Sentinel. One of the first steps taken was to go to the William Dayton farm across the Blue River to take Elmer away from the plow and start him in this reorganized print shop to run the mechanical end of the paper. Then Frank M. Ross, another homesteader southwest of town, became a partner, but remained only a few months. Then Lee Love, who was elected to the Legislature that fall, took a half interest in the venture.

"The next winter the first petition for local option on the saloon question was worked off on the ancient 'jobber' and scattered among the church people of the various denominations of the state and sent out to the honorable lawmakers and made the first strong temperance impression on that august body.

"The office did the work at its own expense, paying the postage for distribution. A. L. McClelland became part of the mechanical force of the office. Later on, the plant was moved to the south side of Sixth Street, across the alley west of the First National Bank. Lee Love later sold his interest in the paper to E. E. Post, a brother of Judges A. M. and G. W. Post. Another move was made to the building on the street west of Lincoln Avenue, between Sixth and Seventh streets. Still another move placed it in the east room, under the old city hall on Sixth Street. Here Mr. Post thought he had a more attractive business opened at St. Paul, so severed his connection with the Republican and sold his half to A. L. McClelland and W. E. Dayton, who had hitherto been in charge of the printing part of the business. After the strain of his hard work and the struggle to pay for his holding in the plant was about accomplished, Mr. McClelland's health failed and he was compelled to leave the paper, and lived but a short time. Mr. Dayton bought Mr. McClelland's share in the fall of 1888, and W. E. Morgan sold his interest to M. C. Frank, who in turn sold his portion to Mr. Dayton, who had been one of the pioneer printers of the state and who was one of the mainstays of the Republican

for over thirty years, until the grim destroyer put a sudden stop to his honorable career.

"When the paper was first issued Fairmont was the nearest railroad station. The county seat had only two or three hundred inhabitants. Now it is second to none of its size in the state, or any state, in moral, social or business characteristics. While these changes were being wrought out the Republican has been a leader in reaching for higher ideals in all lines of activity.

"It might not be out of place to relate that the next month after the paper was first issued the Board of Commissioners had decided to license a liquor saloon at their next meeting. The editor and a few kindred spirits concluded to meet with the board and protest against the issuance of a permit to put a saloon in the county. At the outset of that meeting it was ascertained that the county officers had made up their minds that the protest was useless. The protestants, however, insisted that the price of the license be fixed at the highest legal limit, that being \$5,000 for the license and \$4,000 for the bond. The board granted this concession, but the applicant for the license thought that six months was too short a time for his first trial. So next November it will be forty years since the City of York proper has had a licensed saloon.

"W. E. MORGAN,
"Greeley, Colo."

Following the above reminiscent letter of Mr. Morgan, the article of April 28, 1916, continues with the historical development of this enterprise and numerous other contributions and excerpts recalling "old times."

THE REPUBLICAN

"For forty years the Republican has been an institution of York and York County. When it started in 1876, York was a struggling village with a population of a couple of hundred. It was seventeen miles to the nearest railroad and the Blue River lay between. The first efforts to establish a paper here were successive failures, and the Republican was the third attempt. Rev. W. E. Morgan and Frank Ross were the first to give it strength. Mr. Morgan was a pioneer Methodist minister, a man with high ideals and earnest desire to do some good in the world. He was soon succeeded by Morgan and Love. Mr. Love retired in a few years, and two young men who had been employed in the office were made partners, and subsequently the business became Morgan, McClelland & Dayton. Later Mr. Morgan retired from the business, which was carried forward by McClelland & Dayton until the death of Mr. McClelland, when W. E. Dayton became the sole proprietor and publisher. Later, M. C. Frank purchased an interest in the paper and became editor. Dayton & Frank continued together for a few years, when Mr. Frank sold his interest to Mr. Dayton, who became the sole owner, and remained so until his death.

"For a short time G. W. Bemis edited the paper prior to the death of Mr. Dayton, and for some time after his death, the estate of W. E. Dayton. T. E. Sedgwick and J. D. Field purchased the Republican about four years ago (1912) and consolidated it with the Daily and Semi-Weekly Times, with Mr. Sedgwick as its editor. About a year later, Mr. Fields took the Daily Times and moved out, leaving Mr. Sedgwick

with the Republican, and since then the entire enterprise has been purchased by him, and he is the sole owner, with the exception of one share which is owned by Miss Phila Sedgwick, who is associate editor."

In September, 1917, J. G. Alden, who had been a successful newspaper man at Aurora, and from neighborhood experience was fairly well acquainted with the situation in York, purchased the Republican from T. E. Sedgwick, and for the past four years or more has conducted the paper in a modern, up-to-date manner that has added to its splendid record.

"From a village of a couple of hundred when the Republican was born, York has grown to be a city of six thousand, with all of the public improvements and evidences of wealth that go to make a metropolis. The success of the Republican has grown with the growth of the community. As the wild, wind-swept prairie has become a garden, the bleak plains became fields of growing grass; as the beautiful rural homes have displaced the soddy and the dugout, the Republican has found its way into three-fourths of all farm homes in York County and has become a welcome visitor to many who have removed from the county."

Two men stand out prominently in connection with the Republican and have left their imprint upon the press of York County no matter how long history runs into the future—W. E. Morgan and W. E. Dayton. Mr. Morgan steered it through its early struggles and stayed with it, faithfully working and denying himself many things to make it good. He remained when others deserted the ship and found other employment. He relinquished it only when he was able to hand it over to men who he had the utmost confidence would keep it going. Mr. Dayton came to it as a boy from his father's farm on the Blue, and from "devil" rose until he was the sole owner for thirty years and gave all he had to the Republican. His service, his devotion and his energy were such as to entitle him to a very prominent place in its history and in the history of the York County press.

The following response by Cliff Frank, upon March 12, 1916, develops a little further a reflection upon the past days of the Republican:

"Your request for a few lines in memory of the days when I was editor and correspondent of the York Republican causes the past to rise before me like a dream. Twenty or thirty years ago I wanted to mould public opinion. I have turned my mind backward to recall some of the men who did things at that time—men who left their imprint on the city and who worked on questions that came up for settlement—and I find, among many others who could be named, the following thinkers and leaders of my time on that paper: Dad Keckley, Joe Stricklet, Ed Lancaster, W. A. Beck, A. J. Newman, C. J. Nobes, John Chilcote, O. Froid, Nels Ferguson, F. B. Daggy, Colonel Crabb, John Bremer, Dad Blodgett, John Reel, Barney Friel, A. S. Thomas, Jude Clark, Lee Love, J. C. Kingsley, Charles Le Count, John Etherly, T. D. Knapp, Benton Barnett, F. Baldwin, William Mapps, William Melton, F. B. Reed, Eli Chittenden, L. D. Stilson, Carpenter Morgan, W. E. McCloud, Alex. Stephens, Dave MeLOY, Joe Boyer, Major Pembleton, George Rossiter, E. A. Warner, Wash Wirt, E. M. Cheney, I. H. Shieks, J. P. Small, Nate Johnson, Colonel Morrison, Lew Weeks, G. P. Chessman, Bob Lytle, Henry Poor, David Fisher, J. Raper, John Osborn, Will Meradith, S. Hubbell, Lafe Cline, William Glover, Peter Hull, Link Bell, Jerry Tondrau, Levi Sidwell, T. O. Wright, Joe Newcomer, Phil Fink, Kim Sturgeon, Dick Price, J. K. Sheen, Dad Gould,

George Howe, J. E. Prest, Joe Detrick, Cap Eberhardt, John Moulds, Jack Walsh, Jonathon Shaw, and George Hartburt. Professional men in those days included W. T. Scott, J. F. Hall, W. P. Connor, A. C. Montgomery, D. T. Moore, George B. France, J. C. Naylor, W. W. Giffen, Judge Cummings, lawyers, and Doctors Reader, Davis, McCaughy, Porter, Shidler, Ryan, Sedgwick, Wyckoff, Carseadden, and S. V. Moore.

"May the present leaders and thinkers of York, twenty or thirty years from now be able to look back as delightfully as we do upon these men. I love those boys yet, and know those of them still there care for me."

OTHER PAPERS IN YORK

The York County Tribune was inaugurated by Frank A. Wellman, a brother of the Walter Wellman who made the famous North Polar expedition for the Chicago Record-Herald some fifteen or twenty years ago. Its first number was issued in March, 1877. It remained under the editorship of Mr. Wellman until the summer of 1880, at which time Messrs. Whedon and Culley became its proprietors. Mr. Whedon later became a notable figure in Nebraska press history through his many years of notable management of the Kearney Democrat. On March 25, 1882, Mr. J. C. Armstrong took possession of this plant. About this time its name was changed to the Democrat.

The York Democrat has been a notable member of the newspaper family of York County. Its publication under that name began in 1882 and has continued until this date. The paper was sold by Armstrong a short while later, and L. D. Woodruff was publisher in 1884. In 1885 Woodruff and Corcoran was the firm name of the owners of the plant. It was soon after that taken over by George F. Corcoran, who has remained the owner of this plant through the many intervening years, though his duties in court circles and legal practice have deterred his personal management of the paper, and it has been under many other guiding hands for various lengths of time. Through the later '80s and early '90s George F. Corcoran was editor of the paper. Through the later '90s, Dan T. Corcoran was editor most of the time. About 1900 it was conducted for a time by Corcoran and Frank, this firm being Dan T. Corcoran and Cliff Frank. There was a short period it was named the Teller-Democrat. When Judge Corcoran first purchased the paper, there was a period during which F. L. Whedon remained editor, and about 1892 H. C. Waldrip, who for many years has published the Scotia (Neb.) Register, was denominated as publisher for the Democrat. At another period Albert P. Sprague conducted this paper. But the longest period of service was that of Dan T. Corcoran. Will M. Manpin took charge of this paper in 1915 and conducted it for about three years. During this time his notable Midwest Magazine was issued from this office. When this talented writer left York in 1918, for a short time John E. Kavanaugh of Spalding, Neb., took the management of this paper, but it was turned over shortly to A. G. Ward, who has faithfully handled this enterprise for the last couple of years, and in 1921 is publishing a bright, breezy sheet.

The York Times, which has been the third newspaper in age in York, in competition with the Republican and the Democrat for the past forty years, was started on August 13, 1880, by Adams and Woolman. It was first published as

the Tidal Wave. G. W. Woolman had sold his farm and came in during the summer of 1880 and started the Tidal Wave and conducted it for a few weeks during the campaign in the interests of the greenback currency campaign. When that mission was performed the new enterprise was taken over by Adams and Woolman and conducted for a few months as the York "Times." In March, 1881, this paper was taken over by Theron E. Sedgwick, who conducted it as a republican newspaper for many years, in fact until it was consolidated for a time with the Republican by Sedgwick and Field in 1912. A little while later Mr. J. D. Field took the Daily Times and Mr. Sedgwick took the Republican. This paper was then sold to Thomas Curran of the York Blank Book Company and York News Company.

This paper is the one among the press of York which has been maintained for many years upon a daily basis. It was first issued as a daily in 1888. It has also at times been issued as a weekly and semi-weekly as well as a daily sheet. After it was sold to Mr. Curran it became consolidated with the York Daily News, which Mr. Curran was managing for the York Blank Book Company. For the past few years it has been handled as the York Daily News-Times, and during 1920 Mr. T. E. Sedgwick returned to the newspaper fold and assumed the editorship of this paper.

In 1897 another newspaper was started in York, which is surviving in 1920 as the fourth York paper, the York Teller. It was organized by M. C. Frank in 1897 as a weekly sheet. He sold it some years ago to Miss Grace Moore, who, with the assistance of Mr. Bemis and her faithful staff, published a splendid paper under the name, the New Teller.

In 1889 local capitalists, mainly through the energy of the Sedgwicks, promoted the Nebraska Newspaper Union. This enterprise developed into an important institution, which made a business of collecting news items and articles from all sources imaginable, preparing the plates and furnishing these as "inside plate sheets" to hundreds of smaller newspapers throughout Nebraska and some neighboring states. In 1910 this enterprise was sold to the Western Newspaper Union and York lost the same. But during its existence this company built the splendid four-story building now used by the News-Times and York Blank Book Company as their business home.

OTHER PAPERS IN YORK COUNTY

Bradshaw has a very excellent newspaper, the Monitor, which has been published for several years by I. D. Beltzer. This paper is about twenty-five years old.

McCool Junction has a paper called the Blue Valley Journal, which began publication June 10, 1897. Mr. E. C. Gilliland and wife carried this enterprise through its first years of life, as editors, publishers and proprietors. I. L. Slagle was the publisher and editor in 1920.

Waco has a live newspaper called the Waconion. In 1920 this sheet was started by E. P. Shields of Tamora, who issues it in a very interesting book form, with pages 6x9 inches, usually twelve to sixteen pages, and different colors used for various pages.

Gresham has had a newspaper for many years, the Gresham Gazette. J. A. Ruddock is the present editor and publisher.

THE PLEASANTRIES

York County journalism presents many interesting phases, and none more so than some of the departments of local humor and jesting "personality" indulged in by the various papers. Space prohibits any very lengthy excursion into this realm, but the compiler has selected a few excerpts from the *Lazy Man's Corner*, conducted for many years during the late '80s and early '90s by the *Democrat*, and a few similar excerpts from the *Squawker*, of the past few years, conducted by the *New Teller*.

Believing that the reader will accept the older pleasantries of forty years ago with the same spirit of understanding that the current ribaldries are taken, these are included for purposes of contrast and comparison, and to give a balanced conception of this interesting phase of newspaper work.

LAZY MAN'S CORNER

Leroy, Feb. 26, 1886.

To the Faithful:—Having organized a caucus on *Lazy Man's Corner*, and knowing that the success of all societies depends on the grit and integrity of the members, we are holding under consideration the propriety of admitting to membership our honorable, his high mightiness, our ex-supervisor; and if received into the fold of the faithful, we propose to make him the Grand Mogul, for we all know that he can get more solid comfort out of a dry goods box and a good jackknife than any of the faithful. We shall probably be obliged to stay his initiation 'till the ice runs out of the creek, or till the oh-be-joyful gets cheaper as a cold chill would be dangerous to a lazy man, and he being hollow to the tops of his boots, it would take about four gallons of old Bourbon to fill him up.

Yours for the faithful,

SALT-PETER.

LAZY MAN'S CORNER

Annual Meeting

March 10, 1887.

Chairman Wendall looked very handsome with a quid of tobacco, and his linen duster buttoned up with brass buttons, which gave him a decidedly military appearance. The chairman said we should all return thanks that the winter was so far advanced that we could hear the squeak of the wild goose and lie on the south side of the straw stack, in the warm sun, and play seven-up. The chairman said the delegate they sent to Lincoln to get offices for the club had been very successful. He had succeeded in getting an office for each member of the club, but unfortunately, like 99 out of every 100 applicants for office at Lincoln, this winter, our inauguration does not take place for two years yet. The chairman then announced that the old year had expired, and the new year began on the 4th of March, the same as Congress. At the beginning of the new year, Secretary Small would report how each member's account stood on the ledger. The secretary then read: Lyman Miller, Cr.—To drinking 21 gallons of hoss medicine, 3 kegs of beer, and one gallon of gin. Dr.—By drinking one quart of water.

Hutchison, Cr.—To whipping his wife 27 times. Dr.—By not whipping her 10 times.

Wendall, Cr.—By going to 20 dances, 13 card parties, 3 raffling matches and one dozen fights. Dr.—To going to Sunday school once, but made a mistake and went on Saturday. To going to church once, but did not get there until church was out.

Small, Cr.—By allowing the club to use his head for a reflector to the lamp. Dr.—To shearing 25 head of sheep in the month of January.

The secretary announced that the rest of the member's account was not posted. The chairman said he wanted to give the club a little advice, at the beginning of the new year: Figuratively speaking, we were now standing with one foot on the caboose of the past year, as it went thundering down the foggy road of the fast fading past, laden with politicians who had been false to the people, and traded their souls for a free pass and a few dollars. There were several Methodist preachers aboard, of Lincoln University notoriety. The Omaha Herald was engineer, the Omaha Republican, conductor and the editor of the York Republican, peanut boy, on said train. Our other foot on the cowcatcher of the new year, as it comes rushing around the curve, with steam up and brakes off, laden with good resolutions and promises of the new year. Every member should firmly resolve that during the coming year he will do nothing worse than whip his wife, steal, and vote the democratic ticket. But man was so prone to evil, and naturally depraved, that he was afraid they would forget all these good resolutions, and before dog days, be reading the anti-monopoly editorials of the York Republican, and drinking mixed drinks and be guilty of all the crimes that would naturally follow such a course. As the chairman took his seat, Tom Pence passed around his old boss medicine, winter prescription. Luekey played on his jewsharp and Carter danced. The chaplain then arose and said if he could always live in such society as this, he would like to turn to a scurdling and live forever. He said the club must not disband, as this club and the Methodist preachers and the saloons had to elect our Jim once more to Congress, which was going to be a big job, unless a certain man took the cramp cholera.

MAGNA CHARTA.

LAZY MAN'S CORNER

July 1, 1886.

Wendall, on taking the chair, said we would have to curtail the boundary of the Corners or have more drug stores or larger bottles, as our supply of stimulants was insufficient. Carter moved that as Wendall was done gathering corn he be allowed to go to the celebration on the Fourth. Carried by a rising vote. Vandeventer then took the floor and stated he had been away out west in Custer and Sherman counties among the Indians and Buffaloes; had several narrow escapes, but his beauty saved him. When he got to Grand Island he heard that James Hamilton, Powers, Scott, and several other parties from York were in town. He wanted to find them and of course went to the saloons (which are every other house in town) but they were not there, nor had they been there. He went to the police and stated the facts and told them he was satisfied they had been foully dealt with. The police laughed and said if they were from York he would find them at the drug stores, as Yorkites never patronized saloons for it was a little disgraceful, besides it was more economical to deal with drug stores. This satisfied him as he knew habit was second nature. Secretary Small then read a communication from the York ring stating that Doctor Knapp had changed to a Van Wyck man, as he thought a man running for governor of Nebraska as anti-Van Wyck would be in as poor a business as a farmer raising corn for the railroads. Also, Laird is to be elected to Congress, Knapp, gov-

error: then all hands are to join and elect Laird United States senator. Governor Knapp will appoint Judge Post to fill the vacancy, then the millennium is close at hand. All members of the L. M. C. were ordered not to read the York Times, as it was no good. Henry Smith wanted to know what the railroads would tink ven dey see Knapp mit der Van Wyck beoples. The chairman said as long as Knapp kept in good company like Post, Laird, and the York Republican it was no difference he said the railroads were satisfied. Lyman Miller said if we could get Bill McCloud to support Van Wyck he would be defeated for Bill never supported a man in his life but what he was defeated.

Wendall and Sovereign have stopped plowing their corn, for they were afraid they would spoil their hay crop as they think their corn ground will make two tons of foxtail hay to the acre. They say every farmer could raise enough foxtail hay to do them, like they do if it was not for laziness.

Hutchison was fined the usual pint for addressing the chairman lying down in the corner of the hall. The chairman remitted the fine because he was unable to stand up; his medicine did not agree with his stomach. As he lay in the corner he sang "We Won't Go Home 'Till Morning."

MAGNA CHARTA.

LAZY MAN'S CORNER

December 2, 1886.

The club met after a two weeks' recess, caused partly by cold weather, partly by scarcity of hoss medicine, and partly by having failed to sell our votes at the late election, to purchase winter clothing; consequently our faded summer clothes were rather thin, to attend club meetings on stormy nights, when stimulants were scarce.

Chairman Wendall said to economize light Secretary Small would sit behind the lamp in such a position that his bald head could be used for a reflector to the lamp.

Miller moved that the committee on stimulants report immediately, as he was very dry; he had been confined to the house during this cold weather, while his wife wore his boots to do the chores. Vandeventer then passed several bottles of St. Joseph whiskey. Hutchison said no wonder Missouri gave 40,000 democratic majority; after drinking such good medicine, he felt like voting the democratic ticket himself. Vandeventer then, as special reporter of the corners, of the late railroad excursion to St. Joseph, reported as follows: The committee, twenty-five of us in number, all opposed to voting bonds, left York for Grand Island. Arrived at Grand Island, found corn 3 cents per bushel higher there than at York; wheat, 10 cents; hogs, 25 to 50 cents higher; coal, from \$1.25 to \$2.75 per ton cheaper at the Island than at York. All these figures had no effect on the committee. Then T. W. Smith, who was acting as commissary general, took us to a place called a saloon; says, "Gentlemen, what will you have? Beer, whiskey straight, brandy sling, whiskey mash, ginger rum or cocktail?" We all answered in the affirmative. When all had their drinks on the counter ready to drink, T. W. said: "Boys, I am for bonds; what are you for?" We all said, with a loud voice, and a clear conscience, "We are for taking something." We took something, by a large majority. After repeating the operation, *ad infinitum*, we took a vote on the bond question, which was carried unanimously. We then took supper, then something else. Then we were all in favor of doubling the amount of bonds that were asked. We took a sleeping car for St. Joseph, or rather the car took us. The porter thought it a curious crowd; for some bunks had four in them, others one, and some none; some slept on

the floor. We arrived at St. Joseph the next morning. Riding on the cars gave us all the headache, and we were very dry. After drinking some Missouri River water we felt better, but towards night it began to make us act very singular. Some seemed very serious, others very hilarious, but all were in good humor except J. B. Allen, who saw something he did not like, and began feeling for his revolver, but luckily it had no cap on.

St. Joseph is a fine city, but the sidewalks are too narrow for men like us who are used to broad prairies; in fact, they were so narrow we were in the street about half the time. The citizens, with southern hospitality, treated us so kindly that we will never forget it, especially the *treating* part. Your humble representative was a great favorite with the ladies, on account of his beauty. We will say right now, if they ever want any more bonds in this county, we speak for the job to go to St. Joseph to investigate.

We all brought back stimulants to do us till the bonds were carried, except the representatives from Morton, who failed to get enough to keep them up to the voting point, till election. Our captain, T. W. Smith, says he never can forget the kindness of the police of St. Joseph, in helping him collect his crowd and put them aboard the cars. By 9 o'clock they had collected about one-half the crowd in a place called a station (not a railroad station); the rest he hauled to the cars in a carriage called a dray. We all got home safe, except one man who got hurt trying to come down a flight of stairs, headforemost at one step.

MAGNA CHARTA.

P. S. The committee was the most temperate crowd I ever saw (under the circumstances; even such men as Buckley, Woolstenholm and Small were perfectly sober all the time. Chairman Wendall said he would deliver his lecture as soon as the weather was warm enough to wear summer clothes. We think the singular conduct of the committee at St. Joseph was caused by climatic and atmospheric condition.

LAZY MAN'S CORNER

1888.

The club met at the residence of Hon. Richard Johnson (colored).

Chairman Flock ordered the janitor to fine Otto Hutchison a quart of boss medicine, a deck of cards and a fine-tooth comb for trying to put on style, by eating pie with one hand and a fork. The chairman said when he saw a naturalized or native-born American citizen of tolerable sound mind, dissecting pie with a fork and one hand, he lost all self-control, and it was lucky for the culprit that the by-laws and constitution of the club positively prohibited capital punishment. The janitor was ordered to collect said fine, and pay it into the commissary for the general use of the club.

Hon. Richard Johnson (colored) said he wanted the people of this district to understand that he had not declined to run for Congress. He also wanted everybody to know that his health was good, except he had raised some gum boils on his fingers, picking the banjo. He was like General Sheridan, there was some dispute as to where he was born. Some said in the United States, while other good authorities said he was born in Missouri; while others equally as knowing said it would have been best for his mother and the community at large if he had not been born at all. Chairman Flock said so many of our great men were dying so suddenly it made him feel a little weak in the knees. It looked as if the next great

man that would be called to settle his accounts would be him or Bismarck. As he had done a few little inaccuracies (when a boy) that were not just according to Hoyle's unabridged dictionary, he had consulted Chaplain Briley, who thought something should be done d——d quick, as he expected most any day to hear the telegraph flash the news throughout the length and thickness of this land, that Chairman Flock had collected the last delinquent tax list and last hard debt, and he would be called on to preach his funeral and eulogize his many shortcomings. That the club hall be draped in mourning and each member would be required not to drink anything for twenty-four hours that was flavored with alcohol. All would say the chairman was a good man of the kind. That he was like the rest of the club, a very promising man: that is, he promised a great deal but performed little. He would be missed by many, especially his wife, who would not have to take in washing to support him. The chairman said he wanted to join the best church, so his credentials would be a kind of a recommend so he would not have to depend entirely on his own platform. When he went out on the streets to see which church's members did the best, he could see no difference. In fact, he could not tell by their conduct, a church member from a son of a gun from Omaha.

Chaplain Briley in conclusion said there were some things he would like to see. He would like to see a lawyer that knew enough law and was honest enough that when you paid him to tell you the law on a certain point, you would not have to go into court and pay a hundred dollars' cost to find out that he was mistaken. He would like to see a doctor that knew enough medicine and had confidence enough in his ability, to take his own medicine when sick. He would like to see a church member do in practice what he preached in theory. In other words, he wanted to see a church member that when he said a thing, we knew it was a fact because we knew he was a church member and not because we knew he was a truthful man. He would like to see a church member that had a horse to sell or trade that was more than "nine years old next spring." He would like to see a church member have such a regard for truth that you would know he was a member of the church by his hoss he was trying to sell you being more than "nine years old next spring." He would like to see a merchant that was not selling goods at "less than cost," for when you buy goods of a man that is selling at "less than cost," then find out that you have paid twenty-five per cent more than you would have to pay the man that is selling for a good profit, it makes a man feel like he had declined a nomination for office, and your constituents had accepted your declination.

The janitor then passed the hoss medicine, and the club adjourned with three cheers for Jim Laird and dirty lard.

MAGNA CHARTA.

Lazy Man's Corner

January 8, 1891.

The club met in Newman's office, chairman Flock presiding, sitting on a chair. The reason he did not preside standing was because he had more than he could stand lately. The reasons the club had not met for some time are various and very serious. Firstly, since the election Joe Boyer would let no one have stimulants on time, but the independents. It seemed to him that all the good things of this world was for the exclusive benefit of the independents. Secretary C. A. McCloud took the \$250 that was sent to York for the use of this club and its friends to beat prohibition and bet it on the election, and we have so far failed to see any of said

\$250, or the \$250 he was sure to win. We begin to suspect that he bet it on the wrong horse, as a good deal of his money went in the same way. We begin to feel a little weak in the stomach. If we had that \$250 and the \$250 we ought to have won we would have been healed for this winter. Thirdly, we have had no place to hold our club meetings, as all through the late lamented campaign we held our meetings in the rooms of the republican committee, but since the election we could never get a quorum in said committee rooms because most of the members of this club was afraid of graveyards, ghosts, and haunted rooms. In rooms where great men have been killed in cold blood, strange noises are heard and blood-curdling phantoms flit about the room. The paraphernalia of the late campaign that was left in the aforesaid rooms looked as forlorn and desolate as a graveyard of a dark night. Our members could have stood all this, but were afraid they might hear an echo of one of those soul-stirring speeches that were delivered by Hon. E. A. Gilbert, Hon. J. W. Small, and Hon. T. Eddy Bennett. We were compelled to hear said speeches before the election, but now we are afraid of an echo of them after night. The chairman said the club was now ready for business. Hon. Richard Johnson (colored) said as there were no stimulants to stimulate us to deeds of daring and desperation, Choirmaster T. J. Hatfield would please sing that soul-stirring campaign song he sang so feelingly during the late campaign, entitled "McKeighan Running Through the Corn, Watch Him or He Will Take Another Horn." As T. J. Hatfield arose to sing the song, E. A. Gilbert took the croup, C. A. McCloud took a fit, J. W. Small, the flatulency; N. A. Dean took the cholera infantum and the janitor took the singer out of the room. The singing of campaign songs was laid on the table. Hon. Richard Johnson (colored) then continued his remarks. The poet said "The saddest words ever penned, was, it might have been." The man that wrote that thought he was saying something smart and wise, but had never been through a political fight resulting like the late cursed disaster. He did not care a cuss for what "might have been." What is and what is to be, is what looks so appalling to this club. To see Tom Smith, Corcoran, Governor Kelso, Hurlbut, J. D. P. Small, Jerry Martin, Captain Eberhardt, George Bowers, et al., talking right before our eyes, and in our hearing in this fashion: "We will put this independent in Doe, Newman's place. That one in Shreck's place, the other one in Reader's place," etc. Just as though there had never been a republican party in the county, nor ever would be again. This is what made Chairman Flock's hair so white. It was not caused by excessive piety, hard drink, high living or fast women, but trouble over the downfall of our nation, for the farmers don't know any more about how to run a government than I did about those hides a couple of years ago. We won't miss the offices so much as we will the salaries attached thereto. This grand old party must be reorganized. We must have better discipline, so when a man wants to withdraw from the party we must draw him back again. This want of discipline was the cause of our present trouble, and M. C. Frank is the cause of it all. When he demanded McKeighan to withdraw from the late campaign on account of his record if he had enforced strict discipline and made him withdraw all this sorrow and trouble would have been avoided. You see, it was a bad example when Frank failed to make Mc. withdraw. Nobody would withdraw but republicans. It looks like most all of them had withdrawn. John Kelso offered the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, The eyesight of chairman Flock was failing, and

Whereas, he can't see anything in the room where he is now located, therefore be it—

SOMETIMES ON ITSELF

The press, neither pioneer or modern, does not always parry its thrusts at other towns, but sometimes indulges in a little playful humor directed at its own town. Evidencing this, we reproduce from the York New Teller of February 26, 1913: *What's in a Name?—After Mature Deliberation It Is Decided to Change York's and Keep the Change—Send in Your Change, It'll Do You Good—P. S.: Since the Change in the Weather This Morning Many People Have Changed Their Minds, So This Article Is Withdrawn—Don't Read It.*

"York" is a poor name for a town.

Now that complaint has been made about it, the New Teller has decided to change it. Our readers are invited to make suggestions, to which no attention will be paid, though the names of the suggesters will be published in huge, fat, black, juicy type.

Since the foregoing was written, hundreds of suggestions have not been received at this office.

Mrs. Pankhurst sent a cablegram as soon as she got out of jail this morning: "Why not name it 'Pork'? Your ball team is always on the pig train."

A wireless message came at six o'clock tomorrow evening, signed by the three members of the W. C. T. U. in Grand Island. It read: "We suggest the name 'Cork' for your town, as your ball team habitually gets it in the neck."

W. G. Boyer, who was connected with the York Alfalfa Mills, sent this by parcels post: "Call it 'Fork'—there would be some point to that. It might attract some pitchers for the ball team."

Though it can't possibly get here before next week, a telegram is momentarily expected from Mr. Woodrow Boat of Fairview, which will say: "Don't get discouraged. Name it 'Yorrick.' The fans in the state league have been saying, 'Alas, poor Yorrick!' for two seasons."

Jim Dahlman expressed this, collect, expressly from Hot Springs: "I understand your mayor and city council are protesting against the name of your city, and will submit the proposition to the voters at a special election. Spare the useless expense, since York will continue to be known in Douglas County as 'The Holy City.'"

So the New Teller has decided not to change the name after all, though, by all the violets that ever grewed, we've got just as darn good a right to change it as anyone else.

The old-time newspaper showed more real partisan bitterness and exercised more intense vitriolic abuse than the modern press is accustomed to display. Just a couple of excerpts indicative of this phase of newspaper "penmanship" are here included:

"The republican party in Nebraska fairly roars for fear the populist party has been swallowed by the democratic party and because the free-silver republicans have also been gulped down by this cannibalistic brute. There—there, dear, don't fret. You're too old and senile to be startled by such bogie stories. We promise that 'the Gobble'm shan't get you,' and we'll sure trounce anyone who scares you again.

so that you 'see things at night' in this way. Just carry your record around with you and nothing will ever swallow you.

"What a precious old hypocrite you are, to be sure; and what a transparent dodge you are trying to work in this campaign. A few weeks ago your man Johnson was describing the slimy, spiney, unswallowableness of the dread Glasticutis of Anarchy that had its hole in Polk County, the fearful Jaberwock of populism and the Willowpus wallopus of free-silver republicanism and a thousand other snaky things that made us dream of prehistoric natural history, and now he tells us that the democratic party has swallowed all this menagerie: Ye gods, what a digestion the democratic party must have. If the story of Jonah's whale is an allegory, this must be something worse, and that's what we guess it is. Tell another.

"And now a word to the faithful: Don't waste any time worrying yourselves about the men of the democratic party unless it should eat something that would disable it for this campaign. Our populist organization is complete and more efficient than it ever was before. The republicans know that unless they can start discord in our ranks, we are certain to make the dry bones rattle from Chadron to Peru as they never did before in Nebraska.

"And now comes the Times, a little two-for-a-cent sheet and by courtesy called a daily, published over on the north side of the square, and attempts to sneer the Democrat out of town because it dare to venture an honest criticism upon the policy of the public school embarking in the show business. The trouble was occasioned by an article in last week's Democrat commenting upon the production of the opera, 'Little Tycoon,' by the public school. This paper asserted upon reasonably good authority, information and belief that such practices had a certain demoralizing effect upon the school and its work for good. The Times does not take kindly to this idea, but closes its article in last Friday's daily thus:

"'Now that is the gospel as expounded by the Democrat. It savors of the mould and moth of fifty years' accumulation. The real facts are that never before was such interest taken in the schools and school work, both by pupils and parents, as during the present year. The "Little Tycoon" was given to raise money for the library, and to that end the pupils united with their friends and worked hard for the successful termination of the undertaking. True, some pleasure and enjoyment was derived from its preparation, but where is the mossback who will dare venture the assertion that it was not of a wholesome nature, or that it had a "demoralizing effect upon the school and its work for good." The schools have been doing most excellent work and, as it may seem strange to the Democrat, right through the "Little Tycoon" season. The venture terminated successfully in every particular. It awakened more interest in the schools, and the pupils worked with more zest and energy. It is the opinion of the Times that Professor McClelland understands his business pretty thoroughly, and don't need newspaper suggestions.'

"The Democrat is sorry for the Times. We have no desire to keep up this controversy, knowing that to go into all the facts must result in a detriment to the York high school. Even if the Times and Professor McClelland do not know it, this paper knows that a very large and respectable number of the patrons of school district No. 12 are not satisfied with the venture of the high school in the show business. Many good men who have children in the school have spoken in terms concerning the matter that cannot be misunderstood. We have yet to meet a man that indorses the venture. There is no need to compromise pupils, or innocent par-

ficipants to go into facts. The Democrat may be a mossback, but it certainly dares to assert that such practices are not calculated to benefit the school, and in so saying we do not fear those who make the inquiry as to who 'dare venture the assertion.' There are a great many facts connected with this matter which would not appear well in print, and we sincerely hope that there will be no need of making them public. Professor McClelland may 'understand his business pretty thoroughly and may not need newspaper suggestions,' but he evidently needs some suggestions from a board of education, with backbone enough to drive the theatrical craze out of the public schools."

Coming down to our own day, let us peruse a "few squawks" from

The World's Poorest Newspaper

THE DAILY SQUAWKER

Volume A No. 287

ISSUED ANY DARN TIME WE PLEASE OR OFTENER

For The Interests of Nobody

Pure Locals

Brake, brake, brake—on thy cold, gray
stones, oh see—

You can brake away till the brake
of day

And not be as broke as me,

Candidate Cox, who is candidating for the presidency on the democrat ticket, it is alleged, was had to stop in York a Monday last to pay visit to the editor of the Squawker. We were pleased to receive the extinguished guest—he must be extinguished on ac't he went out on the Burlington. We received him on his special train for iffen he had came down town he might a staid to lunch. "Hullo, Cox," said we. "Hullo, Squawker," he brilliantly replied. "What do you want?" asked we, with our usual kindly hospitality. "Will you vote for me?" asked he face-blank. "Naw," said we. "Why not," asked he. "Because you have not got no nickname," said we, "and we do not like to vote for a man who has not got no nickname." "Why don't you give me one?" asked he. "Because we can't think of nothing," we sorrowfully replied, "unless it would be 'Foxy Cox,' or 'Proxy Cox,' or 'Smallpox Cox.'

How are we going to find a nickname for a man who has got a name like ox?"

"A rose by any other name
Would smell as sweet," said he.

"So would the sox that Mr. Cox
Wears on his feet," said we.

"To speak of sox is very bad taste," said he. "Some sox is," said we, "in very bad odor on ac't they are so loud, but we refer to the nice, quiet, refined silk ones like what the poor workingmen and politicians and the chorus girls wear—they all have to have 100 per cent silk sox on ac't they kick so much, but 2 per cent kick is enough for the great middle class." "I ain't no reactionary," said he. "Neither is Harding," said we, for we were on, he was reputed to be running for office. "Harding hasn't got no nickname eyther," said he. "No," said we, "you have both got hick-names and darned if we'll vote for eyther one of you." Our metal and made up our mind that Mr. Cox couldn't tell any bigger lie than we could even if—"Whom will you vote for then?" asked he. "We rather flink we'll vote for Debs," said we. "Because he's got a nickname?" asked he with a sneer. "Because he's

in jail," said we, "for iffen we've got to have a reactionary anyhow, you'll have to admit that he's much safer and probably just as sane as eyether one of you. We would as soon vote for a jail-bird as a railbird." "I don't need your vote," said he. "That's why you got a special train," said we. "Toot-toot!" said the engineer. "That's a pretty weak toot," said we. "Aren't you going to fix it so that underpaid engineer can get at least a two per cent toot when he wets his whistle?" "Tut-tut!" said Mr. Cox. "Toot-toot!" said the engineer. "Ta-ta," said we. Such is life.

Some corn crop.

What has become of Ex-Mare Wray?

Do your Xmas shopping early.

Knockers are seldom workers.

Next Friday is the Worst of the month, and we will be out of town.

We are still waiting for Lige Leavitt to come accrost with the balance of the coal we ordered a year ago last June.

Sossiety

Carl Behling, a hot-dog merchant from Long Beach, is in the city at present. He looks sheepish when you ask him how he likes the West.

Sports

York lady golphers skun Hastings ditto recently. We don't want to get Jawn Raeside, our perfessional, in bad but it should be recorded, for its scientific value, that Jawn states that it is a well established fact, proven by figures, that the better looking a lady golpher is the poorer game she plays. We hope the Hastings contingent will give our players a return match in the

near future. And we feel sure York will win—we hasten to add.

Eddytorial

We are among the few who are not in any desperate hurry to see prices come down, and we are in still less of a hurry as we note that they are putting the skids under wheat, just as we expected.

This is a very quiet state campaign. We are suspicious of quiet campains.

Pure Locals

News is scarce this week.

So is time.

So is space.

Kit considers the space more important than anything else. She is willing and anxious any time to cut out the Squawker to make room for ads. Nobody appreciates us but the fat bartender in at Guy & Buck's place on the corner, and he ain't right in the head. Sometimes we get so mad we are ready to quit, and then we remember the way to get even is to keep right on.

The Commercial Club et Monday night. A good time was had by all.

The Notary Club et Thursday noon. A good time was had by all.

The K. Peas will eat tomorry night and a good time will be had by all.

Seems to us like there is a dickens of a lot of eating going on around this town.

Also a lot of escaping. Why not play the piano.

Iffen you can't be thankful for any-
thing else, be thankful its no worse.

I'd hate to be
in Turkey
Where it's
murky
and it's
dirkey—
I'd rather far
in old
York County be;
I'd hate to be
in Turkey,
The subject
makes me
jerky;
But I do not
mind when
Turkey
Is in me.

We hear tell ez how out there in Lockridge Township Cash Newman wuz had to git accorded th' complimentary and surprizin' testimonial uv one vote fer county jedge. Th' boys wuzn't gonna enter the result on the pole book, fust off, but Cash says ez how he rockoned they had better do so, ez long ez th' vote wuz cast an' counted accordin' tew dew process uv law, an' he would make it pretty durned hot fer 'em iffen they neglected that there little ceremony of enterin' it in th' books. Waal, th' boys argued with Cash a spell, an' telt him that they didn't like t' enter that there one lettet lonesome vote fer him ez it looked like a joke someone wuz playin' onto him, er mebbe some half-wit had snuck in the booth an' then dropped that there vote in th' box while they wuzn't lookin'. But Cash sed he gussed there wuzn't nuthin' so blamed foolish erbout that vote ez fur ez he could see; that it wuz th' most sensible vote he seen cast thet day, an' how did they know until all

th' returns wuz in how he wuz runnin' in th' other townships, fer th' good uv all. He sed he took that vote plumb serious, an' he made a lettet speech an' thanked which ever one it wuz in the crowd thet hed did him th' honor an' he sed that while he might be defeated still there wuz no denyin' that he had made a surprizin' gain over last year, an' hed every reason t' feel gratified over th' increase uv 100 per cent in his hum precinct. An' he sed he would like t' call th' attenshun uv his enemies, an' point 'ith pride t' his friends ez how he took a easy second place, an' iffen this here cheap political crook, Harry Hopkins, hedn't spent oodles of tainted money which he had wrenched fr'm th' pockets uv th' poor, he wouldda beat him hands down. An' then th' boys tolt Cash they reckoned thet 't wuz easy t' tell who voted fer him, 'n they guest it wuz lucky he didn't get no more 'n one vote er it would a become their painful dooty 't arrest him fer repeatin'. An' what Cash sed then won't bear repeatin' in good society. And he telt 'em iffen they sed tew much he would demand a recount. Lby Clithero sed he wouldn't advise him tew dew that—sed he might lose that there vote if he did. Such is life.

Mighty near it had a bold bank robbery the other night. Josh Cow caught a couppla birds, one of same being Jack Crumpaugh, an alleged employe, lurking around the basement and called the night police. The night police crawled in a window and was going to cut loose with a gat and only desisted when he discovered he didn't have his gat along. Jack and his accompish (we haven't heard whom) claimed they had come in there to skin a mink. We are innocent and unsuspecting, but iffen a coupla guys were caught in our bank and they claimed they come in there to skin a

mink we would tell them to go tell that to the judge, even iffen they did have a mink along to prove it with. Still, on second hand, there is considerabul skinning done in banks—in fact, they are darn near it packing-houses when it comes to skinning there customers, so let the story ride. We understand Jack got his key taken up on him by Josh.

Pure Locals

Happy New Year.

York, Neb., Dec. 29th.

Dear Squawker: I don't think it would be out of place to wish you a Happy New Jeer. SQUIB.

Spent Christmas out at Jen's. Turkey 'n everythin'.

We didn't get no Ford for Christmas, but we got a tin horn.

Gus Schneider of Benedict paid his prescription, greatly to our surprise.

We threatened to go on a strike the other day. "Zatso?" said Kit, "I didn't even know you had been working." Such is married life.

It may come to pass that some of the people who were not satisfied with ten dollars a day will be tickled to death with two. We sincerely hope not, but such is life.

Truth is stronger than fiction. The other night we were hastening home in a driving snowstorm, on ac'et we could not afford to hasten home in a taxicab, and as we crossed the street near the meeting house, we met a large barrel rolling sullenly down the pavement. We looked at it twicet and then we never believed it until it knocked our feet out from under us and we fell over

it quite emphatically. We told Kit about it when we got home, and she looked stern and asked us where we had been. We couldn't make her believe anybody had lost a barrel while doing their Christmas shopping surly. The next morning we learned that it was our own rain barrel that had attackted us whilst we stood transfixed with astonishment. The boys of the neighborhood had borrowed same, along with our ladder, to barricade the street for their sleighing operations, thereby nearly sleighing us with our own rain barrel. Bless the boys! They can have any darn thing we've got, but we want to be absolved from responsibility, iffen they don't keep there rain barrels tied up.

As to the ladder which was smashed up, we do not care for it. It was one we borrowed of Ed Johnson.

Sossicty News

Grace is quite an observant cuss. Frinstance, it was had to snow quite heavily last week, for the good of all. Grace observed the next morning on her way down town to loaf that everybody had their walks cleaned off, except the lawyers and editors. Her walk wasn't cleaned off, and neither was Bill Kirkpatrick's nor Ed Sandall's. Then she got along all right till she got down to Ed Gilbert's, and the walk in front of Ed's place looked like a cut on the Burlington after a three days' whizzard. When she got as far as the Squawker's palatial residence she said she had to back up and make a running start in order to eat her way through the mountainous drifts, and when she finally labored through there was snow clinging to the fringe on her bonnet, and her face was so full of same she would, if she had been a goat, have been compelled to amputate her whiskers before she could have taken a chew of tobacco

—in case, as we said before, she had been a goat.

Doe Shidler has us deeply in his debt on a'ct he wrote last week's Squawker so we could go fishing for the good of all. This is three or four times Doe has come to the rescue in this neighborly fashion, and we appreciate it more than we could well mention without becoming maudlin. Thanks, Doe, and any time you want us to help cut out a appendix or anything, don't hesitate to call on us.

In last week's paper by a slip of the typewriter we inadvertently referred to Gnat Dean as police judge when we should have said B. A. Ward. We apologize to both of them. Judge Ward may recover from the cruel blow in time, but he is inconsolable at present. Gnat Dean, as our readers well know, is our justly celebrated dam contractor, who is one of the best dammers in the country and can dam anything large or small, while Judge Ward is dammed by everybody and gets even by saying five and costs.

Baby Show

Get your babies fat and in good condition for the Better Babies show to be held in conjunction with the county fair September 20-24th, for the good of all. E. B. Woods, chairman of the Better Babies Committee, with Evert Gould and Charlie Stroman, the other members, have been working like demons to make the show a winner, and they announce that it is beyond peradventure of a doubt it will prove a howling success. Chairman Woods says that safety-pins will be furnished free as per usual, and talcum powder can be had at cost on the premises. He is also glad to announce that while in the past the prizes for pigs have been some-

what larger than those offered for babies, he has succeeded in getting the appropriation enlarged so that the babies will now be given an even break with the pigs.

Eddytorial

“Looking for an Issue with Which to Win” was the headline carried by the Sunday papers, referring to the republican and democratic parties. They didn't use to be so frank and ingenuous about these things, but they're wearing 'em higher this year.

We see where the Standard Oil Company has declared another quarterly dividend of about steen millions. We are in favor of passing the hat for the poor harassed stockholders of that bankrupt institution that the government has ruined along with the railroads and the sugar trust and the packers and the shoe manufacturers. With oil getting so scarce and everything gasoline will just have to go to seventy-five cents per gallon. The poor devils—how it must wring their tender hearts to have to raise the prices!

We regret very much to note by his recent speech in the newspapers that Congressman McLaughlin is fast degenerating into a typical politician. Mac succeeded in accomplishing the impossible when he secured the nomination against the wishes and desires of every politician in his district, but now, evidently, a coterie of Washington politicians have dragged him into their committee meetings, coached him to be a regular, and Mac is spouting about “one-man-power” like the rest of the ward heelers. Cut it out, Mac. You may ride along on the crest of a party wave for a while, but when it subsides you will be left stranded on the rocks along with the small fry.

A Dinner Dance

There was had to be a dinner dance pulled off down at the new hotel the other night. A dinner dance is like a cabaray only more swell, and you get something to eat at a cabaray. Some of the men folks had a good time, and others wore their dress suits. There was also some low dresses worn, and the other decorations were in strict keeping with the exclusiveness of the function which was held in the hotel lobby, only they et in the dining room. When our York full dress society gets started, it can pull off stunts on the same lavish scale as London, Paris, New York, French Kick Springs, where the Pluto comes from, Palm Beach, and South Omaha. And we can think of nothing more edifying than to see York's high society dancing in the hotel lobby for the good of all. It is the best kind of advertising for our fair city, on ac't there is quite a few traveling men hanging around the hotel at all times, and they get to see that our society is just as swell as the best of them. And the scene must have been one of bewildering beauty as viewed by opery glasses from the mezzanine (this word has only been added to York's vocabulary recently, but all it means is low) floor, which same is reached either by the marble staircase or the electric lift when the same is in running order. The Squawker editor was not invited to this society event of the season, no doubt through some technical error or other slight oversight on the part of the invitation committee, which same neglected to send us a free pass to same for the good of all, but if we had been there we would have taken keenest delight in viewing the fairylike scene as the sylphlike, dress suited forms of Bill Overstreet, Bill Boyer, Charlie McCloud and we

don't know who in thunder else floated accrost the tessellated floor like thistle-down, as it were, guiding their light-hearted, lightfooted, lightheaded companions gracefully hither and yon, through the mystic mazes of the skimmy.

We think a good time was had by all but Bill Overstreet, whom, we understand, has been heard to state since that he prefers some dinner along with the dance at a dinner dance, and that he was weak with hunger, as the fish he drew for lunch looked like a preserved minnow that had been fished with for bass and drew several strikes so it was in a draggled condition. Otherwise a good time was had by all.

Some Interesting Figures

There is some interesting figures in York society when you come to consider the same. We do not mean legs—we mean statistics. The figures show that York society is much more exclusive than New York society. For example, there is fewer members of York's 400 than there is of New York's 400. There is 400 members of New York's 400, but there is only 56 members of York's 400.

There is fourteen dress suits owned by male butterflies of society in York. One of these dress suits is new. In York it is a fad to wear the dress suit for either morning or afternoon functions. A few extremists wear them in the evening.

The Sunday supplement of Worst's Sunday Examiner, which is the authority for style with York society, announces, we are pleased to note, that white gloves are no longer being worn at any social functions aside from husking bees. This will be quite a relief to our social favorites, as it is quite a job to remember to take same

off when you come home and have to go downstairs and fix the furnace for the night.

If there is no high silk hats being worn in York, it is only because our local clothiers have neglected to lay in a stock of same, and not because our social gadabouts are too tight to purchase the same if they could be had. The hats are all high but they are not silk. Anyhow our society when it goes to the diamond horseshoe circle at the Sun to enjoy grand opery goes in the luxurious towering car, the ford or the taxicab, and what is the use of wearing a high silk hat inside an all-leather top where nobody can see the same, we ask?

There is but one goat owned by York

society at present. We have not said who owns this goat, but she is quite prominent in society—that is, the lady, not the goat. The goat would no doubt be strong for society if given the opportunity, but the goat fad seems quite hard to establish, and goats are a drug on the market at present. The goat in question is a brown plush one, and lends itself readily to the fashionable fads in color schemes of decoration. To our notion, if leading goats around became fashionable, as, up to the hour of going to press, it has failed to become, it would be much more sensible than leading chow dogs around. Besides, goats give milk, and do not bark and chew all the fringe off the lounge in the best room.

CHAPTER XVIII

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

CALL THE DOCTOR—THE PIONEER PHYSICIAN—THE MEDICAL ROSTER—DURING THE
'90s AND SINCE—THE HOSPITALS

CALL THE DOCTOR

The modern generation, who can step to the telephone, call the doctor, await a few anxious moments while the physician's automobile speedily brings him to the bedside of the sick person, is very apt to overlook the prime importance of the country doctor of some forty years ago. Then it was a long wait, a period of intense suspense, while the doctor, sitting half awake in a buggy, with the faithful horse steering the course would be slowly ambling toward his destination. To make a good fraction of as many calls, visits and examinations as the modern physician can dispense with in a regular day's work, his predecessor of a generation ago had to put in many more tedious, tiresome hours. Words cannot begin to record the credit due to the earlier doctors of York County or any other community. The least we can do at this time is to compile a memorial roster of these faithful servants of the public health.

The following piece, written upon the work of the pioneer physician, will carry forth the thought hereinbefore suggested.

THE PIONEER PHYSICIAN

(From the *New Teller*, February 5, 1913)

The historian of south York County mentioned in an article published last week the valuable services rendered early settlers by Dr. Deweese, who proved a good friend to many sick and suffering ones. The northern portion of the county was also fortunate in having a pioneer physician in the person of Dr. S. V. Moore, whose home has been in York for a number of years. Though his days of strenuous effort are long since ended and failing health keeps him by his fireside during the winter days, he has a very keen memory of the time when cold and storms had no terrors for him and he willingly braved the worst blizzard to respond to a call for help. Doctor Moore came to York County in 1869. He took a homestead north of the present site of Bradshaw and built his sod house on a hill about a half mile from Lincoln Creek. He had both studied and practiced medicine in his former home in Illinois, but had not expected to continue to follow the profession in Nebraska. But the need of his neighbors was so great and their wish for the medical treatment he alone could give so urgent, that he gradually yielded to their

demands and soon found himself practicing medicine over the most of York County and parts of Polk and Hamilton. If a call to a sick bed came in plowing time the plow must be left in the furrow till the sick were visited, and if a winter storm was brewing the wife and children must be left to care for themselves and the stock as best they could until the father-doctor could reach home again.

There were few contagious diseases to contend with, though the children of the plains succeeded in catching measles and kindred ailments as do those of the towns. Diphtheria was a dreaded visitor sometimes and pneumonia was greatly feared. Doctor Moore remembers being called to the bedside of a young woman who was very sick with this disease. A storm was raging, and lighted lanterns were hung outside the door of the house to guide the doctor. As he entered the little room where the woman lay he found her bed surrounded by weeping friends who believed her to be dying. The doctor left the door wide open and someone in the room suggested that it be closed. "No, leave it open," commanded the doctor as he made his way toward the sick woman. When she had recovered the power of speech the patient told the doctor that she heard his command and blessed him for it, for she was perishing for lack of oxygen and the air in the little room was rendered the more impure by the number of people who were crowded in. All of these friends save the husband and a woman to serve as a nurse were banished by the physician, and since it was too cold to send them to their homes, he told them to make themselves as comfortable as possible in a sod annex to the house. To those who insisted that the patient was dying he said "She is not dead yet," and she did not die. She, too, is living in York today.

On one occasion the doctor was gone from his home for three days and nights, being prevented from returning by a blizzard. As he was nearing home on the evening of the third day he was stopped by a settler whose wife was sick and who besought him to tarry with them. Though Doctor Moore had not been able to send word to or hear from his family during his absence, he yielded to the settler's prayer and watched with the sick woman till nearly morning.

A little mule carried him many a mile through heat and cold and never failed to find the way home over trackless fields of grass or snow. Sometimes when homeward bound Billy would lower his head and sniff the trail like a dog. Nell, a beautiful mare of high degree had her part, too, in carrying relief to the suffering. Sometimes the way (there were no roads in those days) led through the water-filled basins and across streams and more than once it was necessary for the rider to lift his feet and saddle bags to the horse's back to escape a wetting while fording the waters. The travel in winter of course called for the most endurance and frequently led to exposure to the elements sufficient to endanger life. The pioneer physician was not supplied with fur coats or robes and was often chilled through and felt the pangs resulting from frosted hands and feet. Once a woman in a household where he had a patient insisted on preparing the doctor for the homeward trip by wrapping his legs in old quilts tied with strings. Before he reached shelter he was most grateful for the kindly solicitude, for without the extra wrappings he knew he might have frozen.

Once when the physician was watching by the child of a neighbor which had been attacked by membranous croup, he was summoned home to find that his little son was similarly afflicted and his wife had been fighting the disease with all the remedies at her command.

The question of medicine was an important one to the doctor of the early '70s. Drugs must be procured from Lincoln or Milford and then compounded by the doctor himself. A good supply of medicine must be carried on every trip, for often one call was the only one the doctor could make, and at the best medicine must be left for several days with directions for use or change as the patient's condition might demand.

Often the doctor was called to a home consisting of a one-room sodhouse with only a strip of carpet for a door and heated by a cook stove in which cornstalks were used as fuel, it requiring the constant labors of one person to replenish the fire. The patient in such a home had usually nothing in the way of comforts. Yet Doctor Moore recalls that by far the greater majority of his patients recovered in spite of adverse conditions. There were a few cases of tuberculosis under his care in those early days, but he held out no hope of recovery to the patients or their friends while doing all in his power to alleviate their distress and make their last days easier.

In many cases the only compensation Doctor Moore received was that of the deep gratitude of his patients. There was little to pay with then, and it was not unwillingness but lack of means which left him unrewarded. Some men payed their debts in farm labor, and their services were greatly needed at times by one who left his own things so frequently to care for the things of others. When the grasshoppers took the settlers' crops they also took the hopes of the doctor for ready money which had been promised him by those who lost their all. But of these things he never complained, and, indeed, it is necessary to question him closely concerning this part of his experience. Sometimes the doctor traveled twenty-five or thirty miles to see a patient and sometimes a trip of sixty or more miles would be necessary in order to make two or three visits. Charging at present professional rates for visits calling for such an expenditure of time and strength would have given Doctor Moore a good start on the road to wealth, if the charges could have been paid.

This story of heroism might be indefinitely prolonged, for hundreds of thrilling incidents doubtless crowd the history of that fourteen years. "Hero" is a very appropriate name for a man who lived the life of a pioneer doctor, but after all it does not express much. For the name is often bestowed for one act of supreme self-risk, while the doctor practices self-sacrifice year in and year out with no great crisis, save the ordinary crisis of life, to nerve him to endeavor.

THE MEDICAL ROSTER

The roster of doctors who have registered in York County, in compliance with the requirements of the state laws, gives the most complete list of medical men of York County. This list, kept in the county clerk's office, of course contains names of numerous doctors who were located in other counties, but whose practice called them into York County frequently enough that they deemed it advisable to register here. Doctor T. L. Myers practiced at York as early as 1871 and Dr. A. J. Allen was the first at Bradshaw, in 1872.

The list, beginning with the registrations in 1881, shows the first name to be that of George W. Shidler. Doctor Shidler, a native of Pennsylvania, trained in the Ann Arbor, Michigan, University medical department and the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Keokuk, Iowa, practiced in Iowa some three years and came to York County in February, 1878. In August, 1881, he went to Red Cloud, where

he practiced for a short time, and then returned to York County, where he completed a long, useful career before his call to the final reward. His son, George P. Shidler, is one of the leading doctors of York of the present generation.

Further registrations in 1881 brought forth the names of Samuel Wert of Waco, who came to the county from Stromsburg; Austin R. Allen, William Joel Wells of Waco, in recent years in Lincoln, Neb.; Levi Pool of York; L. P. Ensign, at Arborville; Willis C. Sperry, Henry Van Gorden, William Henry Babcock, at Bradshaw; Sarah Parker, J. J. Porter, Mrs. Francis A. Martin; and this year's registration brought forth four names which stand out in York County medical services for long careers of faithful professional service and activities in social, political and general affairs of the community—Drs. R. Carscadden, William H. Martin, D. E. Sedgwick, and W. M. Knapp.

Doctor Carscadden, homeopathic physician and surgeon, was born in Canada, February 1, 1840, where he received his literary education and attended Albert College for some time. He came to the United States in 1863 and entered the University of Michigan medical department. In Chicago he studied for over a year in the office of Dr. B. Dexter; he later pursued work in Rush Medical College, graduating in 1866, attended lectures in Hahnemann Medical College (homeopathic). Practicing for three years in the old school, he turned in 1869 to the homeopathic practice. In 1879 he left his practice in De Pere, Brown County, Wisconsin, on account of failing health, and came out to the invigorating atmosphere of York County. In the earlier years of his practice here he was the only physician of his school in the county. He was married at Wheaton, Ill., in 1871 to Miss Clara Sedgwick.

Dr. William M. Knapp was born in Steuben County, New York, January 20, 1847. After receiving his academic education he entered the medical college at Detroit, Mich., and later entered the St. Louis Medical College, from which he graduated in the spring of 1872. He practiced one year at Macomb, Ill., and settled in York in 1873. At the time of the opening of the registration records in 1881 he was the oldest resident physician of York and Hamilton counties. In 1880 his standing in the profession was recognized by election as vice president of the Central Nebraska Medical Association. He was chosen to represent Hamilton and York counties in the State Senate in 1877. In this same session Dr. S. V. Moore represented York County in the House of Representatives. He was an original member of the York Masonic Lodge and first master of that lodge, and was one of the organizing members of the G. A. R. post at York. He married in 1876 one of the York teachers, Miss E. A. Beecher.

Dr. William H. Martin came to Nebraska in 1868, first locating at Nebraska City, where he engaged in the practice of his profession. He came to York in 1875. He was the son of D. C. and Sarah Martin, who were of English descent; his mother's maiden name was White. He received his literary education at the Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio, from which he graduated in the classical course in 1862. He then studied medicine in the offices of three of the leading physicians of the City of Delaware. In the winter of 1862-63 he attended lectures at Michigan University, at Ann Arbor. In 1864 he commenced attending lectures in the Bellevue Medical College, New York City, graduating from the said college in the spring of 1865. His first practice was in the eastern part of Ohio, where he remained until his emigration to Nebraska. He is a member both of the State

Medical Society of Nebraska and of the Central Nebraska Medical Society. He was married in 1862 in Ohio, to Miss Georgiana A. Ladd, a native of Michigan.

Dr. W. H. Babcock came to Bradshaw in 1878. Dr. D. E. Sedgwick came from Brown County, Wisconsin, in 1880. His name appears through many chapters of this work with a frequency that illustrates the many interests in the welfare of the community he displayed, beyond his professional duties.

The registration for 1882 shows Dr. Joseph H. Downing at Waco, who came from Valparaiso in Saunders County; Frederick Saxenberger, from Shelby, Polk County, who practiced extensively in northern York County; Dr. A. C. Harlan, from Hillsboro, Henry County, Iowa, who became a prominent figure in York affairs; John N. Davis, at New York, who came from Iowa with some five years of experience in the practice; Allen M. Wheeler of Crete, who registered in the county in April, 1882; Elvira Jones of Stewart Township, who followed obstetrical work; Gustave Ernest Kremer from Sterling, Neb., registered in March, 1883. Dr. Charlotte Catherine Naber of Waco, Dr. Leopold Frederick Saxenberger of Waco, and W. Godfrey Endres of Utica registered in the same month. April, 1883, brought another prominent figure in the medical roster of York County, Dr. D. E. Foristall, and at the same time Dr. C. M. Scott, now living in California, came to York. In August of that year Chester F. Harris of Red Lion Mills, York County, registered.

January, 1884, saw the registration of Dr. Orville M. Moore of Bradshaw, who is still living in York County, over thirty-five years later. In March R. G. Bloomfield registered, and July brought forth Dr. A. O. Faulkner who practiced a number of years in York, but in recent years has become the head of an insurance company in Lincoln, and a very successful business man. The three registrations of 1885 brought forth two names, which stand forth in York County medical history—J. C. Panter and Benjamin F. Farley, and also George J. Puhek. In this year Robert McConaughy, the present pioneer physician and dean of the medical profession, came to York, and has served the people of the county for some thirty-five years.

Those registering in 1886 were: Jacob A. Bennett, York; A. R. Downing, Waco; Augustus H. Warren, Shenandoah, Iowa; Alvin E. Wessell, also from Iowa, and James E. Anderson of Indiana. In 1887 R. A. Blackburn registered at York, William K. Farley, for practice at Waco, and Frank S. Morris at McCool Junction. Almost thirty-five years of practice has made Doctor Morris a very important factor in the life of the southern part of York County. A. L. and Alex C. Sabin of Beatrice registered in this year. J. A. Van Dyke registered as from Bedient, Neb., and T. M. Gardner for practice at Waco. Robert McConaughy, who had been here since 1885, coming from Scottsdale and Mount Pleasant, Iowa. A. A. Ashby was practicing considerably around Waco, so he registered in this county.

In 1887 those who registered were A. Eisenbeiss of Lushton and B. L. Wanzer of York. In January, 1888, W. N. Hylton registered for practice at Poston, later called Gresham. He has been a prominent factor in the life of that community in a business as well as a professional way. The same year saw the registration of A. M. Pickett from Mitchell, Ind.; C. A. Flippin at Henderson, who in years later practiced at Stromsburg and Grand Island, and Mrs. M. Belle Flippin, eclectic. Lewis M. Linvill started at Thayer and James L. Holbrook at Gresham. Henry M. Williams registered as in Blue Valley and J. B. Conaway located at York. Susanna Vodt registered as in Brown Township. In 1889 Walter F. Reynolds registered for

work at York, P. Janss of Grand Island, and now of California, registered in the county; Flavius J. Greer for practice at Benedict, and a number of outside practitioners receiving considerable patronage from here—J. S. Leonhardt of Seward, George B. M. Free, A. J. Sanders, and H. S. Aley, doctors at Grand Island, and George H. Collins at Lincoln. Elizabeth Fast of Henderson completed the list for this year.

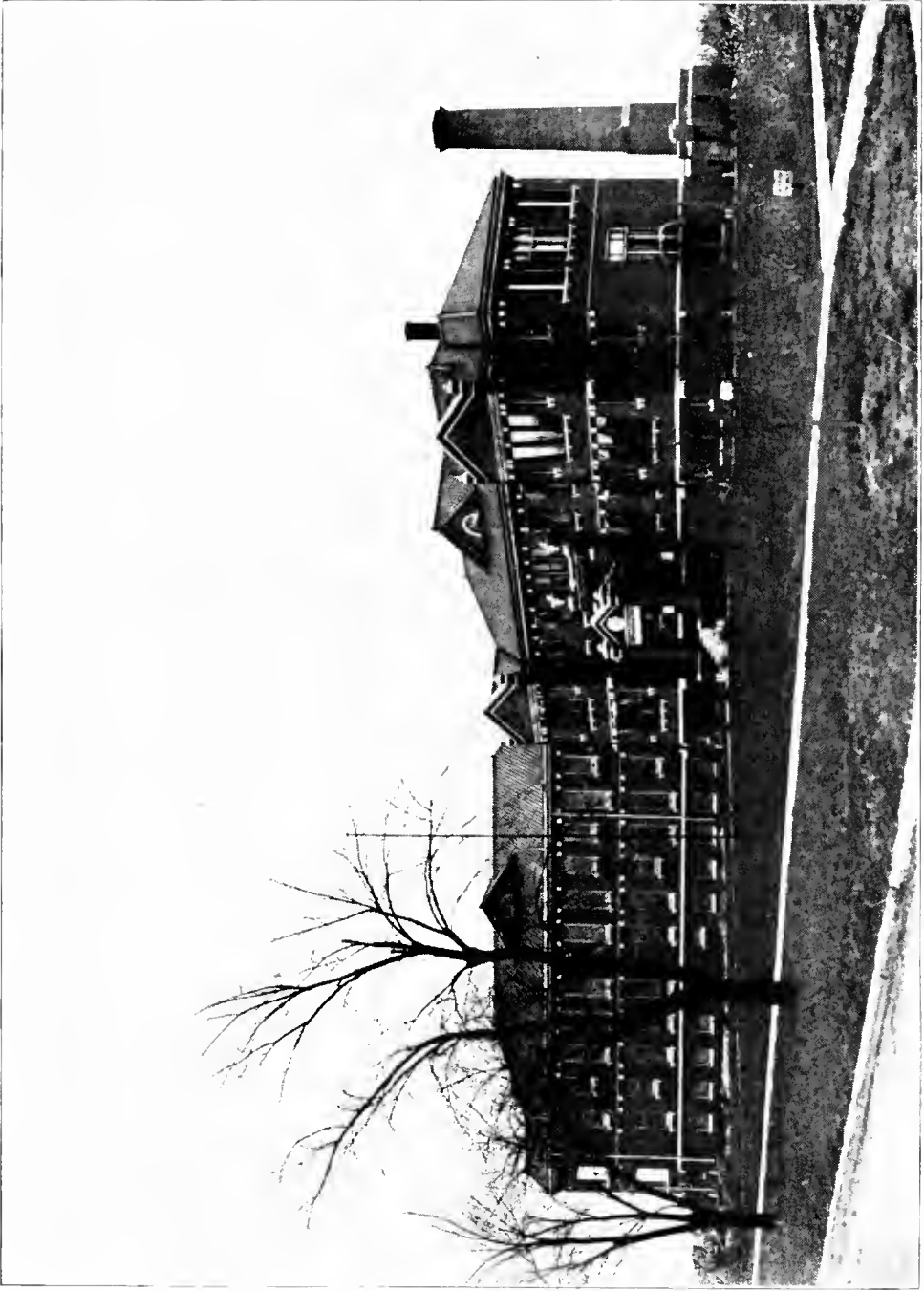
DURING THE '90S AND SINCE

In 1890 appears the name of Stephen Newman, who had practiced for many years in Russia, and who came to Henderson. In 1891 were Oren B. Hugg and Samuel J. Canter, for York; Peter Goosen, practicing at Lushton and later at Henderson; F. L. Wiseman of Henderson, W. M. Earnest at Lushton. David Boswell of Thayer and Joseph G. Downey of York complete this year's list. In 1892 came Austin R. Allen, who practiced at Bradshaw; Frank L. Simon registered from Butler County; Robert S. Hirsch, who practiced at Gresham, and in 1893 William F. Wilson. From this point on those practitioners who stayed here had established fixed practices and the number of new arrivals each year is not so numerous. In 1895 the records show John W. Straight for Benedict, and who later moved to Hastings, and Frank C. Zoll of Merrick County.

The first dental registration appears in this year, when Dr. T. J. Hatfield, the dean of the dental profession in York County, registered, and at the same time George O. Zeigler, who later went to Colorado.

In 1896 came Peter Wems of Bradshaw, who stayed for a short while. The registrants for 1897 were F. E. Gordon, and W. L. Downing of Harlan County, Neb., also registered here. The year 1898 witnessed a group of registrants: F. V. Johnson from Wahoo, William Kirk from Cass County, James G. Muir of Seward County, J. S. Sturtevant of Cass County, and Benjamin Rea of Dakota County, Iowa. In 1899 were J. W. Dill of Holt County and F. E. Calkins of York. On May 12, 1899, Homer R. Hatfield registered for dental practice, and started with his father; but he has practiced for many years past at Grand Island. Dr. H. L. Vradenberg, a homeopathic physician, and S. D. Towle of Saline County registered in 1899, also. In 1900 F. G. Snyder, Frank B. Slusser from Kearney County, Edwin Blair Hanna from Fillmore County, Henry C. Williams of Johnson County, and Dora Bower Eckles and Warren F. Eckles registered. The latter have been constant practitioners at York since then, but Dora Bower Eckles is not now practicing. The year 1901 saw the arrival of O. S. Townsend of York, George L. A. Hamilton, who started in and stayed for a while; Dr. James N. Plumb, who came from Fillmore County, and J. M. Kilgore, an osteopathic doctor. In 1902 those who registered were Dr. Lenore Kilgore, who still lives in York County, but is not practicing; F. A. Thomas, an osteopathic physician of Hamilton County; Ora M. Caldwell of York, H. C. Mudding of Lincoln, Neb.; James F. Davies from Custer County, and Paul R. Howard, who came to York from Washington County, Nebraska.

In 1903 B. F. Stewart, Elmer G. Lawrence of Lincoln County, Frank M. Means of York County, A. B. Conaway, who never practiced here, registered. In 1904 James S. Romine registered for dental practice, and Dr. William H. Dearing registered as a doctor to practice at Lushton. Edwin Miller, another dentist, came to



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York, and in the same year came B. L. Diffenbacher, dentist, who later removed to California. J. H. Griffen of Douglas County registered for medical practice.

In 1905 two osteopaths, Drs. Willis E. and Amy Scott Lyman, registered; Dr. Frederick W. Karrer started at Benedict, Dr. Lucien Stark at Henderson. Walter L. Burnard, osteopathic physician, came this year from Hamilton County; also George H. Marvel of that county registered, and George A. Morrison, to practice at Bradshaw. Two dentists came to York in 1905—Drs. Norman L. Kerr and Lorenzo P. Ronne—who have since left. This year's list closes with Dr. A. A. Potterhof of Douglas County and Freeman E. McConoughey, now of Utica. In 1906 the dentists who came were A. E. Calkins and C. A. Calkins and Drs. J. C. McKinley from Colfax County, and N. Sellberg. In 1907 the doctors arriving were: Charles C. Stevens from Adams County, Robert L. Newell from Cass County, John T. Banning of Douglas County, William T. Putt of Adams County, and Artie Folsom of Gage County. These men filed their certificates in this county, and Holland R. Wildman was the new dentist for this year. In 1908 the registrations made showed: Ben W. Kinsey of Lancaster County, Charles N. George of the same county, and Harry W. Nye from Pierce County. John W. Meehan registered in July, 1909; others registering in this year were W. M. Blair from Lincoln County, and Amos F. Johnson from Colfax County. In 1910 those whose names appeared on the roster were: Dr. H. S. Breevort of York, F. E. Abbott of Lancaster, William C. Peterson of Madison, Squire Oliver Harris of York, John W. Wood of Lancaster County, and Hilmer Carl Schmidt of York, and in 1911 Charles W. Ford of Nance County, George E. Zimmerer of York, and Rachel A. Watkins of York appeared. In 1912 came Enoch Neff of Richardson County and Jesse Samuel Lancaster of York County, who stayed awhile and later went to California. M. L. Rich of Grand Island registered for practicing in this county in this year, and W. L. Foster from Nuckolls County came to Waco.

In 1913 the arrivals on the roster were G. G. Douglas of Cass County and Dr. Henrietta A. Latham of York; for osteopathic practice, William F. Race of Buffalo County. In 1914 the arrivals on the roster were: B. A. Stockdale of Douglas County, Gilbert D. Laffler, and P. J. Stewart of Lancaster County, John E. Prest, who practiced in Lushton, Mildred C. Williams of York, and Dexter D. King of York, now a member of the firm of Moore, Shidler & King. In 1915 those who registered were: Lillian E. Coates of York, Bert O. Callahan, chiropractic, Hubert O. Bell and James Stewart Bell of York, David F. Hallett, York; Elsie M. Requarte and Donald McDonald, chiropractic, registered in 1916; as did Clarkson N. Olmstead, osteopathic physician; Emerald J. Culver of Adams County, Hayes H. Culbertson of York, and Earl Warner, osteopath.

In 1918 the dentists registering were T. S. Whelan and Addison J. Beebe.

In 1920 G. Holmes registered as an osteopathic physician.

The following tribute was paid to Dr. B. F. Farley, who died in 1917:

"Doctor Benjamin F. Farley, a pioneer physician of York County, died at his home in this city Wednesday morning, January 17, 1917, of acute pneumonia. Doctor Farley was taken sick Tuesday, and so sudden and severe was the attack that he died almost before his family realized his condition.

"Doctor Farley came to York from Illinois in 1885, and has been actively engaged in the practice of medicine here up to the day of his fatal illness. Two years

ago Doctor and Mrs. Farley celebrated their golden wedding at the family home in this city.

"Doctor Farley is survived by his wife and three daughters. One daughter, Mrs. Lloyd Lloyd, lives at North Platte; another, Mrs. Grant Karnes, lives in York, and another, Mrs. Rose Linch, also lives in this city. There are six grandchildren. Deceased was in his seventy-third year. The Democrat goes to press too early to announce the funeral arrangements.

"In Doctor Farley's death York County loses a pioneer citizen who contributed largely to the development of the community. He was a man of broad vision, kindly impulses and devoted to his profession."

HOSPITALS

In recent years Doctors Moore, Shidler and King have built up a splendid private hospital, called the York Clinic. Before this, York had the Lutheran Hospital, an institution of which it is justly proud. The campaign for building a Lutheran hospital was started in 1913 by Rev. O. Batz, pastor of the German Lutheran Church, and some of his members, and some of the local physicians took an active part in pushing the project. In November, 1915, the first building was dedicated. It was a building 54x96, two stories and basement, or practically three stories in height. The cost of that building, including site, furniture and fixtures was \$48,000. In 1918 an annex and heating plant were erected at a cost of \$85,000, this annex being 38x90, practically three stories, all fireproof, with every modern convenience to be found for such an institution.

Miss C. Rohling, registered nurse, was the first superintendent and served for a year. Miss Martha Meyer, R. N., succeeded her and served until the end of the year 1919. Miss Rohling then returned and is still filling this position at the beginning of 1921. A nurses' training school, fully accredited by the state authorities, is conducted in connection with the hospital. The hospital has a capacity of sixty beds. In 1915, 192 patients were admitted and 144 operations performed. In 1916 this service increased to 456 patients and 357 operations. In 1917 the work spread so that 497 patients were cared for and 415 operations performed. The year 1918 saw a further extension of service to humanity, with 584 patients cared for and 323 operations that year. The work reached a high peak in 1919, with 689 patients and 510 operations, and held up very well in 1920, with 668 patients and 505 operations. The present officers of the board in charge of the institution are: President, C. Bulgrin; vice president, William Witte; secretary, Rev. O. Batz, and treasurer, H. Ziegelbein.

CHAPTER XIX

THE BENCH AND BAR OF YORK COUNTY

THE LAW—EARLIEST CASE, BY J. B. MEEHAN—DISTRICT COURT—INDIAN TRIAL, N. A. DEAN—GEORGE W. POST—THE DISTRICT COURTS OF YORK COUNTY—THE YORK COUNTY BAR.

THE LAW

The law travels hand in hand with the first encroachments of civilization upon the wild, barren prairie. Of course in the first seven years of the settlement and existence of York County the machinery of the state courts had not reached this young community.

In most instances the touch of the citizens with the courts starts with the lower or local courts. This was true to even a greater extent in the earlier days of the community. The history of the State Supreme Court, the highest court in Nebraska, has been sketched in the state historical section of this work. The history of the district court has likewise been briefly touched upon therein, but the story of the District Court of York County will be treated in more detail in this chapter. Next below the District Court, coming down the ladder of justice, is the County, or oftentimes called the Probate, Court. This court has jurisdiction of all probate matters, the settlement of estates, handling of matters of guardianship, civil matters involving amounts up to \$1,000, and concurrent justice of peace jurisdiction.

A picturesque corner-stone in the history of justice of any county is the Justice of Peace Court. In more modern times, since automobiles have rendered access to the county seat towns less difficult, in both time consumed for travel and ease in making the trip, the importance of this local court has dwindled, as the county and district courts have gradually absorbed its business. But in the horse-and-buggy period, a man with a grievance would file it with his local justice, for in those days the law permitting the selection of a justice of peace, or two, if chosen, for each township was more carefully carried out. The local magistrate perhaps carried his cases and trials with more informality, but no doubt with greater interest than the County Court trials of the present day generally present.

An illustrative word picture of the administration of local justice is furnished by the following article, published a few years ago, which was told of J. B. Meehan:

J. B. Meehan came to West Blue during the summer of 1871, and was the first squire in the precinct, W. H. Taylor being elected at the same time as constable. The first case in Squire Meehan's court was in the summer of 1871. At this time large herds of cattle were driven each summer from Texas north to various points, sometimes to Yankton, S. D., and again to points along the U. P. Railroad, where they were shipped east.

The drivers were of the usual Texas "cowboy" variety, wild and reckless, and always expert in the use of their revolvers, an accomplishment they were always willing to demonstrate upon the least provocation. They drove their large herds fearlessly over prairie lands and the homesteaders' farms, paying but little attention to the growing crops. A large herd being thus driven over Peter Heller's field of sod corn, he brought suit against the foreman of the drivers, and Mr. Taylor was ordered to arrest him. The herd had passed north, and being uncertain as to the man's willingness to return peacefully, Mr. Taylor took with him several men of the neighborhood. They overtook the herdsmen near Beaver Creek. Setting his men to keep from sight in a ravine, Mr. Taylor rode on alone, making his errand known to the man, who, of course, swore and said he saw no corn, and at first firmly refused to go back; but after talking the matter over with Mr. Taylor, he ordered the men to camp, and they started on the return trip. Presently he stooped, and drawing a revolver from his bootleg, proceeded to show his skill in the use of the same. Finding Mr. Taylor not easily frightened, he began to look for other game. Presently they came to A. J. Corey, chopping wood alone on his homestead. "Watch me scare that man," he said, and riding furiously up to Mr. Corey, he pointed the revolver in his face and prefacing his remarks with a volley of oaths, cried, "What do you want?" Mr. Corey looked at the man for a moment, and coolly told him he wanted nothing. Returning to Mr. Taylor, the man was then requested to turn over his weapon which he did willingly; then stooping once more, drew another weapon from his bootleg, remarking "Now we're both armed." Fearing danger if the man should have the weapon when they came to the other party, Mr. Taylor proceeded to argue the case with the man, who finally said: "We will ride up to where my wagons are; you throw your gun into the wagon first, and I will do likewise." This Mr. Taylor did, and the man was true to his promise.

Coming on, they rode through the ravine where Mr. Taylor's men were hidden, who remained quiet until Mr. Taylor and his man had passed, then they rode up behind them. This incensed the man from Texas, who seemed to think he had been tricked. He stopped for a few moments, then remarked with the usual oath, "If I'd known this you never would have arrested me." But being unarmed and one against several, he evidently thought it best to show no fighting disposition at that time. Coming to Squire Meehan's, a crowd of interested farmers had gathered. This was to them an important case. All had suffered from the depredations of the herds, and now it would be decided how their fields should be protected in the future. The man gave testimony that he was only an employee of the cattle company, and the case was dismissed, but it served the purpose, for coming herdsmen were more careful to avoid cultivated fields, and this ended what was, perhaps, the first litigation in West Blue Precinct.

Another one occurred in a few months, wherein a man living near the southeast line of the county was arrested for taking a saddle from Mr. Brower, who lived in Fillmore County. More than ordinary interest was taken in this case from the fact that George Post, a young attorney lately located at York, had been employed to defend the accused. Although the day was bleak and cold, many had assembled to hear the trial, and were surprised as well as disappointed when the lawyer informed the squire that the case was not in his jurisdiction, the property having been taken from Fillmore County. The man was set free, and whether or not he took the saddle has never been determined.

DISTRICT COURT

The first term of the District Court in York County was held at York in the spring of 1872. His honor Judge George B. Lake was the presiding judge, and the trial docket No. 1 in the office of the clerk of the District Court at York shows the first session of this court opened on May 27, 1872. Newell H. Hopkins was bailiff. Lawyers then admitted to practice in York County who were in attendance were: D. T. Moore, George W. Post and T. L. Warrington. W. J. Connell of Omaha, even now, forty years later, an active practitioner at Omaha, was district attorney.

Two divorce cases were the first cases on the docket to disfigure the pure white records. Beginning at page 1 of the trial docket No. 1 were two divorce cases, divorces being granted May 29, 1872.

In the fall of that year court sat for half a day and transacted all the business then ready. The only case of importance at that time was an injunction suit, to restrain the county from issuing bonds in the sum of \$150,000 to the Midland Pacific Railroad Company. After hearing the case, his honor decided in favor of the plaintiffs and made the injunction perpetual.

The first real contested trial in York County, in 1872, was not a white man's trial, nor a trial for divorce, but a trial among the original occupants of the country, the Pawnee Indians, who knew nothing of divorce, but understood that when a man and woman were legally contracted to marry, they should be man and wife. This trial as related by N. A. Dean was, in his own words, as follows:

Indian Trial

Quoted by N. A. Dean

"It was the winter of 1870 that the Pawnees' chief camped on the west side of the Blue River, section 9, township 9, range 1, west. In that tribe there was a young man who wanted to get him a wife. Their custom was that if a young man wanted a wife he must pay the price. This young man fell in love with a young girl that was also camped with these people. The contract for their marriage was to be made with the girl's father. The contract was made and the price paid, which was in ponies and furs. The marriage ceremony consisted of the contract with the father of the girl and a whip made of three strands of rawhide fastened to a horn handle of elk prongs presented to the young man by the chief of the tribe.

"After all the arrangements were completed with the girl's father and the young man and the time set for the ceremony, everybody in the case was happy except the girl. Here is where the trouble began with these parties. The girl objected; she thought that she was the one who should be consulted, and refused to carry out her father's contract with the young man, and her father could not persuade her. The matter was reported to the chief; the chief with his select warriors were called together as a council of war. After they had heard the evidence of the father and the young man they listened to the girl. The girl's objections were that there was another young man she preferred. Still the verdict of the chief and his counselors of war was that the girl should carry out the contract and accept the young man as her bridegroom. The girl still refused and was forced to be married to the former young man.

"The young man, the father and the mother could not persuade her to accept,

and the next morning the matter was referred back to the chief. Their mode of punishment for what they considered a crime was to be whipped; so the chief ordered the young girl whipped. She was taken by two young men of her own tribe, a rope was put around her neck, her back was bared, and she was then bound to a tree. The chief had ordered one of the young men to give her ten lashes with the whip that had been presented to her husband at their marriage ceremony.

"Her cries and screams, so severe was her punishment, were heard half a mile away. They were then camped on the south side of the Blue, and Heller's folks were on the north side. Heller's folks, hearing the cries and screams, supposed that one of their neighbors was sick and had started across the river to the neighbor's house to find out the cause. After they had crossed the river they saw this young girl coming, crying and hallooing. Not understanding their language, they could not make out what it was, but they saw the welts that were upon the girl's body, and motioned her to go to the house on the other side of the river.

"The girl went to the house, ran through the house into the bedroom and jumped on the bed, still crying and hallooing. Heller's women folks, not knowing what it meant, ran out of the house and waited until the men came home. Not understanding what the case was, we went to the chief's wigwam and there, through the interpreter, found out what is stated above. In talking to the interpreter, and he talking to the chief, we were given to understand that that was their law and their custom of punishment for all crimes. Through us and the interpreter, the chief sent the father to the house and brought the young girl back to camp. Father, mother, and her intended persuaded the young girl to carry out her father's contract. We watched the couple through the winter, and they seemed, after knowing one another, to enjoy one another's company, and in the spring left their camping ground for Omaha, their old home."

YORK COUNTY BAR

York County's bar began to attain eminence in judicial circles very early in its career, and George W. Post started this habit by a very early election to the District Bench, a post of honor to which numerous York County lawyers later attained.

George Wallace Post was born at Cumberland, Guernsey County, Ohio, February 20, 1848, the son of Rev. William E. and Sarah S. Post, both of Scotch lineage.

When George was about three years old the family removed to Hibbardsville, Ohio, where they resided until about the year 1859, when the entire family removed to Clay County, Missouri. This was just before the War of the Rebellion. Political animosity soon became so pronounced that men known to be in sympathy with the Union were not safe in that part of the country. George's father was an outspoken antislavery advocate and friend of the Union. As a result, practically all of his property was confiscated and destroyed, and he was glad to get away with the members of his family uninjured. The family then located at Leon, Decatur County, Iowa, from which place they removed a year later to Davis County, Iowa, near Bloomfield, where the father died in 1868, leaving a widow and six children, two daughters and four sons. In May, 1864, George Wallace Post enlisted in Company D, 15th Iowa Infantry, and was discharged in September of the same year by reason of the expiration of the term of service.

In addition to his attendance in the public schools, he was educated at Troy College, an institution then flourishing at Troy, Iowa. By teaching school and working by the month, he earned the money to assist his mother and family and pay his way through school. While in school he also devoted a part of his time to reading law, and in 1871 he was admitted to the bar at Bloomfield, Iowa. Soon after this he came to York, Nebraska, and engaged in the practice of his profession. From 1871 to 1875 he was active in his profession, being engaged in much of the important litigation in this part of the state. In 1875 he was elected district judge of the fourth judicial district, which comprised the counties of Dodge, Colfax, Platte, Merrick, Hall, Howard, Hamilton, Polk, Butler, Saunders, Seward, and York. Four years later he was elected to the same office. Before the expiration of his second term he was forced to resign his office by reason of ill health, which was induced by overwork. On March 5, 1883, he was appointed collector of internal revenue and United States disbursing officer for Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. This appointment came to him without solicitation on his part. He discharged the duties of that office until October, 1886, at which time he resigned in order to devote himself to his personal business. In 1872 he issued the first call for a republican convention in York County and presided over the convention. He was chairman of the County Republican Committee for many years. He was the chief attorney for the Northwestern Railway Company south of the Platte River during all of its construction period.

He was united in marriage on January 1, 1879, with Miss Laura McConaughy, at Mount Pleasant, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. To them have been born five children, four daughters and one son.

On retiring from public office he devoted himself to the business of banking, in which he was already interested. On March 20, 1884, he was elected president of the York Exchange Bank. This bank was soon reorganized as the York National Bank, of which he was elected president and continued as such until October, 1893, at which time he and his business associates bought the First National Bank of York, and consolidated the two banks and operated the same as the First National Bank. He served as president of this bank until August, 1912. He organized and became president of the First Trust Company of York in August, 1911. He organized and became president of the Bank of Benedict November 27, 1889, and continued as president until February 8, 1906, at which time the bank of Benedict was converted into the First National Bank of Benedict. He served as president of this bank until August, 1912. On May 14, 1879, he and his business associates organized the State Bank of Bradshaw. He served as president of this bank until March, 1906, at which time this bank was converted into the First National Bank of Bradshaw. He was elected president and served until August, 1912. In June, 1889, he became president of the Blue River Bank of McCool Junction and served as such until August, 1912. In April, 1902, he bought the controlling interest in the Bank of Lushton and served as vice president until August, 1912. In May, 1885, he became president of the Farmers and Traders Bank of Waco and served continuously as president until August, 1912. After he sold his banking and property interests he removed to Torrence, California, where he has actively engaged in many banking and business matters, but has never lost his interest in York County, which still holds a large corner in his heart.

THE DISTRICT COURTS OF YORK COUNTY

In 1873 Judge Lake continued as district judge, or rather as the reader will gather from the history of the state courts in that state section of this work, the members of the Supreme Court held the District Court work throughout the state at that time. George W. Post became district attorney at this time. George B. France and Edward Bates had opened law offices by this time. M. B. Hoxie became district attorney in 1876, and Judge William Gaslin, who had held court in York in 1876, was succeeded by Judge George W. Post. With its first resident judge, court work in York County began to assume more regularity. M. B. Reese became the next district attorney for this jurisdiction and served for the next three years, with District Judge Post. Bird C. Wakley became court reporter in 1877. In 1879 Attorneys Bates, Moore, and Scott were the commissioners to examine applicants for admission to the bar. In that period the examinations could be made by a local board of attorneys and the applicants admitted before the local District Court. M. S. Lindsay was thus admitted in 1879. John T. Bell acted as court reporter in January, 1880. The lawyers not already mentioned who were practicing here by 1880 were D. R. Ralston, N. V. Hartan, and W. W. Giffen. At the July, 1880, session, Judge Reese and District Attorney Reese officiated, with B. C. Wakeley as court reporter, and Fred C. Power was admitted to practice. In December, 1880, E. M. Battis was Judge Post's court reporter. The 1881 work was handled by the same officers. Thomas Darnell was district attorney in the 1882 and 1883 sessions. Judge Gaslin, who was at this time presiding over a district composed of counties lying farther west in the state, presided in February, 1883, in York County. The term of May 8, 1883, was presided over by the new judge of this district, Hon. T. L. Norval of Seward, whose court reporter was H. M. Waring. They came to York for court in January and December, 1884, and April, 1885. In December, 1885, Frank B. Tipton was court reporter with Judge Norval. This pair of court officers made visits to York County for court terms during 1886, 1887, 1888, and 1889. In January, 1890, a term of court was held at York by the newly appointed judge, Jerome H. Smith of Aurora. J. T. Hale had become county attorney with the change of system that supplanted the district attorney, with a county attorney for each separate county. F. C. Power took this office over in 1890. In 1891 Edward Bates of York became the county's second resident district judge, and T. E. Hamilton became his court reporter, and Matt Miller of David City was the other judge of this district. In March, 1891, Judge J. E. Cochran of McCook held district court in York for Judge Bates. In June, 1891, Judge William Marshall of Fremont, of the neighboring fifth district, held court in York for Judge Bates. As reporter, W. T. Bucher worked with him. Judge Bates held a term in October, 1891, with F. B. Tipton as court reporter. In January, 1892, York County District Court had its first term, held by Judge Robert Wheeler of Polk County. Bucher served as his reporter, with H. L. Laird as deputy at the February session. Judge Bates and Reporter Hamilton worked at the September, 1892, session, and again in January, 1893. The district was now firmly entrenched with two district judges, which system has prevailed in this judicial district up to the present time (1921). In 1893 George F. Corcoran became court reporter for Judge Wheeler, and thus York had one judge and two reporters for a time. Judge Bates and Reporter Hamilton worked on the York County docket in the early part of 1894. Judge Wheeler

took the docket late in 1894. The court in 1895 and 1896 was held by Judge Bates. In 1896 for a third time York County furnished a judge to this judicial district, when Samuel H. Sedgwick assumed the office. Nellie Kelly, who had served in the office of Sedgwick & Power and at times worked as deputy reporter, assumed the work for nine months, until the arrival of Arthur W. Richardson of David City. Mr. Richardson afterwards served as reporter in Lancaster County and is now an actively practicing attorney of Lincoln. Judge Bates held the docket in January, February, and May, 1897. York County now had two resident judges, Judges Bates and Sedgwick, and had continuous service. From then on the work was generally divided between the two judges, each holding part of the court work in the county. But in 1899 and 1900, Judge Sedgwick held most of the York County work. T. E. Hamilton had served as reporter with Bates right along, and in 1900, when Judge B. F. Good of Wahoo, Saunders County, succeeded Judge Bates, George F. Corcoran returned to the court reportership. When Judge Sedgwick was succeeded by Judge S. H. Sornberger of Saunders County, O. P. Heald of Osceola became court reporter. In 1901, 1902, and 1903 the terms were divided between Judges Good and Sornberger. In 1904 Judge Arthur J. Evans of David City became Judge Good's colleague, and C. J. Brown of York his reporter. They divided the terms in York County during 1904, 1905, 1906, and 1907. Beginning in 1908, Judge Good's colleague on the bench was his former reporter, George F. Corcoran of York, who appointed Albert P. Sprague of York as his reporter. For a short period Reporter Heald went to Idaho to do special work on the Hayward trials. In 1912 E. E. Good of Wahoo became district judge, succeeding Judge B. F. Good. Since 1912, for a period of practically nine years, Judges Good and Corcoran have worked together in this district. Reporters Heald and Sprague have remained at the task, until, in 1919, Reporter Heald resigned to enter the banking business at Trenton, Neb., and Judge Good was without a permanent reporter until in January, 1921, when Reporter G. M. Baird, who has served many years with District Judge H. S. Dungan of Hastings, came to him for regular work.

YORK COUNTY LAWYERS

York County has always had an excellent bar. Mention has already been made of the earlier lawyers—Judge George Wallace Post, Judge Edward Bates, W. T. Scott, W. W. Giffen, N. V. Harlan, D. T. Moore, George B. France, and Fred C. Power. In 1880 the attorneys carrying announcement cards in the papers were: J. F. Hale, W. T. Scott & W. P. Conner, J. H. Cleaves, F. H. Graves, Montgomery & Harlan, W. W. Giffen, and France & Sedgwick.

By 1884 this list had expanded so it shows the arrival of a number of new members of the York County bar. At that time lawyers practicing in York included: Hale & Head (J. F. Hale and H. B. Head), D. T. Moore, Sedgwick & Power, J. C. Naylor, France & Harlan, Scott & Frank (W. T. Scott and M. C. Frank), J. C. Moats, E. A. Gilbert, A. C. Montgomery, T. Eddy Bennett, D. T. Moore, J. C. Carnahan, and Fred C. Power.

Attorney Culbertson in 1886 was a partner with W. W. Giffen. The bar continued on through the later '80s with very few changes, even in the personnel of the firms. Another attorney who began practicing in York during this period was W. M. Cowell.

The firm of Scott & Frank was succeeded by the firm of Scott & Gilbert. W. S. Willard came very late in the '80s. G. W. Bemis was also practicing about this time in York, having been admitted to practice in 1876 and practiced for some years in Clay County. J. W. Purinton, who is still practicing in York, began early in the '90s, having been admitted in 1890. George M. Spurlock was also admitted to practice in 1890. Other lawyers who have been actively practicing in York in recent years who were admitted to practice in this same decade were: W. W. Wyckoff, 1894; C. F. Stroman, 1895; W. L. Kirkpatrick, 1894, and H. G. Hopkins, 1896. The firm of France & Harlan was dissolved in the early '90s. A. S. and N. V. Harlan were practicing as Harlan & Harlan.

At the beginning of the decade of 1900 to 1910, somewhat of a re-alignment of firms had taken place. E. A. and C. F. Gilbert were practicing together as Gilbert Brothers. Judge Bates, having retired from the district bench, had entered the firm of Bates & Kirkpatrick. W. W. Wyckoff, T. E. Bennett, and E. A. Fletcher were practicing alone. Other firms were Purinton & Olmstead and Sedgwick & Power. A short time later J. W. Purinton began to practice alone. After Judge Sedgwick went on the bench, F. C. Power was left alone. But within a few years, and prior to 1906, new alignments were formed and the firms of Purinton & Sandall and Power & Meeker appeared. By 1908 J. W. Purinton and C. E. Sandall were practicing alone.

A roster of the York County' bar in 1909 shows those then practicing to be: G. W. Bemis, T. E. Bennett, France & France (G. B. France and G. W. France), Gilbert Brothers, H. G. Hopkins, W. L. Kirkpatrick, Power & Meeker (F. C. Power and M. Meeker), J. W. Purinton, C. E. Sandall, Samuel H. Sedgwick, George M. Spurlock, C. F. Stroman, A. B. Taylor, M. M. Wildman, Arthur G. Wray, and W. W. Wyckoff.

Eleven years have shown but few changes in the personnel of this bar, as in 1920 twelve of those named above are still practicing in York County. The roster of the bar in 1920 shows John Carlin, G. W. France, C. F. Gilbert, E. A. Gilbert, Oden S. Gilmore, who was admitted in 1911; J. E. Hoover, H. G. Hopkins, W. L. Kirkpatrick, Benton Perry, J. W. Purinton, C. E. Sandall, T. E. Sedgwick, George M. Spurlock, Charles F. Stroman, M. M. Wildman, Arthur G. Wray, and W. W. Wyckoff.

CHAPTER XX

A CHRONOLOGICAL SURVEY OF YORK COUNTY'S PROGRESS

Now having taken the story of York County's settlement, development and growth, of the pioneers, of the individuals in every line of endeavor who bore the burdens of the past sixty years, and having divided this story into some twenty parts, according to the various lines of human endeavor, let us, in closing, approach the subject from one more angle.

Taken chronologically, year by year, marking the initial venture into each classification of life in a community like York County, and recording the unusual hardships and successes, unfolds the story like a drama.

1861. The location of the territorial road at a point on the line of the old Government or California Trail, forty miles east of the present Kearney, marked the initial step in bringing the York County territory on the map.

1862. This territory, York County, was still in the hands of the Indians, the wild animals of the prairie, and an occasional trapper or emigrant passing through.

1863. The first frame building was built on Porcupine Ranch (Brown Township) by Benjamin F. Lushbaugh, United States Indian agent, conducted by Samuel Kearney; this marks the beginning of human building operations in York County.

1864. Lushbaugh established Jack Smith Ranch, which was in charge of Mr. Chapin six months and then of Mr. Smith. The first death occurred upon this ranch. The McDonald Ranch was established in the same year. David Baker in August settled near the present location of York.

1865. In February the first permanent settlement was made by John Anderson and his son, William Anderson, on the West Blue River; they homesteaded the south half of section 9, range 1. The second death in the county occurred when Sam Tate was shot by Smith in self-defense; the grave is on the brow of a hill on section 15, township 10, range 2, four miles southeast of York.

1866. The first white child was born in the county (Lillie M. Gilmore, June 3d; now Mrs. J. E. Hunt of Bayard, Neb.), on the Jerry Stanton homestead, near where McCool is now.

1867. The first postoffice in the county was established at McFadden, with Fernando McFadden as postmaster. The first wedding in the county was the marriage of Mr. N. J. Dixon and Miss Lydia A. Gilmore, at the Elias Gilmore home, the ceremony being performed by Squire Millspaugh. The second couple was married in October—Mr. and Mrs. Ed Cosey.

1868. A large herd of buffaloes invaded the county. A United Brethren class was formed. The Pawnees, Omahas, Otoes and Poncas and Sioux invaded the county on the south side of the Blue, eight miles south of York.

1869. The site of York was taken as a pre-emption by Ghost and Sherwood, for

the South Platte Land Company. In October the site of York was platted and surveyed.

1870. By proclamation of Governor Butler, York County was formed. On April 26th the first election was held. There were eighty-six votes cast in three precincts. The first schoolhouse was prepared, Lizzie Lowery being teacher.

1871. A new mail route, from Lincoln via Seward, went through to Grand Island. Postoffices were established at Palo, Thayer, and Aikins' Mills in York County. The courthouse election was held, and a school district was formed in York.

1872. On March 19th, an election voted down the Midland Pacific Railroad proposal. In June an agricultural society was organized. A courthouse was built. The first paper, the York Monitor, was issued.

1873. York County took on a big debt for the erection of bridges and other internal improvements. The first county fair was held. The big Easter storm did great destruction.

1874. The Congregational Academy was brought to York. In August the first serious grasshopper invasion took place.

1875. Hon. George W. Post elected district judge. County board incorporated Town of York. First bank in county started by McWhirter. Arborville laid out by C. S. Harrison.

1876. York Republican started. Very serious grasshopper invasion.

1877. B. & M. Railroad reached York and county has a railroad at last. Town site of Waco laid out.

1878. Liedke elected state auditor. Langworthy establishes York County Bank.

1879. Methodist Episcopal Conference Seminary at York. Red Lyon flour mill erected. B. & M. Railroad went on to Bradshaw.

1880. Bell's Block erected in York. New York incorporated by Mr. Woolley at north end of Town of York. Bradshaw laid out. York Times started. First Farmers' Alliance in country starts in West Blue Township of York County.

1881. First National Bank Building erected by Langworthy. Commercial State Bank started, from Sayre & Atkins' business.

1882. First National Bank in York chartered. York Exchange Bank started, becomes later York National Bank. York fire department organized.

1883. County board increased from three to seven members.

1884. Village of New York becomes part of Greater York.

1885. Library organization formed by ladies of York. County board enlarged to seventeen members.

1886. New courthouse built. Old courthouse building sold at public auction to S. A. Harper and Morgan & Green for \$250, and used for paint and carpenter shop, at Lincoln Avenue, between city and depot. York fire department won belt, cup, and championship at Fremont at fourth annual tournament. Street railway (horse cars) projected in York.

1887. Railroad building activity in the county. McCool, Thayer, Benedict and Poston, now Gresham, started as new towns. Second victory of fire department boys at Kearney, lower world's record to 44 4/5.

1888. January 2d, great storm devastates county. George B. France elected state master of Masonic order. Henderson and Lushton, new towns, laid out and

started. York lost its university to Wesleyan school at University Place. Presbyterian building at York dedicated.

1889. At Red Cloud fire department wins third and final victory and secures possession of cup, at seventh annual tournament. Y. M. C. A. at York organized.

1890. Ursuline Convent secured for York. York College, United Brethren school, secured, which replaces somewhat loss of Methodist school. Pioneer David Henderson died. On June 3d Town of Bradshaw practically wiped out by terrible cyclone. Benedict incorporated.

1891. Mothers' Jewels' Home at York, in charge of Mr. and Mrs. B. Spurlock. City National Bank organized at York.

1892. York College building dedicated in June.

1893. Pioneer Lee Martin died. George W. Post and associates take over First National Bank at York.

1894. Library work revived by new free library association in city building. Various clubs organized for women's work and musical and literary studies.

1895. October 16, York Methodist Church burned to ground.

1896. October 17, York Methodists dedicate new stone church. County board of twenty members reduced to system of seven supervisors.

1897. York Teller and Blue Valley Journal at McCool started. New state bank organized at Bradshaw.

1898. Spanish-American war.

1901. Mrs. Lydia A. B. Woods made gift of \$10,000—\$8,000 for library site and building and \$2,000 for books. Christian and U. B. churches dedicated.

1902. New library building opened. Y. M. C. A. building built.

1903. New building at York College.

1904. E. C. Bishop of this county made deputy state superintendent of public instruction.

1905. State horticultural meeting at York. German-American Bank organized.

1906. Paving extension planned in York.

1907. Bad fire on April 15 burns six business buildings at Benedict. Burlington depot at York built.

1908. Plans laid to secure I. O. O. F. home.

1909. County board returned to membership of twenty members.

1910. Firemen's tournament at York.

1911. I. O. O. F. State Home building at York.

1912. Merger of Farmers National and First National banks at York. Proposal for city to change to commission plan of government decisively defeated.

1913. Terrible storm on May 14th. Fires at York in February and Lushton in March. Splendid Congregational edifice dedicated.

1915. Eleven miles of paving laid in York. Lutheran hospital dedicated.

1916. Hotel company formed in York.

1917. War embroiled America in April, and war work takes front of stage of all human activities. Bad hail storm on August 8th. S. Y. A. road put through.

1918. McCloud Hotel opened in December. November 11th, armistice day, brought actual fighting of the war to close.

1919. State aid road work started in earnest. Rotary Club formed. American Legion organized.

1920. Report made on January 1, 1921, of progress of this year in York, as follows:

YORK IN 1920

“York, January 1, 1920.—York is steadily progressing, and for a city of small size it has advantages that are found in no other city of anything like its size. The following list of the city’s progress for the past year is hardly believable for such a sized community. York also claims the honor of being the best lighted city in Nebraska and further that it has more modern stores than any other city of twice its size. New business buildings have been completed as follows: Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph Co., \$28,000; Rystrom Implement Co., fire-proof garage, 75x120 feet, \$15,000; addition to the Lutheran Hospital, twenty-six rooms, \$85,000; Country club house, \$15,000 with grounds costing \$15,000; Clinic hospital, sixteen rooms, \$20,000; Public Service Co., ten-ton ice house and storage room, \$25,000; H. W. Brott, \$3,000; improvements on business houses, \$75,000; York Brick & Tile Co. improvements \$35,000; York Water Co., wells, etc., \$7,500; new electroliers and new cables for street lighting system, \$800; Stines beach, \$3,000. There has been completed eight new residences, costing from \$6,000 to \$15,000 each; improvements on residence property, \$65,000; underground telephone system has been installed, which will soon be in working order and all poles removed from the business section of the city. There are no empty business houses in the city nor residence rental property to be had, while houses occupied, with two rooms to rent are in demand. There are two things that will relieve the situation and that will be lower wages and lower prices for building material.

CHAPTER XXI

YORK COUNTY IN THE WORLD WAR

YORK COUNTY'S SERVICE "BACK HERE"—THE MILITIA BOYS CALLED—FLAG TO COMPANY M—FIRST HOME ACTIVITIES—THE ELKS RESOLUTION—RECRUITING BEGINS—MAKING EACH ACRE COUNT—MEETING OF APRIL 28TH—YORK MEN CALLED UPON—RED CROSS ORGANIZED—COUNTY COUNCIL OF DEFENSE—REGISTRATION DAY, JUNE 5, 1917—HOW THE MEN REGISTERED—THOSE WHO REGISTERED—RED CROSS DRIVE—YORK COUNTY'S JULY 4, 1917—THE FIRST DRAWING—EARLY ENLISTMENTS—LATE SUMMER AND EARLY FALL OF 1917—THE CONTINGENT STARTED—LIBERTY BOND DRIVES—LATE FALL AND EARLY WINTER OF 1917—ENRIGHT, GRESHAM AND HAY—THE QUESTIONNAIRES—LEGAL ADVISORY BOARD—WINTER DRIVES—THE HOME GUARDS—THIRD LIBERTY LOAN—FOURTH REGISTRATION, SEPTEMBER 12, 1918—A REAL RECORD—FOURTH LIBERTY LOAN—SPRING AND SUMMER OF 1918—ARMISTICE DAY—AFTER-EFFECTS OF THE WAR.

YORK COUNTY'S SERVICE "BACK HERE"

York County received the news that the United States had declared a state of war upon the German Empire just the same as her sister counties. The great mass of her citizens immediately dropped all prior opinions and present plans and rallied to the one idea, our country first. The president's message to Congress was published in full in the York newspaper of April 3d and 4th.

THE MILITIA BOYS CALLED

Just prior to the President's call upon Congress to declare a state of war upon Germany, Company M of York received notice to be ready to move upon receipt of transportation. Captain Holdeman had been promoted to be major of the Second Battalion, which left Second Lieutenant Shapland as the ranking officer of the company. First Lieutenant Newbold was appointed to a lieutenantancy in the regulars in the aviation corps. The roster of Company M was completed on Monday, April 2d, and was as follows:

First Lieutenant, Lester B. Shapland	Corporal, Horace Jenkins
First Sergeant, Roy Bradley	Cook, Herbert G. Taylor
Mess Sergeant, John W. Campbell	Cook, N. W. D. Merritt
Supply Sergeant, Ernest Ettel, Jr.	Bugler, Kenneth L. Remington.
Sergeant, Fred Voss	<i>Privates, First Class</i>
Corporal, Leo V. Beckord	Baker, Charles A.
Corporal, William E. Taylor	Coleman, Willard

Ettel, Martin W.
 Ludlow, Charles W.
 Sladek, Jerry
 Stepanchuck, John
 Stewart, Charles H.
 Thomas, Forrest B.

Privates

Beattie, Arthur
 Berry, Walter G.
 Blakley, Joe W.
 Bray, Clarence M.
 Brown, Benjamin
 Cochran, Clemon C.
 Davis, Frank L.
 Everts, Ted G.
 Fagg, William B.
 Flynn, William E.
 Fox, Basil G.
 Gifford, Earl J.
 Graham, Marion W.
 Galaway, Burton E.
 Galvin, Harvey A.
 Gleason, Max S.
 Gray, Clark A.
 Havel, Fred
 Hayes, Thomas L.
 Holpuch, Joe J.
 Hull, Clarence C.

Jacobsen, Calvin J.
 Keller, Alfred J.
 Keller, Emil C.
 Krist, James
 Krist, Rudolph
 Markworth, Charles A.
 Mellerup, Carl L.
 Miller, Fred E.
 Miller, Alonzo G.
 Morgan, Guy T.
 Moses, Cecil J.
 McIntosh, Erwin E.
 Overholser, James E.
 Parker, Clyde A.
 Peters, Edward J.
 Powers, Ralph W.
 Potts, Kirk F.
 Rea, John D.
 Robertson, Darrell L.
 Rogers, Henry D.
 Smith, Jesse M.
 Spellman, Charles E.
 Stevens, Samuel D.
 Thomas, Fred D.
 Walters, Clio H.
 Wilkins, George R.
 Workentine, Freeman W.
 Doemling, Emery J.

FLAG TO COMPANY M

Upon the occasion of the departure of Company M the first important public gathering of the war period took place when the flag was presented to Company M.

The Woman's Relief Corps and the Grand Army of the Republic, acting jointly, presented Company M, Fourth Nebraska Infantry, with a handsome flag Tuesday morning. The presentation took place from the north steps of the courthouse and was witnessed by a large crowd. The notice of the presentation was short, else the attendance would have been vastly larger. But the crowd was large enough to prove to the soldier boys that the entire community held them in the highest esteem and wished them well; that it appreciates their loyalty and their patriotism.

John Lett, past department commander of the Nebraska G. A. R., presided, and a quartette led in the singing of the national anthems. The program began with the singing of "America" by the entire audience. Rev. Mr. Adams then invoked the divine blessing upon the soldier boys and the entire assembly.

Rev. Dr. Wasser made the address of presentation, speaking briefly and feelingly of the crisis confronting the country, and warning the people against giving way to

prejudice and passion. Doctor Wasser was listened to with closest attention and frequently applauded.

Lieutenant Shapland, commanding the company, responded to the presentation address, and holding the beautiful banner in his hand, pledged Company M to uphold its traditions and the traditions of the fathers and grandfathers whose sacrifices made the flag the symbol of a free and united country.

"The Old Flag Never Touched the Ground," was sung by the quartette, and its stirring march strains started feet to keeping time, and shoulders squared as eyes gazed upon the fluttering folds of "Old Glory" as they were held aloft by the company color bearer. Then the entire assembly joined in singing "Star-Spangled Banner," after which the benediction was pronounced by Rev. Mr. Johns.

After the completion of the program a photograph was taken of the company.

In accordance with instructions from the war department Company M took the 1:20 P. M. train for Grand Island. The company assembled at Armory Hall at noon and at 12:30 marched to the Burlington depot, escorted by a large crowd of citizens, conspicuous among whom were the fathers and mothers of the troopers. There was no great display of enthusiasm. The people are loyal and patriotic enough, but everybody realizes that a serious crisis faces the Republic, and that this is no time for mere hurrahs and flag waving. But there was an air of quiet determination that gave evidence that the people are united and that individual opinion has been subordinated to the one desire to stand by the flag and by the administration.

FIRST HOME ACTIVITIES

The week following April 3d witnessed a beginning of home activities in behalf of war work.

The Elks Resolution

York Lodge No. 1024, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, acting on the suggestion of Grand Exalted Ruler Rightor of New Orleans, adopted at regular meeting Wednesday night, April 4, the following resolutions:

"Resolved by York Lodge No. 1024, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, that while we deprecate the waging of unnecessary warfare upon any country, as patriotic Americans, we pledge our support both moral and material to the President of the United States in the present crisis, and hope that if all efforts for a peaceful solution of the present difficulty fail, that the Congress will provide adequate means for the defense of our beloved country, the protection of our citizens, and to maintain the honor of our flag."

The unobtrusive support that was later given by this order in the entire United States, in undertaking the work of the Salvation Army, is a feature of the war history of this Republic that is a source of pride to even more than the members of this American order. A big public rally was the next move made to arouse the patriotic enthusiasm of York County citizens.

RECRUITING BEGINS

Before the end of April the call to service was being sounded and twenty more men were needed from York County to fill the ranks of Company M. The spirit

of the appeal as it was then felt, and the call that was being sounded to naval service as well can best be reflected by reproducing here an appeal to recruiting made public in the York Democrat on April 25, 1917:

"Company M, Fourth Nebraska Infantry, needs twenty more men to recruit it up to place strength of 100 men. Major Holdeman, who was captain of Company M for years, is chief recruiting officer here now, with headquarters at the postoffice. And Major Holdeman wants the twenty volunteers to be York County boys, so the company will really be a York County company. Nearly one-third of the present membership was recruited from outside of this county. York County furnished 57 men, Fillmore County 14, Lancaster County 1, Polk County 1, Seward County 1, and the rest of the state 2. Of the York County boys in Company M, 31 are from York, 11 from McCool, 7 from Waco, 2 from Henderson, and 1 each from Bradshaw, Benedict, and Lushton.

"Major Holdeman has his office at the postoffice building, but the company headquarters are still at the Armory building. Whatever arrangements have been made for the disposition of the Fourth Regiment is a "state secret" as yet. The probabilities are, however, that the regiment will not long remain at Fort Crook.

"Saturday a naval recruiting officer will be in York for the purpose of securing enlistments in the United States Navy. This branch of the service offers splendid opportunities for young men. It gives them a chance to see the world, and the possibilities of promotion and increased pay are unusually good. Besides which, there is every incentive to save the wages received and in time retire on a service pension. There are a lot of young fellows in York who are capable of rendering Uncle Sam good service in the Navy Department, and at the same time greatly benefit themselves."

Poorly advertised and with the notice all too short, a patriotic meeting held at the courthouse Saturday afternoon, April 28th, was well attended.

Mayor Smith presided and briefly stated the objects of the meeting. Charles S. Gilbert spoke briefly and interestingly of the crisis and reviewed the events leading up thereto. Mayor Colton said a few words, but they were eloquent. He said no man should urge others to enlist unless himself ready to enlist. And he had asked for a chance to serve the colors. Mr. Hade proudly referred to the fact that he has a son in the navy, and Professor McLaughlin struck a popular chord with his all too brief remarks. Next week President McLaughlin will be in Washington in attendance upon a meeting of college presidents called to consult with the federal authorities as to what the colleges may best do to serve the country now. "I am sure that York College will respond to any call that may be made upon it," said President McLaughlin.

Major Holdeman briefly stated what Nebraska's share is in recruiting and asked the young men of York County to do their share. Naval Recruiting Officer Malherbe, who has seen fourteen years of service, spoke in an interesting way and gave a leaf or two out of his experiences.

MAKING EACH ACRE COUNT

The York County Commercial Club immediately awoke to the necessity of conserving every energy and utilizing every agency calculated to produce foodstuffs against the dark days that loomed ahead. With the assistance of the city council,

the club proceeded to list every vacant lot and fraction of a lot in the city, and set every foot of it to producing staple foodstuffs to be stored for fall and winter use, Messrs. Meehan, McCloud, Liggett, and Smith acting as a committee to secure the ground.

An employment bureau was planned at once for the benefit of the farmers seeking help. Men wanting jobs on the farm were invited to list their names with Secretary Shreck, and farmers in need of help were invited to consult with him. The Northwestern and the Burlington both offered the free use of their right-of-way for the production of certain crops, the work to be done under the supervision of responsible parties.

AT THE PATRIOTIC MEETING OF APRIL 28TH

The recruiting met an immediate response, so many young men wishing to enlist that he had to refuse to take more, his time in York being limited to permit a proper examination.

The following young men were recruited, seven of the number failing to pass the physical examination: Alvin L. Dodson, Roy Townsend, Allen Lamm, Robert J. McDonald, Keith Jones, Jean P. Jysp, George F. Maul, Albert Dixon, E. E. Schmelzel, Ralph L. Ferris, Harry E. Preebe, Frank C. Peck, George A. Johns, Arthur L. Surface, John R. White, Floyd W. Woolly, Arthur J. Yost, Robert G. Miller, Evend A. Nielsen, Clarence Pile, Ed H. Henning, Carl J. Paulsen, Lawrence L. Valentine, Claude V. Larkin, and Roy H. Larson.

YORK MEN CALLED UPON

Early in May two York men were called upon by the national and state officials for consulting services. Mr. J. W. Shorthill served throughout the war in assisting with the formation and consummation of plans relating to the agricultural problems. In August, 1917, he was selected by Food Commissioner Herbert Hoover as secretary of the Federal Corporation to take over the grain supply of the country. Charles A. McCloud served throughout the war period as a member of the State Council of Defense. The press of May 9th carried the following two notices which commented upon the first call to service of these two well-known citizens of York:

"J. W. Shorthill of this city, secretary-treasurer of the Farmers' Co-operative Association, with headquarters here, was in Washington last week, consulting with the Council for National Defense.

"Mr. Shorthill said that in view of the Government making strenuous efforts to get the farmers to grow additional crops, it was imperatively necessary that the railroads should move the crops now in elevators or in other storage in order that the crop coming on might be taken care of.

"The grain on the farm is in the hands of people who have facilities to hold it," said Mr. Shorthill. "If that grain is not moved off the farm before the new crop comes on, those farmers who have facilities to hold will have to dump the grain on the market with those who lack holding facilities. That would obviously result in a greater congestion than exists at present."

"Mr. Shorthill was assured that every effort would be made to give the farmers and grain dealers throughout the country the sought-for relief."

"Last Friday Governor Neville honored York County and the state by appointing Charles A. McCloud as a member of the State Council of Defense. With E. O. Webber of Wahoo, Mr. McCloud will represent the bankers upon this council. General George Harries of Omaha is chairman of the council and Richard L. Metcalfe is one of the members. There yet remains two members to represent the railroads, and then the council will be complete.

"The State Council of Defense will act in conjunction with the National Council of Defense in making a comprehensive survey of the entire country, with a view to co-ordinating its every activity during the progress of the war.

"Mr. McCloud's appointment was a complete surprise to him, and was made upon recommendation of a number of bankers who were consulted by Governor Neville. He has accepted the appointment and will give the duties the fullest possible attention."

RED CROSS ORGANIZED

A mass meeting was called by Mayor Smith for Sunday afternoon, May 20th, at the Opera House, when the work of the Red Cross was fully explained and plans for organization of the York County Chapter were formulated. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Smith, and Wade H. Read was elected chairman. The assembly joined in singing "America," and the divine blessing was invoked by Rev. W. C. Wasser. Senator C. E. Sandall explained the work of the Red Cross in a few well chosen words, and Doctor McConaughy followed with cogent reasons why York should have a branch of the organization. E. B. Woods spoke of the part business men must play in the present crisis. "Columbia" was then sung by the assembly, after which Mr. Burton, field secretary of the Red Cross, Denver, spoke interestingly of the work performed by the Red Cross.

On motion of Miss Detrick, it was decided to organize a local branch in York, and 140 people responded to the call for enrollment. The following officers were selected: Chairman, A. E. Mead; vice chairman, Dewitt Lee; secretary, C. C. Boslaw; treasurer, Mrs. W. E. McCloud; directors, Dennis Meehan, Commercial Club; J. E. Hart, banks; Dr. George Shidler, medical profession; Mrs. Jennie Stephens, charities organization; Mrs. W. A. Harrison, Woman's Department Club.

A meeting of the officers and directors was held the next Tuesday afternoon to perfect the plans of permanent organization.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DEFENSE

York County organized a county branch of the Council for State Defense, with Mayor T. W. Smith as chairman, Dr. F. S. Morris of McCool, vice chairman; C. C. Boslaw, secretary, and A. A. Metz, treasurer. The organization was perfected at a meeting held at the courthouse Saturday afternoon, May 19th, and the entire committee were called together in a few days for the perfecting of plans as outlined by the state council.

At the close of Professor Fling's address the York County Council of Defense was organized with the officers as named above. The precinct members of the council were selected as follows: Stewart, Robert Brown; Thayer, Thomas Price; Morton, H. B. Bottum; Arborville, Charles Flied; Bradshaw, R. W. Findley; Lockridge, James A. Barr; New York, Fred Strobel; Waco, R. F. Getty; Beaver, Charles Purin-

ton; Leroy, W. H. Brooke; Baker, Con McCarthy; Brown, C. D. Fay; Henderson A, Phil Moore; Henderson B, Cornelius Peters; Hays, F. M. Churchill; McFadden, R. F. Lord; West Blue, James Lafferty; York, First Ward, C. E. Sandall; York, Second Ward, William Miller; York, Third Ward, Charles Peterson; York, Fourth Ward, John J. Price.

REGISTRATION DAY, JUNE 5, 1917

In common with every other county in the state, or community in the country, June 5, 1917, will stand out as a red-letter day in the history of York County. Since the foundation of the Republic, the American people had inherited a deep-seated prejudice against anything akin to universal compulsory military service. To ask almost ten millions of men, between the ages of twenty-one and thirty-one, reared and educated to the idea of absolute freedom from any form of military service except such as they might voluntarily assume, to register for possible military service, seemed to many almost a dangerous risk for the federal Government to run. But it proved decisively that this tradition was more than offset by a popular will to win the war, and so imbued were the American people with the determination to perpetuate their democratic ideals, and so deeply impressed were they with the knowledge that it was not only necessary to raise an army, but to do it quickly, that the whole nation registered 9,586,508 men on that notable June 5th.

Sheriff Miller, County Clerk Beck, and County Attorney Gillmore, the officials required to make the arrangements for the registration under the selective conscription act on June 5th, show as registrars in the famous precincts the following persons (the first name, where two are named in a precinct, was to act as chief registrar):

Stewart—William Davidson, William Diers	Henderson, A—H. P. Dearing, M. W. Strater
Thayer—G. M. Horsfall, A. Halsted.	Henderson, B—D. D. Weins, J. J. Kroeker
Morton—W. J. Sahling, D. W. Baker	Hays—W. R. Anderson, H. M. Wilcox
Arberville—Thomas S. Fisher, E. L. Gray	McFadden—R. F. Lord, C. C. Norquest
Bradshaw—C. B. Palmer, Jr., C. A. Lininger	West Blue—John W. Schultz, C. R. Deffenbaugh
Lockridge—Fred Voss, Fred Romsdall	York, First Ward—E. J. Taylor, F. L. Propst
New York—Fred Strebel	York, Second Ward—H. G. Hopkins, Leroy Davis
Waco—J. V. Brady, M. J. Keltenborn	York, Third Ward—C. C. Boslaw, C. A. Keefe
Beaver—Charles Purinton, Christ Bulgrin	York, Fourth Ward—E. B. Koon, Dennis Meehan, Jr.
Leroy—Chas. H. Propst, Philip Klone	
Baker—W. A. Spellman, Albert Anderson	
Brown—J. W. Tracy, D. J. Kroeker	

HOW THE MEN REGISTERED IN YORK COUNTY

York County responded on June 5th without a protest, and there was not a sign of ill feeling, not a bit of display of disloyalty, nor a single disturbance. On the

contrary, there were evidences of patriotism on every hand. The twenty-one registration precincts in the county were appropriately decorated, and while the young men who gathered to register were not at all hilarious, they were registering with the air of young men willing to do their bit in whatever capacity they might be called to serve.

A tour of the county made by the York County Commercial Club was a success in every particular. The schedule of the trip was a fast one and at the beginning there were those who doubted if it could be made in the time set. But the trip was made in an hour less time than the schedule called for, and with the exception of the usual troubles incident to such a long trip there were no accidents and no confusion.

The start was made promptly at 7:30 Tuesday morning, and at 6:10 the pilot car headed back into York, an hour and forty minutes ahead of time.

Col. Charles A. McCloud had charge of the speaking part of the program, and also officiated as manager of the band and pilot for the long procession of autos. Every auto was decorated with flags, and several of them carried women of the Red Cross with their nurses' caps and their white aprons. The York Municipal Band was taken along, and at every stop inspired the crowds by playing "Star-Spangled Banner," "Stars and Stripes Forever," and "Let's All Be Americans Today." The speakers were brief in their remarks, but not one failed to win the applause of his listeners. Congressman Charles H. Sloan responded to a hurry-up call and came over from Geneva, joining the touring party at Waco, where he spoke briefly. From Waco Mr. Sloan went to Gresham and made a rousing patriotic address at the flag-raising exercises in that progressive and patriotic little city. Houston was the first place visited, and despite the early hour more than a score of men were present and the registrars were already busy. Dennis Meehan spoke briefly, and then the tourists hastened on to Gresham. Here Charles Gilbert spoke and earned the hearty cheers of a big audience. At Thayer, T. E. Sedgwick was the orator, and he made a telling little speech. There was a slight bobble in the program between Gresham and Waco, owing to the fact that the pilot lost his compass, and as a result the big reception committee from Waco met only the pilot car at the appointed place. The Wacoites were up and coming and they had six gaily decorated cars all ready to escort the tourists in. Congressman Sloan spoke briefly at the town hall in Waco, and then the Waco committee started the tourists on the right road to Beaver town hall. Here W. M. Maupin recited H. H. Bennett's patriotic poem, "The Flag Goes By." At Leroy town hall Mr. Meehan was again pressed into service, and T. W. Smith sent over to West Blue to speak while the rest of the tourists came into York for lunch. Fifty minutes at York and the tourists took the road for the last leg of the trip. Lockridge was the first stop of the afternoon, and there a fine crowd had assembled. The Red Cross people had taken a short cut ahead and gathered in a fine lot of members before the band got there. F. P. Van Wickle was the orator at Benedict, and his brief speech was greeted with three rousing cheers. Mr. Gilbert made his second address at Arborville, and as usual aroused the enthusiasm of his auditors. At Bradshaw, Arthur Thompson, who had registered before he left York in the morning, made a most effective address. Mayor Smith spoke in Brown, and, by the way, while Brown is a Mennonite settlement it had registered the largest percentage of the eligibles of any of them. The registration at 3:30 was forty-nine out of a possible fifty-three. Mr. Meehan and Mr. Maupin spoke briefly to a big

crowd at Henderson, and at Lushton Mr. Gilbert again thrilled the audience. Hayes town hall was reached rather too early for those who had arranged to be there to receive the visitors, and only the registrar and one patriotic woman were there. But the band played just the same. Here Doctor Morris of McCool, escorted by a bevy of Red Cross girls, met the tourists and piloted them into McCool, the last stop of the day. At McCool Colonel McCloud made a plea for everybody to buy a Liberty Bond.

Just as the autoists started from McCool the rain began and followed the autoists almost to York. But aside from a little dampness in the closing hour the day couldn't have been better if made to order. Nor could the roads have been improved to any great extent. The plans for the evening exercises in York were abandoned on account of the weather.

While the band was playing and orators orating, busy gentlemen were engaged in spreading the glad news that York was going to pull off the biggest Fourth of July celebration since that memorable day when the little tyke yelled for his granddad to ring the old Liberty Bell. Waco has the record for the largest crowd that greeted the visitors.

The commercial club supplied each registrar with enough little flag badges to adorn the breast of every young man who registered.

Every town visited was alive with the colors of the flag, and flags were flying from every vantage point.

At Lushton Colonel McCloud found it necessary to issue a warning against racing. "There is too much of it," said Colonel McCloud. "Several times my driver has had to run like thunder to keep some fellow from passing him."

Lushton was the only place visited that had a band stand all ready for the musicians.

Congressman Sloan visited in York during the late evening of registration day, and then went to Aurora to see the races and incidentally to nail back a few pickets on his fences.

The dry goods and clothing stores of York were closed all day, as were the banks and the county offices.

The roster of those young men between the ages twenty-one and thirty-one, inclusive, who registered for selective service on June 5, 1917, includes the following:

First Ward, York

Akofer, Andrew J.
Anderson, Harold I.
Ballenger, Albert W.
Behkling, Carl F. G.
Bell, James Stewart
Bell, Donald G.
Berger, Dan H.
Blinn, Paul H.
Bohn, Peter V.
Bullock, Willard E.
Burton, Irvin J.
Burnard, Adrian E.

Buswell, Guy T.
Cain, Harry V.
Carpenter, H. Charles
Chambers, Leonard H.
Charlton, Harry R.
Charlton, Homer L.
Comstock, Rufus L.
Cooper, Isaae S.
Croson, Charles E.
Davis, Guy R.
Dean, Earl J.
Dresher, William P.
Eberhart, Julian P.

Ek, John R.
Fair, Jay W.
Ferguson, Harold H.
Fisher, Charles W.
Fluty, Chas. O.
Foster, Leslie E.
Froid, Wendell O.
Gale, Robt. G.
Gallant, William G.
Gamble, Walter G.
Graham, Benjamin H.
Graham, Samuel N.
Granere, Carl J.

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| Grassmuck, Elmer R. | Shorthill, Ray | Foreman, Harold L. |
| Graves, Henry C. | Slawson, Marion A. | Finch, Floyd F. |
| Gregory, Leslie R. | Snedeker, Morton B. | Foster, Clarence E. |
| Harritt, Hugh C. | Springer, Marcus A. | Fox, Charles J. |
| Haggard, Raymond D. | Stutheit, Herbert H. | Friesen, Cornelius |
| Haupt, Earl C. | Taylor, Earl J. | Gaskill, Harry L. |
| Herzer, Philip C. | Temple, Benjamin F. | Gantt, Carl T. |
| Hulette, James D. | Thompson, Arthur W. | Habermann, Alexander |
| Holoch, E. | Tout, Abraham L. | Habermann, Henry |
| Huffman, Elwood C. | Vincent, Fred H. | Habermann, John |
| Hubbell, Harry L. | Walsh, George J. | Hoffner, Joe |
| Jacobson, Seth A. | Walsh, William R. | Harmon, Dewey J. |
| James, William E. | Watt, Thad G. | Higman, William E. |
| Jenkins, George A. | Weaver, Ollie L. | Hesler, Henry A. |
| Jockisch, Vearl C. S. | Weber, George J. | Henderson, Roy D. |
| Johnson, Rollie C. | Wherry, William T. | Hildebrand, Charles P. |
| Kettering, Eugene L. | Williamson, Albert | Hitchcock, Roscoe C. |
| King, Fay F. | Wilson, John A. | Hoatson, Ralph I. |
| Lincoln, Leigh | Yantz, Vaughan | Holoch, William C. |
| Little, Ralph W. | Zieg, John Alex | Hopkins, George B. |
| Loomis, Herbert H. | <i>Second Ward, York</i> | Howe, Ben K. |
| Lord, Telfer C. | Beaver, Clyde A. | Jones, Guy M. |
| Lubian, Rosendo | Bell, Hubert O. | Johnson, Glenn R. |
| McCarty, Leo J. | Bender, Jacob J., Jr. | Johnston, Ray |
| McCarty, Fred P. | Bereuter, William H. | Keelan, Fred |
| Martin, Harry C. | Bereuter, Reuben A. | Kellogg, Chester B. |
| Mason, Fred | Bernmaster, Walter | Klawonn, Herman C. |
| Mathiesen, Hubert | Beyer, George H. | Klawonn, Leo T. |
| Muir, Fred | Bradwell, Charles | Kline, Andrew |
| Munro, Frank | Brakeman, Floyd H. | Koch, Conrad |
| Nearing, Guy E. | Brott, Raymond L. | Lake, Frank O. |
| Newman, Lloyd V. | Burnham, Edwin F. | Lancaster, Z. L. |
| Nelms, Carl W. | Cartwright, William R. | Lauerman, Edward M. |
| Newman, Benjamin H. | Cartwright, Callie G. | Lankin, Wesley B. |
| Mylre, Anon M. | Cartwright, John R. | Linnee, Herman A. |
| Osborn, Ernest | Castile, Lloyd W. | Lindgren, Melvin G. |
| Van Ostrand, Lee | Coffendaffer, William A. | Norgren, Leonard W. |
| Otto, Herbert J. | Collingham, Lewis A. | McDonald, Robert J. |
| Otto, Edwin W. H. | Cuchubos, Frank | McDonald, Donald |
| Peterson, Claude A. | Cuchubos, John P. | McKinley, Cloyde E. |
| Rankin, Edwin H. | Davis, John L. | McMillan, John H. |
| Rankin, Glen L. | DeBord, William P. | Markle, William E. |
| Requarte, Harold J. | Dever, Jess L. | Marshall, Charles C. |
| Roberts, Calvin B. | Doran, Bert E. | Mead, William D. |
| Rusch, Herman G. | Dreier, August H. | Miller, Frank H. |
| Schell, Claudia A. | Edwards, James W. | Mohring, Floyd A. |
| Schell, Louis D. | Elliott, Elmer E. | Monson, Oscar L. |
| Schlarb, Ralph R. | Ettel, James B. | Myers, Edward |

- O'Connell, William J.
 Owen, John P.
 Palmer, Albert M.
 Peters, James T.
 Peters, Francis
 Petersen, Victor O.
 Pettis, Lester C.
 Phillips, Leonard B.
 Pine, Clark S.
 Poulos, James
 Proffitt, Ralph C.
 Pulse, Harold L.
 Rademacher, Rudolph A.
 Read, Augustus L.
 Reisbeck, John, Jr.
 Rhoads, Archie R.
 Rogers, Victor
 Roth, Henry
 Saunders, Gilford W.
 Shuttlesworth, Elmer W.
 Simonds, Merle C.
 Simons, Julian H.
 Smith, Earl
 Steely, Fred L.
 Stewart, William D.
 Stine, George E.
 Sweet, Andrew R.
 Thompson, Morris
 Townsend, Ivan R.
 Van Vleet, Philo J.
 Wallingford, William R.
 Watson, Ruie T.
 White, Edward G.
 Whitham, Jay M.
 Whitehouse, Charles W.
 Will, Walter L.
 Woods, James E.
 Wood, Earl E.
- Third Ward, York*
- Allen, James E.
 Alt, John
 Askine, Irvin
 Bailey, Foss Clifford
 Bartholomeu, Chris
 Becker, Earl
 Becker, Henry C.
 Bequette, Walter H.
 Brehm, John
- Brewer, George Ned
 Broman, Parker E.
 Broman, Christopher A.
 Buek, Edwin A.
 Campbell, Arthur E.
 Casey, James S.
 Casey, John J.
 Coleman, Cecil
 Cox, Charles M.
 Clegg, Clifford
 Cox, Floyd D.
 Davis, John R.
 Dawson, John I.
 Dayton, Peter
 DeBoer, Lester
 Eberle, Andrew J.
 Ellis, Arthur H.
 Ellis, Charles E.
 Failing, Carl C.
 Fair, Clyde R.
 Fenton, Chester
 Fletcher, Charles C.
 Flint, John B.
 Fox, Vale L.
 Griffith, Lawrence W.
 Hall, Harry C.
 Hansen, Charles A.
 Hanson, James P.
 Harter, Charles W.
 Herzog, John
 Hixson, Lyle L.
 Jenkins, Ralph C.
 Kerwood, Homer H.
 Kingston, Harry G.
 Krause, Henry W.
 Lake, Charlie M.
 Larson, Roy H.
 Laustsen, Hans C.
 Little, Clyde A.
 Lounsbury, Hubert A.
 McDermott, Valbert M.
 McMillen, Frank J.
 Martin, John A.
 Mayland, Robert E.
 Melton, Roy R.
 Misner, Alva
 Morrow, Alpha
 Moss, Henry
- Nagel, Henry
 Nine, R. J.
 Nordlund, Harry E.
 Oxley, Delbert F.
 Pembleton, Martin L.
 Pierce, Rae H.
 Preston, Clyde W.
 Price, Frank H.
 Price, Roy M.
 Rayls, Bert J.
 Reisbeck, John R.
 Rice, Charles E.
 Rich, August F.
 Rhodes, Robert C.
 Rogers, Joseph F.
 Roggy, Edson L.
 Sandall, John C.
 Schleiger, Conrad
 Schleiger, Henry H.
 Schleiger, John
 Schmelzel, Earl E.
 Schmelzel, Marvin B.
 Self, James C.
 Shaffer, Jay S.
 Shultz, Royal O.
 Smaha, Emil W.
 Smaha, Adolph O.
 Tavelin, Bror A.
 Tharp, Charles F.
 Thompson, Harry H.
 Tracy, Claude E.
 Valentine, David R.
 Van Wickle, Andrew E.
 Voss, Frank B.
 Wagner, Ernest
 Wendell, Elmer Douglas
 White, Robert E.
 White, John R.
 Williams, Joseph R.
 Williams, Frank
 Wilger, Williams B.
 Willis, Arele L.
 Yost, William L.
- Fourth Ward, York*
- Adams, Oscar C.
 Belcher, James G.
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 Blank, W. Glenn

- Boor, Harry J.
 Bottum, Raymond H.
 Bouchard, George J.
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 Campbell, John W.
 Carlson, Edward R.
 Clarke, Lyle W.
 Cormican, Earl V.
 Crumpacker, Clifton G.
 Davis, William O.
 Dayton, William
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 Engel, Fred H.
 Frazier, Chester L.
 Gleason, James J.
 Hannis, Charles I.
 Haney, Roy W.
 Harner, Merl W.
 Hartman, Gordon A.
 Henning, Edward H.
 Hiatt, Roy E.
 Hudson, Floyd L.
 Jacks, Leo V.
 Kotsiopulo, Peter G.
 Kreshel, Adolph
 Lamp, Melvin B.
 Linstrom, Ephraim J.
 McBride, Herman
 Mansir, Ross
 Mapps, Howard E.
 Medaris, Ernest R.
 Meehan, Dennis, Jr.
 Meehan, Peter A.
 Meglenre, James C.
 Meinig, Ernest E.
 Miller, George R.
 Miller, Olaf N.
 Moore, Frank
 Olmstad, Clarkson N.
 Paschang, Joseph P.
 Perry, John B.
 Pope, Vernon W.
 Powell, Adolphus I.
 Price, Lewis M.
 Reed, Dean D.
 Rosenlof, Carl A.
 Ruble, Fred H.
 Runte, Alvin L.
- Samuelson, Earl N.
 Schara, Earl M.
 Seigel, John
 Shrigley, Joseph E.
 Spellman, Earl G.
 Stewart, George R.
 Stone, Floyd
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 Strohl, Freddie W.
 Sturgeon, Ralph M.
 Sturtevant, Orrin L.
 Sullivan, William F.
 Tilton, Pierce B.
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 Thomsen, Martin L.
 Wagner, Archie C.
 Weitzel, Henry C.
 Will, Harry M.
 Williams, Arthur R.
 Yost, Harry A.
 Zieg, George
 Stewart
 Anderson, R. Grover
 Bader, O. Henry
 Barbee, Wm. Elsworth
 Barbee, G. Pogue
 Barbee, J. Sheldon
 Barbee, B. Frank
 Behm, A. Martine
 Beisner, F. William
 Berryhill, E. Emerson
 Blackman, J. Allen
 Blasing, E.
 Blount, T. Elba
 Brittell, C. Clinton
 Bredehoft, C. M. Wm.
 Blaikie, H. Essex
 Brittell, H. G.
 Barber, Frank E.
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 Clere, Pete C.
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 Cook, Cecil
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- Diers, Herbert
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 Downing, Oscar T.
 Elrod, Lawrence R.
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 Fewins, Harry M.
 Fuller, Terria G.
 Gonnerman, Albert F.
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 Grobe, Lewis E.
 Gruber, William R.
 Gruber, Edward A. F.
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 Harris, John S., Jr.
 Hastings, Jay
 Hawley, Jess L.
 Hawley, Clifton L. J.
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 Helms, Edmund A.
 Helmers, Louis W.
 Henriksen, Martinus
 Hills, Arthur C.
 Hinze, George F.
 Huff, Roy
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 Hutchinson, John T.
 Hylton, Harry I.
 Isch, Edgar G.
 Jaegar, George H.
 Jensen, Emil
 Jensen, Chris E.
 Johnson, Elmer L.
 Kennedy, Thomas A.
 Kirby, James E.
 Kunz, Eugene J.
 Lanphere, Leonard H.
 Lindquist, Harry S.
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 Lund, John A.
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 Marriott, Frederick L.
 Marsden, Floyd W.
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 Marvel, William L.
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- Mooney, Norman
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 Peterson, Ferdinand J.
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 Pozehl, Chris C.
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 Sasse, Walter C.
 Sherwood, Charles F.
 Sperry, James E.
 Schmidt, Edward H.
 Tompkins, Wilsey L.
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 Volzke, John W. G.
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 Welch, Jesse E.
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 Baumann, Edward E.
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 Clerc, Victor A.
 Cotner, Claud
 Dickson, George H.
 Ehlers, William Gustave
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 Elliott, Verne M.
 Farnam, Clarence M.
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 Gaskill, George E.
 Grobe, Harry E.
 Hanson, Eskil T.
 Hattel, Jesse E.
 Harris, Herbert W.
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 Hoffmaster, Carl M.
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 Huffman, E.
 Idlet, Geo. O.
 Junge, Albert J. O.
 Junge, John A. J.
 Keefe, James H.
 Keller, Lewis C.
 Kohn, Lovell E. T.
 Larson, Clarence W.
 Liedtke, Fred W.
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 Lytle, William H.
 McCart, James E.
 Marquardt, Otto R. J.
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 Miller, Evan E.
 Moser, Ray A.
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 Osterloh, Albert
 Patterson, Lloyd E.
 Price, Homer O.
 Query, Belbert L.
 Reed, Jacob O.
 Richert, Bernhard H. W.
 Robson, Herman M.
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 Sackschewsky, Leo. T.
 Schoeneck, Wilhelm
 Shaw, George W.
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 Sprangel, Ed H.
 Strickler, H.
 Tondreau, Ray C.
 White, John B.
 Zieg, Henry
 Zentz, James R.
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 Morton
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 Berglund, Walter D.
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 Carlson, Fred E.
 Carter, Clarence L.
 Cavender, Harry P.
 Cotner, Ira E.
 Crouse, Harry L.
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 Ewer, Renel J.
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 Hoffmaster, Horace W.
 Holm, Reinhold
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 Johnson, Henry H.

- Kinyon, Thomas G.
 Kent, John
 Krager, Robert
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 Lind, George C.
 Lower, Fred Wilson
 McMullen, William B.
 Mace, Boyd W.
 Marvel, Harold A.
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 Netz, Axel I.
 Oberg, Edward E.
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 Oshorn, Myron W.
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 Paulson, John
 Pearson, Jesse G.
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 Renquist, Elmer W.
 Rhoades, Harry
 Richardson, Emmett J.
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 Sochor, William C.
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 Sahling, William J.
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 Stewart, Homer
 Swanson, Henry E.
 Scott, Glen D.
 Schoch, Guy E.
 Schoch, James R.
 Shapland, Edwin A.
 Shear, Elyde T.
 Sidwell, Lawrence M.
 Smith, Arthur R.
 Sparling, Lynn R.
 Talbot, Richard G.
 Tondreau, Clarence P.
 Vincent, Ralph E.
 Weeks, Glenn E.
 Wildman, Guy C.
 Wilson, Oly L.
 Wirt, Kenneth E.
 Wood, Ralph H.
 Wood, Frank R.
 Wright, Edgar M.
Arborville
 Baack, Martin E.
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 Bedient, Herbert F.
 Bedient, Harold J.
 Bills, Joseph J. R.
 Blair, George E.
 Cockle, Elmer R.
 Cockle, Clarence W.
 Dorsey, Knight L.
 Dorsey, Asa A.
 Dunblazier, Guy C.
 Ellis, Calvin O.
 Ellison, Fred F.
 Fisher, Manley R.
 Fratzke, Herbert P. II.
 Fratzke, G.
 Gelvin, Clarence W.
 Glad, Edwin G.
 Goldfisch, Charlie H.
 Gray, Elmo L.
 Green, Gus
 Henderson, Howard
 Ice, Daniel G.
 Jackson, Orville K.
 Jarmin, Merle W.
 Johnson, Benjamin H.
 Kingston, Earl L.
 Klute, Theodore F. W.
 Klute, Arthur H. W.
 Kohtz, Richard A. F.
 Lackey, Estor L.
 Lindquist, Albin T.
 McCreary, Fred F.
 McCreary, Harry C.
 McGinnis, Ray N.
 Mills, Blaine
 Mills, Ora C.
 Morris, Charles D.
 Newman, Lawrence M.
 Norine, Edwin E.
 Olson, John W.
 Payne, Guy Harold
 Peterson, Alvin S.
 Piekrel, Robert E.
 Piekrel, Victor T.
 Ratliff, Ernest J.
 Ratliff, Wesley E.
 Reeb, Henry F.
 Salehow, Karl F. W.
 Schrader, Pete F.
 Scheapler Frank W.
 Shockley, John D.
 Shockey, Fred D.
 Shockey, Albert A.
 Singhurst, James T.
 Smith, Ray A.
 Smith, Charles H.
 Springer, Joseph C.
 Stark, Simeon L.
 Stouffer, Christian F.
 Tindall, Frank A.
 Tindall, John M.
 Waak, Otis F.
 Wagoner, Earl W.
 Wilcox, Lemuel R.
 Wilcox, Frank L.
 Wilkins, Floyd C.
 Woodall, James L.
 Woods, Raymond P.
 Wythers, Orville D.
Bradshaw
 Anderson, Edgar M.
 Arillano, Pedro
 Archer, Lewis H.
 Barnes, Roy S.
 Bauder, Claude C.
 Baxley, Ira
 Bieshline, Harold C.
 Bieshline, Mearl L.
 Belville, Frank R.
 Bradley, Gus
 Browitt, James W.
 Brown, Howard R.
 Brumbaugh, Berne C.
 Buller, David A.
 McCallon, Wade
 Campbell, Robert J.
 Canago, Joe
 Carlson, Arthur A.
 Carlson, Walter A.

- Carlisle, Fred
 Carlisle, Roy E.
 Darling, Benjamin G.
 DeVoll, Roy
 DeVoss, William D.
 Dickerson, George W.
 Doyle, James
 Doyle, Patrick
 Egerblad, Frank G.
 Ray, Allen E.
 Fenster, Otto E.
 Finley, Wilber L.
 Fletcher, Charles W.
 Gagastegis, Emeraldó
 Gerstner, Anton J.
 Gray, Earl E.
 Gray, Harry E.
 Gross, Charles L.
 Harlow, Pearl J.
 Hedrick, Bonnie L.
 Hungerford, Irvin L.
 Isaac, Henry R.
 Jackson, Arthur W.
 Johnson, George L.
 Keller, Robert C.
 Kennedy, James S.
 Kennedy, John F.
 Klinker, Henry
 Klone, Edward A.
 Lake, Earl R.
 Lawrence, Archie
 Ledisma, Lupe
 Lenz, Ernest W.
 Lichtenberger, Cleon C.
 Lincoln, Amer L.
 Manson, Harry Howard
 McCarthy, Leo J.
 Mendona, Lebero
 Miller, George W.
 Morgan, Ralph E.
 Morgan, Frederick S.
 Morrison, Lester S.
 Myers, Ernest W.
 Myers, Charles B.
 Opfer, Ernest
 Palmer, Harry E.
 Pohl, Charles A.
 Pohl, Gustav A.
 Post, George
 Ranno, Parfiao
 Rhoads, Lee O.
 Rhoads, Ernest A.
 Rusler, Lyle O.
 Rust, Jess C.
 Sáwyer, Clark L.
 Scamehorn, Clarence D.
 Scamehorn, Fred R.
 Senff, Amil A.
 Senff, Charles
 Skinner, Charles N.
 Stark, Wesley E.
 Stafford, Charles G.
 Stratton, James W.
 Stratton, Earl L.
 Summers, William E.
 Summers, Harry W.
 Swift, Dean
 Thomas, Fred S.
 Turnbull, Thomas H.
 Wandersee, Herman A.
 Weber, Carl W.
 Weeks, John M.
 White, Harry G.
 Woehner, John L.
 Walkemeyer, Theodore T.
 Wolvin, Israel
 Yates, Earl J.
 Lockridge
 Anderson, Ray E.
 Barr, Aubrey A.
 Barr, Guy A.
 Barr, Lindsay J. C.
 Bell, Joe H.
 Broman, Harlan F.
 Carmichael, Joseph E.
 Dahlgren, Floyd E.
 Davenport, Lawrence M.
 Dunblazier, Glenn
 Foley, John H.
 Froid, Joseph E.
 Folts, Lloyd
 Foster, Guy E.
 Green, William
 Grosse, Hugo R.
 Grosse, Richard B.
 Gunnerson, Otto A.
 Hanna, Homer H.
 Hansen, Hans L.
 Harden, Irving S.
 Harrison, Alvin G.
 Hayes, Thomas L.
 Hembery, George C.
 Hmt, William H.
 Jenkins, Clarence E.
 Johnson, Clifford W.
 Johnson, Hugh F.
 Johnson, Joseph I.
 Lake, Albert M.
 Leaming, Freeman V.
 Lloyd, Wallace V.
 McLain, Andrew J.
 Masters, Floyd R.
 Melton, Walter E.
 Miller, Claude W.
 Newman, Oliver E.
 O'Brien, Thomas W.
 Otto, Arthur E.
 Pearson, Almy E.
 Peterson, Paul E.
 Priess, Edgar C.
 Regelean, Otto A.
 Sandall, Rudolph L.
 Sandall, Mandus
 Sandall, Fred O.
 Scamehorn, Carl E.
 Sterner, Hilbert A.
 Sterner, Cyril A.
 Stewart, Lyle J.
 Stewart, Joseph C.
 Thrasher, Coburn A.
 Troutman, Forrest H.
 Turner, Charley J.
 Voss, Walter A.
 Walbrecht, Henry L.
 Whitehead, Albert E.
 Wright, Ted G.
 New York
 Ault, Edgar G.
 Barth, Carl W. F.
 Beattie, Charles E.
 Bishop, Eugene A.
 Bolton, Floyd J.
 Brehm, George
 Brunk, Herman H.

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|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Colson, Lyle E. | Beckord, Henry G. | Prcuit, Grover C. |
| Crumpacker, Herman S. | Bell, Clarence Eddie | Rogers, Harry S. |
| Dyer, George S. | Bennett, Ezra T. J. | Rogge, Herman G. |
| Edler, Ben | Brown, Clifford L. | Roberts, George H. |
| Fickes, Irwin F. | Bredchoft, John C. | Robbins, Sable B. |
| Gillmore, Ray W. | Brown, Terelius N. | Schroeder, Albert |
| Haas, Harlow C. | Brown, Charles B. | Schroeder, Carl L. |
| Hawley, Sheridan C. | Bulgrin, Walter A. O. M. | Sherman, Harvey E. |
| Hartley, Frank H. | Conrad, William C. | Shofroth, Walter E. |
| Hays, Thomas E. | Darnall, Walter G. | Skaden, Robert F. |
| Heine, Otto C. M. | Dinkelmann, Herman G. | Snyder, John M. |
| Herron, Carl E. | Ericksen, Herman | Stewart, William J. |
| Houston, Charles A. | Fees, Walter J. | Strickler, Caleb Roy |
| Houston, Frank W. | Fees, William Robert | Strinz, Will |
| Hurst, Harold A. | Fischer, Albert J. | Steffen, Oscar |
| Jokerst, Joseph Herman | Foreman, Curtis L. | Steffen, John |
| Junge, Walter E. | Garitz, Nickolas | Stewart, David A. |
| Keefe, Frank H. | Gilbert, Clarence L. | Stephens, Richard H. |
| Koons, Homer J. | Gloystein, George H. | Stoll, Arthur Jacob |
| McCartney, Horace S. | Gorham, George F. | Steffen, Walter |
| McCormick, John A. | Gray, Clarence M. | Stahr, Edward H. |
| Malster, Emmet L. | Gray, Grover L. | Sullivan, John |
| Marquardt, Leo A. | Gust, Oscar | Sullivan, James W. |
| Marquardt, Frederick P. | Hedrick, Harry Edgar | Tetmaer, Albert |
| Marquardt, John G. | Hedrick, Verle E. | Tewell, Elwood H. |
| Marquardt, Ledwig C. | Hedrick, Leo | Thorpe, Cecil S. |
| Miller, Frank T. | Beitman, Paul C. | Trollope, Archie M. |
| Mohler, David M. | Beitman, Carl W. | Volzke, Emil Ferdinand |
| Newcomer, Raymond L. | Hobson, Zee Dee | Volzke, Frederick H. |
| Olson, Carl A. | Hohnbaum, Charles B. | Volzke, Herman A. |
| Powell, Otis | Hohnbaum, Allen G. | Volzke Arnold W. |
| Reed, Irl V. | Huffman, John F. | Volzke, Herman F. |
| Samec, Frank | Inbody, Ottis R. | Wartfield, Vernon H. |
| Samson, Charles | Kaltenborn, Ernest J. | Warren, Walter G. |
| Sackschewsky, Arthur L. | Kraus, Walter E. | Wellman, Herman W. |
| Shaw, John, Jr. | Lemmel, Jesse E. | Wellman, Herbert A. |
| Thrasher, James | Leuthje, Harry P. | Wellman, Henry Walter |
| Walkup, Glen R. | Leuthje, Roy F. | Whittenberger, Claude R. |
| Watkins, George A. | Leuthje, Bernard J. | Wilken, Edward R. |
| Watson, David A. | Littler, Edmond | Worthington, Theodore F |
| Wessels, George W. | Masur, John Jerome | Wullenwater, Fred'k C. |
| Wessels, Dick, Jr. | Munson, Charlie Carl | <i>Beaver</i> |
| White, Richard L. | Millholen, Charles L. | Abrahams, Carl R. F. |
| White, James R. | Miltner, Frederick W. | Apetz, Carl A. |
| <i>Waco</i> | Naber, Frederick G. | Blum, Herman F. W. |
| Adams, Harry | Naber, Oscar F. | Bristol, Chris K. |
| Aringdale, Grover | Naber, Hugo H. | Burhoop, Gustav E. |
| Ausline, Leslie C. | Pearson, Andrew J. | Biehl, Arthur O. |

- Blum, Herbert H. R.
 Bulgrin, Robert C. F.
 Bruns, Fred W.
 Brackhan, Christian C.
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 Brackhan, William
 Burton, Ellsworth E.
 Bulgrin, Erich A.
 Campbell, Henry
 Culp, Morris D.
 Clyde, Joseph J.
 Deremer, Daily D.
 Dinkelman, B. A. C.
 Dinkelman, Henry F.
 Eggersgluss, H. F. W.
 Ehler, William F.
 Freeman, Winfield G.
 Finke, Gerhard A.
 Gumlack, George C. D.
 Goeke, Fred H.
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 Heiden, Theodor E.
 Hessel, Louis H.
 Hemmings, Henry J.
 Hemsath, Carl H. F.
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 Hirschfeld, Ernest L. H.
 Knorr, Joseph H.
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 Krous, John
 Learned, Oscar M.
 Leif, Frank G.
 Miller, Albert E.
 Miller, Oswald L.
 Naber, Arthur H.
 Peeks, Adolph D.
 Piekrel, Claudius
 Peeks, Arnold J. F.
 Piekrel, Hugh E.
 Pieper, Martin W. H.
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 Sieker, Louie H.
 Sanders, Ralph
 Stuhr, Charley T.
 Schall, Frank A.
 Stahr, Herman C.
 Schlechte, Henry J.
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- Schlechte, Louis A.
 Seely, Amos H.
 Stahr, John H.
 Stahr, Martin F. J.
 Slife, Harold D.
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 Stahr, Emil J. D.
 Spohn, Philip R.
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 Uffelmann, Arnold W.
 Wefer, George A.
 Wiemer, Fred William
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 Wellman, William H. F.
 Widle, Herbert A.
 Wray, Alexander J.
 Wellmann, Carl A.
 Wiemer, Burchard H.
 Wulff, John B.
- Leroy*
- Allen, Everett L.
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 Brooke, Clair
 Burke, Jeffrey E.
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 Barnet, John T.
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 Brooke, Chauncey J.
 Chrisman, Frank W.
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 Conroy, Martin E.
 Churchill, Robbie C.
 Cooper, Ira C.
 Feldman, Frederick W.
 Drucker, Joseph
 Ferguson, Charlie
 Foster, Clarence E.
- Feldman, Otto H.
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 Hiatt, Archie L.
 Halsey, Benjamin F.
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 Jones, Noah E.
 Kaliff, Charles A.
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 Klone, Elmer F.
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 Lottes, Louie H.
 Lanning, Joy E.
 McClatchey, Alfred E.
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 Williams, John

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Armintrout, Frank C.	Walbrecht, Christian J.	Regier, Peter J.
Armintrout, Clyde J.	Woods, Wilbur O.	Ratzlaff, Henry B.
Anderson, Swan A.	<i>Brown</i>	Ratzlaff, Abraham
Bryan, Charles A.	Bergen, Isaac I.	Siemens, Peter J.
Cleland, Ralph E.	Brochl, Chester A.	Schierling, Jacob A.
Downey, Clifton E.	Bergen, Dietrick	Thiessen, Henry D.
Downey, Howard A.	Bergen, Henry	Traey, Bryce D.
Dorsey, Harry E.	Buller, Henry B.	Van Ostrand, Earl A.
Duberstine, Fred	Buller, Andrew	Wagner, Lloyd J.
Durfee, Merle L.	Dirksen, Geerhard P.	Wall, Peter C.
Ellis, Ernest V.	Ediger, Henry B.	Wiens, Herman P.
Fuss, Arthur L.	Ediger, Johann B.	Wiens, Peter L.
Fisk, James W.	Friesen, Gerhard J.	Wiseman, Royal R.
Gould, Harrison L.	Friesen, Gerhard H.	Wiseman, Harvey H.
Harms, Albert W.	Friesen, Jacob F.	<i>Henderson "A"</i>
Johnson, Arthur J.	Friesen, John G.	Epp, Cornelius E.
Jeske, Charles W.	Gray, Arthur L.	Epp, Jacob J.
Kirkpatrick, Clinton F.	Gray, Archie	Epp, Gerhard F.
Benjamin, Harrison L.	Goossen, Jacob K.	Epp, Jacob F.
Morgan, William E.	Huebert, Claus J.	Friesen, Bernhard D.
McDuffee, Ralph	Hiebert, Nickolie K.	Friesen, Klaas T.
Morss, William W.	<i>Brown</i>	Franz, Edward E.
Mick, Carl G.	Hardy, Henry W.	Franz, Burton D.
Malmquist, Walter E.	Hornyak, Gus A.	Huber, Waltemar
McGregor, Don A.	Jeske, William F.	Huebert, Isaac J.
Marik, Peter	Johnson, Vern R.	Kaiser, August C.
McGregor, Frank L.	Kliwer, Jacob A.	Lang, Andrew D.
Mauk, Wadie E.	Kliwer, Johann A.	Lang, Watson S.
McNeill, Charles S.	Kornelsen, Abraham J.	Lively, Charles E.
Murphy, William L.	Kornelsen, Gerhard G.	McNurlin, Ersy L.
Morgan, Vincent J.	Kornelson, John A.	McNurlin, Vere
Nelson, James P.	Kroeker, Frank	Peters, Cornelius C.
Nelson, Nathan J.	Kroeker, Henry	Pursel, Ray D.
Opitz, Frank E.	Kroeker, Henry G.	Penner, Gerhard F.
Richards, Lloyd	Kroeker, Jacob G.	Robinson, Forrest L.
Russell, Charley A.	Laird, Clarence W.	Robinson, Harold C.
Rich, Henry W.	Liedelmann, Louis G.	Ronne, Clyde L.
Richardson, Thomas W.	Mierau, Cornelius J.	Ronne, Carey A.
Reece, Joel A.	Mason, Harry C.	Smith, Richard A.
Saddoris, Norval	Mierau, Frank J.	Smith, Glenn
Sanmann, Richard T.	Prohaska, Robert A.	Siebert, John C.
Swanson, Eugene E.	Peters, Peter J.	Senff, August F.
Thompson, Floyd C.	Page, John W.	Siebert, John P.
Thorn, Marion F.	Prohaska, Joseph A.	Thomas, Garrett F.
Thompson, Lee W.	Parris, Glenn E.	Yuran, Jason
Thompson, Ozro	Quiring, Cornelius	Wright, Lewis E.
Watt, Lyle E.	Regier, John A.	Wiens, Jacob G.

Henderson "B"

Benke, Johann J.	Krocker, Gerhard G.	Francies, Arthur H.
Benke, Peter	Kerner, William	Froid, Paul F.
Blumanthal, Ernst	Kusch, Edward	Fuller, Calvin A.
Bloek, Jacob J.	Larimore, John W.	Fuller, Montraville I.
Boehr, Bernhard	McGuire, James B.	Gibbins, Elmer
Boehr, Isaac	Magnuson, John T.	Gross, Floyd C.
Braun, Peter G.	Neufeld, Heinrich F.	Hager, Roy
Braun, Peter P.	Pauley, John P.	Hager, Claud C.
Buller, Frank P.	Penner, Abraham	Harms, Robert C. B.
Buller, Frank D.	Penner, Isaac	Hulse, Herbert E.
Carr, Frank L.	Penner, Peter F.	Johnson, Ivan M.
Dalke Albert	Penner, Heinrich	Lindquist, Bernard A.
Dell, Isaac B.	Peters, Jacob L.	Lindquist, Elmer J.
Dick, John F. C.	Peters, Isaac C.	McMahon, John P.
Diekenman, August, Jr	Peters, Leonhard C.	McMahon, Joseph T.
Dirksen, Peter P.	Petker, John G.	Mart, Malcom C.
Epp, Cornelius C.	Ratzlaff, Peter M.	Mart, Walter R.
Epp, Johann D.	Ratzlaff, Heinrich J.	Mastin, John A.
Epp, Jacob C.	Ratzlaff, Bernhard M.	Montgomery, Joseph G.
Epp, Heinrich F.	Ratzlaff, Benjamin A.	Nolan, Richard A.
Epp, Peter M.	Rempel, Jacob H.	Norman, Lloyd
Epp, David M.	Regier, John B.	Patterson, Walter D.
Epp, Johann M.	Regier, Peter A.	Perry, Harold A.
Friesen, Heinrich D.	Rempel, Gerhard H.	Reinhart, Robert B.
Friesen, Gerhard A.	Rice, Clarence E.	Shaner, Harry N.
Friesen, Gerhard G.	Roberts, Ellis Roland	Sheen, Isaac K.
Friesen, Jacob H.	Roemmich, Erwin L.	Sloan, Wade
Friesen, Diedrick K.	Schoek, Johann	St. John, Jesse E.
Friesen, Frank K.	Schmidt, John D.	Thorne, Herman D.
Friesen, Heinrich K.	Snyder, John L.	Thomas, Gay W.
Franz, Gerhard G.	Weber, John M.	Thomure, Emanuel J.
Griess, Oscar J.		Walbrecht, Fred E.
Griess, Julius	<i>Hays</i>	Walbrecht, Willie C.
Harder, David P.	Anderson, Chester W.	Walbrecht, Lewis J.
Heinrichs, Peter J.	Anderson, Arthur S.	Walbrecht, Carl W.
Hiebert, Henry M.	Armstrong, Earl E.	Fredrick, William W.
Harder, Franz	Baker, Francis E.	Wolstenholm, Jesse J.
Harder, Peter P.	Baker, Elmer E.	Woods, William H.
Heinrichs, Johann	Baker, Ellis L.	Wullbrandt, Raymond F.
Hiebert, Dietrich K.	Bellows, Everett B.	
Harder, Cornelius	Brown, August	<i>McFadden</i>
Janzen, Jacob J.	Churchill, Charles M.	Arnett, James W.
Janzen, David D.	Collingham, Arthur E.	Barker, Lewis C.
Labart, Otis Conrad	Collingham, Walter E.	Brooke, Carl K.
Labart, Harry Evertt	Cudaback, Roy E.	Campbell, Vernon
Kliewer, Gerhard	Dyer, Perry R.	Cantrell, Alkana B.
Klippenstein, Gerhard J.	Epp, Gerhard M.	Cudaback, Harry W.
	Fassnacht, Harley R.	Cudaback, Clarence C.
	Fassnacht, Harry W.	Cudaback, Melvin O.

- Culbertson, David R.
 DeBoer, Con J.
 DeBoer, Ellsworth W.
 Dougherty, James E.
 Dreier, Ernest D.
 Dreier, Clarence H.
 Duffy, Miles
 Dudgeon, James W.
 Dyer, Charles B.
 Ems, Robert F.
 Gelvin, Glenn F.
 Graham, Dean W.
 Graham, Clinton L.
 Haack, Wilhelm C. T.
 Hagerman, William
 Halverson, Carl A. L.
 Hayworth, Thomas E.
 Henry, Frank S.
 Herbst, Henry J.
 Herbst, William G.
 Holoch, Roy J.
 Holoch, Jesse J.
 Jacobsen, Calvin J.
 Jacks, Ernest
 Jacks, Earl
 Kaliff, Rudolph L.
 Karre, Diedrich
 Klinzman, Louis L.
 Layton, Martin J.
 Lincoln, Emmett W.
 Lord, Robert F.
 Lutz, Fred P.
 Lutz, Henry C.
 Mathews, Richard J.
 Markworth, Edward A.
 Nelson, Niels H.
 Neville, John A.
 Neville, Frank J.
 Pence, Henry B.
 Pence, William C.
 Peterson, Edgar E.
 Philson, Raymond G.
 Prest, James R.
 Rearden, William B.
 Root, George F.
 Rogers, Charles W.
 Sanders, Clarence J.
 Schneider, Henry O.
 Seng, William L.
 Seng, Harry C.
 Seiver, Thomas W.
 Smith, Harry W.
 Smith, John O.
 Show, John V.
 Spahr, Cloid L.
 Stewart, Murdo
 Teinert, Henry
 Teinert, Harry W.
 Thomas, Roy V.
 Tolles, Burl R.
 Vennum, Frank E.
 Ward, Homer E.
 Ware, Ross M.
 White, Wilton A.
 Wildman, Ray Cecil
 Wiedman, Earl V.
 Wolstenholm, Richard E.
 Wolf, Harry L.
 Wullbrandt, Ralph R.
- West Blue*
- Adams, Rudolph C.
 Armstrong, Claude C.
 Bailey, Levi H.
 Bergin, William J.
 Brackhan, George A.
 Buey, Charles R.
 Connolly, Ernest W.
 Creech, Samuel C.
 Davenport, Clyde H.
 Due, Olaf
 Due, John
 Eden, John H.
 Einsenbarth, William A.
 Gillan, Henry A.
 Gillan, Olan E.
 Gilmore, Robert L.
 Hansen, Hans C.
 Hiner, Vertie L.
 Jackson, Robert S.
 Janes, Walter
 Janes, Vinton H.
 Jensen, Mattias P., Jr.
 Jensen, Walter F.
 Johnson, Hans P.
 Johnson, Walter J.
 Kail, Ira Melville
 Reetz, Fred W.
 Kennedy, Edward J.
 Keohn, Leo Robert
 Keohn, William F.
 Kleinschradt, Jerome C.
 Kramer, Albert C.
 Kruse, Herman H.
 Lambert, Raymond H.
 Lawyer, Archie D.
 Lovelace, William M.
 Mason, Anton
 Masters, Orlo E.
 Nelson, Peter
 Nixon, Fred R.
 Noler, George W.
 Obermier, Henry A.
 Paulson, Niels C.
 Peterson, Alfred P.
 Petersen, Andrew
 Petersen, Henry
 Peterson, Jens S.
 Petersen, Julian A.
 Petersen, Martin F.
 Petersen, Peter
 Petersen, Walter L.
 Pieper, Adolph H.
 Rasmussen, Axel
 Ruhl, Herbert E.
 Smith, Jake, Jr.
 Spray, Elmer L.
 Stammers, Claude L.
 Sullivan, William J.
 Taylor, Guy W.
 Thomsen, Anton E.
 Thomsen, Christian A.
 Thomsen, Martin T.
 Uffelman, Ernest E.
 Wholstenholm, Felix
 Wiess, William J. O.
 Wilger, Henry
 Witkoski, John

RED CROSS DRIVE

In the middle of June the Boy Scouts started out and "tagged" every door in York with notices that patriotic women were coming to canvass for Red Cross subscriptions and memberships. And equally bright and early Monday morning, June 18th, the patriotic women started out in squads, platoons and divisions. Each woman had her particular territory, and for the sake of convenience, as well as for the confidence that comes from numbers, two or three women went together. They were cordially received everywhere. Not only were they cordially received, but they were handed out the dollars in a continuous stream. The pledges taken were gratifyingly large, and only now and then did the solicitors meet with refusals. Of course they were courteously received everywhere. That was a foregone conclusion. And, of course, not everybody contributed. Not everybody could contribute. But some who could easily give dollars only gave cents, and some who were amply able to give largely gave nothing but excuses. But everybody knows who they are. They were seen again, and again, and again.

The following is a list of the ladies working in the field, the first lady mentioned in each team being the captain:

No. 1—Mrs. John Lloyd, Mrs. Jordan, Mrs. Clarence Myers, Mrs. Oden Gilmore, Hulda Herzogg.

No. 2—Mrs. Irl V. Reed, Mrs. Frank Moyer, Mrs. E. A. Wells, Mrs. J. H. Chain.

No. 3—Mrs. S. E. Mansfield, Mrs. J. R. McCloud, Mrs. A. M. White, Miss C. Apgar, Mrs. C. D. Shreck.

No. 4—Mrs. Bearss, Mrs. Gundlach, Mrs. John Black, Miss Helen Little.

No. 5—Mrs. G. W. Lundgren, Mrs. Peterson, Mrs. Huesner, Mrs. Owen.

No. 6—Mrs. H. C. Graves, Mrs. Pettis, Mrs. Babbitt, Miss Cox.

No. 7—Mrs. I. F. Cross, Mrs. A. H. Drier, Mrs. C. A. Davis, Miss Marjorie Wyckoff.

No. 8—Mrs. Moorhouse, Mrs. Burnard, Mrs. H. D. Hall, Mrs. Nall.

No. 9—Mrs. Requarte, Lucile Bell.

No. 10—Mrs. C. D. Pritchard, Miss Ruth Wood, Miss Bremmaman, Mrs. Palmer.

No. 11—Mrs. Edward White, Miss Parks, Mrs. Harvey, Miss Emily Cox.

No. 12—Mrs. Newhold, Mrs. Jake Smith, Mrs. R. M. Bell, Mrs. Deremer.

No. 13—Miss Gladys Valentine, Mrs. Harmon, Gladys Morgan.

No. 14—Mrs. C. F. Gilbert, Mrs. Idalette Woods, Mrs. R. S. Carscadden, Mrs. Lita Ericson.

No. 15—Mrs. G. W. France, Mrs. Klopp, Mrs. Mansfield Hervey.

No. 16—Mrs. Steeley.

No. 17—Florence Baldwin, Pauline Powers, Marion Copsey, Ruth Copsey, Lucille Green, Helen Overstreet, Frances Miller, Pauline Green.

No. 18—Mrs. F. A. Hannis, Gertrude Smith, Bess Green, Geraldine Grippen.

No. 19—Mrs. Hiram Detrick, Mrs. Oscar Peterson, Mrs. Chilcote.

No. 20—Miss Augusta Ittner, Mrs. Van Wickle, Mrs. W. F. Eckles, Miss Lola Sorrick.

The drive ended the following Saturday, with approximately twenty-five hundred members enrolled in the county, but the committee did not stop at that point but went right ahead toward the goal of securing a thousand or fifteen hundred more.

Another big effort was made to expand the work of the Red Cross and further its membership enrollment at the wonderful Fourth of July celebration, upon the tour advertising the great celebration held in York that year. The claims of the Red Cross on that occasion shared the attention of the joyful crowd with a plea of Major Holdeman and others for more enlistments in the pride of York in Company M of the Fourth Nebraska Infantry.

YORK COUNTY'S 1917 FOURTH OF JULY

The flowery and enthusiastic account of this wonderful day prepared by Hon. Will M. Maupin, at that time editor of the York Democrat, and his celebrated "Personality Notes," while somewhat lengthy, will serve a triple purpose of, first, preserving a perhaps slightly enthusiastic record of the memorable occasion written while the memory of its enjoyable pleasures were still warm; second, reflecting somewhat the vivid feeling aroused even so early in the war period, and, third, preserving for future references or understanding some of the personalities of the local conditions and current customs of the latter part of the first decade of the Twentieth Century.

They came from scattered places all with glad smiles on their faces,
 From Seward and Aurora, and from Gresham and from Polk.
 They came to York pell-melling, their glad tones the chorus swelling,
 To celebrate our freedom from a tyrant's galling yoke.
 They came with colors flying, came with hope and faith undying,
 From Henderson and Waco, from McCool and Lushton, too.
 They came to York a-swariming, hearts with love of country warning,
 And their songs of glad rejoicing pierced the vaulted dome of blue.
 They came in autos humming, and behind the hoofbeats drumming,
 From Bradshaw and from Thayer, and from Benedict and Friend.
 Father, mother, kids and cousins, crowing babies by the dozens,
 Hiked to York for celebration, and their joys with ours to blend.
 They came from farm and city, stalwart men and women pretty,
 From Stromsburg and from Giltner, and from Hampton and Marquette.
 They came by thousands singing, every voice with fervor ringing,
 And we folk in York were happy to receive 'em all, you bet!

Something less than twenty years ago a famous Nebraskan made the direful prediction that if a certain thing happened we would cease celebrating the Fourth of July in this Republic. The thing happened in spite of his warning and his doleful and direful prediction.

And on July 4, 1917, we celebrated the greatest Independence Day in the history of the Republic!

Why the greatest? Because it was the natal day of a republic to which the whole civilized world is looking for final emancipation from autocracy and the inauguration of a world-wide peace that shall never again be broken by ambition-mad monarchs. Talk about Fourth of July celebrations—it was the biggest ever. It was celebrated from Portland, Maine, to Portland, Oregon; from Hudson's Bay to Porto Rico. More than that—it was celebrated in France and Great Britain and

Italy; in the islands of the sea, the steppes of Russia and Siberia, and everywhere on the face of this earth where men yearn for liberty and hope to see the final dethronement of all hereditary rulers.

There never has been such a day in all this old world's history as July 4, 1917.

Did we celebrate it in York? We did, and we were assisted by 20,000 friends and neighbors who came in from sister cities within a radius of fifty miles and more. They came in autos, in buggies, on motorbikes and horseback. They came by train and on foot. They came in squads, in companies, in battalions, in regiments and in divisions. York, which has entertained some crowds in her time, never entertained one so big nor entertained one so well as on Wednesday of last week. Men who made it a point to investigate closely estimate that there were not less than 2,500 automobiles parked inside of the city limits. And men who are accustomed to estimating multitudes declare that there were not less than 18,000 or 20,000 people on the streets, in the parks and on the lawns. From early morning until late at night the streets were congested. The courthouse square was packed like a box of sardines, and to go against the human tide on the sidewalks was like breasting Niagara.

A finer day could not have been made to order. A light shower the night before laid the dust, and the morning of the great day dawned bright and clear. There was scarcely a cloud in the sky, and a light breeze brought coolness in its wake. The roads were in excellent condition for travel, and as all of them led to York on that day each one looked as if it were accommodating a parade, so closely did the autos follow one another.

York was all "dolled up" to receive her visitors, too. The courthouse was decorated with strings of flags and looked as pretty as a spotted dog under a red wagon. The electroliers were decked with flags, and the down town street intersections were ornamented with criss-cross streamers aglow with the national colors. Business houses hung out the welcome sign, and if there was anything left undone that might have added to the comfort of the visitors no one seemed to notice it. Refreshment stands everywhere provided food and drink for the multitudes, and the "traffic squad" kept the autos moving, although at times they threatened to get so tangled up that a derrick would be required to move them. And the glory of it all is that there was not a single accident to mar the day. A few blistered fingers and some singed hair, perhaps, but nothing of any moment. There was not a single arrest, not a single brawl, not a single "drunk and disorderly." The program announced was carried out without a hitch, all the way from the great parade in the morning to the grand display of fireworks at night.

The parade in York on July Fourth was fully three miles long, and it took just one hour for it to pass. York has had some mighty fine parades in the days gone by, but never such a one as that which passed last Wednesday week. It eclipsed all former efforts by a wide margin, and it is safe to say that nothing handsomer or more ambitious was ever accomplished in this great state. Practically every business firm in the city was represented, as was every Sunday school, a number of fraternal and church organizations, the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A., and many citizens as individuals. The veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic were given the post of honor at the head of the long procession, and the finest automobiles in the city were placed at their disposal. And why not? It would have been a slim Fourth of July for us to celebrate had it not been for the brave services

they rendered a half-century ago. Every veteran was supplied with a flag, and these flags were constantly waved in recognition of the salutes given to the veterans as they passed by.

The historical floats were splendid examples of original designing and workmanship, and the "comics" were really funny. Uncle Rastus and Aunt Dinah, aboard a regular old southern two-wheeler and behind a genuine Dixie mule, created a lot of laughter. John Chinaman, pigtail and all, carrying a basket of laundry, and Charley Chaplin with his funny hat and funnier feet, and his dinkey little mustache, got a laugh all along the line. "York County or Bust" was typical of the old days when the prairie schooner set sail for the sundown side of the Big Muddy, and "The Spirit of '76" won applause all along the route of the parade.

The York band led the parade, followed by the "Liberty" float, which was greeted with cheers. Then followed the mayor and city council in autos, acting as an escort of honor to the G. A. R., the local post being given the honor place. Behind the veterans of the Civil war came Company M, sixty strong and making a fine appearance. After Company M came the Spanish-American war veterans, and then men dressed in the uniforms of the Allies. "Nebraska" was the float that wound up the first section of the parade. The second section was headed by the Lushton band and was composed of civic and religious society floats and the autos and floats of the Red Cross organization. The float in this section that won the greatest attention was the Red Cross float showing a wounded soldier, all bandaged up and reclining on a cot, while sweet-faced Red Cross nurses hovered over him. A lot of young men expressed a willingness to be ministered to in the same way under similar conditions, but to date only a few of them have manifested a willingness to get into the game in earnest. Most of those who have manifested such a willingness are now enrolled in Company M or in the navy. The Benedict band led the third section, which was made up of industrial floats in the main. Many of these floats were of superior designing and workmanship, and some of them were real works of art.

The Middlebrook store was represented by an auto covered with white flowers, with a curving canopy top and the name "Middlebrook" appearing in red flowers upon the side.

The Read Dry Goods Co. float was a magnificently decorated auto, the color scheme being white throughout.

The C. C. Cobb Co. float was a handsomely decorated platform upon which rode several handsomely gowned young women who added much to the attractiveness of the float.

The Public Service Co. had a regular old submarine in the line—periscope, rapid-fire rifle and all. It sent a thrill through the spectators as it sailed slowly by, the rifle stuttering like a bashful boy at a tatty pull.

W. G. Boyer was represented by a Red Cross nurse piloting a baby buggy pulled by a bevy of pretty little girls.

Ed McMullen's float was of original design, being a huge padlock decorated with all sorts of tools and hardware. This float received a lot of favorable comment because of its originality.

Jeff B. Foster was in line with a gaily decorated motor truck bearing a load of the justly celebrated "Queen Quality Flour" that Jeff loves to sell.

The Grosshans Lumber Co. had a float that was typical of the business represented, and it was very attractive.

The Rademacher Furniture Co.'s float was all in white with waving plumes, and showed two or three charming young women taking their ease in the comfortable chairs handled by this enterprising firm.

The Avery Truck was well represented and its merits dilated upon in signs hitched to it in every conceivable place.

E. B. Woods Co. had a float in the line that conveyed a message of welcome and good cheer.

Johnson's Art Store didn't have a float; it had a strikingly original way of representing itself, and pretty girls acted the part. This attraction won a lot of applause and many compliments.

The Rogers Shoe Co. had a big white shoe surmounted by a smiling little chap who seemed to be enjoying his ride in a novel vehicle.

The German-American Bank had a handsomely decorated auto in the line, and placards announced the superior facilities of this financial institution.

F. A. Hannis' contribution to the parade was not large, but what it lacked in that respect it made up in novelty, and it proved to be very attractive.

The York Foundry Co. came along with a handsomely decorated Hudson auto, and placards told of this car's superior merits.

George Nelson's float was covered with pennants and placards telling the people that George sells superior brands of cigars and tobaccos at wholesale.

The new Meridan garage had a decorated Auburn car in the line, and took pleasure in calling attention to the new garage just opened.

The York Tire & Repair Co. had a little old car in line that had already traveled something like 'steen thousand miles and announced as "still rarin' to go." It was a novel little stunt.

The Rystrom Implement Co. had a well designed exhibit in the line and attracted much favorable attention.

Bradwell was represented by a beautifully decorated auto that carried out a well-defined color scheme, and the whole topped off with a huge American flag.

The Lincoln Telephone Co.'s float showed the advances made in the telephone business during recent years, and many bits of apparatus were shown.

Foster the Dry Cleaner put his delivery truck into the line, and had it all dolled up to fit the occasion.

T. A. Blackburn's float was an ambitious creation and was deserving of the compliments it received all along the line of march.

J. C. Myers, showing a decorated Reo car, and Wythers & Ball, showing decorated cars of their handling, were in line.

The Day and Night Garage contributed handsomely to the good looks of the parade by putting in a handsomely decorated Chandler and another car or two equally well decorated. This enterprising institution showed a lot of "pep" in the preparation of the exhibit.

The Felton Drug Co.'s decorated auto testified to the merits of Roxall remedies and called attention to the coolness and the refreshing qualities of the product of the Felton fountain.

S. E. Mansfield put a decorated auto into the line, and it showed up handsomely.

The Clarke Lumber & Coal Co. had a decorated float showing up its business.

W. F. Rankin & Son decorated a float in fine shape and put it in the line to emphasize the fact that it is still selling farm machinery.

The York Blank Book Co., one of the big employing institutions of the city, had a handsome float in line, and it was in keeping with the big institution it represented.

Behling's were "Johnny on the spot" with a neat float.

York College is always up and coming when anything civic is pulled off, so it put a beautiful float in line and deserved all the compliments that were showered thereon.

The York Floral Co., Wilken's cleaning works, the Jerome Drug Co., and A. C. Snyder were also well represented. The Van Wickle Grain Co. also had a float in line.

The First National Bank was well represented by a float of original design, and held up its end of the game in good shape.

York's new hotel was advertised in proper fashion, and the news the banners told was greeted with loud and vociferous applause.

As no prizes were offered for the handsomest or most original floats there were no judges and no decisions. But the Democrat opines that especial mention should be made of the floats representing Middlebrooks, the Cobb Co., the Read Dry Goods Co., Rademacher's, McMullen, German-American Bank, the Johnson Art Store display. But each one in line was a good one, and every one reflected credit upon the designer and upon the enterprise of the firm represented.

The Darktown Fire Department, the Sight Seeing Car, and the athletic stunts of the Y. M. C. A. boys added a lot of zip to a parade that was all to the merry.

The first big event of the day after the parade was the ball game at East Hill Park between a picked team from Company M and the Lushton ball tossers. Thirty-five hundred people saw the game and most of them "pulled" for the soldiers. But Lushton was too strong and won the short game by a score of nine to two.

At 4 o'clock the dead game sports and sportesses to the number of nearly a thousand gathered at Athletic Park to see a boxing match and a wrestling match. The boxing match was between George Brewer of York and "Battling" Coffey of Kansas City. Brewer's complexion would make a piece of charcoal look gray, and Coffey's complexion was about as yellow as the streak he displayed in the ring. It was to be a four-round go, but something happened. As a boxing match it was about as full of thrills as near beer is full of "kick." Coffey had about as much "punch" as grape juice, and Brewer used his feet and legs a great deal more than he did his arms and mitts. Coffey was outclassed by a wide margin, and in the middle of the third round he was counted out on a blow to the chin that might possibly have torn a hole in a tissue paper hoop. Jim Fleming officiated as referee to the satisfaction of everybody.

The wrestling match between Pesek of Shelton and Reif of Kansas was a whirlwind. It didn't last long, but it had the spectators up on their toes all the time. There wasn't any of the usual "stalling" in this match. The contestants were out to win, and win in the shortest possible time. They went at it hammer and tongs the minute Referee Cy Sherman of Lincoln gave the word to go. Pesek won two straight falls, the first in 5:20 with a toehold and the second in 9:15 with a head scissors and wristlock. Dennis Meehan, who knows the record of every wrestler

and boxer from the days of the set-to between Cain and Abel down to day before yesterday, made the announcements, and the bands played merrily in between.

A few less than a million people foregathered in Ellis' pasture at 9 o'clock in the evening to see the fireworks display. All the autos in the world, it seemed like, were parked around the eighty-acre tract. The display was all that it was advertised to be, and therefore fully up to the expectations of a multitude that expected a whole lot. There was not a single "bobble" in the whole business. A couple of tableaux were staged during the display, and while the band played "America" and "The Star-Spangled Banner" the multitude arose and cheered.

And that finished the program of the day. But the people seemed loath to leave the city, and until midnight the firecrackers kept popping, the people kept buying pop and ice cream and "hot dogs," and the heavens were alight with skyrockets and roman candles.

The celebration was staged under the auspices of the York County Commercial Club, with Frank Borden as the chairman of the committee. And right here and now the Democrat doffs its chapeau to Colonel Borden and hails him as the best Fourth of July go-getter between the two oceans. And to each and every one of his aides the chapeau is doffed likewise.

Celebration Notes

The Red Cross workers let no man escape. They started in with the rising sun and remained on the job until the streets were deserted. Red Cross buttons were as common as sandfleas in California before the day was done.

Col. Charley McCloud took a couple of the Red Cross women in tow about 2:30 in the afternoon and corralled every man who went by. He made sixty of them drop a dollar in the box inside of thirty minutes, and had more fun than a box of monkeys while doing it.

A lot of people who were wise had a lot of fun watching people trying to slake their thirst at the sanitary fountain on the Felton corner. Despite the complaint made in the Democrat this fountain was not repaired and those who tried to get a drink there received an involuntary shower bath.

"Bob" Bullock on his Eiffel tower bike attracted a lot of favorable attention.

For refusing to countenance a street carnival on the big day the Commercial Club has the thanks of all good citizens. The addition of one of those immoral carnivals would have detracted from the real enjoyment of the day.

The traffic squad had its hands full every minute of the time, but managed to keep things moving and prevented any accidents.

Speaking of sinecures, the special policemen had 'em all day. All they had to do was walk around and see the sights just like the rest of us. There was not a single arrest during the day, not even for speeding.

The "Rube Band" made a big hit all along the line of march. Its music was as bad as the individual make-up was good.

Three bands kept the air full of music all day, and it was mighty good music, too.

Col. Art Thompson officiated as grand marshal of the day, and he rode his prancing charger like a cavalryman of the old school.

Mayor Tom Smith was the proudest man in forty-eight states on the Glorious Fourth. And why not? Isn't he mayor of the best little city in the country? And didn't his city pull off the biggest celebration in the West?

"Cy" Sherman, sports editor of the Lincoln Daily Star, who refereed the wrestling match, is one of York's most enthusiastic boosters. "You've got the best little city of its size I ever visited," said Colonel Sherman. "It's got cities of five times its population backed off the map for energy and civic pride. It is always a pleasure to me to come here, for I not only meet a lot of good fellows but I know that I am in a city that does things worth while."

The crowds were too busy to pause long enough to even listen to such spellbinders as Judge Wray, Postmaster Gilbert, Senator Sandall, and other orators who were thus forced to keep bottled up the thrilling and soul-stirring speeches they had prepared to deliver in aid of the Red Cross. But the buttons sold just as well, anyhow—perhaps better.

The street commissioner deserves praise for the good work of his department in getting the streets cleaned up after the celebration was over. By noon the next day the streets were in as good shape as they were the day before. And it took a lot of work to accomplish this result.

The fire whistle blew just as the crowd was leaving the fireworks display. The department made a record run, but did not have to do any work. But the run afforded a lot of entertainment for the people.

The sandwich and soft drink stands drove a rushing business all day long. The Boy Scout stand was especially well patronized.

Cols. Leland Lewellan and Raymond Abbott of Lincoln had important business to transact in York on July 4.

The merry-go-round and the Ferris wheel were liberally patronized until late at night.

More than \$1,500,000 worth of automobiles were parked inside of York's corporation limits during the day.

Without exception the local dealers in fireworks observed the ordinance against selling the deadly dynamite crackers, and as a result no fingers were blown off during the day. And at that there was noise aplenty.

Waco sent up a big delegation of Red Cross girls, every one of them as handsome as could be and all of them enthusiastic workers in the cause.

A Credit to Benedict—Band of That City Makes Decided Hit with York People

One of the most pleasing features of York's successful celebration of Independence day was the music rendered by the band from the neighboring little city of Benedict. It is only now and then that a town of the size of Benedict comes to the front with a band of that size and ability, and when such happens it is an evidence of civic enterprise, community spirit and musical atmosphere. The Benedict Band of twenty-one pieces, under the direction of George McCall of this city, rendered splendid music in York on July 4th, and contributed immensely to the enjoyment of the day.

Mr. McCall took the Benedict band in charge about a year ago, when it seemed as if that organization was about to disband for lack of leadership. He interested the young men, interested the people, and as a result Benedict can now point with pride to a concert band that would reflect credit upon a city many times larger than York's enterprising little neighbor on the north. York people will look forward with pleasure to another entertainment by this capable organization.

THE FIRST DRAWING

After York County's sons registered on June 5th, the next step in the selection of those who should be called into actual military service was undertaken by assigning to each registrant a number, proceeding serially from one upwards, the series being separate and independent for each local board area in the country. Thus each registrant in York County could be identified by citing his York County local board number and his York County serial number. The local board, by which name the Selective Service Board for the county has been commonly designated, proceeded to number the cards with red ink numbers, consecutively, without regard to alphabetical arrangement. Five lists were then prepared, one retained for the records of the local board, one copy posted in a conspicuous place in the courthouse, one copy given out for publication by the press, and the two remaining copies furnished to the state authorities at Lincoln and the office of the provost marshal general at Washington.

In order then to designate with the utmost impartiality the sequence in which the registrants qualified for military service should be called as needed, a single national drawing was held on July 20, 1917, for those who had registered on June 5th.

While it was held in Washington, D. C., this national drawing was a notable event in the history of the lives of so many York County citizens, that it becomes an incident in the history of York County.

Room No. 226, the public hearing room of the United States Senate Office Building, was the scene of the first drawing, ten thousand five hundred numbers were drawn, the first capsule being taken from the glass bowl at 9:30 A. M., Friday, July 20, and the last at 2:16 A. M., Saturday, July 21, 1917; elapsed time, 16 hours 46 minutes, during which time the numbers were telegraphed and bulletined all over the country.

The first few numbers drawn were:

1. Newton D. Baker, the secretary of war, 258.
2. George E. Chamberlain, senator from Oregon, chairman, Committee on Military Affairs, 2,522.
3. S. Hubert Dent, Jr., representative from Alabama, chairman, House Committee on Military Affairs, 9,613.
4. Francis E. Warren, senator from Wyoming, 4,532.
5. Julius Kahn, representative from California, 10,218.
6. Tasker H. Bliss, major general, chief of staff, U. S. Army, 458.
7. Enoch H. Crowder, provost marshal general, U. S. Army, 3,103.
8. Henry P. McCain, adjutant general, U. S. Army, 10,015.

The first few numbers that affected York County were:

258	Sparling, Clifford E.	945	Epp, Cornelius C.
458	Harrison, Alvin George	596	Naber, Hugo Henry
1,436	Busk, Edwin Axel	1,267	McCarty, Fred Paul
854	Gray, Archie	536	Samson, Charles
1,095	Kaliff, Rudolph L.	1,495	Rogers, Joseph F.
1,455	Flint, John Brown	548	Aringdale, Grover
783	Tucker, William Roy	126	Gaskill, George Earl
1,117	Schneider, Henry O.	1,237	Gale, Robert G.

1,572	Rosenlof, Carl A.	784	Thomas, Frank S.
837	Williams, Orvis	755	Klone, Walter W.
337	Wilkins, Floyd C.	107	Zersen, Gilbert Henry
676	Krous, John	1,546	Henning, Edward H.
275	Bills, Joseph J. R.	1,563	Miller, Olag Nels
509	Haas, Harlow Clinton	1,369	Lankin, Wesley Bacon
1,185	Petersen, Julian A.	616	Stewart, William J.
564	Fischer, Albert John		

EARLY ENLISTMENTS

During the early summer of 1917 numerous York County boys and men began to leave their respective stations for posts of duty and enlist even before the call of the selective service reached them.

Among the very early recruits in this spirit were: Ora Devore, son of Mrs. J. H. Devore, who left for the navy, and Frank Peck, another York County boy, who went through the hospital corps, returning in May. J. H. Wilson, for a long time the superintendent of Odd Fellows' Home in York, resigned his position, left for Fort Snelling for the first officers' training camp. Howard Bell was also another York County son to leave for this same camp. Chick Hannis went to the Navy early in June. Harold Requartte, son of H. F. Requartte, enlisted in the hospital corps in July.

LATE SUMMER AND EARLY FALL OF 1917

York County's first gold star came with the death of Sergeant Leo of Company M, Fourth Nebraska Infantry, in camp at Grand Island, in July. It was reported first that Sergeant Leo had died of ptomaine poisoning, and that other members of the company were dangerously ill. Immediately strange and alarming rumors were set afloat. Investigation by the military authorities, however, revealed that Sergeant Leo had died of a cerebral hemorrhage and that there were no traces whatever of poison. No other members of the company were sick.

Sergeant Leo enlisted in Company M from Merna, Nebraska, and was well liked by his comrades because of his soldierly qualities and his unfailing good humor. The remains were taken to Merna for interment.

A mighty fine bunch of young men left York early in August bound for Fort Crook to join Company M, Fourth Nebraska. These young men found their numbers well towards the top in the draft drawing, and just to show that they had neither fear nor hard feelings, they beat the draft board to it by enlisting. Following are the names of these loyal young recruits: Leonard W. Herrold, Benedict; Andrew J. Eberle, York; Cecil G. Thorpe, Waco; Edwin L. Humphrey, Bradshaw; Victor F. Pickrel, Bradshaw; William J. Bergen, McCool; Adolph Kreshel, Tobias; Allen E. Fay, Bradshaw; George W. Dickerson, Bradshaw; Blaine Grover, McCool; William R. Courtwright, York; Leo V. Jacks, York; James A. Blackman, Gresham; Frank A. Schall, Waco; Henry I. Brown, Vermont, Ill., and Virgil L. Shadel, York.

Some idea of the magnitude of the task thrown upon the shoulders of each county's selective service board, which consisted of the sheriff, the county clerk and one chosen member of the county's medical profession, is gained by the following account published in August, 1917, of the progress of the physical examinations made in York County to supply the first call made upon the county.

"Physical examination under the draft for the purpose of securing 129 soldiers from York County began at the courthouse last Monday morning. Under the direction of Doctor McKinley, assisted by Doctor King, an average of about fifty men a day have been physically examined. The board proper consists of Sheriff Miller, County Clerk Beck, and Doctor McKinley. Nearly fifty per cent of those examined are disqualified for physical reasons, and the claims of exemption are running well above that figure. Some of the dependency claims are far fetched, and the closest examination will be given all claims.

"It is now quite certain that the second call for 245 men will be pretty well exhausted before the required 129 men are secured. All claims for exemption on occupational grounds will have to be submitted to the district board, and appeal lies from exemption allowances. If appeal on dependency grounds is denied, then the man so denied has the right of appeal to the district board. Also, if anyone believes that an exemption has been wrongfully allowed, the one so aggrieved may appeal. It is a common expression that the County Council of Defense should be represented when exemptions are allowed on claims of dependency and see to it that all such claims are well founded."

The York County Woman's Committee of the National Council of Defense was organized in August, 1917, and did valiant service in the different lines suggested by the names of the following committees, which are given here with the names of the ladies who acted as chairmen in the City of York:

Registration, Mrs. C. A. McCloud; Food Conservation, Mrs. Elton Mead; Child Welfare, Mrs. Hanna; Safeguarding Moral and Spiritual Forces, Mrs. Wasser; Home and Foreign Relief (Red Cross), Mrs. Jennie Stephens; Naturalization, Mrs. Wade Read; Publicity, Miss Grace Moore, Miss Phila Sedgwick, Mrs. Welch.

The registration under this plan had been taken by the women before the end of September, showing the following by townships: Stewart, 114; Thayer, 46; Morton, 111; Arborville, 35; Bradshaw, 70; Lockridge, 22; New York, 47; Waco, 99; Beaver, 14; Leroy, 13; Baker, 55; Brown, 5; Henderson (A), 36; Henderson (B), 12; Hays, 54; McFadden, 67; West Blue, 68—total, 859; York, First Ward, 200; York, Second Ward, 136; York, Third Ward, 96; York, Fourth Ward, 158—total, 590; sum total, 1,449.

THE CONTINGENT STARTED

Six men were York County's first contribution under the selective conscription act. The county board selected the following: Carl W. Helms, Ralph I. Hoatson, Andrew Kline, Dan Berger, James S. Barbee, Benne F. Barbee. This was five per cent of York's quota. These six young men left York at 1:54 P. M., Thursday, September 6th.

York's second draft contingent started off to training camp Saturday morning, September 14th. Fifty-two stalwart young men, good samples of the Nebraska spirit, answered "Here" when the roll was called, and fifty-two earnest young men waved their hands and cheered in response to the cheers of relatives and friends as the long train moved away from the depot. Those called for this contingent were: Archie Gray, Henry O. Schneider, John Krous, Fred Paul McCarty, George Earl Gaskill, William James Stewart, Louis Augustus Schlechte, Ray Elsie Anderson, Floyd L. Hudson, Alkana Ben Cantrell, Harry G. White, August Brown, Fred Rus-

sell Nixon, Earl Lee Stratton, Will Harry Moody, Fred Duberstine, William E. Summers, Walter E. Shofroth, Harry D. Hawley, Vale L. Fox, Robert E. Mayland, Johann Heinrichs, James C. Meglemre, David A. Watson, Lewis H. Archer, Henry Beyer, Robert J. Campbell, Hans Chris Lautsen, Verle E. Hedrick, John T. Magnuson, Louis M. Price, Chester L. Johnson, Charles Fay Tharp, Ruie T. Watson, Leslie Clem Austine, Buchard H. Wiemer, Herbert E. Hulse, Lemuel R. Wilcox, John C. Siebert, Andrew Kline, Roy Edward Carlisle, James Gobboney Stewart, Henry J. D. Ticken, Eskil F. Hanson, Arthur John Johnson, William D. De Voss, Fred Henry Goche, Charles Francis Sherwood, Jesse Edward Welch, Harry Leo Crouse, Miller Evan Edgar, Harry Foreman.

The third contingent left for camp Funston on October 6th and were given a rousing farewell by the citizens of York.

LIBERTY BOND DRIVES

The first Liberty Bond Drive was met in York County, as in practically every other county, by the banks taking virtually the entire subscription, and in some cases parceling part of it out to their larger customers who wished to help. By the time the second drive came plans were made to allow the entire community to take part. In October explanatory plans in this matter were launched when ex-Senator Burkett made a rousing patriotic speech at the courthouse as a preliminary to the general hustle, and he put the "pep" into them in fine shape. The bankers held a meeting the evening preceding and arranged for their share of the big drive. The next Sunday had been designated as a day of prayer by President Wilson, and the Christian men and women of the nation prayed for the success of our soldiers and sailors who were fighting the big battle for the preservation of democracy. The churches of York observed the day with appropriate exercises. York County's quota in the second Liberty Loan was \$519,000, and the banks immediately took \$300,000 of this at their own risk in disposing of that part they could not very well handle themselves.

LATE FALL AND EARLY WINTER OF 1917

Late in October as an auxiliary effort to the work of the County Council of Defense, local bureaus were established to assist the farmers in securing corn huskers in the uniform rates that had been established by the local and state councils of defense. This work in the various communities was in charge of the following men: York, George W. Shreck; Henderson, L. R. Misner; Waco, S. A. May; McCool Junction, J. E. Finney.

In November Floyd Hudson, another of the soldier boys from York County, died at Camp Funston, pneumonia being the cause of death. His wife and father were with him at the last. His mother expected him home on sick leave and hurried from church Sunday morning to get ready for him. Instead of seeing her boy she was met by a telegram announcing his death.

Young Hudson, although married, claimed no exemptions, and when Uncle Sam called him he answered with a cheerful "Here." Quietly and patriotically he performed his duty to his country. It was not given to him to sail to "somewhere in France" and engage his country's enemies face to face. For him there was no glory and dash of the battle line, no shouting and tumult as the charge swept on.

But Floyd Hudson, soldier of the Republic, doing his duty where his lot was cast, is entitled to the thanks of the country he served, and dying in the ranks the honors of the soldier dead are his.

The following poetical tribute to the first three American lads to make the supreme sacrifice on foreign soil, penned by a man then a citizen of York County, is inserted at this point as being worthy of preservation.

ENRIGHT, GRESHAM AND HAY

'Neath the lilies of France, where the Stripes and Stars
 Gleam bright 'neath the wintry sky;
 Where each long, brown rank in the trenches dank
 Is ready to fight and die—
 They sleep the sleep of our soldier dead,
 But sleeping they live away.
 And a Nation gives them a laurel wreath—
 Enright, and Gresham, and Hay.

For they have come from a fighting race
 That ever shall dare and do
 When the Old Flag's call to her brave boys all
 Is answered with hearts so true.
 And so they answered to Freedom's plea;
 "We are coming, Old Flag," said they.
 So over the waves to their hero graves—
 Enright, and Gresham, and Hay.

They have given all for their God and Right;
 For us they have paid the price.
 And a Nation's love is their treasure trove
 As reward for their sacrifice.
 As the long days come and the long nights go
 O'er the fields of a world-wide fray,
 The Old Flag waves o'er thy hallowed graves,
 Enright, and Gresham, and Hay.

Enright, and Gresham, and Hay; sleep on
 In the soil that thy blood has stained.
 Old Flag, wave on till the fight is won,
 And a world is for Freedom gained.
 When the trump shall sound that a war-cursed world
 Has won to the great Peace Day,
 Then the Allied Flags shall be dipped to you—
 Enright, Gresham, and Hay.

WILL M. MAUPIN.

Arthur Wolf, a resident of Ericson and formerly a student at York College, died at Camp Funston late in November. Monday morning, November 26th, memorial

services for the young soldier were held at the college chapel. The students of the business college attended in a body. The services were solemn and impressive. Young Wolf went to Camp Funston as a member of the Wheeler County contingent. The services held in his memory were a fitting tribute to his loyalty and his patriotism and were befitting to the young soldier of the Republic who died in the line of duty.

William Sullivan, a York county soldier boy assigned to Camp Cody, died at the camp hospital on December 17. The body was sent home and buried with appropriate ceremonies in the cemetery at Exeter.

William Sullivan enlisted from York County and at the time of his death was a member of Company G, 134th Infantry. Captain Henlon says he was a good soldier, well liked by his comrades and always ready for duty.

Sunday morning, January 6th, the Congregational Church organization hung out a service flag with thirteen stars, showing that thirteen young men of that congregation had joined the colors. The names of the thirteen young men were read as follows: Martin Ettel, Cloyde McKinley, Ernest Ettel, Wendell Froid, Edward Gould, Ora Devore, Arthur Bell, Allen Lamb, Charles Hannis, Harold Hade, Adolph Smaha, Floyd Richard, and Floyd Thompson.

THE QUESTIONNAIRES

Following the drawing on July 20th, the local selective board had proceeded during the summer and fall months to call in groups of registrants as their numbers were reached, give them a physical examination, and receive and determine upon their claims for exemption upon the various grounds designated. That method of calling all men as their numbers were reached and discharging or accepting rested upon the general assumption that a specific number of men were known to be needed for military service at a given time, and, therefore, enough registrants should be called by the county board in the sequence of their order numbers and selected according to the laws and regulations, until a number of qualified men has been obtained equal to the board's current quota, and the remainder discharged or exempted.

That was necessarily adopted for the early stage of the war, and proved effective for the purpose whether in all instances absolutely fair to all concerned or not. But experience was showing that it was wasteful, and would grow more ineffective as the quotas grew larger and speed became more necessary in meeting the quotas. So, late in the year of 1917 a new method was worked out by the authorities of the War Department. This became effective on December 15, 1917, at which time the first call for 687,000 men had been more than filled by local boards and a lull in the work presented the opportunity for changing the plan.

The essential change was this: First, that the physical examination followed, instead of preceding, the determination of the claim for discharge or exemption; second, the registrant was required to fill out a document that will always occupy a historical place in American life hereafter—the questionnaire.

The questionnaire was a document of some twenty pages, which included lists of questions that all registrants must fill out; others that needed only be answered when applicable to the particular case and essential to constitute the proof for filling a claim for discharge or exemption; and the whole document covered every

angle of the classification systems, for which it was the basis of information and proof.

LEGAL ADVISORY BOARD

The attorneys of York met with the legal advisory board in December and arrangements were made for handling the work incident to the making out of the questionnaires which were then being mailed to the registered men at regular intervals. The legal advisory board consisted of Judge Corcoran, Judge Spurlock, and Senator Sandall. There were twelve lawyers, besides these gentlemen, and two attorneys who sat with a member of the board each day to attend to the business as it was required.

Each registrant was required to make out his own statement unless he was unable to write. But the two assistants did what was permissible in giving advice and assistance subject to the rules as interpreted by the member of the legal advisory board and the provost marshal. They met in the juryroom or the District Court room at the courthouse regularly each day at 9 o'clock until the close of the specified time.

The assignments for the first six days were as follows: Monday, December 17th, Judge Corcoran, W. L. Kirkpatrick and O. S. Gilmore; Tuesday, December 18th, George M. Spurlock, H. G. Hopkins, and W. W. Wyckoff; Wednesday, December 19th, C. E. Sandall, E. A. Gilbert, J. W. Purinton; Thursday, December 20th, Judge Corcoran, J. E. Carlin, G. W. France; Friday, December 21st, George M. Spurlock, F. C. Power, Arthur W. Wray; Saturday, December 22d, C. E. Sandall, Charles F. Stroman, and M. M. Wildman.

WINTER DRIVES

The winter of 1917-18 witnessed drive after drive. First came the annual Christmas season, Red Cross Roll Call, which met a very liberal response. This was followed in January and February by the War Savings Stamp campaign, shortly after that came the relief drive for the Armenian funds. At a meeting held in York, attended by a Mr. Azim, the following relief committee was appointed to raise funds to send to the starving Armenians: C. A. McCloud, A. E. Mead, J. I. Moore, James B. Harvey, Professor Bissett, Judge Corcoran, Dennis Meehan, George Shreek, Senator Sandall, F. A. Hannis, Mesdames E. S. Clark, Will Kirkpatrick, Burnard, Robert Copsy, Overstreet, Behling. An advisory committee consisting of all the clergy in the county was also appointed.

THE HOME GUARDS

During the first months of 1918 a company of Home Guards was organized in York. This organization drilled regularly and prepared itself for service in emergencies. While such companies were never called away from home, an examination of their roster discloses the names of many men of middle age, successful in their respective lines, civilian life and oftentimes beyond the years of military service. The roster as recruited by the middle of March was as follows:

Capt. A. W. Thompson, First Lieut. James B. Harvey, Second Lieut. W. V.

MacCartney, First Sergt. Earl Williams, Quartermaster Sergt. Wade Read, Sergt. Bugler Tom Van Decar, Bugler Loyal Roggy.

Sergeants: William DeBord, E. J. Taylor, Charles Fisher, Dr. George Shidler, Mansfield Hervey, R. O. Allen.

Corporals: Fred Wilkins, E. A. Levitt, F. W. Schroeder, Dan Stevens, Dennis Meehan, Jr., Clark Pine.

Company: J. G. Alden, A. W. Ballenger, S. A. Anderson, A. E. Andrews, C. S. Byrnes, E. C. Bristol, J. P. Conway, J. P. Cunningham, Dan Chilcote, J. M. Meradith, Harold Myers, Guy Meradith, Grover May, L. V. Newman, J. B. McGinley, G. E. Nearing, C. C. Nelson, Emmet Osborne, M. L. Pembleton, C. E. Callender, J. H. Crane, O. J. Dudek, W. H. Davis, E. V. Ellis, S. M. Ellis, D. C. Freet, Clarence Foster, H. W. Freeman, Roy Foster, O. S. Gilmore, J. F. Gibbs, H. C. Harrett, E. Holoch, T. J. Hatfield, P. J. Hesler, Alex Haberman, S. F. Hanson, Charles Hildebrand, Martin Humphrey, Gus Hornyak. Al J. Jess, Floyd Kerwood, Edwin Miller, Floyd Mohring, F. L. Probst, James Poullas, J. R. Reed, H. P. Requarte, F. H. Rockwell, Russell Rogers, L. M. Sypher, Clarence Stevens, F. O. Sake, G. R. Stewart, Ralph H. Stone, John Schneider, Fred H. Vincent, C. H. Venholm, P. J. Van Vleet, G. W. Wallender, B. A. Wythers, Mils Wallerstedt, Vic Lundgren.

THIRD LIBERTY LOAN

The third Liberty Loan was inaugurated all over the United States on April 6th. A patriotic parade in York that day to celebrate the company's first anniversary of entrance to the war was taken as an opportunity to arouse interest in this drive. With a quota of \$509,400 for this drive by May 10th, York County had "gone over the top," the subscriptions being \$648,900 as announced by the county chairman, J. E. Hart.

FOURTH REGISTRATION

The fourth registration was held on September 12, 1918, when the citizens of York County between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one, thirty-one and forty-five, stepped up and filled out the registration cards.

The following named persons volunteered to serve as registrars and copyists for the registration at polling places in each township and ward in York County September 12, 1918:

Gresham—F. F. Cane, B. L. Hawley, T. C. Thomas, W. H. Diers.

Thayer—W. E. Prather, Rev. W. C. Brewer, C. M. Horsfall.

Benedict—William Hagemeister, D. W. Baker, L. F. Steinbach.

Arberville—T. S. Fisher, C. W. Flick, F. E. Merchant, E. M. Wood.

Bradshaw—J. B. Carlisle, C. B. Palmer, Jr., R. W. Finley, W. E. Stafford, Alva Lüniger.

Lockridge Town Hall—Fred Strobel, Herbert Otto, Arthur Otto.

Houston—Marion King, William Florer, T. H. Clifford, Homer Koons.

Waco—J. V. Brady, E. J. Kaltenborn, J. H. Fisher.

Beaver Town Hall—William Witte, Charles Purinton, Henry Pieper, Paul Geyser.

Leroy Town Hall—Joseph Neville, John DeBoer, Robert Thomas, Charles Propst.

Charleston—Peter Marik, E. O. Stone, Roy Weston.

Bergen School House—H. W. Hardy, J. W. Tracy, Chester Broehl.

Lushton—H. P. Dearing, Joy Payne.

Henderson—H. J. Kroeker, D. D. Wiens.

Hays Town Hall—F. M. Churchill, John Boren, Fred Barker, George Jenkins.

McCool Junction—A. R. McFadden, L. L. Slagel, R. F. Lord, R. M. Ware.

West Blue Town Hall—Ira Kail, Henry Gillan, John Schultz.

York, First Ward—Frank L. Propst, E. W. Williams, W. E. McCloud, E. H. Bemis, Alma Stoll.

York, Second Ward—H. G. Hopkins, J. B. Ettel, J. P. Guidinger, R. L. Brott, R. C. Stewart.

York, Third Ward—R. C. Stewart, C. A. Keefe, Charles Read, J. G. Alden.

York, Fourth Ward—E. B. Koon, E. C. Knight, De Witt Lee, O. J. Dudek, W. W. Buckley.

A REAL RECORD

Mr. and Mrs. Davis Thomas of York, Neb., prominent retired farmers, apparently held the state honors for the largest number of sons in Uncle Sam's service, according to the records compiled by Governor Keith Neville.

Six sons of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas responded to their country's call and were serving on the battlefields in Europe or training in American camps. Several other Nebraska families have reported five sons in the service, but none offer six, so far as the compiler of this work has learned.

Two of the Thomas boys accompanied the Fourth Nebraska Regiment south to Camp Cody and served in the 127th Field Artillery under Col. P. L. Hall, Jr., Lincoln. The Fourth was one of the first regiments called into service.

The Thomas boys and the places where they were serving in September, 1918, were: Sergeant Fred D. Thomas, 127th Field Artillery, Camp Cody; Corporal Edward S. Thomas, Headquarters Company, Forty-second Infantry, Dover, N. J.; Corporal Forest Thomas, Battery E, 127th Field Artillery, Camp Cody; Gordon C. Thomas, 103d Engineers, Infantry, Fort Benjamin, Indianapolis; George Homer Thomas, wagoner, medical department, Sixty-first Infantry, A. E. F.; Warren S. Thomas, called in July quota of draft from Nebraska.

FOURTH LIBERTY LOAN

The quota of York County for the fourth Liberty Loan was fixed at \$729,900, and Monday, October 7, 1918, was set as the day upon which the campaign would open. There was not an extensive canvass made for this loan, but the people were asked to come and to get their respective committees at their usual voting places on that day and make such subscriptions as they could.

SPRING AND SUMMER OF 1918

On Saturday, April 6th, a great parade was held to celebrate the first anniversary of York County's entrance upon the great war. The day's program was as follows:

The parade at 11 o'clock A. M.: Benedict Band; Goddess of Liberty; Uncle Sam; Abe Lincoln; Council of Defense; Liberty Loan Committee; City Council;

County Officials; Grand Army of the Republic; Woman's Relief Corps; all Red Cross units of the county; Home Guards; the Spirit of '76; Boy Scouts; Lushton Band; Junior Garden Unit; all school children of the county; 1:30 o'clock P. M., patriotic concert; 2 o'clock P. M., speaking by Mr. F. S. Howell, Omaha.

When on March 22, 1918, meetings were held simultaneously in every school-house in the State of Nebraska for the War Saving Stamp work, York County went "over the top" in that same day. Although her quota was \$390,000, something in the neighborhood of five hundred thousand dollars was subscribed that day.

The next drive that appeared was the mid-year Red Cross drive, beginning on May 20th. York County was assigned its quota of \$19,000.

In May, 1918, the labor bureau connected with the Commercial Club widened its scope of usefulness by making arrangements to operate the free employment agency in every town in the county in conjunction with the York office, and to carry on this extension work representatives and assistants were chosen as follows:

McCool, L. W. Williams; Benedict, W. B. McMullen; Waco, S. A. May; Thayer, Paul Mueller; Bradshaw, Frank Bedient; Lushton, H. P. Deering; Gresham, Herman Diers; Henderson, L. R. Meisner; Charleston, Peter Marik.

These gentlemen joined with President Shreck and Secretary Woodrum in the work of supplying help of all kinds to all who needed and in finding places for men in search of work.

The York high school, toward the end of the war, took great pride in its service flag of forty-nine members and the Alumni Association of the York high school who went into the service of their country. These stars represented the following alumni:

- 1892—Capt. Otis Newman.
- 1904—First Lieut. D. D. King.
- 1906—Wendell Froid, Capt. Dale McDonald, First Lieut. William Mead, Edward Wood.
- 1907—Charles Beard, Charles Lesh, Lieut. Albert May.
- 1908—First Lieut. Stewart Bell.
- 1909—First Lieut. Glen Whitcomb, Floyd Cox, Clarke Pine, Earl Wood.
- 1910—Charles Bradwell, Peter Meehan.
- 1911—First Lieut. Howard Bell, Dan Blood, Cloyd McKinley, Earl Warner, Earl Samuelson, Otto Zumquinkle, Willard Wiley.
- 1912—Hugh Mulvaney.
- 1913—First Lieut. Harold Miller, First Lieut. Harry Hubbell, Harvey Salmen, Harry Osborn, First Lieut. Chester Sandall, Earl Yates, Earl Wideman.
- 1914—Ervin May, Roy Bradley, William Davidson, Charles Hannis, Evertt James, Harold Requarte.
- 1915—Vincent Morgan, Charles Cox, Ralph Little, Alonzo Miller, Bernard Trauger.
- 1916—Dan Chilcote, Darrel Mohler, David Mohler, Ralph Stone.
- 1918—Floyd Cooper, Dean Myers, Harlan Boyer.

ARMISTICE DAY

The happiest day York County ever knew, or perhaps within the experience of anyone now living may ever know, was November 11, 1918, when the bells, whistles,

guns and every other noise-making appliance man, boy or mob could find awakened everyone from their slumbers in the early hours of the morning to announce that the Armistice had been signed, and the actual fighting of the terrible World war was over.

During October numerous preparations had been made to send a very heavy contingent to camps, but the Spanish influenza epidemic was already raging through the country. From the camps where it had been spreading its dire and dreadful fatalities, it rapidly encroached upon the civilian population.

The united war work drive of the seven great agencies of relief and cheer was in its midst, and was helped considerably by the enthusiasm of Armistice day. That day every line of business, school and all endeavor was abandoned to one wild, riotous, unprecedented carnival of joy and celebration.

AFTER-EFFECTS OF THE WAR

For two years after the Armistice concluded the active actual fighting across the waters, certain effects of the World war were visibly evident upon the life of the community. The era of high prices, loose money, and the speculative spending orgy continued until in October, 1920, a decided, sudden slump occurred. The depleted condition of the European nations, the destruction of their credit and their inability to purchase food supplies available in America brought about a very sudden tumble in market prices. This fact, coupled with the achievement of this portion of the country in raising in 1920 a crop absolutely unparalleled in proportions, created a rather decided stringency in the winter of 1920. Corn that had been selling less than a year before around \$1.50 to \$1.65 and which had been planted in the spring of 1920 at seed, labor and land costs anticipating its eventual sale at around a dollar a bushel at least, fell to around fifty cents, with the market so stagnant that it could hardly be sold at that. Wheat, raised in anticipation of two dollars, went far below a dollar and a half.

Along with this situation came another drive to help the starving people of Europe, so as to keep those nations in some shape to rehabilitate themselves, and eventually to repay at least some of the ten billions of dollars loaned to them during the war by the United States.

In December, 1920, York County again marshalled her faithful forces and undertook this rather late, post-war drive. The movement to finance this giant benevolent and charitable enterprise was headed by Herbert Hoover for the nation and G. W. Wattles of Omaha for the state, and engaged the thoughtful, heartfelt attention of the people of the nation.

A. E. Mead, county Red Cross chairman, was requested by the state chairman, Mr. Wattles, to put machinery in motion to provide an agency to raise funds in York County. Mr. Mead has taken the initiative and the result is a skeleton organization which will be quickly developed and energized. De Witt Lee is chairman, A. W. Ballenger, secretary, Rev. George J. Weber publicity director, Dr. George Shidler in charge of four-minute speakers.

BIOGRAPHICAL

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CHARLES A. McCLOUD

BIOGRAPHICAL

CHARLES A. McCLOUD

Business enterprise and business integrity have both found in Charles A. McCloud an exponent. His record indicates that success and an honored name may be won simultaneously, for through individual effort he has worked his way steadily upward, following at all times constructive methods, his path never being strewn with the wreck of other men's failures. He is today prominently known as a banker and capitalist of York. He was born at Moravia, Iowa, in 1860, a son of William and Ann (Sears) McCloud, the former a native of West Virginia, while the latter was born in Ohio. The father was a son of James R. McCloud, whose birth occurred in Virginia and who removed to Iowa about 1866. He devoted his entire life to the occupation of farming and passed away in Iowa, respected and honored by all who knew him. His son William E. McCloud became one of the pioneer residents of Iowa, where he took up his abode in 1856. He, too, became a farmer and stock raiser and dealer. In 1877 he removed to York, Nebraska, and purchased railroad land, remaining on the farm for a number of years. In 1897, however, he retired from active business and established his home in the city of York. His life was ever an honorable and upright one. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity, was a member of York Lodge, No. 56, A. F. & A. M., including Solomon chapter, No. 33, and Joppa commandery, No. 17. In early life he gave his political support to the democratic party but afterward became a staunch advocate of republican principles, and held a number of town offices, the duties of which he discharged with promptness and fidelity. While he was in limited financial circumstances at the time of his removal to Nebraska, he won a substantial measure of prosperity as the years passed on and was thus able to leave his family financially comfortable. It was in Iowa that he wedded Ann Sears, a daughter of Presley W. Sears, who was born in Virginia but removed to Iowa in 1854, becoming one of the early residents of that state. The death of Mr. McCloud occurred June 11, 1902, while his wife passed away December 11, 1912. They were the parents of ten children who are all living: Charles A., of this review; Mary the wife of Archibald G. Evans, who has been state agent for a fire insurance company for forty years and makes his home at Lincoln, Nebraska; Harriett, the wife of Daniel Hardesty, who resides on a small farm near York; Mrs. Rosa Cook, living in Denver; William E., who is cashier of the First State Savings Bank of York; Carrie, living in Lincoln; Frank, who is assistant manager for Swift & Company at Seattle, Washington; Jessie, the wife of John B. Winfield, a farmer of York county; Anna May, the wife of W. E. Losee, who is engaged in the lumber business in Salt Lake City; and J. R., who is cashier of the First National Bank of York.

Mr. McCloud of this review began his education in the public schools of Iowa and afterward attended the Iowa Wesleyan University at Mount Pleasant, leaving college in his senior year. He came to York in 1877, and although he was then a young man of but seventeen years, he had already taught school in Iowa. After his

parents moved to Nebraska he worked his way through college. His first business activity in York county was that of clerk in a hardware store, and he was also employed in a lumber-yard and in connection with a grain and implement business at Waco. In 1881 he was appointed to the office of deputy county treasurer and filled the position until 1885 in a most creditable manner. He then entered the Citizens State Bank in 1886 and was connected with that institution for a little more than a year, after which he purchased right of way for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company, this task engaging his attention in 1887 and 1888. He next established a real estate agency at York and continued in the business until 1905, or for a period of seventeen years. During that time he also served as county commissioner for five years and was traveling auditor for the state of Nebraska for four years.

In 1905 Mr. McCloud organized the Farmers National Bank of York and was its president until it was consolidated with the First National Bank, of which he became president. He has been active in shaping the policy and directing the interests of that institution and has ever recognized the fact that the bank is most worthy of credit that most carefully safeguards the interests of its depositors. His business methods have ever been such as would bear the closest investigation and scrutiny. While active in the development of interests that have been of importance to the city and state in its material development as well as a source of individual profit, he has also remained active in public affairs and from 1900 until 1904 was mayor of York. Moreover, he has the distinction of being the only man to the present time who has ever been reelected to the position, and both times he had no opposition. There is no fact which could more clearly indicate his personal popularity nor the confidence reposed in him. He is now concentrating his efforts and attention upon his banking business. The First National Bank has a capital stock, surplus and undivided profits amounting to three hundred and eighty-five thousand dollars and the First Trust Company, a subsidiary organization, has a capital and surplus of seventy thousand dollars, while the First State Savings Bank is capitalized for twenty-five thousand dollars. Mr. McCloud is president of all three institutions and also has interests in six other banks in York county, being president of five of the number, including the First National of Brawshaw, the Bank of Thayer, the Farmers & Traders Bank of Waco, the Blue River Bank at McCool Junction and the Bank of Lushton. He is a director of the City National Bank of Lincoln, Nebraska, and is one of the stockholders of the First National Bank of Mount Pleasant, Iowa. He is also the vice president of the Mutual Building & Loan Association and has served in this official connection for thirty years. He is likewise the president of the Elks Building Company and of the York Hotel Company, and thus with many of the chief business concerns of city and county he has been closely associated, so that he justly deserves to be numbered among the promoters and builders of the state. He was one of the organizers of the York Brick & Tile Company and assisted in the organization and development of every community building that has been erected in York. In addition to his other interests and investments Mr. McCloud owns several business properties of York. His realty holdings are quite extensive in several other counties in Nebraska.

On the 28th of November, 1883, Mr. McCloud was married to Miss Flora Bowman, a granddaughter of Presley Saunders, who laid out the town of Mount

Pleasant, Iowa. She was a daughter of John C. and Eliza Bowman, who followed their daughter to York and continued to make it their home until their death. To Mr. and Mrs. McCloud has been born a daughter, Elsie, now the wife of William T. Conley, a banker of Columbia, Missouri.

Mrs. McCloud is a member of the Congregational church and takes a most active interest in church and charitable work. She assisted in organizing and sustaining the library of York many years before it became a public library and has been its only president. She is also well known in club circles and is constantly aiding in the promotion of all interests which have to do with civic welfare, with intellectual advancement and moral progress.

Mr. McCloud is a member of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has taken the degrees of York and Scottish Rites and also of the Mystic Shrine. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and was for five years exalted ruler of the last named. He was also chairman of the building committee and raised the money to build the Elks home in York. In politics he has ever been an active and earnest republican and has served as a delegate to county, state and national conventions, being at the present writing chairman of the republican state central committee, which in the year 1920 placed Nebraska in the republican ranks and aided in promoting the overwhelming majority accorded Warren G. Harding as president. He is also the president of the park board of York and was largely instrumental in promoting the park and sewerage systems of the city. He has been a director of the Commercial Club since its organization and belongs to the Country Club and is one of its directors and treasurer of the York Rotary Club. He was president of the Nebraska Association of Elks for two years and was grand district deputy under Brother John P. Sullivan of New Orleans. He was also chairman of the committee that secured the establishment of the Odd Fellows home in York and also the Custodial Home and the Lutheran Hospital. He was a member of the State Council of Defense during the World war and was chairman of the tenth district for all the five bond drives, serving entirely without financial recompense. He is president of the Board of Trustees of York College, one of the leading educational institutions of the middle west. He has ever recognized the duties and obligations as well as the privileges and opportunities of citizenship. Throughout his life he has labored for the public good in many ways and has ever held to high standards. Men who know Charles A. McCloud—and he has a wide acquaintance—speak of him in terms of the highest regard; and the things he has accomplished and the methods he has followed entitle him to rank with Nebraska's leading citizens.

JOHN B. DEY

There are not many men living in York county whose careers have been varied by so many interesting experiences as have fallen to the lot of John B. Dey, now a resident of Bradshaw, who in his time has been successively a Federal soldier, a farmer, a newspaper editor and printer, and has filled public office at different periods. He was born in Shelby county, Ohio, October 14, 1845, a son of

Lewis and Polly M. (Valentine) Dey, the former a farmer and blacksmith during his active life. The family moved to Washington, Iowa, the father being accompanied on the trip by three brothers and a brother-in-law, and the party commenced an effort to secure a tract of land by making periodical payments of twenty-five cents an acre. Lewis Dey resumed working at his trade as a blacksmith and also worked a farm and the family continued to reside in Washington until 1859, when they moved to Wayne county, Iowa, the county being then in a wild state and but sparsely settled. A log cabin was erected in which the family lived for some time until they were able to replace it by a more substantial and commodious house. Numerous bands of Indians on hunting trips passed the Dey holding in those days, but they never molested or interfered with the settlers. Game was plentiful for the family larder and included wild turkey, deer and wild prairie chickens, the latter being found in huge flocks.

John B. Dey received his early education in a subscription log schoolhouse, for the floors and seats of which he split the logs. The school was located on a corner of his grandmother's farm and the school term was for three months of the winter season, his time during the fine weather being occupied in the work of the farm. There was little to vary the monotony of the daily existence at that period. When the Civil war was in its second year he decided to try the life of a soldier and in December, 1862, enlisted in Company F, Eighth Iowa Cavalry, but was not mustered into the service until June, 1863. He was sent into Kentucky and then to Nashville, Tennessee, and immediately began to see active service in the engagement at Red Clay Station and at Resaca, Marietta and Kenesaw Mountain. He was seriously wounded in the latter battle and was sent to the field hospital, where he was detained from the middle of July until September. After he left the hospital he rejoined his regiment at Franklin, Tennessee, and was in the battles of Franklin and Nashville, later being in Wilson's raid through Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia. He saw service with General Sherman during one of his campaigns and served in the command led by General Thomas. His brigade was noted as being one of the few to fight in the last engagement of the war. He was in the cavalry nearly all of his term of his service in the war and when getting about the country had to ford and swim rivers and take other risks incident to war. He was honorably discharged in September, 1865, at Clinton, Iowa.

At the close of his military service Mr. Dey returned to Wayne county, Iowa, and there lived for a brief period, later going to Lucas in the same state. In 1870 he moved to Taylor county, Iowa, and in the fall of that year came to Stewart, Nebraska, and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land on which he erected a sod house containing two rooms and remained on that place until 1878. In the latter year he went to Polk county and there took up carpenter work and continued to reside in that county until 1890. At David City where he next sojourned he became associated with the Tribune newspaper, of which he was editor and when that connection ceased he went to York and conducted a job printing business, remaining in that line until 1896. Mr. Dey then settled in Bradshaw and started the Bradshaw Republican which he conducted up to 1911, in which year he sold the paper and retired from active business life. His business affairs were wisely and carefully controlled, his investments most judiciously made and his enterprise brought him a substantial measure of success.

In 1866 Mr. Dey was united in marriage to Miss Sarah J. Hall and to that union eight children were born: Laura and Flora, twins, the latter of whom is deceased; Viola, deceased; Adeline; Lillian; Alta; Iva, deceased; and Pearl. After nearly fifty years of married life Mrs. Dey passed away on June 21, 1916, leaving a void in the family circle and among numbers of friends that will endure for many years. Mr. Dey cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln and ever since has been a staunch supporter of the republican party. He has filled the office of justice of the peace and served as assistant postmaster of Stromsburg for a time. He was elected to the state legislature on the party ticket and while serving in that representative capacity gave general satisfaction, placing the public welfare before any other consideration. He is a member of Post 32, Grand Army of the Republic, at York, and has been actively connected with that patriotic organization since it was established in the state. From time to time in past years he acted as an organizer and helped to form posts at different points throughout the state. He is affiliated with the Masonic order at Bradshaw and has membership in the order since 1884. Mr. Dey is now in his seventy-sixth year and in the enjoyment of good health. His life has been a busy and useful one and by unfaltering industry and determination he advanced steadily on the highroad to success. Bradshaw numbers him among her foremost citizens and accords him a high measure of respect and good will.

JUDGE HARRY G. HOPKINS

No higher testimonial of faithful and able judicial service could be given than in the fact that Harry G. Hopkins has three times been elected county judge. Born in Lucas county, Iowa, on the 16th of August, 1867, he is a son of George W. and Laura (White) Hopkins, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of Indiana. They were married in Lucas county, Iowa, to which place Mr. Hopkins removed in 1853. He was a farmer and stock raiser, devoting his life to agricultural pursuits and passing away in Iowa in 1885. In politics he was a republican and was sheriff of Lucas county during the Civil war. He took a keen interest in everything pertaining to the general welfare and at the same time so carefully managed his business affairs that he won substantial success and gained the proud American title of a self-made man. To him and his wife were born nine children, of whom four are yet living: Mary, now the widow of J. B. Enslow of Chariton, Iowa; Louina, the wife of E. B. Crownover, who is living retired in Lincoln, Nebraska; Nettie, the widow of F. H. Reid, and a resident of Perry, Iowa; and Judge Hopkins of this review. The last named was reared on a farm with the usual experiences of the country bred boy who works in the fields throughout the summer seasons and attends the country schools in the winter months, thus laying the foundation for future success in the lessons which he learns in the schoolroom. For a few years he followed farm work in Iowa before removing to York county, Nebraska, in 1887. Here he rented land and in connection with the cultivation of the soil taught school until 1896. He then went to Benedict where he studied law in addition to teaching until admitted to the bar in 1899. He then opened a law office in Benedict and engaged in practice there until coming to York in 1901.

He at once entered upon the active work of the profession in this city and was soon accorded a liberal clientage by reason of the ability which he displayed. In 1914 he was elected to the bench for a two years' term and has twice been reelected since that time, his judicial service reflecting credit and honor upon those who have thus honored him.

On the 17th of January, 1893, Judge Hopkins was married to Miss Ella Myers, who was born in Illinois, January 16, 1870, a daughter of B. F. and Marietta (Crownover) Myers, who are natives of Indiana and Pennsylvania respectively. They came to York county in 1875 and here Mr. Myers homesteaded and still continues a resident of the county, but his wife has passed away.

To Judge and Mrs. Hopkins were born two children: George B., who is engaged in the abstract and insurance business in York and is now with the Fisher Perry Insurance Company. After acquiring a high school education here he studied civil engineering independently and has made a creditable place for himself in the business circles of the city; and Ruth M., the daughter, who is still in school.

Judge Hopkins gives his political support to the republican party and served as county assessor of York county before being elected to the bench. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America, and his religious faith is that of the Presbyterian church. His life is at all times actuated by high ideals and his cooperation has ever been counted upon as a factor in the development of those interests which make for upright manhood and honorable citizenship.

F. C. WILLIAMS

F. C. Williams, the present popular mayor of Gresham, to which responsible office he was elected largely because of his military service, is a native of Kentucky, born in Bath county, that state, January 3, 1874, a son of Joseph G. and Nancy (Alley) Williams, also natives of Kentucky, where their last days were spent. During his active life the father was engaged in general farming and stock raising in his native state and in these lines of work he was very successful. To his marriage with Nancy Alley the following children were born: Miller, who died some years ago; Betty, also deceased; F. C., subject of this sketch; Henry, a farmer, living in Kentucky; Willie, who lives in Newcastle, Indiana; Ollie, also in Newcastle; and Blanche, living in Kentucky. The parents were earnest members of the Christian church and faithful attendants on its services. He gave his political allegiance to the republican party and was well informed concerning the questions and issues of his day. He died in Kentucky in 1902, being then in his sixty-second year. His widow survived until 1919, when she passed away, having reached sixty-nine years of age.

F. C. Williams was educated in the public schools of Ohio and later spent one year in the Normal College at Lebanon, Ohio, from which he emerged well equipped in all educational essentials. In 1898, at the outbreak of the Spanish-American war, he enlisted in Company M, Third Kentucky United States Volunteers and entered the service at Lexington, Kentucky. He was sent to Cuba and there was in active military service for six months, or until the termination of the war.

Following his discharge he re-enlisted in Company B, 31st United States Volunteers and was ordered to the Philippines, where at that time a revolution was raging, and he participated in several skirmishes but escaped without injury. At the close of hostilities he returned to San Francisco and was there discharged in March, 1900. Prior to his military service he had been helping with the work on his father's farm in Kentucky.

It was in 1894 that Mr. Williams first came to York county and worked for a time on a farm owned by an uncle, later returning to Kentucky and subsequently entering the military service. In 1901 he returned to York county and settled in Gresham and assisted in the work of the Moorehouse elevator for four years, his connection there giving him a keen insight into the grain business. The next two years were spent on a farm, from which he moved to Gresham and entered the confectionery business, the results which he obtained from this line proving satisfactory. A desire for more military life came to him when the great World war was in progress and after America had become a participant in it. Mr. Williams enlisted at Omaha as a member of Company A, 2nd Battalion United States Guards and was sent to Camp Travis, San Antonio, Texas, and was in the service for eleven months, when he was discharged at Camp Funston and returned to Gresham, making the latter his home ever since.

In 1902 Mr. Williams was united in marriage to Gertrude Walford, a native of Seward county, Nebraska, and a daughter of John Walford, of that county, and they have become the parents of one child, Unice, who lives at home. The family are members of the Presbyterian church and endeavor to follow closely the Golden Rule. They are influenced by high principles of conduct and their genuine worth has commended them to the friendship and regard of all with whom they have been associated. Evidence of this feeling was shown when Mr. Williams was elected to fill the office of mayor of Gresham, the duties of which office he has been worthily discharging and he has been untiring in his efforts to make Gresham a bigger and better place in which to live. His political support is always with the republican party, whose policies he consistently advocates. He holds fraternal affiliation with the Masonic order and is a member of the Knights Templars, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Workmen of the World, in all of which he takes a warm interest, as he does in every movement designed to promote the moral and material welfare of the community in which he resides.

JACOB M. STOUT

Jacob M. Stout, who departed this life after he had passed his seventieth year, was one of the pioneer farmers of York county, Nebraska. He was born in Butler county, Ohio, the son of John and Elizabeth (Freeman) Stout, the latter a native of Vermont. They resided in Pennsylvania, then in Ohio and still later in Indiana where they passed away. Jacob M. Stout grew to manhood on his father's farm in Indiana and in 1874 came to Nebraska where he settled in Arborville township, York county. He bought eighty acres of unimproved railroad land at five dollars per acre and by saving and careful managing he added one hundred and sixty acres to this farm. He came by railroad to Seward,

Nebraska, and took a stage coach to York, where he secured another hired conveyance to take him to the farm.

His brother-in-law, James H. Tyson, who had acquired a homestead, lived here and his sod house sheltered Mr. Stout until he built his house, a structure made of plank and covered with thin boards like the roof of a box-car, which was his home until later years when he erected the frame house still standing on the farm. The life of the early settler was one of numerous and trying hardships and it required ambition and perseverance to win even a mediocre success. When Mr. Stout first began farming in this new locality he met with more than ordinary hardships as this was the time when the grasshopper pestilence was so trying to farmers. However, he overcame all his difficulties accepting each trial that put strength, patience and faith to the test, and emerged victorious with a splendid home, a fine family, substantial wealth and the esteem of all who knew him as a reward for his years of toil.

On March 8, 1855, he was married to Isabelle Jane Primrose, the daughter of Allen Primrose, a native of Scotland, and Mary (McKain) Primrose, a native of South Carolina. They were early settlers in Indiana where they both passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Stout had four children, all of whom are living: John A. Stout, the oldest, was a boy of seventeen when the family came to York county, and with his sisters Anna and Mary, now owns the old homestead farm of his father. In addition to this he is the owner of four hundred acres of land in Arborville township and a beautiful home which he shares with his sister Anna, as they are both unmarried. Another daughter, Mary, is the wife of A. A. Peterson who resides in Arborville township, and a son, Sanford Benton, is married and lives in Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Stout were members of the Methodist church and in politics Mr. Stout was a republican. He passed away on the farm in Arborville township, York county, in his seventy-first year, leaving to mourn his demise many friends and his devoted children.

RICHARD O. ALLEN

Among the prominent men of York, York county, is Richard O. Allen, clerk of the district court of that county. He was born in Casey county, Kentucky, February 2, 1879, a son of William S. and Mary (Miller) Allen, the latter a native of Kentucky. The father was a native of Indiana, having been born in Daviess county, that state, but in early manhood he removed to Kentucky. He was a physician of some note and had secured his medical education in the Indiana Medical College and the Medical College at Lexington, Kentucky. He practiced in Knox and Casey counties, Kentucky, and Cookeville, Tennessee. He began the practice of his profession in Daviess county, Indiana, and later returned there where his death occurred in 1889. His wife and the mother of Richard O. Allen is still living and resides in Knox county, Kentucky. They were the parents of five children, namely: Richard O., subject of this sketch; William S., who lives in Knox county, Kentucky, where he is engaged in farming and is a minister of the Christian church; James E., who is engaged in railroading in Chicago; Charlotte, who is the wife of William Bailey and lives in southern Kentucky, and Benjamin, who resides



RICHARD O. ALLEN

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at Pineville, Kentucky, where he engages in farming. The father was a member of the Christian church and a member of the Masons and Odd Fellows, in which fraternal organizations he was very active. In politics he was a staunch republican.

In the acquirement of an education Richard O. Allen attended the public schools of Knox county, Kentucky, and was graduated from the Pineville high schools in 1897. He then took a business course and at Williamsburg made his initial step into the business world. He worked as printer and newspaper man for several years and for three years served in the Spanish-American war and the Philippine insurrection. Just prior to his enlistment he was employed by the master commissioner of Clay county, Kentucky.

In 1906 Mr. Allen settled in York, being employed by the different newspapers of York and York county until 1916, when he made the race for clerk of the district court. In 1916 Mr. Allen was elected to the office of clerk of the district court and has served the county since 1917. He was nominated for his second term without opposition from either party and was re-elected in November, 1920, with the highest vote of any man on his party ticket. He has given his entire time to the duties of his office, systematized the work, formulated a new system of financial accounting, revised record forms and written new ones, copied and transferred old index records that went back to 1890 of all cases filed since that time and which had been in continuous use all these many years; he also made a summary of all cases filed and money collected for the past thirty years, and has brought the office up to the highest standards of efficiency.

During the World war Mr. Allen was busy in all activities, made out bonus, compensation and clothing applications for York county's soldiers and sailors who served in the World war and helped them in every possible way. He has secured a number of pensions for soldiers of other wars.

On the 1st of October, 1904, Mr. Allen was united in marriage to Miss Maud E. Putman, a native of Merrick county, and a daughter of George W. and Rosa Putman. They were pioneers of Nebraska. The father died in November, 1916, at York, a retired farmer, and the mother still resides in York. Mr. and Mrs. Allen are the parents of three children: Richard T., who is fifteen years of age; Aubrey K., ten years of age, and Charley F., aged eight years.

Politically Mr. Allen is a republican and fraternally an Odd Fellow and both Mr. and Mrs. Allen are members of the Congregational church. He was adjutant of the Spanish-American War Veterans at York and was active in the state encampments. In 1918 he was department chief of staff and in 1919 held the position of junior vice department commander of Nebraska. In his service to the public Mr. Allen has well demonstrated his ability and efficiency and he is a man and citizen of whom York and York county may well be proud.

JUDGE GEORGE F. CORCORAN

George F. Corcoran, judge of the fifth judicial district of Nebraska to which office he was called after three years' service as assistant attorney general, is recognized as one of the distinguished members of the York county bar. He was born in Rockford, Winnebago county, Illinois, January 13, 1862, a son of Patrick

and Julia (Moran) Corcoran, both of whom were natives of Ireland, whence they came to the United States in the fifties, and settled in Rockford, Illinois, in March, 1860. The father was a farmer and veterinary surgeon who devoted his entire life to those activities. In the fall of 1878 he removed to York county, settling on a farm, purchasing railroad land, and in connection with its cultivation engaged in the practice of his profession, being one of the pioneers in that field of activity in Nebraska. To him and his wife were born nine children, of whom five are living. Judge Corcoran is the eldest and a sister Mary is the only other member of the family now living in York county, she being employed as proofreader in the office of *The News-Times*. The father was a democrat in his political views and a Catholic in his religious faith. He sold his farm some time prior to his death, spending his last days in the city of York.

Judge Corcoran came to this county in February, 1879, when a youth of seventeen years and took up his abode on the old homestead on section twenty-seven, in what is now Leroy township. He had previously attended the common schools of his native state and a business college in Rockford, Illinois, and one in Omaha, Nebraska. He assisted his father on the farm and also engaged in teaching a district school. During the busy season he assisted in the office of the county treasurer. Soon afterward he became interested in the *York Democrat* of which he became owner in 1886, and has since been proprietor of the paper. His initial step toward a professional career was made as court reporter, a position which he occupied for twelve years, and during that period entered upon the study of law, carefully pursuing his reading until admitted to the bar in 1894. For a short time he engaged in the practice of law but has been in state offices altogether for about twenty-nine years, first as court reporter for thirteen years then as assistant attorney general for three years and since 1907 as judge of the district court of the fifth judicial district which comprises six counties. He was appointed court reporter by District Judge Robert Wheeler, in January, 1892, serving for a four year term and then in 1896 entered upon the private practice of law, becoming in the following year an active worker in connection with the first presidential campaign of William Jennings Bryan. In 1897 he was appointed stenographer to Attorney General C. J. Smyth, and afterwards was made assistant attorney general, a position he resigned in 1900 to become court reporter under Judge B. F. Good, remaining in that position for eight years. He was elected district judge in 1907 and has remained upon the bench for thirteen years, having thus through the steps of an orderly progression reached the place which he now fills. His decisions bear the stamp of broad knowledge of the law, of clear insight into situations and of the utmost fairness, his rulings being ever characterized by impartiality that is acknowledged by all. Nor have Judge Corcoran's activities been confined only to professional lines. He served as a member of the city council of York and was active in the organization of the volunteer fire department, of which he served for many years as chief. In fact throughout his years of residence in Nebraska his cooperation could always be counted upon for the public good along all lines of material, political and moral progress.

In 1886 Judge Corcoran was married to Miss Margaret Neville, who was born in Canada and passed away October 6, 1893, leaving two children: Rose, the wife of Miles Duffy, who is engaged in the produce business at Hordville, Nebraska; and Margaret, who is a Sister of Mercy at Omaha, known as Sister Mary Kevin.

Judge Coreoran was married a second time when Miss Christine Walla became his wife. She was born in Saunders county, Nebraska, a daughter of Mathias Walla, one of the pioneer settlers of that county who is of Bohemian birth and served in the Austrian army. Two children have been born of this marriage: Francis Dorothy and Maurice William.

Judge Coreoran and his family are communicants of the Catholic church and he is a member of the Knights of Columbus, having been head officer in the order in Nebraska for several years. He is now master of the fourth degree in the state. He also belongs to the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, of which he has been exalted ruler, and is now district deputy. He likewise has membership with the Highlanders and the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and is secretary of the Old Settler's Association of the county, in which he has been deeply interested for years. He also takes active part in the annual Chautauqua, assisted in building the pavilion in which it is held and has been an earnest supporter thereof from the beginning. In politics he is a democrat but not an active party worker at the present devoting his entire time to his judicial duties.

FRANK A. PETERSON

Of Swedish descent, Frank A. Peterson, a well known and prosperous farmer owning an excellent holding located on section 35, Bradshaw township, York county, has all the attributes of thrift and industrial energy for which the Swedes are noted, and these qualities he has brought into operation in the handling of his farming affairs. He was born in Henry county, Iowa, October 22, 1875, a son of Nels and Anna (Christenson) Peterson, both natives of Sweden, and who on coming to this country first settled in Minnesota where the father worked at railroad construction. From Minnesota he removed to Iowa and in that state worked at farm labor and rented land in Henry county, remaining thus engaged for some years. Nels Peterson was married in Iowa and in the early '70s he and his wife came to York county and here he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land which was devoid of all improvements. He built a small frame house and a small sod barn, both of those serving until more substantial structures were erected. About that time the Burlington Railroad was under construction and in the building of that line he assisted, going west as far as possible without inconvenience to his family. Later he broke the sod on his homestead and commenced farming operations, gradually bringing the farm to a condition of excellent improvement, and as time went on he added to his holding and at the date of his death was the owner of a valuable place containing two hundred and eighty acres. His passing away in 1916 at the age of seventy years was regretted by many friends. His wife predeceased him in 1900. They were members of the Swedish Lutheran church and he gave his political support to the republican party. They had three children: Frank A. of this review; Joe, a farmer of York county; and Emma, the wife of E. L. Gustafson of Omaha. Rightly regarded as a pioneer farmer in the county his work and efforts during the thirty-eight years of residence here were always directed toward the well-being of the community, in the affairs of which he was an important factor.

Frank A. Peterson, when three years old was brought by his parents from Iowa to York county, in the schools of which he secured an education. He remained with his parents on the farm and helped in the agricultural operations, proving a valuable assistant to his father in the work of reclaiming and cultivating the homestead. Under the sound tuition given him he rapidly became a skilled farmer and stockman and is now engaged in general farming and raising cattle, giving special attention to marketing feed cattle and obtaining good prices for his work in this connection. The fact that he gives close personal attention to his farming operations indicates that he manages his affairs in a systematic manner and that he possesses marked business ability. Aside from his farming interests he is a stockholder in the Farmers Co-operative Association at Bradshaw, the latter a thriving organization devoted to agricultural expansion.

In 1898 Mr. Peterson was united in marriage to Ella C. Sandall, further reference to whom appears elsewhere in this work. To this union three children have been born: Viva, wife of Benson Clithereon of Sterling, Colorado; Genevieve, at home; and Frank Edmande, also at home. In politics he is a stalwart republican and for three years he served as school moderator at Bradshaw. He and his wife attend the services of the Swedish Lutheran church, in the good works of which they are active participants. They enjoy the confidence, goodwill and high regard of numerous friends in the community in which they reside.

ODEN S. GILMORE

Among the leading attorneys of York, York county, is Oden S. Gilmore who was born on a farm in that county on the 4th of May, 1878, the son of Sebastian and Lura (Randall) Gilmore. The father was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, March 2, 1847, and in 1866 removed to York county where he homesteaded. Previous to his going to Nebraska he had worked on farms in Illinois and came to Nebraska when nineteen years old where he met Miss Randall whom he later married. The homestead which he acquired in York county he still owns and thereon resides, his wife having died on the 6th of March, 1914. At the time he took up the homestead he had only eighty acres but he now owns four hundred acres all being well improved and consisting of some of the best land in the county. The Blue river runs through it. Eight children were born of this union, three of whom are still living, namely: Oden S., the subject of this review; Robert L., a traveling salesman who resides in Omaha; and Blanche who married Charles Buey and they make their home with her father. Sebastian Gilmore is a faithful member of the Christian church and a democrat in politics. When he first came to York county he had practically nothing, but by his perseverance and determination he has succeeded in making himself financially successful. For some time he served as township clerk and treasurer and he built the first shingled log house west of Lincoln in the state. His father, Elias Gilmore, erected the first frame house in York county. The house now belongs to Sebastian Gilmore and is still standing. The maternal grandfather of Oden S. Gilmore, Ira Randall, came to Nebraska from Wisconsin about 1873 and engaged in farming. Both grandfathers died in York county.

Oden S. Gilmore received his education in the country schools until he reached the eighth grade when he took a two years' course at Cotner University, Bethany, and spent four years in the State University where he was graduated in law in 1911. He practiced for one and one-half years at Edgar and in 1914 was elected county attorney for York county, which position he filled until 1919. Previous to his election as county attorney he had resided on his farm in York county, having sold out his practice in Edgar, and after the expiration of his term of office he opened an office in York and again started into the general practice. He has a large clientele and has been admitted to practice in all courts in the state. During the World war he was very active and served as one of the Four Minute men. He still owns the farm in York county which he has successfully conducted for twenty years.

On the 12th of September, 1912, Mr. Gilmore was united in marriage to Miss Helen C. Conant, a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, and to them three children have been born: Wilson Conant was born August 5, 1913; Doris Evelyn was born on the 10th of November, 1915, and the last member of the family, Robert Rush was born November 11, 1919.

Mr. Gilmore and his family are members of the Christian church, and fraternally he is a Mason, an Elk, a Knight of Pythias, and a Woodman. In politics he is a staunch supporter of the democratic party and has always taken an active part in all political events. In 1902 he ran for the legislature but was defeated because of the fact that his district was mostly republican. He is a member of Delta Chi, a college fraternity. Mr. Gilmore has always been among the foremost in any action for the improvement of his community and is a firm believer in education. He taught school for three years, for two years, 1901-02, being principal of the McCool high school. In the conduct of his law practice he has employed only the highest methods and principles and the position which he now occupies in his community is the result of his own industry and efficiency.

WILLIAM B. HOUSTON

It has been said that the field of opportunity finds its boundaries only in the limitations of the individual, and to the man who believes that there is a chance for every individual and who is willing to take his chance with others there will always come a time when he can take the initial step that will lead on to fortune. This is exemplified in the life story of three members of the Houston family, but is more particularly shown in the case of William B. Houston, with whom this sketch briefly deals. Mr. Houston was born in Buckinghamshire, England, October 1, 1869, a son of J. D., and Mary (Ledington) Houston, the former a native of Scotland, born in 1841 and still living at an advanced age, and the latter a native of England, where she was born in 1837 and passed away in 1920.

J. D. Houston married Mary Ledington in England and sometime later immigrated to America, on arrival going to Wisconsin, thence to Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1870. In the latter year he moved to York county and took a homestead which he immediately proceeded to develop and cultivate. His father, Andrew Houston, also acquired a homestead on which he died in 1880, and he may be rightly

regarded as one of the pioneers of farming in the part of York county in which he lived. After settling on the homestead J. D. Houston lived in a sod house for some time and later decided to build. He hauled the lumber from Seward and built a substantial frame house and from that time his circumstances became more comfortable and prosperous. He is now living retired with his son William B. Houston on the old homestead, enjoying that well earned rest to which his energy and industry fully entitle him. He and his wife had seven children, six of whom are living: James, a farmer, living in York county; William B., subject of this sketch; Andrew, a farmer, in Washington; Kate, wife of Eugene Bemis; Richard, a farmer, living at Wauneta, Nebraska; George, who died at the age of ten years; and John, a merchant and farmer, living at Dietrich, Idaho. J. D. Houston and his wife were members of the Episcopal church, in the good works of which he still takes a deep interest. In political affairs he has given the weight of his support to the republican party. During his active life he achieved considerable success, having started in with very little, having found difficulty in securing enough money to pay his passage from England. He is now in his eighty-second year and considering his advanced age is in the possession of good health. He has hosts of friends and wellwishers.

William B. Houston was brought by his parents from England when an infant. He grew up in the surroundings of his father's homestead and was educated in the schools of York county and here has ever since been living. He began to earn his own living by working on the farm for his father, his keynote has been indefatigable industry and hard work and he has missed no opportunity that would enable him to conduct his agricultural operations along the best scientific lines and approved methods. He is now the owner of a quarter section of well-improved land to which he gives his personal attention and in addition to cultivation of crops he also raises a good grade of cattle and hogs.

On October, 1, 1903, Mr. Houston was united in marriage to Jennie Sovereign, a native of York county and a daughter of Milton Sovereign who homesteaded in this county in an early day and now lives in Montana. Mr. and Mrs. Houston are the parents of five children: Helen, attending high school; Brighton, in the public school; Margaret, Milton and David John, at home. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the good works of which they are active participants, as they are in all movements calculated to advance the public welfare. Mr. Houston is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. During his long years of residence in York county he has become widely and favorably known, his many excellent qualities gaining for him many warm friends.

GEORGE M. SPURLOCK

George M. Spurlock, lawyer, successfully practicing at the bar of York where he is accorded an extensive clientage of a most important character, is a native of Nebraska, his birth having occurred at Plattsmouth. His parents were Burwell and Isabella S. (Davis) Spurlock, mention of whom is made on other pages of this volume.

George M. Spurlock pursued his early education in the public schools of Cass

county and afterwards spent three years as a student in the Nebraska State University, and in 1892 was graduated from the Law School of DePauw University, Greencastle, Indiana. Having thus qualified for the profession he entered upon the practice in Plattsmonth, where he remained until 1905, when he removed to York. In the meantime he served as county judge of Cass county for two terms and made a most capable official on the bench. He was also twice elected to the state legislature, the last time in 1903, and he gave the most thoughtful and earnest consideration to all the vital questions which came up for settlement, and left the impress of his individuality and ability upon the statutes enacted. He has business interests outside of his profession and is a director in the First National Bank and vice president of the First Trust Company.

In March, 1898, Mr. Spurlock was united in marriage to Miss Mary Virginia Smith, who was born in Saline county, Missouri, and they have two children: Woodson, twenty years of age, who was graduated from the New Mexico Military Institute in 1919, and is now a student in the Nebraska State University; and Burwell, ten years of age.

Mr. Spurlock and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he is a Mason who has taken degrees in both York and Scottish Rites. He is likewise a member of the Knights of Pythias. Politically he is a republican, who has taken a somewhat active part in politics, recognizing the duties and obligations as well as the privileges and opportunities of citizenship. The cause of education has found in him a warm friend and for nine years he served as a member of the school board of York, and is now on the board of trustees of Nebraska Wesleyan University. He has also been active as an officer in the church and was representative at the general conference for four quadrennial periods. He is serving on the library board and is treasurer of Mothers' Jewels' Home. He is interested in all those agencies which make for the amelioration of the hard conditions of the unfortunate, and is a man of kindly sympathies and high ideals. Mrs. Spurlock is a granddaughter of Joseph Huston, late of Marshall, Missouri.

PIERCE HARDIN

Among York county's highly respected citizens is numbered Pierce Hardin, a retired farmer, who is now living in Benedict. Moreover, he has lived in this district forty-three years and during that period has become familiar with every phase of its growth and development, in which he largely participated since his arrival in 1878. He was born in Pennsylvania, September 29, 1850, a son of Solomon and Susan (Uhl) Hardin, also natives of the Keystone state, where Solomon Hardin was a farmer and from whence he moved to Illinois in 1854. On settling in Illinois he continued his farming operations, presently purchasing a tract of prime land on which he engaged in general farming and stock raising, his efforts being rewarded by a commendable measure of success. Death claimed him at the comparatively early age of forty-four years, while his widow passed the allotted span of three-score and ten. Four of their children are still living: Pierce, the subject of this sketch; W. W., a farmer, of Dixon, Illinois; J. T., a banker, of Beatrice, Nebraska, and A. E., in the wholesale fruit and produce business in

the state of Washington. Solomon Hardin and his wife were earnest and active members of the Lutheran church, to the upkeep of which they were liberal contributors. He voted an independent ticket, believing that discrimination thus exercised was for the best interests of the community.

Pierce Hardin was reared and educated in the schools of his home district in Illinois and helped his father for some years on the farm. In 1878 he came to York county and after looking about for a while purchased a tract of railroad land and presently set to work to improve and develop it, finally bringing the place to a state of excellent cultivation. On that farm he lived for thirty-two years and his labors wrought a marked change in its appearance, for he broke the sod, tilled the fields, and in course of time gathered good harvests, at the same time raising a good grade of cattle. Feeling the need for a rest, and having acquired a competence, he retired from active work in 1910 and moved to Benedict, where he is spending the evening of his life secure in the friendship and esteem of many friends and neighbors who appreciate his worth and services in making this part of Nebraska a better place in which to live.

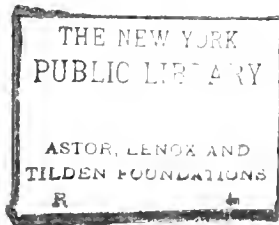
In 1875 Mr. Hardin was united in marriage to Christina Troutman, a native of Pennsylvania. They became the parents of six children: Avis M., wife of Ed James, a farmer, of York county; Russell S., a farmer; Irving S., living on the home farm; Gertrude, wife of Walter O'Brien, a farmer; Chester, who conducts an undertaking establishment in Omaha; and Edwin, who is attending the Midland College at Fremont, Nebraska. Mr. Hardin votes an independent ticket in political affairs. For years he was identified with the development of the school districts of the county and served as school director for district 85, his efforts in that connection being rewarded by practical results, and he has been at all times most loyal to any public trust reposed in him. He and his wife have guided their lives on Christian principles, being always careful to conform their actions to high standards. In a word they have endeavored to follow the Golden Rule, doing unto others as they would have others do unto them.

COMMODORE N. BEAVER

Among the prominent citizens of York is Commodore N. Beaver, a retired farmer and president of the City National Bank. He was born near Lincoln, Illinois, on the 11th of September, 1862, a son of Michael H. and Sarah (Pence) Beaver, the former born in Ohio, while the latter is a native of Illinois. When Michael Beaver was a young man he removed to Illinois and engaged in farming all his life, never moving out of the state. In 1884 he bought some land in York county, unimproved, and at the time of his death owned sixteen hundred acres. He built a house and cultivated this land. In politics he was a staunch member of the democratic party and held several different township offices. He was also a consistent member of the Baptist church. In the development and improvement of his community he always took an active part and his death in 1895 came as a blow to his many friends. Michael H. Beaver, the grandfather of Commodore N. Beaver, was a native of Pennsylvania. He later removed to Ohio, became engaged in farming and died in that state, a well-to-do and highly respected man.



COMMODORE N. BEAVER



Commodore N. Beaver is one of three children who are still living out of a family of seven. His brother Wilson is a retired farmer residing in Lincoln, Illinois, and he has another brother, Elmer, a retired farmer living in York, Nebraska. In the acquirement of his education Commodore N. Beaver attended the country schools of Illinois and in due time entered the Lincoln University. After putting his text-books aside he began farming and in 1887 came to York county to take charge of his father's farm. He soon purchased some land on his own account, steadily enlarging it, and engaged in the stock feeding business. In 1904 he removed to York but continued to conduct his farm until 1919, when he became president of the City National Bank. His time is now devoted solely to his banking affairs and he rents the eight hundred acres of land which he owns and which is well improved. In addition to his duties as president of the bank he is a director of the Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph Company.

On the 9th of March, 1887, Mr. Beaver was united in marriage to Miss Fannie Sparks, who was born near Lincoln, Illinois, the daughter of Samuel Sparks who is a retired farmer residing at that place. Four children have been born of this union: Sarah W., who is the wife of Eugene A. Bishop, a teacher in the schools of Logansport, Indiana; Samuel J., a farmer who resides with his parents in York; and Michael H., third in order of birth, died January 2, 1916, aged twenty-six year. The oldest child died in infancy.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Presbyterian church and in his political belief Mr. Beaver is a democrat. He has always taken an active interest in politics and served as a member of the city council for two terms. Fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, the Woodmen and the Maccabees. The interest which he takes in his community is indicated by his membership in the Commercial and Rotary Clubs, serving the former as president, and he is also a member of the Country Club. In every enterprise undertaken Mr. Beaver has proved adequate to all demands made upon him and by reason of the mature judgment which characterizes his efforts at all times he stands today as a splendid representative of a prominent banker and retired farmer to whom business is but one phase of life and does not exclude his active participation in and support of the other vital interests which go to make up human existence.

MELVIN G. KOONS

Melvin G. Koons, a grain buyer of extensive experience and one of Thayer's foremost business men and representative citizens, was born in Fulton county, Illinois, April 6, 1862, a son of James and Elizabeth (Kost) Koons, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. The father lost his life in the service of his country, having been through the Civil war, serving as a member of the Eighty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. While actively engaged with that regiment he became a victim to fever and passed away at the early age of twenty-three years, to the sorrow and regret of his family, friends and comrades in arms.

Deprived of his father Melvin G. Koons was reared by his mother and educated in the country schools of Ipava, Illinois. In making an early choice of an occupa-

tion he decided to start farming and rented land for a time in his native state, thus laying the foundation of his future success and opening the way for larger undertakings in which he presently embarked. It was in 1880, when he was in his eighteenth year, that Mr. Koons came to York county and purchased eighty acres of excellent land in Thayer, which he operated on general agricultural lines for the next five years. Convinced that a still larger field offered him opportunity he entered the grain business and worked for G. W. Wirt with whom he remained eighteen months, in that period acquiring a sound knowledge of the grain business, especially of the buying and selling end. He next accepted a position with the Van Wickle Grain & Lumber Company, with whom he remained from 1894 until 1915, during five years of that time being a superintendent of terminal at Council Bluffs, Iowa.

In 1916 Mr. Koons returned to Thayer and took over the responsibilities of management for the Farmers Grain Association, and he is still with that company buying all the grain, and also sells coal and flour which the company handles. In 1919 a new elevator was erected under his superintendency with a capacity of thirty thousand bushels and modern in every respect. The company enjoys a large volume of business, its success being due mainly to Mr. Koons' initiative and to the thorough confidence which the public reposes in him. In association with his son, Homer J. Koons, he built an elevator in Houston, Nebraska, in 1919, with a capacity of fifteen thousand bushels, and in this business he and his son are equal partners. He is generally regarded as an expert in judging wheat and keeps in the closest touch with the grain markets and has been very successful in his business affairs.

In 1881 Mr. Koons was united in marriage to Frances Miller, a native of Illinois, the marriage being celebrated in that state. To their union four children were born: Iva, widow of Clyde J. Chambers, of Council Bluffs, Iowa; Nellie, wife of A. C. Stream, a York county farmer; Homer J., manager of the elevator at Houston, and William, who died at the age of twelve, having met with an accident in the elevator. Mr. Koons holds fraternal affiliation with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and with the Modern Woodmen of America and his wife is a member of the Eastern Star, in both of which popular organizations they evince a keen interest. He casts his ballot in support of the republican party whose principles accord with his political beliefs. He has never been a seeker after public office, preferring to devote all his time to the large business responsibilities which he has assumed and which are growing continuously. He has met these responsibilities with a fidelity which has placed him in the front rank among the best business men of York county and the surrounding district.

CHARLES M. SANDALL

Among the honored early settlers of York county was the the late Charles M. Sandall, who settled here in 1871 and throughout the remainder of his life was actively identified with the interests of this section of Nebraska. He was born in Sweden, December 23, 1815, and died November 26, 1917, his passing being the occasion of widespread regret, not alone on account of his long years of residence

in the county but for the excellent character which he bore and for his honesty of purpose in all his relations with his neighbors and the public at large.

Mr. Sandall accompanied his parents from Sweden to the United States in 1858, and the family on arrival went to New Sweden, Iowa, where his father farmed for some time and later removed to Swedenburg in the same state. Before leaving Sweden he had acquired the rudiments of such education as the schools of his native place afforded and during the years of his young manhood he assisted his father in the operations of the farm, thus laying the foundation of the agricultural skill which in later years proved invaluable when he secured a farm of his own. In 1871 he decided to move to Nebraska and settled in York county, where he took over a homestead, in addition to which he also acted as a collector for a pump manufacturing company. When Mr. Sandall came to York county he had reached his twenty-sixth year, and being then in the prime of his young manhood he proceeded vigorously with the development of the homestead, which he later placed under excellent cultivation. Up to the time of his death he was engaged in general farming and stock raising, raising a fine strain of pure blooded shorthorn cattle, for which he found a ready market at paying prices. His first home was a sod house with dirt floor, which in time gave way to a well built and comfortable abode, where he and his family were pleasantly situated.

In 1872 Mr. Sandall was united in marriage to Fredricka Anderson, also a native of Sweden, who came to America in 1868 and lived for a time in Cambridge, Illinois, going later to Iowa. They became the parents of nine children as follows: Clara, who married F. J. Johnson, professor of music at Muskegon, Michigan; Silas, a farmer living in York county; Rebecca, at home; Oscar, engaged at banking in Snyder, Colorado; Esther, who married Rev. D. N. Anderson, now serving as a pastor at Butte, Montana; Otfillia, deceased, who married C. M. Kull, of Spencer, Nebraska; Ernest, a farmer living in York county; Fred, also a farmer of York county, and Rudolph, at home.

Mr. Sandall was an earnest and consistent member of the Swedish Lutheran church, as are also the members of his family, and in the work of the church they take a most active and helpful part. He gave his political allegiance to the republican party and served as a director on the local school board for many years and also as road overseer. His interest in education was of a deep and practical character, believing that in the school were laid the foundations for future usefulness. Mr. Sandall was a man whom to know was to esteem and honor, for his life was ever upright and he was a worthy representative of high standards of manhood and citizenship.

AUGUST SACKSCHEWSKY

August Sackschewsky, one of the best known and most prominent farmers of York county, owns three hundred and twenty acres in Thayer township and enjoys an enviable reputation as a successful and representative agriculturist. His prosperity is entirely attributable to his own efforts, for he came to this country almost empty-handed about five decades ago. His birth occurred in Germany,

March 7, 1847, a son of German parents who were farming people and he was reared on a farm where he followed agricultural pursuits.

In 1872 Mr. Sackschewsky immigrated to the United States and following his arrival at the port of New York went straight through to Wisconsin and worked for one year at railroad construction in that state. In December, 1873, he removed to York county, Nebraska, and in January of the following year came to York county and took up an eighty-acre homestead on section 31, Thayer township. His first abode was a dugout in which he lived for five years and then erected a two-room frame house, which made the domestic life more comfortable. His initial efforts at the raising of crops met with a serious setback owing to the grasshopper visitation and during that period everything growing on the land was destroyed. When the grasshoppers had come to be but a memory his affairs took a successful turn and his agricultural labors proved profitable. He made some fine improvements on his place including the planting of trees, and as he prospered he added more land to the original homestead, at the time of his retirement to Thayer in 1920 being the owner of three hundred and twenty acres on which he has four sets of buildings, the whole forming one of the choicest pieces of property in his part of the county. He is a progressive business man, wideawake, alert and energetic, and carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

On April 17, 1876, Mr. Sackschewsky was united in marriage to Albertina Reich, who accompanied her parents from Germany about 1870, her father some short time afterwards taking a homestead in York county. She recalls that antelopes were numerous at that date, and between her home and York—a distance of fifteen miles—there was but one other family. To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Sackschewsky the following children have been born: Ludwig C.; Otto H.; Albert, deceased; Henrietta; Minnie; August; Arthur; Leo; Matilda; Emma, deceased; William A.; Herbert and Elsie. The family are regular attendants on the services of the Lutheran church, in the faith of which the parents were reared. He gives his political allegiance to the republican party, but has never manifested a desire for public office. He has always found time to cooperate in plans and measures for the public good and has proved himself a most loyal and devoted citizen from the date of his first landing on American soil.

WALTER W. SENG

Walter W. Seng, one of the prosperous men of York county who is prominent in financial circles, having been president of the Farmers and Merchants bank since 1911, was born in Carroll county, Illinois, December 27, 1861, the son of Casper and Catherine (Fuchs) Seng who came from Germany with a party of twelve other families in 1857. For four years his parents worked on a farm near Milledgeville, Carroll county, Illinois, receiving eighteen dollars a month for their combined services. Later they rented, then purchased eighty acres of land where they made their home until 1881 when Casper Seng passed away at the age of fifty-seven years, and his wife's demise occurred August 26, 1920, at the age of ninety years. He became successful and owned two hundred and fifty acres at his death, which was held by the mother until her death. They were the parents of five children:

Walter, of York county; George, of Milledgeville, Illinois; Mary, the wife of Jacob Johann of Shannon, Illinois; Agnes, the widow of Lewis Beck, of Polo, Illinois; and Henry, who resides in York county.

The boyhood of Walter W. Seng was spent on a farm in Carroll county, Illinois, and he received his education in the schools there, being graduated from the Lanark high school in 1883. He came to York county in 1887 and became interested in farming and pure bred draft horses, in which business he engaged for several years. Later he turned his attention to the insurance business, handling farm loans and collections, and in 1904 when the Farmers and Merchants Bank was organized he became its cashier, and since 1911 has been the president of that institution. Mr. Seng is connected financially with other projects, owning much property including farm lands.

He was married in Carroll county, Illinois, to Catherine Knies, a native of that county, and to them have been born four children: Henry C., a resident of York; Myrtle Naomi, the wife of R. L. Kaliff, of York county; William L., cashier of the Farmers and Merchants Bank of McCool, who married Nina L. Howell, and is the father of one son, Walter M.; and Verna V., the wife of R. E. Hendrick.

Mr. Seng holds membership in the English Lutheran church and is connected with the Masons, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Order of the Eastern Star. In politics Mr. Seng maintains an independent course and has never been an office seeker, preferring to discharge his public duties in other connections. Mr. Seng has risen by his own efforts and that his career has ever been upright and honorable is indicated in the fact that he enjoys the high regard and esteem of the people in the community where he has resided for many years.

JUDGE DAVID TRUAX MOORE

Judge David Truax Moore was a man who left the impress of his individuality and ability upon the history of Nebraska. He was recognized as a distinguished lawyer and an eminent representative of the judiciary of the state, nor was the worth of his work confined to his profession. He sought to advance all those forces which contribute to the intellectual, cultural and moral progress of the race. He became identified with the state during its pioneer era and was closely associated with its formative policy along many lines and through many years.

Mr. Moore came of Scotch ancestry, the family, however, being founded in America by his grandfather prior to the Revolutionary war, in which he bore his part as one of the heroes who valiantly fought for American independence. His father, John Moore, was a soldier of the War of 1812. The latter married Sarah Snowden and the eighth of their children was Judge Moore, who was born in Waynesburg, Wayne county, Ohio, September 23, 1831. He was only five years of age when his parents removed with their family to Putnam county, Ohio, and there the father's death occurred in less than a year later, subsequent to which time the widow with her eleven children returned to Wayne county. Left in somewhat straitened financial circumstances, the children were of necessity separated, David T. Moore and one sister finding a home with a cousin, John Miller, of Holmes county, Ohio. His youth was largely a period of struggle and hardship, of

loneliness and sorrow. He worked on a farm and during two or three months each year attended school until he had reached the age of sixteen, when he began teaching, securing the three months' school in his home district. Always ambitious to secure an education he then entered the Vermillion Institute at Hayesville, Ashland county, Ohio, and alternated his study and his teaching there for a period of several years. He afterward went to Athens, Harrison county, and matriculated in a college conducted by the Associate Presbyterians. He had to meet all of the expense of his college course and by the most earnest labor, close economy and unfaltering resolution managed to reach the point of graduation. He then resumed teaching in St. Clairsville, Ohio, and for a number of years was the efficient superintendent of schools there.

While thus engaged Judge Moore entered upon the study of law, but ill health forced him to take a trip and he traveled through the south in 1856 and 1857, visiting Kentucky, Tennessee and Alabama. For a time he taught school at Franklin Springs, Alabama, and in 1857 returned to the north, securing a position as teacher of a school at Taylorville, Illinois. His leisure was devoted to the study of law and he secured admission to the bar upon examination before Judge David Davis in 1859. Again his health became impaired and he made a trip through the west as far as Colorado. In 1860 he again became a resident of Taylorville, where he cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, having previously been an alternate delegate to the convention in 1856 which nominated John C. Fremont for the presidency.

While in Taylorville, Judge Moore had been a law student in the office of Mr. Shumway, whose daughter had previously been one of the Judge's pupils. The acquaintance thus formed ripened into friendship and love and on the 19th of January, 1864, the marriage of David Truax Moore and Sarah N. Shumway was celebrated, this being the birthday anniversary of the bride. They traveled life's journey most happily together for many years, the husband passing away on the day preceding the thirty-eighth anniversary of their wedding.

For about four years after their marriage Judge Moore and his wife resided in Washington, Iowa, where he was engaged in business, and in the spring of 1869, with their young son, they traveled by team and wagon to York county, Nebraska, where in the month of June Judge Moore homesteaded and preempted a claim on Lincoln creek, three miles north of York. The family bravely met all of the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. They recognized the opportunity before them to establish a home and aid in founding a community here, into which they might bear their part in infusing those principles which make for progressive and honorable citizenship and for upright manhood and womanhood. Their nearest postoffice was at Seward, the nearest mill at Milford and their home lacked many of the advantages and conveniences to which they had been accustomed, but courage and faith in the future led them courageously to meet these conditions. After seven years' residence on the farm they took up their abode in York, Judge Moore being the first attorney to settle in York county. He assisted in organizing the county at a time when its population numbered only six hundred and forty, but it had doubled in size since the previous year and the future outlook was bright. At the time of his arrival there was but one frame house in the county and but one schoolhouse, which was of sod. The year following the organization of the county only eighty-six votes were cast. Judge Moore became the first probate judge, at

which period there was no courthouse and the officers carried the records in their hats or wherever most convenient. In the spring of 1871 he was made a delegate to the constitutional convention which met in Lincoln and in 1872, at the republican state convention, he received a complimentary vote for the nomination for governor. Throughout the years of his residence in this state Judge Moore exerted a widely felt influence over public thought and action, yet could never be said to be a political leader in the commonly accepted sense of the term. His influence was moral rather than political and it was ever known that his aid could be counted on the side of progress, improvement and right. He continued in law practice successfully for many years but in his later life turned his attention and his strength in a great measure to other business. He was survived by his wife, two sons and a daughter. His elder son, Dr. Dwight Moore, is a practicing physician of Los Angeles, California, who is specializing in nervous diseases. The daughter, Miss Grace Moore, is the owner and editor of *The New Teller*, published at York. The younger son, Arthur L., is engaged in the insurance and real estate business at Ventura, California.

Perhaps no better testimonial of the professional qualities and of the high character of Judge Moore can be given than to quote from the tribute paid to him by Orien W. Fifer, who in the funeral service said in part: "Judge Moore was a lawyer of ability. Some traits of character led him to prevent rather than encourage litigation. He shunned and had little taste or adaptability for the technical requirements of the law. Preliminaries were avoided. He was eager to grapple with the great fact or principle in the case. Before a jury he had an appearance of sincerity, a way of putting facts highly to his advantage and credit. In political life he was much interested. He gave much attention to such affairs yet was independent in thinking and action. Judge Moore was a man of pronounced convictions and example of plain, rugged, strong, independent thinking. He had traits of character peculiarly his own. His love of innocent fun, his dry, droll humor, his frankness and tenderness in remonstrance or urging were marked traits. His life ran in deep, broad channels. In some things he thought far ahead of his day. He was a reader of good things. His mind was a great library of knowledge. He could converse intelligently upon many topics which required careful study and investigation. Sometimes he probed to the bottom of certain great questions. I doubt if many people in this community knew the depth of his reading and thinking. It was unusual. He was an unusual character—not always best understood, not always revealing himself to men. Not that he concealed himself, but his life in some portion was a deep current. His childhood had been hard, crowded with toil, sorrow, loneliness. His youth was marked by ill health which forced changes of occupation and the turning aside from plans cherished. Life to him for a quarter of a century was 'bearing the yoke in his youth.' That this had some effect upon him as he grew to maturity I cannot doubt. Other trials later in life were not without effect, and probably some, noticing a few hours or incidents of his life, did not see the whole man. But many friends were impressed that in him certain unusual and strong elements had flourished. Alone he had fought the early battles of life and practically an orphan he had won character and place unaided. No man does this successfully without being profoundly moved or influenced for all remaining years. I firmly believe he had tried always to make his way without working injury or unkindness to his fellow-man. His nature was modest, somewhat sensi-

tive, transparent, religious in temperament, somewhat retiring as he met trials. He had more than ordinary trust in his fellow-man, and he had intimated to me that this had caused his betrayal at times, but he told the experiences without bitterness or rancor. He was a man of high ambitions. If he failed to reach them all, perhaps it was because he was unwilling to pay what he thought an unjust price in point of forgetfulness of his own honor or the welfare of others. He was by long habit a self-controlled, somewhat reserved man but under great or unusual strain he let out flashes which showed the strong fire within, the blaze of an intense nature. Yet he was a man of kindness habitually, compassionate and gentle as years increased. His intimate friends knew a larger man than some others. Judge Moore had a peculiar bent towards instruction. He could teach in clear terms. He loved knowledge for its own sake, not for profit. It must have been something of a sacrifice for him to turn from this calling to the strenuous, intense, keen activity of the law. In the teaching of the Christian faith he was exceptional in his prime. One of his former pastors told me that he was one of the best Bible teachers he ever knew. For some years he led the instruction to the Sunday school teachers. This was his favorite duty. Into this he put his time and out of it drew rare joy. He was a master of the English Bible. Its solemnity, the varied character in style and composition were an attraction to him, while the religious quality of the Hebrew had for him a peculiar charm. He taught a Sunday school class for years. In the days of old York College he gave much time and interest to the young men. He possessed a religious temperament. He had been a Christian from early childhood. Hardships of youth had not embittered him towards God. He was an example that wide reading, careful study strengthened the faith accepted in early life. He told me he did not know when he became a Christian. It was very early. His faith had grown with the years. He was long a member of one branch of the Presbyterian faith, the more progressive and liberal element of the Covenanter organization. After coming to Nebraska he united with the Methodist church, of which his wife was a first member, and in various positions had been faithful to his trust and to his faith. He died facing death without fear, not deceived but not afraid. He was somewhat weary with the toil of life and he greeted the dawn of the new life with the comfort and strength of the Christian faith."

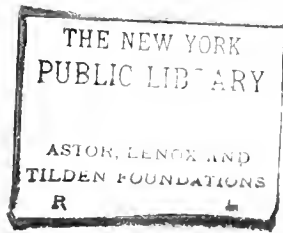
JAY G. BITTINGER

Jay G. Bittinger is spoken of by friends and neighbors as a man of high purpose which has found expression in his daily conduct. He is engaged in farming and stock raising on section 8, Merton township, York county. He was born on the farm where he lives, January 21, 1874, a son of Frederick and Flora (Tongue) Bittinger, the father a native of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and the mother a native of Ohio.

Frederick Bittinger accompanied his parents when he was four years old from the Keystone state to Ohio and from there to Clinton county, Iowa, where he grew to manhood, helping his father in the work of the farm which the family acquired shortly after settling there. He remained in Iowa until 1874 when he decided to come farther west, selecting Nebraska as his objective and York county



FREDERICK BITTINGER



as his final destination. He and two of his brothers set out on the cross country journey and driving through with three teams of horses finally reached their goal and Frederiek came direct to York county. He homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, located on section 8, Morton township, and erected a small one-room frame house, which he occupied for about seven years. He put considerable energy into the work of reclaiming and cultivating his homestead and with the lapse of years improved and developed the entire place, ultimately bringing the farm to be recognized as one of the best in the township. He added another forty to the original holding and at the time of his death in July, 1918, was the owner of two hundred acres of excellent land, in the operation of which he was successful from the very beginning. He was a member of the Woodmen and Elks and in his political attitude was disposed to be independent and at the same time liberal in his views. He took a practical part in the public life of his township which he served as assessor and supervisor, filling the latter office for six years. His long residence in the county coupled with his high character made him popular with all classes.

Jay G. Bittinger, who is proving himself a worthy successor to his father, was reared on the home farm and secured his education in the district schools. He early applied himself to the duties of agricultural life and under his father's guidance acquired a sound knowledge of farm work. In 1914 he was entrusted with the management of the entire place and in the intervening years has maintained a high standard in his agricultural operations, employing modern methods and the latest machinery, the results in every direction being eminently satisfactory. Well defined plans and purposes have carried him forward and each step in his career has brought him a broader outlook and wider opportunities.

On January 8, 1914, Mr. Bittinger was united in marriage to Hester Gatchel and to their union two children have been born: Earl and Ruth, at home with their parents. Mr. Bittinger is not active in politics but takes a good citizen's interest in all movements intended to promote the welfare of the community and in these efforts he is assisted by his wife. They have a wide circle of friends by whom they are held in the highest esteem.

ARTHUR G. BITTINGER

Arthur G. Bittinger, a native son of York county who is devoting his time and energies to the operation of a good farm on section 14, Morton township, was born January 14, 1881, a son of Frederick and Flora (Tongue) Bittinger, the former born in Pennsylvania and died in 1919 at the age of seventy-one years. His widow resides in York and is now in her seventieth year, still active and in the enjoyment of good health.

Fred Bittinger started his farming career in Pennsylvania and some years later in company with his father, John Bittinger, went to Iowa and they were engaged in agricultural operations, but not finding conditions to their liking they started for York county and settled in Morton township in 1871, where each homesteaded and began to develop the land, using energy and steady application in the furtherance of their farm work. However, it was not all plain sailing and hardships beset

their way for a considerable time after they settled in the township. The grasshoppers descended on their fields and destroyed the crops and dry seasons produced the same undesirable results. They persevered in their efforts and ultimately were rewarded by good seasons and bountiful crops. They had to haul household necessities from Fairmont and Columbus, these trips occupying several days at a time. They put up a frame house, the lumber for which had to be hauled from Seward, and a sod barn was erected which did temporary duty until a better and more modern structure was built. At the time of his death Fred Bittinger was the owner of two hundred acres of well improved land and part of this holding is now being operated by Arthur G. Bittinger. Fred Bittinger and his wife were the parents of five children: Nellie, who died some years ago; Jay, a farmer, of Morton township; Ada, wife of Monier Grieves, of Omaha; Fannie, wife of Frank Layton, of Beatrice, Nebraska; and Arthur G. The father was affiliated with the Elks and with the Modern Woodmen of America. He was a democrat in politics and served the public as county commissioner for two terms and filled the office of township assessor for six years, the confidence reposed in him being amply rewarded by faithful and efficient service.

Arthur G. Bittinger was reared on his father's farm and secured his education in the public schools of York county and in his early youth helped in the work of the farm. He started farming on his own account and took over the management of one of his father's holdings on which he carried on general agriculture. Later he opened up a blacksmith shop and garage known as the Benedict Auto Company and continued in this line for three years, making a good living. His next move was to secure employment in a lumber-yard in Benedict, spending three years in that connection. Finally Mr. Bittinger returned to farm life and resumed agricultural operations. He uses up-to-date methods and implements in carrying on his work and also gives careful thought to the problem of profitable marketing.

In December, 1919, Mr. Bittinger was united in marriage to Lulla Johnson, born in York county and a daughter of C. J. Johnson, of Benedict. Her religious affiliation is with the Methodist church, to the teachings of which she has always been loyal. Mr. Bittinger votes an independent ticket and is a member of the Elks lodge at York, in the affairs of which fraternal order he takes a keen interest. His farming activities do not leave him much time for outside affairs but it is generally known that he supports all movements seeking the material, moral or civic advancement of his community.

JOHN ABRAHAMSON

Prominent among the self-made men of York county is John Abrahamson whose life has been largely identified with agricultural pursuits and business activities and success has attended his well directed efforts. He was born in southern Russia, June 18, 1860, a son of John and Kathrine (Voth) Abrahamson, also natives of Russia where the father spent his entire life, his death occurring there in 1872. Some two years after the death of her husband, in 1874, Mrs. Abrahamson and her family immigrated to America and after their arrival they went to Nebraska, coming to York county and settling on section 29, Brown township. Their first house was

constructed of sod with a board roof and in this the family lived for six years, later replacing it with a more substantial and commodious building. There were twelve children born to John and Kathrine Abrahams, of whom seven are living and doing well in their various lines of activity.

In his boyhood John Abrahams had but little opportunity for acquiring an education but attended the schools of his native country for a time. He was fourteen years old when he accompanied his mother to the new world and remained with her, working on the home farm, until he had attained his majority. He then engaged in farming on his own account, continuing in that line for one year at the end of which time he entered a general store at Bradshaw where he acquired a full knowledge of business methods and the buying and selling of goods and followed this line of activity for thirteen years. He then turned his attention to farming again and has since been engaged in agricultural pursuits now operating a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres devoted to general farming and stock raising. It is a well improved property and in the conduct of his agricultural interests he has met with gratifying success, being energetic, enterprising and progressive. He has kept in touch with all modern methods and farming machinery and has utilized both to the fullest extent in the carrying on of his affairs, thus securing maximum results from his investments.

In 1882 Mr. Abrahams was united in marriage to Miss Kathrine Kroeker, who was born in Russia, a daughter of Heinrich Kroeker and wife, the former of whom died some years ago. They have no children. Mr. Abrahams and his wife are active members of the Mennonite church, to the teachings of which they consistently adhere and their influence is always on the side of right, progress and improvement. He is a preacher of the church and by self-education, wide reading and close study is amply qualified for the duties which the work of a preacher entails, his efforts for the moral and social uplift of the community being worthy of special commendation. His political support is given to the republican party and while not an office seeker he served years ago on the township school board as a director, his interest in the advancement of educational facilities being on a par with his other efforts for the welfare of the community. His honorable principles have won him many friends and all who know him hold him in the highest esteem.

OTTO B. LIEDTKE

Otto B. Liedtke is a well known representative of farming interests in York county, where prior to his retirement to Thayer in 1916 he had been actively engaged in the cultivation of two hundred and eighty acres of prime land, the ownership of which he still retains. He is a native of Charleston, South Carolina, born August 20, 1867, a son of F. W. and Ann (Chemfaren) Liedtke, the latter born in Philadelphia.

The father was a captain in the Union army during the Civil war and at the close of his service with the Federal forces he joined the United States regular army, with which he remained for several years, his last place of service being at Detroit. In 1872 he migrated to York county and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres located in Thayer township, that holding being now in the possession of

his son Otto B. Liedtke. In the winter of 1872 he built a shack on the homestead and in the following year brought his family to reside on the place. Being a man of considerable education he taught school for a time, and having shown himself possessed of the necessary ability he was elected county clerk in 1873, retaining that office until 1879, when he was further honored by election to the office of state auditor, serving one term in that responsible capacity. In the meantime he had been attending to his land which he improved and developed and brought to an excellent state of cultivation. Shortly after his retirement from the office of auditor Mr. Liedtke went to Texas and there bought a cattle ranch which he operated for several years with excellent results. He was one of the leading men in the ranch country in which he resided and enjoyed a prosperity which was the merited reward of his labors. He passed away in 1914, being then seventy-eight years old.

Otto B. Liedtke accompanied his father to Lincoln when the latter was filling the office of state auditor. A portion of his education was obtained in the public schools of York and he completed his school course at Lincoln, after which he moved to Kansas City and worked at his trade as a harness-maker for about three years. At the end of that period he returned to York and worked at his trade for a year. He then accepted an appointment in the office of the clerk of the district court and served for one year, after which he returned to the old homestead and there pursued agricultural operations up to 1916, when he retired to Thayer. During his active years on the farm he had been engaged in general farming and stock raising, adding gradually to his holdings as he prospered in his work and he is now the owner of two hundred and eighty acres which he brought to an excellent state of improvement. He employed modern methods and utilized modern machinery in the conduct of his agricultural operations, with the result that he converted it into a most valuable and productive farming property.

On February 26, 1887, Mr. Liedtke was united in marriage to Miss Anna A. Fewins and to that union three children were born: Frederick, a farmer, of York county; Frank, who operates the home farm; and Vesta, the wife of Castle Brewer, of York. Mr. Liedtke has given his consistent support to the principles of the republican party and has been actively identified with the public affairs of York county for several years. He served as county supervisor for four years. He has been township clerk and is now filling the office of township assessor, the duties of which office he is performing with fidelity and ability. He is affiliated with the Masonic order at Gresham. The county is fortunate in having his services in connection with its important growth and development and is proud to number him among its citizens.

BURWELL SPURLOCK

Burwell Spurlock has been a resident of Nebraska for sixty-five years and his active life has been one of service and usefulness to his fellowmen.

Burwell Spurlock was born in Wayne county, Virginia, June 28, 1835, where his parents were also born, and while the son was too young to remember the

family home was established in Illinois and later in Iowa. In the latter state the subject of this review was reared on a pioneer farm, obtaining his early education by the light of the old-fashioned fireplace. At the age of eighteen he found employment in a store at Glenwood, Iowa, where he worked one year and with the wages thus earned attended Iowa Wesleyan University for a term of six months. April 1, 1856, before he had reached his majority, he arrived at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, and entered the employ of a business firm which had recently located there. Having become a Christian in early boyhood and having formed a strong aversion to the use of intoxicating beverages, for a time in the mixed population he seemed an anomaly. But he had been taught at home to be respectful and courteous to all, irrespective of class, color or station. Observing these rules he safely passed through the crucial test, and won the respect and friendship of all classes, without making a single compromise to their ways. His parents became residents of Nebraska City in 1858, and here they both passed away, the father at the age of eighty-one and the mother in her nineties.

November 1, 1860, Burwell Spurlock was married to Miss Isabella S. Davis, who was born in Nodaway county, Missouri, January 21, 1843. Her father, William H. Davis, became a pioneer settler of Cass county, Nebraska, coming here before the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Bill and bought from the Indians the privilege of selecting his claim. He joined with a few friends in hiring private teachers to instruct their children and in 1855 erected on his own land probably the first schoolhouse built in Cass county. In 1858 his daughter was engaged to teach the neighborhood school, which she did in an acceptable manner, and although but fifteen years old had grown boys and girls for her pupils. After her marriage she became active in the social and religious life of the young city of Plattsmouth, and soon after was selected as corresponding secretary of the Christian Commission. In this position she rendered excellent service and aided materially in gathering supplies for the wounded and dying in southern hospitals. In the early temperance work of the state she took an active part as editor of the Olive Branch, and of a temperance column in the Plattsmouth Herald. About this time she organized a corps of eighty boys known as the Cold Water Army. Many of these became prominent in the civic and commercial life of the state. She was prominent in the organization of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, was chosen corresponding secretary of the state department, and sent as the first delegate from Nebraska to the national executive meeting at Cincinnati, Ohio. For many years she was prominent in the work of the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist church and this work led to the establishment of a home and industrial school for boys and girls located at York, Nebraska, known as "Mothers' Jewels' Home," in the management of which she assisted her husband until her death, which occurred October 14, 1906.

After his marriage Mr. Spurlock continued in mercantile pursuits in one form or another until elected county clerk and recorder in the fall of 1860. After the expiration of his first term—two years—he was renominated and elected for a second term. Then afterwards two other terms, in each succeeding convention receiving the nomination by acclamation. In his last election, after the famous election contest over the Rockbluff matter, his majority was greater than at any previous election. Many democrats voted for him. He was importuned by the leading and best men in the republican party to become a candidate for the fifth

term, but positively declined. Also after this he was urged by prominent and influential men in the state to become a candidate for secretary of state, but he declined this also.

To show the character of the man and his loyalty to his convictions, mention must be made of the Rockbluff affair. Of this affair it may be said that, as relating to Spurlock it has the distinction of being the only time in his life that his integrity or purity of motive was ever questioned. As related to the interest and progress of Nebraska it is one of the most important events in its history. The following brief facts are taken from an extensive account of the affair, prepared by Rev. David Marquette, a pioneer Methodist minister in Nebraska.

"There was an election held June 2, 1866. Primarily, the issue was the admission of Nebraska as a state; incidentally, the election of state officers, legislators, and congressmen were involved, the legislature to select two United States senators. The election was held under great excitement and bitter feeling. A class of people then known as Missouri refugees, that is, people whose sympathies were with the South during the war, but who, being too cowardly to fight for the Confederate flag, had run away from the scene of war and had settled at Rockbluff and other places in Nebraska. They were not only considered rebels, by the Unionists, but were a tough set. They had settled in Rockbluff in such numbers that they had complete control of the election machinery, having elected their own judges and clerks of election. Spurlock was county clerk and shared in the general distrust in which these people were held and before the election expected some crookedness. To guard against it as far as possible he had sent them written instructions regarding the law. He was not surprised the next morning to find that his pre-election suspicions were confirmed with rumors of gross irregularities at the polls in Rockbluff precinct. When old-time residents of the precinct came to him and protested against having the vote counted he became convinced that the vote should be thrown out. But later when it became apparent, through the slowly incoming returns from the county and territory, that the result in the territory depended upon the vote in Cass county, and that in Cass county it depended upon the vote in Rockbluff precinct, and further that the official action of the board of canvassers of which he was ex-officio a member, and his own action as county clerk in giving certificates of election to members of the legislature, which in turn would determine the question of the admission of the state into the union and the political complexion of the legislature which would determine who would be the United States senators, Burwell Spurlock had pressing upon him a responsibility that comes to few men, and which few men would feel more keenly than he. Upon consulting legal advice he was told that he would have to act as his own judgment and conscience dictated. The result was that the vote of Rockbluff precinct was thrown out and certificates of election given to the republican candidates. A contest was called for, the matter placed in the proper committees in the legislature, and some of the ablest attorneys of the state were employed. Mr. Spurlock's action was sustained by the legislative committee and further proof of his vindication is attested by the fact that at the next election he was given a larger majority than had ever before been accorded him."

After his term of office expired he again entered upon mercantile pursuits and for twenty years continued to reside at Plattsmouth. In 1891 he was made superintendent of "Mothers' Jewels' Home" in York and for twenty-seven years conducted

the affairs of this institution in a very able manner. He is still a resident of York and is one of the few remaining Territorial Pioneers of Nebraska.

Mr. and Mrs. Spurlock became the parents of two children: William Wesley, who died in childhood; and George M., an attorney of York, Nebraska.

DANIEL W. BAKER

Farming interests of York county find a worthy representative in the person of Daniel W. Baker, who is living on section 29, Morton township, where he has an excellent farm of two hundred acres. In former years he was an active member of the state legislature, serving the people of his district and of the state with fidelity and ability. He was born in Fulton county, Pennsylvania, September 25, 1854, a son of Jacob and Maria (Bergstresser) Baker, natives of Pennsylvania; the former was born November 7, 1814, and died September 16, 1879. The mother was born March 4, 1819, and passed away December 13, 1886. Jacob Baker taught school in the Keystone state during his early years and also farmed for a time. In 1874 the trend of migration being headed for the west, he set out for Nebraska and settled in York county, later buying a tract of railroad land, doing his trading at Seward. He built a frame house twelve by sixteen feet, and it is claimed that it was the first of its kind put up in the district. He proceeded to develop and improve the railroad land which he had acquired and soon had the place in a state of cultivation, doing general farming and raising stock. It was on this holding that he and his wife spent their last days. They were the parents of two children: Francis A., a York county farmer, and Daniel W., the subject of this sketch. His wife was an ardent supporter of the activities of the Methodist church, on whose services she was a constant attendant. His political allegiance was extended to the republican party, but he never sought public office.

Daniel W. Baker, an eastern man by birth and training, displays in his life the spirit of enterprise and progress which have ever been a dominant factor in the upbuilding of that section of the country. He was educated in the common schools of Pennsylvania and later attended the Juniata Institute Academy of that state. He accompanied his parents to York county in 1874 and in that year taught school in the district schools of what is now Thayer township and also in Morton township. He helped his father in the farming operations on the home place and later decided to make the life of an agriculturist his ultimate goal. He began on his present place in 1880, applied himself diligently to learning the best and most profitable methods of conducting agricultural affairs, progressed as time went on, and is now the owner of a fine place of two hundred acres on which general farming and stock raising is carried on. He has brought the fields under a high state of cultivation and upon the farm there are substantial buildings which indicate the care and supervision of the owner. He seems to lose sight of nothing that should be accomplished in the work of further developing his place and his labors have brought substantial results.

April 13, 1879, Mr. Baker was united in marriage to Esther A. Black, a native of Pennsylvania, and of that union the following children have been born: Ray, living in Keensburg, Colorado; Frank, a farmer in York county; Edward A., living

in Kimball county, Nebraska; Charles A., of Big Springs; Grant, of Enumclaw, Washington; Ella, wife of H. P. Harrington; Ira L., of Washington; Clyde, of York county; Oliver P., Pearl, William M., Earl, Floyd and Wayne, all at home. Mr. Baker is a member of the Masonic order and a Knight Templar. He has been active and influential in republican politics for many years and has held office in the state legislature for three terms—1907-09-11, his successive re-elections to the house at once proclaiming his legislative ability and popularity. He made an excellent record while serving his district and in 1913 was appointed to the office of sergeant-at-arms in the state senate, his services in this highly important position being fully appreciated by the members of the senate, the officials and the public. He served as a member of the county board for four years and a further mark of favor was conferred upon him when he became precinct assessor, an office of which he was the incumbent for five terms. He discharged the duties of these various offices with great efficiency and faithfulness and is spoken of by his friends and contemporaries as a man of well rounded character and finely balanced mind.

WILLIAM J. LANYON

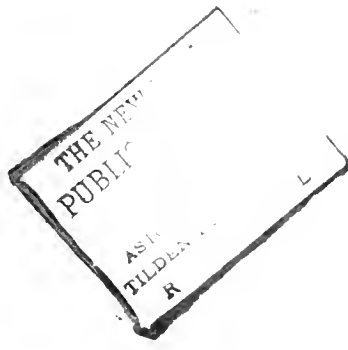
The son of William J. Lanyon, residing in Stewart township, York county, pays fitting tribute to his memory in preserving the record of his life in this history of the county and district. He was born in Linden, Iowa county, Wisconsin, February 2, 1843, a son of Simon and Mary (Batten) Lanyon, both natives of the parish of St. Alban, Cornwall, England, where they were married in 1838. A short time after their marriage they immigrated to America and later located in Iowa county, Wisconsin, and at Linden, that state, the father followed his trade of blacksmith, continuing to reside there until 1853. Later he moved to Mineral Point, Wisconsin, and there his last days were spent. Mr. and Mrs. Simon Lanyon were the parents of six children, all of whom are now dead.

William J. Lanyon was educated in the schools of Linden and at Mineral Point, Wisconsin, and lived in the home of his parents until reaching young manhood. When he was twenty-nine years old he started out for himself, and in April, 1872, came to York county and looked over the district with a view to settling here. He preempted a tract of land but lost the place in consequence of his absence while making the return journey to Wisconsin for his family. However, in the spring of the same year he started with his family from Wisconsin and drove through to York county, bringing three horses as part of his equipment. He settled on section 24 in Stewart township, selecting the northeast quarter of the section for his holding. He improved and developed the farm and was doing splendidly until the grasshoppers destroyed his crops. He held this place for thirty-three months under squatter's rights and then homesteaded one eighty acres and timber claimed the other eighty acres, and later homesteaded and proved up. He erected a frame house, fourteen feet by twenty-two feet, hauling the lumber from Columbus and Lincoln and he continued to reside there until 1883 when he sold out to advantage. Mr. Lanyon then bought a half section of land in the southwest quarter of section 22, and on this there were some small improvements in the form of frame houses.

During his active years in agricultural life, Mr. Lanyon specialized in the



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM J. LANYON



breeding of Shorthorn cattle and Percheron horses. He bought imported mares from France and in this way developed a line of business from which he derived handsome returns, and he was one of the first breeders of Percheron horses in this part of the state to see great possibilities in using imported animals for breeding purposes. His son, Irving H., is following his father's work on the farm and in every respect is proving a worthy representative. He is largely engaged in the breeding of blooded horses and cattle, in which he has considerable investments, and his enterprise, as in the case of his father, is being substantially rewarded. He is a stockholder in the First National Bank of Gresham and in the Farmers State Bank of Thayer. The extent and importance of his business interests have made him widely and favorably known and his life record should serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement to others, indicating what may be accomplished by honorable effort. He is prominent in Masonic circles and is a Knight Templar, while in other directions he gives of his time and ability to the furtherance of all projects intended to advance the moral and material welfare of the community.

On March 8, 1866, Mr. Lanyon was united in marriage to Elizabeth J. James, a native of Camborne, Cornwall, England, born on October 26, 1813, a daughter of Joseph and Jane (Rogers) James, also natives of Cornwall. They came to the United States in 1848 and settled at Dodgeville, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Lanyon became the parents of the following children: Mary L., of Gresham; Irving H., now operating his father's place; Morris S., of Pittsburg, Kansas; Reuben J., of Harra, Oklahoma; William J., of Oklahoma City; Emily J., of Gresham, and Carrie B., who died in infancy. The parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal church and in social life occupied a very prominent position. He was a member of the Masonic order and in politics supported the republican party and for a time served as township treasurer. In 1917 he retired from the farm and moved to Gresham where he passed away in June, 1918, being then in his seventy-fifth year. His wife predeceased him by five years, her death taking place in June, 1913. Mr. Lanyon, as one of the pioneers of the county, as a man who performed many good deeds in his day, will always be remembered and held in the highest respect.

HIRAM S. PLESSINGER

Hiram S. Plessinger is now and has been for years a representative agriculturist of York county, owning and cultivating a compact and well-kept farm of one hundred and sixty-six acres of valuable land on section 18, New York township. He was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, June 16, 1878, a son of Joseph and Jane (McDaniel) Plessinger, natives of the Keystone State, near to the borders of which they spent their last days.

Joseph Plessinger was for many years engaged in farming operations in Pennsylvania and continued in that line up to 1883 when he came to York county. On settling here he bought and operated land in Arborville township but lived in the village of Arborville, which at that time was beginning to come into some prominence as a business and residence neighborhood. After working the place for some years he sold out and moved to Box Butte county, Nebraska, where he remained for

two years, at the end of that period returning to Arborville where he passed away at the old home. Mr. Plessinger and his wife became the parents of ten children, nine of whom are living, three of the latter being residents of York county: Mrs. F. L. Bedient, of Bradshaw; Mrs. John Blair, of Arborville, and Hiram S. J. N. and Mrs. A. W. Shaffer are residents of Polk county. Mr. and Mrs. Plessinger were members of the Christian church, in the good works of which they were active participants and were ever ready to assist in promoting all movements calculated to advance the moral progress of their adopted county. He was a republican in politics and was a consistent supporter of the principles and policies of the party. Coming to York county as he did in humble circumstances he attained a fair measure of success and left behind him a good name and character worthy of emulation.

In 1883, when Hiram S. Plessinger was but five years old, he accompanied his parents to York county, was reared on his father's place and was educated in the village schools of Arborville. On the completion of his school course he began to work at farming and commenced by renting land in Arborville township, continuing to operate in this way for three years. He then purchased farm land securing eighty acres in Lockridge township, which he held for a time and subsequently sold at a good price, then bought another place of eighty acres in the same township. Mr. Plessinger secured his present holding containing one hundred and sixty-six acres in 1918. It is a well developed farm where he carries on general farming and stock raising, the entire holding being under his own immediate supervision, thus entailing a large outlay of physical energy on his part. He raises pure-blooded Shorthorn cattle, the quality being unsurpassed in the district, and in all of his agricultural operations he is primarily progressive.

In 1900 Mr. Plessinger was united in marriage to Sylvia Darling, born in Arborville township, a daughter of David Darling, a well-known homesteader in that township where his last days were spent. One son has been born to the union, Roy David, now eleven years old. The Plessinger family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of York and take a praiseworthy interest in its work. He supports the republican party in political affairs and for a time served the cause of education as a member of the local school board, his activity in this line being commendable. He has a wide acquaintance in the county in which practically all of his life has been spent and his sterling worth is indicated in the fact that his staunchest friends are those who have known him intimately since boyhood.

WILLIAM W. WYCKOFF

William W. Wyckoff, an attorney of York who is also engaged in the abstract business, was born in La Salle county, Illinois, July 15, 1858, his parents being Alfonso and Lovina (Beresford) Wyckoff, the former a native of Brown county, Ohio, while the latter was one of the first white children born in La Salle county, Illinois, her natal year being 1828. Her father was one of the first settlers of La Salle county, while William Wyckoff, the grandfather in the paternal line, arrived in 1838. He was born in Ohio and died a few years after reaching Illinois. The father was but eight years of age when, in 1838, he accompanied his parents to

Illinois where he was reared on a farm. When a young man he went to California in 1851 making the trip largely by boat. He was a carpenter by trade, and after reaching the Pacific coast engaged in the building of mining machinery, remaining for three years in the far west when he returned with a capital of three thousand dollars saved from his earnings. After rejoining his family in Illinois he removed with them to York county, Nebraska, in 1880, and purchased a frame building at the northwest corner of the square in the city of York. Tearing down this store he erected a brick building upon the lot and also put up a second brick business block. He opened a drug store which he conducted successfully until 1887 and then sold out. In 1895 he removed to southern California where his last days were spent, his death occurring in 1915 when he was eighty-five years of age. His wife died in York in 1890. Their family numbered four children of whom three are living. Helen L.: was a teacher in the schools of Omaha for thirty-five years, but has now retired from the profession and is living in Berkeley, California. William W. is the second of the family; Florence deceased, became the wife of M. D. Cameron; Rilla L., twin sister of Florence, is the wife of Charles M. Boynton of Berkeley, California, who is manager of the coast branch of the Kawneer Manufacturing Company of Niles, Michigan. The religious faith of the family was that of the Congregational church and the father was a minister of this church, taking a most helpful part in church work in addition to his various activities along other lines. He did much for York and her upbuilding, at all times supporting those interests and activities which were of greatest benefit to the community. He was mayor during the time the city hall was built and the city waterworks installed, and he gave his political allegiance to the republican party at all times, believing in its principles most thoroughly. He was chaplain of the Sixty-eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry during the Civil war, serving for three years, and he was afterward a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

William W. Wyckoff, after attending the common schools, was graduated from a college of pharmacy in Chicago, in 1880, and then joined his father in the conduct of the drug store in York, with which he was associated until 1887 when the business was sold. He then turned his attention to the abstract business in which he is still engaged. At the same time he took up the study of law, was admitted to practice in 1895, and has since followed his profession. He was admitted to practice in all of the courts and throughout the intervening years has tried all kinds of cases and tried them well, being a strong, resourceful lawyer. He is also associate judge of the county court and has held the position for four years. He has the only set of abstract books in York county, and aside from his activity in this field he has for the past thirty years, or since its organization, been a director of the York Mutual Building & Loan Association.

In 1887 occurred the marriage of William W. Wyckoff and Miss Mary L. Baldwin, who was born in Sandwich, Illinois, a daughter of Franklin Baldwin, who came to Nebraska in 1883, settling in York county. The father was a real estate and abstract man and both he and his wife passed away in York. Mr. and Mrs. Wyckoff have one child, Marjorie, the wife of Brown C. Woodbury, who is connected with the Liggett Lumber Company of York. Mr. and Mrs. Wyckoff are members of the Congregational church, and he is well known in fraternal circles being connected with Masonic lodge, Knights of Pythias and Elks, and in the last named he has been exalted ruler. He is likewise a member of the United Work-

men, The Woodmen of the World and the Royal Highlanders. He belongs to the Commercial Club, and to the Country Club and Rotary Club and he is keenly appreciative of the social amenities of life. In politics he has been a republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. For sixteen years he served as city attorney and for three years was a member of the board of supervisors, serving as its chairman for one year. He is now for the fourth year a member of the board of education and is its secretary, and he manifests the keenest interest in everything pertaining to the welfare and progress of city and county, his aid and influence being at all times on the side of advancement.

FRANK L. PROPST

County treasurer Frank L. Propst who resides in York, was born on the 1st of December, 1885, in Rowan county, North Carolina, the son of Lawson E. and Diana (Goodman) Propst. The father was a North Carolinian, born in that state on the 19th of January, 1861, and later removed to Illinois where he was married. He and his wife settled in North Carolina and there he engaged in farming and contracting. He is still enjoying the best of health and continues to reside on his farm. The mother, who was a native of Illinois, died in 1916. Twelve children were born of this union: Paul E., whose birth occurred on the 4th of December, 1883, is engaged as government civil engineer at Martha, Texas; Frank L., the subject of this sketch; Willie Elmer, whose birth occurred April 3, 1887, is a railroad conductor and resides in Illinois; Ellie May, born January 3, 1889, is the wife of William F. Flinkinger, a station agent, and they reside at St. Michael; Viola, born on the 11th of September, 1890, is the wife of A. J. Renneker of Memphis, Tennessee, who is engaged in the tailoring business; Charles H., whose natal day was August 22, 1891, is engaged in farming in Young county; Bessie Ruth, born on the 28th of December, 1894, is holding a position as bookkeeper in Waco, Texas, as is also Bertha Marie, who was born on the 23rd of August, 1897; Johnnie V., born March 30, 1900, died in infancy; George Lee, born in 1902, is working on the farm of his brother in York county; Glen Arthur, born on the 29th of July, 1905, resides with his father; and Dorris Lawson, born July 22, 1908, is at home. They are all faithful members of the Evangelical Lutheran church. The maternal grandfather, Moses Goodman, was one of the pioneers of Illinois having driven overland with his parents at an early day with ox teams. When the Civil war broke out he entered the southern army and served in the position of general until he received injuries which retired him from active service, and from the results of which he soon after died.

Few were the educational advantages offered, but Frank L. Propst was not to be deterred in his effort to obtain knowledge and he faithfully attended the little log cabin schoolhouse with its boards for seats. When the family removed to Illinois he attended the country and village schools and it was only after he had completed every course of study offered that he put his textbooks aside. He then worked for his father on the farm until he was twenty-one years of age, at which time he left the parental roof and went to Jonesboro, Arkansas, where he worked on a lumber farm for eighteen months. In 1907 he went to Nebraska on a visit and

being much impressed with the progressiveness of the country and the many opportunities offered, decided to make the state his home and here he has resided ever since. Mr. Propst had practically nothing when he settled in York county and for three years he engaged as a farm laborer. His next venture was in the restaurant and confectionery business at Waco, which he successfully conducted for eighteen months, and at the termination of that period he entered the service of the Farmers and Traders Bank at Waco as assistant cashier. For four years he served in that capacity and then for another four years served as deputy county treasurer. In 1918 he was elected to the office of treasurer and is still holding this position.

In 1913 Mr. Propst was united in marriage to Miss Ella M. Beckord, a daughter of Robert Beckord whose sketch appears on another page of this work. Of this union two children have been born: Margaret Lucille, aged four years; and Robert Lawson, thirteen months old. Mr. and Mrs. Propst are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he is president of the Methodist Brotherhood. Fraternally he is a member of the Odd Fellows and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Since age conferred upon Mr. Propst the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party. His success is due to his persistent effort, and determination and energy have enabled him to overcome obstacles and difficulties in his path. Those who know him and have watched his course in every relation of life entertain for him warm respect and high regard.

HENRY SCHLECHTE

Henry Schlechte whose death occurred in 1917 at the age of seventy years, was one of York county's earliest pioneers. He was born in Germany a son of Carl Schlechte, and in 1845 came to the United States, crossing in an old sailing vessel and being several weeks on the water. On landing in this country he went to St. Louis and for a month was employed on a farm in that vicinity. In 1872 he came to Nebraska, settling in York county where he homesteaded on section 2, Beaver township. His home on this place was of sod with a board floor and his barn and other outbuildings were of sod. He set out an orchard and put his land in cultivation but in 1874 his crops were entirely destroyed by grasshoppers. He was forced to burn cornstalks during the winter months and when the severe blizzards came he brought his cattle into the house to keep them from freezing. There were few pioneer hardships he did not experience, but his courage and grim determination overcame all obstacles. At the time of his death he was in possession of six hundred and eighty acres in York county besides owning some Kansas and Idaho land.

In York county in 1875 occurred the marriage of Mr. Schlechte to Miss Ann Ticken, also a native of Germany, and to them sixteen children were born: C. G. L., who is farming in York county; Katie, the wife of Henry Wiese, a farmer in Seward county; Lena, the wife of Charles Staehr, a farmer of Waco township; Anna, the wife of Carl Uffelman, engaged in farming in York county; Ernest, a York county farmer; Rieke, the wife of Antone Wienken of Canada who is engaged in farming; William, engaged in the garage business at Waco; George, who is farming in Canada; Mary, the wife of Max Keller, a farmer in Canada; Louis, who is living at home; Henry and Alex who are residing at home; Eva and Lawrence

of Canada; Sophia, the wife of Traugot Wunderlich, a teacher in Chicago; and Bertha, the wife of Louis Wenz, who is engaged in farming in Colorado. The first member of the family, C. G. L., was born in York county in 1876. He received his education in the county of his birth and later attended the State Agricultural school at Lincoln. In 1901 he started into general farming and stock raising, in which line of work he is very successful.

Mr. Schlechte was a man of sterling characteristics that endeared him to all with whom he came in contact. He never had occasion to regret his determination to leave his native land and he lived to prosper in his undertakings and witness the marvelous growth and development of this great state. He was familiar with every phase of pioneer life and with the complete story of the early development of York county, and in his passing the community mourned the loss of one of its representative pioneer citizens.

FREDERICK MARONDE

In the front rank of those who have advanced the civilization of York county Frederick Maronde has led the way to the substantial development, progress and upbuilding of this community where he still makes his home. He was born in Germany, December 14, 1844, the son of John Maronde. His childhood was spent in his native country where he received his education, but when he grew to manhood and learned of the opportunities for a young man in the United States he determined to come to this country to seek his fortune. In 1869 he came to America and secured work in Chicago where he remained until 1885, when he settled in York county.

In 1872 he bought railroad land in New York township, and when he came here in 1885 he built a frame shack and began to cultivate the land that is now considered one of the finest farms in the county. There were many hardships to be endured but he met them bravely and overcame them one by one, emerging from the drought period of 1893 and 1894 with very little to show for his years of toil, but courageous, none the less. His success is shown by the fact that he is now the owner of four hundred and sixty-five acres of rich farm land, where there are three well improved sets of farm buildings. In 1913 Mr. Maronde retired from active farming and moved to York, where he has a comfortable home.

He was married in 1874 to Miss Caroline Sansig, a native of Germany, and to this union have been born nine children: Anna, who is the wife of August Keating, resides on a farm in York county; Bertha, the wife of Godfrey Keating, lives on a farm in York county; Ernest, is a farmer in York county; Emma, the wife of William Stover, resides on the old home place; Louis is engaged in agricultural pursuits in York county; Martha is the wife of August Craig of York county; Ida is the wife of Paul Wise, who lives on a farm in York county; Lena is the wife of Otto Young, and living on a farm in York county; and Lizzie, who is married to Carl Schroeder, is residing on a farm in York county.

Mr. Maronde and his family are members of the Lutheran church and in politics Mr. Maronde gives his support to the republican party. His life has been one of continuous activity in which has been accorded due recognition of labor and

today he is numbered among the substantial citizens of the county. His interests are thoroughly identified with those of agriculture and stock raising and at all times he is ready to lend his aid and cooperation to any movement calculated to benefit this section of the country or advance its development.

THOMAS HENAHAN

Thomas Henahan, one of the most prosperous residents of York county, has made his home in McCool for many years, giving his attention largely to the supervision of his investments and business interests. Mr. Henahan is widely recognized as a self-made man and one who deserves great credit for his success and constant progress which are the result of individual merit. He was born in County Mayo, Ireland, Dec. 21, 1847, the son of Thomas and Delila (Welch) Henahan, natives of Ireland who have since passed away in that country. He was one of eight children, all of whom have passed away except one sister, Mary, who is living in Cleveland, Ohio.

The early youth of Thomas Henahan was spent in Ireland, where at the age of fifteen he was apprenticed as a clerk in a dry goods store, his father having payed thirty pounds as a guarantee of the boy's honesty. After three years employment in this place he joined the Royal Irish constabulary, a semi-military organization, remaining with them for three years, when he left Ireland and came to America to seek his fortune in the land that promised so much to the ambitious youth. His first employment was secured with A. T. Stewart, of New York city, who at his death was reputed to be the richest individual in the world. Mr. Henahan cast his first presidential vote for Horace Greeley, and he took that gentleman's advice and came west to Lincoln, Nebraska, and then to York county where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land from a Civil war soldier who had not made a success of farming. This property was in the vicinity of what is now known as McFadden townshipp, York county, where he resided seven years. When the town of McCool was in its infancy he purchased a store built by Vanderhoof, and became one of the first merchants of the town, where he conducted his business for twenty years. The original store was an old frame building which was replaced by the second brick building in the town. Mr. Henahan can remember the days when he came to York by team, when the curling smoke emerging from the ground pointed out the dugout homes of the pioneers, and he has reason to be proud that he was one of those who braved the hardships of the pioneer settler, deserving great credit for what he has accomplished since coming to the new world.

Mr. Henahan was married to Hannah Rea, a native of Illinois, and they have reared three nieces of Mr. Henahan, having no children of their own. The children who are all married now, are: Mrs. J. A. Dinsmore, of McCool, Nebraska; Mrs. Earl House, of Haxton, Colorado; and Mrs. J. T. Burns, who lives at Holyoke, Colorado.

Mr. Henahan is a public spirited man and has always recognized his duties to his fellowmen, in many ways contributing to the benefit of the community. In politics Mr. Henahan is a democrat, and has held various offices in the county

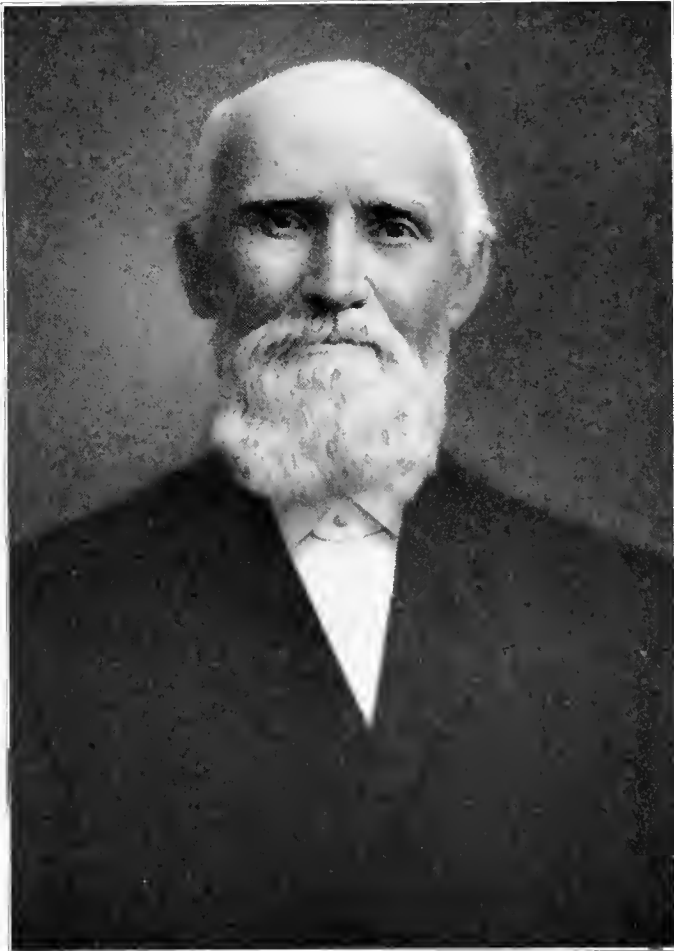
having been a member of the school board, the village board and for six years was on the board of supervisors of the county. Mr. Henahan was an early day post-master in McCool. He now enjoys prosperity and as a result of his diligence and untiring efforts is the owner of valuable property including four hundred and eighty acres of rich farm land in the county. Mr. Henahan has carefully and successfully managed his work, and now in splendid health at the age of seventy-three he enjoys the fruit of his years of well directed effort.

ORVILLE M. MOORE, M. D.

Dr. Orville M. Moore, who since 1896 has been a representative of the medical profession at York, his ability and fidelity to the highest standards of the profession gaining him distinction as one of the representative physicians of the state, was born at Ripley, Brown county, Illinois, July 30, 1859, his parents being S. V. and Laura A. (Morris) Moore. The family comes of English and Scotch ancestry. John Moore, the great-grandfather of Dr. Moore, went from England to Scotland, where he married Annie MacNair. John Moore was an officer in the British army and came to America to take part in the French and Indian war. He settled in this country, and when the War for Independence broke out, joined the American forces and was made a captain. Three months after the death of John Moore, a son was born to his widow and soon afterward her death occurred, while her brother, Archie MacNair, returned to Scotland. John and Annie (MacNair) Moore were also the parents of two daughters, Mary, called Polly, and Jane, called Jinnie. John Moore, the son born after his father's death, became identified with agricultural interests in Ohio during pioneer times and there maintained his home and reared his family, his death occurring in that state. His son, S. V. Moore, was born in the Buckeye state but removed to Illinois, and it was at Ripley that he met and married Laura A. Morris, a native of Virginia. She was a daughter of D. D. Morris, who was born in New York city but died in Illinois. He was a tailor by trade. Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. S. V. Moore lived in Illinois until 1869 when they came to York county. He took a homestead north of the present site of Bradshaw and built a sod house upon a hill overlooking the valley of Lincoln creek. He had studied and practised medicine in his Illinois home but had not intended to follow the profession in Nebraska. But the need of his neighbors was so great and the demand for the help he could give so urgent, that he gradually yielded and soon found himself with a practise extending over the most of York county and parts of Polk and Hamilton. If a call to a sick bed came in plowing time the plow must be left in the furrow till the sick were visited; if a winter storm was brewing the wife and children must be left to care for themselves and the stock as best they could until the doctor-father could reach home again. In many cases the only compensation Dr. Moore received was the deep gratitude of his patients. There was little to pay with, and it was not unwillingness but lack of means which left him unrewarded.

In addition to his services to the community as a physician Dr. Moore was active in the organization of the county and in assisting in the establishment of religious and educational opportunities for the settlers. He was a member of the

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DR. S. V. MOORE



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first county board of supervisors and his advice on all important matters was eagerly sought.

He engaged in the hardware business at Bradshaw from 1884 until 1898 and then removed to York, making his home with his son, Dr. Moore, until his death. To Mr. and Mrs. Moore were born four children, but only two are living, the younger being Alice, the wife of C. S. Byrnes, a dentist of York. Mr. Moore was a member of the Congregational church and was also a faithful follower of the Masonic order. His political allegiance was given to the republican party, but in later life he maintained a somewhat independent political course. For two terms, from 1875 until 1877, he served in the state legislature and was defeated for congress by James Laird in 1882. He took keen interest in political questions, was a forceful and earnest speaker and the strength and validity of his arguments were widely acknowledged.

Orville M. Moore was educated in the common schools of Illinois and Nebraska and for one term attended the York Seminary. He was reared to the occupation of farming, which he followed until 1880 when he began preparation for a professional career by entering the Bennett Medical College of Chicago. He was graduated from the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1884, and located for practice at Bradshaw, Nebraska. There he built up a good practice, enjoying liberal support from the first. There were four physicians in Bradshaw when he located there and only one remaining when he left. In 1896 he removed to York and established general practice in connection with Dr. G. W. Shidler, which association was maintained until Dr. Shidler's death. Dr. Moore then became associated with the son of his former partner, G. P. Shidler, and the firm name is now Moore, Shidler & King. They are recognized as eminent physicians of this part of the state. They engage in clinical work and also conduct a well equipped hospital. Dr. Moore devotes much of his time to surgery and has taken post-graduate work in the New York Post-Graduate Medical School, which he attended in 1891, and also in the Chicago Post-Graduate School and at Mayo Brothers Hospital at Rochester, Minnesota. In fact, he has embraced every opportunity to broaden his knowledge and promote his efficiency and his professional interests and activities have long been of an important character. He is a member of the York County and Nebraska State Medical Societies and at one time was president of the State Eclectic Society. He likewise belongs to the American Medical Association and has served as the president of the county organization. He is now devoting practically all of his time to his professional duties and interests and is one of the oldest physicians of the county. His practice is now very large and important.

On the 24th of June, 1903, Dr. Moore was married to Miss Marion D. Carpenter, a native of Massachusetts and a daughter of W. A. Carpenter, who was a pioneer of York and became manager of the creamery company here. To Dr. and Mrs. Moore have been born three children: Robert H., Marion Ruth and Orville M., aged respectively sixteen, ten and eight years. Mrs. Moore is a member of the Congregational church. Dr. Moore is affiliated with the York Rite bodies of Masonry and is a member of the Mystic Shrine. He is also connected with the Royal Highlanders, while his political allegiance is given to the democratic party. He takes a decided interest in the Rotary Club of which he was the first president, and cooperates in all those forces which make for the material, intellectual, social

and moral progress of the community. His career has ever been actuated by advanced standards, and not to know Orville M. Moore in York is to argue one's self unknown.

ROBERT HENDERSON

Among the citizens of York who are living retired after many years of diligently directed and profitable activity in business fields is Robert Henderson, who for a long period was actively engaged in farming in Nebraska but is now enjoying a well earned rest. He was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, January 16, 1850, and is a son of David and Helen (Brown) Henderson, both of whom were natives of Scotland, their marriage, however, being celebrated in Liverpool, England. The father was born December 21, 1813, and the mother's birth occurred June 11, 1811. They came to the United States in 1844 and made their way to Rock county, Wisconsin, where the father engaged in business as a carpenter and cabinetmaker. In 1866 he removed with his family to York county, Nebraska, and here secured a homestead claim, erected a hewn log house with one room downstairs and one room upstairs, and spent his remaining days upon this land, and his son John also homesteaded at that time. The land upon which David Henderson settled is now section twenty, Henderson township. He was one of the first settlers when Henderson township was organized and it was named in his honor. There were no settlers in the district at that period and the Indians were more numerous than the white men. They would hunt and trap around the homestead and there they endured together the hardships and privations of pioneer life. In his political views Mr. Henderson was a republican and held most strongly to its belief. He occupied various township offices and in an early day filled the position of county commissioner and assessor. Death called him in March, 1890, while his wife survived until September 10, 1893. They were the parents of eight children: John, who died in 1896; Mary, the deceased wife of Daniel George, who was also a homesteader in Henderson township; Jeanette, who is the widow of E. D. Copey, and lives in York; Agnes, who became the wife of Rollen Shepherd, and died in 1905; Robert; Nellie, who makes her home in York with her brother Robert, and is the widow of W. D. Young who died in 1886, and who was a bridge builder and contractor of this section of the state; Elizabeth, who resides with her brother Robert; and Thomas, who died in infancy. The parents were members of the Presbyterian church and in that faith reared their family.

Robert Henderson obtained his early education in rural schools of Wisconsin. He was reared on the home farm and early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He came with the family to Nebraska and when twenty-one years of age homesteaded. He first lived in a dugout on his land and later built a frame house. He continued to reside on that farm with his sister until 1909, when he rented the old home place and took up his abode in York. For a long period he had carefully engaged in farming and had brought his fields under a high state of cultivation, making his place a very productive one. He is now enjoying a well earned rest, the fruits of his former toils bringing to him all of the comforts and conveniences of life.

Mr. Henderson is a republican and has held several political offices, having been supervisor of the county for eight years and acted as chairman of the board for several years during that period. He was also elected to the state legislature and through one term was active in framing the laws of the commonwealth. He was also elected county treasurer and filled that position for two terms, at the end of which time he retired and has since taken no active part in political or business affairs.

Mr. Henderson began living in a modest way and passed through all the struggles incidental to the settlement of the frontier and the development of new farms. In the early days game was plentiful and he frequently indulged his love of hunting. Through one winter in young manhood he devoted his time to hunting buffaloes. On one occasion his companion, Will Collins, wounded a buffalo which then started in pursuit of him, but Mr. Henderson shot the animal and thus saved the life of his friend. On another occasion he was hunting with a companion who shot a buffalo but did not kill him. The man's horse stumbled and the buffalo was just ready to kill the hunter when Mr. Henderson's trusty rifle pierced the lungs of the buffalo, and again he was instrumental in saving a life. Fraternally he is connected with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. The town of Henderson was named for his father and throughout the intervening period since the arrival of the family in the state, the Hendersons have ever taken active parts in promoting the work of development and improvement. Mr. Henderson was a member of the state legislature when Governor Holcomb occupied the executive office, at which time there were but sixteen republican legislators, the remainder of the assemblymen being populist. Mr. Henderson has at all times borne his part in the work of progress and improvement.

GEORGE HENTON

Many changes have taken place in York county since George Henton came here, and he is deserving of a place in this volume for having been a pioneer and an honored veteran of the Civil war.

George Henton was born at Logansport, Cass county, Indiana, August 30, 1844. His parents were John Rigney and Mary (McCurry) Henton. The father was a native of Virginia and in young manhood went to Kentucky where he met and married the mother of our subject. In 1830 he went to Cass county, Indiana, when there were but one or two log houses in Logansport. He put in a dam and sawmill, sawed the lumber, made and burned the brick and erected one of the first brick residences in that part of the country. He took up land and engaged in agricultural pursuits for many years with good success. In 1866 he moved to Plattsmouth, Nebraska, where his death occurred the next year. The mother survived for many years passing away in 1887. She was a native of North Carolina and tradition says her uncle, Samuel McCurry, was a teamster in the Revolutionary war and aided in the defeat of Braddock. The paternal grandfather was George Henton, probably a native of England.

George Henton was the youngest of seven children. He and his sister Ovanda who lives with a daughter at Minatare, Nebraska, are the only members of the

family now living. Our subject was reared on a farm in his native county and attended the public schools until he was sixteen years of age. He then began learning the carpenter trade at which he was employed until President Lincoln called for seventy-five thousand troops in April, 1861, and on the fourth of June George Henton, not yet seventeen years of age, enlisted in Company G, Fifteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, for three years or during the war. The regiment was organized at Indianapolis and three weeks later they went to Virginia and participated in the battles of Greenbrier and Elk Water, after which they went to Camp Wyckliff, Kentucky. In the spring of 1862 they were among the first troops to arrive at Nashville, Tennessee, and soon after proceeded to Pittsburg Landing, where they arrived just about the time that memorable fight ended. He followed Beauregard's retreating army to Corinth and then was sent back to Louisville in pursuit of General Bragg. When that general turned back across Kentucky the engagement at Berryville took place in which Mr. Henton participated. He then went to Nashville where he was encamped for some time, his next scene of active fighting being at Stone River. Being on detached service Mr. Henton was with the Tenth Indiana Battery during the first day's fighting but was with his own regiment the second day. After this battle they went into camp at Murfreesboro, and shortly afterward were ordered to Chattanooga. He took part in the battle of Missionary Ridge. Of the three hundred and thirty-four men who went into this battle two hundred two were killed or wounded. Of his own company but seven returned to tell the tale. Shortly after this battle an attack of pneumonia made it necessary for Mr. Henton to be sent to the hospital at Nashville, and on his recovery he remained at the barracks at Nashville until the expiration of his term of enlistment. He was mustered out at Indianapolis, Indiana, June 25, 1864. He returned home and attended school until the spring of 1865, when he again enlisted, this time in the One Hundred and Fifty-fifth Indiana Infantry. He remained in camp at Indianapolis until the latter part of April and was then ordered to Washington, and from there to Alexandria, Virginia, for guard duty, but two weeks later was sent to Dover, Delaware, where he was discharged August 4, 1865. Although he saw so much active service and participated in some of the fiercest battles of the war he was never wounded nor captured, although at Missionary Ridge he was knocked down by an exploded shell and came out of the fight with several bullet holes in his clothes.

After the war he returned home and in 1866 accompanied his parents on their removal to Plattsmouth, Nebraska. He worked at the carpenter trade until 1872, when he started for Franklin county, Nebraska, with the intention of taking a homestead. Stopping at York on the way he learned that a claim in this county has been vacated by a Civil war soldier and that it could be had. For fear the former claimant might return Mr. Henton had about decided not to take it when he learned that another was about to lay claim to the land. Hastening to Lincoln he filed on the southwest quarter of section 31, Baker township. Returning to Plattsmouth he shipped his household goods to Fairmont and hired a team to haul a load of lumber to the place he had selected for a home. The land was wholly unimproved and he erected a frame dwelling fourteen feet by fourteen feet, and in this they made their home for six years. Then the house which still stands and which has served all these years was built. For many years Mr. Henton successfully engaged in farming but for some years past has lived retired.

On October 6, 1868, in Cass county, Nebraska, occurred the marriage of George Henton and Miss Lydia Eikenbary who was born at Burlington, Iowa, May 11, 1844. Her parents were Samuel and Martha (Crawford) Eikenbary the former born in Preble county, Ohio, and the latter in Union county, Indiana. They were early settlers of Cass county, Nebraska, coming there in 1856. Samuel Eikenbary served in the territorial legislature when the capital of the state was Omaha.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Henton has been blessed with the birth of four children, three of whom are living: Frank E. resides in Alberta, Canada; Ethel is the wife of Herbert Harris, a dentist of Auburn, Nebraska; Madge passed away at the age of two and a half years; and George Earl, a physician of Portland, Oregon.

Mr. Henton has been a republican since casting his first vote for Abraham Lincoln at his second election. For many years he has maintained pleasant relations with his army comrades by membership in Robert Anderson Post, G. A. R., at York. Mrs. Henton is a member of the Christian church.

It would be impossible to find a more devoted couple than Mr. and Mrs. Henton, who have traveled life's pathway together for more than fifty-two years, and still reside on the old farm where they located forty-eight years ago. Time and fortune have dealt kindly with them and no worthy cause ever seeks their aid in vain. Mr. Henton has been as faithful to duty in days of peace as when he followed the stars and stripes on the battle fields of the south.

JACOB P. REGIER

Jacob P. Regier a well known and enterprising farmer of York county where he operates a splendid farm of one hundred and eighty acres, is a native of Russia, born in that country April 7, 1874, a son of Peter and Kathrine (Quiring) Regier, both also of Russian birth. In 1876 they crossed the Atlantic and first located in Minnesota, remained in that state for a short time and then migrated to Nebraska and settled on a farm. Some years later the family went to Oklahoma and there the father passed away and the mother is still living, being well advanced in years. To their marriage twelve children were born, six of whom are living.

Jacob P. Regier was reared in Nebraska and attended the common schools of the state. He grew to manhood with the usual advantages of a boy of that period and after he had attained his majority started on his career as a farmer and has been engaged in agricultural pursuits ever since with good results, becoming one of the well-to-do men of his community. He has a well kept and highly improved holding of one hundred and eighty acres devoted to general farming and stock raising, and he ranks as one of the progressive farmers of the district. His place is located on section 20, Brown township, and he has been utilizing modern machinery and skilled methods in the operation of his holdings, which is now one of the most valuable farm properties in the district.

In 1897 Mr. Regier was united in marriage to Miss Kathrine Goertzen, a native of Hamilton county, Nebraska, and a daughter of Isaac and Agnes Goertzen, both born in Russia and came to America in the early 70's the father dying some years later while the mother is still living aged seventy. Mr. and Mrs. Regier have

become the parents of five children: Kathrine, the wife of John D. Quiring, a farmer, of York county; Agnes, living at home; Jacob E.; Daniel E. and Heinrich E. The Regier family are members of the Mennonite church and take an active part in all church work. He supports the republican party and has served his district on the school board. Mr. Regier enjoys an enviable reputation as a self-made man whose success is the merited reward of his unremitting industry and sound business judgment.

GEORGE W. FRANCE

George W. France, attorney at York, is a native of that place having been born there on the 10th of April, 1879. His father was George B. France who was prominent among the lawmakers of the county. The death of the senior Mr. France occurred on the 16th of August, 1914, after a life of unselfish devotion to service of the public and to his home and family. He was a native of Pennsylvania, born in that state January 10, 1837, and was over seventy-seven years of age at the time of his death. Mr. France was reared on a farm and was enrolled at Oberlin College in 1861, when the Civil war interrupted his studies. On the 15th of August, 1862, he enlisted in the Twenty-first Indiana Battery and participated in several battles. One year after his enlistment he was seriously wounded by an accidental explosion of powder, and was discharged, returning to Oberlin College, where he graduated with honor in 1867. Immediately after his graduation he entered the law department of the University of Michigan and was graduated therefrom a year later. In 1869 he came to Nebraska and opened a law office at Milford, which was then the county seat of Seward county. In the same year he was elected to the office of county superintendent of Seward county, then embracing the territory which was organized into York county in 1870. For six year he held the position of superintendent of schools, at the expiration of that period removing to York. In 1874 he had married Miss Edith Courtright of Milford and they made their home in York until Mr. France's death. In 1879 and 1880 Mr France was mayor of York and served the public to the entire satisfaction of all. In 1879 he formed a partnership with S. H. Sedgwick, at one time judge of the supreme court of the state, under the firm name of France & Sedgwick, and subsequently formed a partnership with N. V. Harlan, the firm name being France & Harlan. When his son, George W. France, was admitted to the bar he took him into partnership and the firm became France & France. For many years George B. France enjoyed a large practice and was widely known throughout the state as a criminal lawyer. He was a thirty-third degree Mason and stood high in that ancient order, and was grand master of the state at one time. He was reared in the faith of the Christian church, but while attending Oberlin College he embraced the Congregational faith. In the death of Mr. France the community suffered a great loss, for he was a kind and faithful friend and a good and active citizen.

George W. France, following in his father's footsteps, decided to make law his life work, and after graduating from the University of Nebraska in 1903, he began practice with his father and continued in this connection until the death of the former. He is now practicing alone and has built up a large clientage, gaining

for himself the reputation and respect enjoyed by his father. In the conduct of criminal cases he is proving his ability, for he was lawyer for the defense in the latest murder trial in York county, the second case of that kind ever brought up in the county.

On the 23rd of June, 1903, Mr. France was united in marriage to Miss Jane M. Morrow who is a native of Iowa. Three children have been born to this union, namely: Grace Edith, aged ten years; Jane Winnifred, aged eight years, and Mary Elizabeth, deceased. The family are members of the Congregational church and prominent in all activities of that organization. Mr. France is a Royal Arch Mason and a member of the Elks, being past exalted ruler. He is also a member of the York Country Club. In politics he is a staunch supporter of the republican party but has never been very active. In addition to his professional duties he takes much interest in his farm and in the civic improvements of his community and is a citizen of whom York has a right to feel proud.

RAY COOMBS

Ray Coombs, who follows farming in York county is a representative business man whose wise use of time and opportunities has gained for him a place among the prosperous agriculturists of this part of the state. He was born in York county, May, 9, 1880, a son of John and Elizabeth (Keckley) Coombs, the former born in England, and came to the United States in the early 70's, and the latter a daughter of William Keckley who was an early settler in York county. The mother is now residing in Portland, Oregon.

When John Coombs came from England and made Nebraska his destination, eventually coming to York county, this part of the state was sparsely settled and was in a primitive condition. He took a homestead of eighty acres in Thayer township, where he was one of the first to settle, and immediately proceeded to get his place in order. It was all raw land without any improvements and his first house and also his first barns were of sod construction. There were no local facilities for the purchase of household commodities and other requirements, and everything had to be hauled from Seward. Later he bought another place south of Benedict and adjoining that town, but during the grasshopper visitation all the growing crops on the holding were destroyed. However, he set to work to retrieve his fortunes and at last had the satisfaction of having his labors rewarded in the enjoyment of a secure competence. He died in 1910, being then in his sixtieth year. He was the father of three children: Margaret, wife of John Welch, of Portland, Oregon; May, who married James Marks of Montana; and Ray the subject of this sketch.

Ray Coombs acquired an education in the district schools near his father's farm and through the period of his boyhood and youth aided in the work of the fields, early becoming familiar with the arduous tasks incident to the development and cultivation of the crops. He started farming on the place on which he now resides and since it has come into his possession has improved and increased its earning power to a very appreciable extent. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and feeds live stock for the market, in the latter line being very successful.

He started buying and shipping live stock at Benedict and devotes all of his time to the farm and to his stock, his steady application in this connection placing him in the front rank among the leading agriculturists of the township. His methods are most progressive, his business affairs are systematically handled and in all things he displays sound judgment as well as unflinching enterprise.

In 1906 Mr. Coombs was united in marriage to Mabel Ready, a native of Illinois, and to this union six children have been born: Vernon, deceased; Cheryl, Edith, Marion, Alden and Roland, all of whom live with their parents. Mrs. Coombs is a member of the Unitarian church and of the Order of Rebekah, while in the social affairs of her community she takes a practical part. Mr. Coombs is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and with the Elks, giving considerable attention to the interests of these popular organizations. In politics his leanings are toward the republican party but he exercises the right to vote independently where he feels that party lines are not of as great importance as the necessities of the hour. He and his wife have an extensive circle of friends throughout the locality and are widely recognized as people of genuine personal worth.

A. FRED ROBSON

Prominent among the most alert and progressive farmers of York county is A. Fred Robson who is the owner of extensive and valuable holdings in Thayer, his entire land interests amounting to seven hundred and twenty acres. He was born in the City of Lincoln, England, January 7, 1848, and was educated in the schools of that city. When he was fourteen years old he began working at the machinist's trade, for the first year his wages being one dollar a week, and for each successive year of his seven years' apprenticeship he received a small automatic advance, this being the trade custom at that time in England. He then worked as a journeyman at his trade for one year, during this period saving enough money to enable him to pay his passage to America.

In 1870, being then in his twenty-second year, Mr. Robson immigrated to this country and landed at Portland, Maine, going thence to Omaha where he worked on the construction of the Omaha bridge across the Missouri river for about two years. He then turned his attention to farming and in the spring of 1872 came to York county and took a homestead of eighty acres in Thayer township and is still residing on his original holding. He erected a small frame house and began to break the ground, remaining, however, but a short time. He returned to Omaha and operated a steam shovel during the summer and then went back to the homestead and resumed farm work. From the very beginning of his life as a farmer Mr. Robson prospered in all his undertakings and as he went along added to his land interests until he finally became the owner of seven hundred and twenty acres of prime land on which he erected a fine set of buildings. His chief line of activity on the farm apart from the cultivation of general crops was the raising of Shorthorn cattle. He has been actuated by a spirit of progressiveness in all he has accomplished and there have been but few leisure hours in his life, which has been one continuous round of energy and industry, these factors being largely responsible for his success.



MR. AND MRS. A. FRED ROBINSON

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On January 4, 1878, Mr. Robson was united in marriage to Miss Frances A. Porter, a native of Bristol, England, who came to America with her mother, her brother William and her sisters Lucy and Sarah, in the summer of 1872, being then thirteen years old. They settled on a homestead in Thayer township, York county, and there the family erected a frame house, in which they lived for some years. The mother later returned to England, where she is now living at the age of eighty-four years. Mr. and Mrs. Robson became the parents of the following children: Augustus, who lives in Montana; Vinnie, the wife of Harry Husted, of Omaha; Edith, the wife of Christian Farley, of Thayer township; Annie, who died in her twenty-sixth year; William, who lives in Kimball, Nebraska; Roy, who passed away at thirteen years of age; Evelyin, the wife of Rolla Mace, living in Nebraska; John, who resides in Thayer township; Herman, also in Thayer township; Rhoda, the wife of Glen Warner, of Polk county, Nebraska, and Mary and Albert, living at home. Mrs. Robson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, while her activities in community affairs during her long residence in the county have endeared her to a wide circle of friends by whom she is held in the highest esteem. Mr. Robson has for years given attention to public affairs and has served as school director and treasurer of his school district, his interest in the cause of education being a valuable factor in promoting the welfare of the schools in Thayer township.

MILTON M. WILDMAN

Milton M. Wildman, for many years an attorney of York and prominent in the political affairs of his community, was born in Piatt county, Illinois, in 1856, a son of Thomas and Mary J. (Longnecker) Wildman, the former a native of New York state and the latter of Kentucky. They came to Illinois in their youth, where they met and were married and settled in that state on a farm. Mr. Wildman held a number of township offices and was a staunch supporter of the principles for which the republican party is sponsor. Three children were born of this union, of which the subject of this sketch is the second. One child, David, is a retired farmer of York and the other is deceased. The paternal grandfather of Milton M. Wildman was Jonathan Wildman, a native of New York state who later removed to Ohio where he resided until his death. The maternal grandfather, David Longnecker, was of English origin, but removed to Illinois where he was living at the time of his death.

In the acquirement of an education Milton M. Wildman attended the country schools of Illinois, took a short course in a college at Ladoga, Indiana, and taught school three years in Illinois. In 1882 he came to Nebraska and for the first three years of his residence in this state taught school and farmed. He then became desirous of becoming a lawyer and with that object in view read law in an attorney's office at York, after which he entered the Ann Arbor Law School and was graduated from this institution in 1888. He began to practice in York in partnership with C. S. Rainbolt, in which connection he continued for a short time and then launched into the practice on his own account and has since continued alone, except for a short time with G. W. Bemis.

On the 20th of March, 1881, Mr. Wildman was married to Miss Martha A. Valentine, a native of Ohio and a daughter of John Valentine who removed from Illinois to Nebraska where his death occurred. Four children have been born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Wildman: Holland Roscoe, a dentist in York; Blaine Cecil, a teacher in the dental department of the Nebraska State University; Ethel Louise, a teacher; and Elsie Pearl, a teacher. These young people are graduates of the York high school and each received a college education. They are all members of the Congregational church and citizens of whom the state may be justly proud.

Mr. Wildman has always been active in the work of the Congregational church and has served on the board of trustees and on the board of directors of that organization for a number of years. He also taught the men's class for several years. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodman and Royal Highlanders and politically he is a republican. In the support of his party he has always been very active and has held several public offices. He has served as county judge and city and county attorney and in 1919 was a member of the state legislature. He has been a member of the city council and has acted as city clerk. With this record of political activity behind him he is now a candidate for district judge and as he has always carried a splendid vote in this county he expects to carry a good vote in the judicial district. The success that Mr. Wildman enjoys today is the result of his own labors, for when he came to Nebraska he had practically nothing except a grim determination and the courage to stand back of it. Now in addition to the income from his large practice he owns two good pieces of business property and also some city property. In every phase of his life, whether as lawyer, business man or citizen, he has displayed thorough reliability as well as enterprise and in many ways has contributed to the material, political and moral development of the community.

GEORGE W. SHRECK

Among the enterprising and progressive business men of York George W. Shreck is numbered. He is now conducting a real estate and insurance agency and in this capacity has won a clientele of large and gratifying proportions. He arrived in York county in early manhood having just enough money to reach his destination, and the success which he has achieved through the intervening years has been the direct result of his energy, enterprise and sound judgment.

Mr. Shreck was born in Harrison county, Indiana, August 6, 1857, a son of Philip and Sarah A. (Reed) Shreck, who were natives of Virginia and Indiana respectively. His father was a son of George Shreck who removed to Indiana in 1835 and purchased land in this state. He was a carpenter by trade and worked along that line in addition to the development of the fields. A great-grandfather of George W. Shreck was William Dentrick, who removed from Virginia to Indiana at a very early day and on three different occasions made the trip between the two states on horseback. William Reed, the maternal grandfather of George W. Shreck, was born in North Carolina, and he, too, became a pioneer settler of Indiana, where he followed farming to the time of his death. The father journeyed across the country with team and wagon from the Old Dominion to the Hoosier state. He

was reared on a farm and made agriculture his life work, remaining a resident of Indiana till called to his final rest. He possessed, however, considerable mechanical skill, and in early life learned the blacksmith trade and afterward conducted a blacksmith shop on his farm. He also built wagons but repairing was the principal part of his work in that connection. It was in Indiana that he married Miss Reed and both have passed away. They were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and in his political views Philip Shreck was a republican. During the Civil war he served as a member of the Home Guard and was captured by Morgan. He had enlisted in the volunteer army and raised a company, but was rejected on account of physical disability. To Mr. and Mrs. Philip Shreck were born nine children of whom seven are living: George W.; J. R., who is engaged in the real estate business in Portland, Oregon; W. A., a practicing physician of Bertrand, Nebraska; Emma, the wife of Jacob E. Smith, who is living on a farm in York county; Mary F., the wife of Blithe Ludlow, a farmer of Medford, Oklahoma; Amzi J., a farmer of Aberdeen, Idaho; and Anna B., who is a professional nurse of York.

George W. Shreck obtained his early education in the schools of Harrison county, Indiana, and was reared on the home farm, early becoming familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He learned the blacksmith's trade in early life and when twenty-one years of age removed to Waco, Nebraska, where he established a smithy. The old building which was put up in 1878 is still standing. He continued in active business in Waco for three years and in 1884 removed to York. His fellow townsmen, appreciative of his worth and ability, called him to public office. He was deputy sheriff for five years and was afterward three times elected to the office of sheriff. In 1905 he was elected state senator, representing the district being comprised of Fillmore and York counties. He was made postmaster under President Roosevelt, occupying the position for eight years. After his term expired he once more engaged in the real estate business, and there is no man more thoroughly familiar with property conditions and values in York than Mr. Shreck. At all times he has been most loyal to public duties and has made a most excellent record in office. He now devotes most of his time to the real estate and fire insurance business, and while he largely handles local property he also deals to some extent in Colorado lands. Mr. Shreck is a director of the First National Bank and as a business man is most widely and favorably known.

In Indiana Mr. Shreck was married to Miss Miranda Melton who passed away in 1879, and he next wedded Laura Melton of the same state. Two sons have been born of this marriage: Charles D., who is an electrician of York; and Jay, who is engaged in the newspaper business in Chicago, being now connected with the Exhibitors Herald. He has been well trained for this work, and was formerly identified with the Chicago Tribune and with the Record-Herald. The mother of these sons died in 1917. Later Mr. Shreck wedded Dora Knight, his present wife.

Mr. Shreck is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and has become a Knight Templar and member of the Mystic Shrine. He is also connected with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and has filled all of the chairs in the latter. He has also rendered official service to his church having been recording steward keeper of finance for twenty-two years, and has also been a

member of the board of trustees for a number of years. He has also been secretary and president of the Commercial Club of York, and secretary of the York Agricultural Society. He has thus cooperated in many agencies which have had to do with the upbuilding and progress of the district in which he makes his home, and his contribution thereto has been extensive and valuable. He is everywhere spoken of in terms of high regard by reason of the sterling worth of his character and his devotion to the public welfare.

W. N. HYLTON, M. D.

Prepared by comprehensive study and diligent attention to duty Dr. W. N. Hylton has won for himself a distinguished position in the ranks of the medical profession in York county and surrounding district. He has wisely utilized his native talents and as the years have gone on his reading and research have kept him in touch with the trend of medical scientific attainment. He was born in New Virginia, Iowa, May 22, 1862, a son of George W. and Letitia (Irwin) Hylton, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Ireland, both of whom are now living retired and are well advanced in years.

George W. Hylton, who followed farming in his native state, went to Iowa in the latter 50's and conducted a general merchandise store in New Virginia where he also served as postmaster for a time and was one of the best known men of that place. In 1872 he set out for Cass county, Nebraska, and drove overland from Iowa, crossing the river at Nebraska City by ferry on March 1 of that year, and after a perilous journey reached his destination, where he acquired a homestead. In that part of the country he put up one of the first houses and it was composed of part sod and part frame, the hauling of lumber and other necessaries having to be done from Unadilla and South Bend, Nebraska. He proved up on the homestead and proceeded without delay to improve and develop its fields, planting and cultivating crops only to find that as a result of the grasshopper visitation he lost everything, a somewhat similar result following the advent of several blizzards. Apart from these disasters he was successful in his agricultural operations and continued along farming lines for several years, finally disposing of the homestead. In 1910 Mr. Hylton retired from active farm life and moved to Elmwood, Nebraska, and bought a tract of land in that neighborhood, which he still owns. He is now eighty-three years old while his wife is in her seventy-ninth year. They became the parents of the following children: Alfred, who died in California; W. N., subject of this sketch; Harry, engaged in the practice of medicine at Brownville, Nebraska; Mary, deceased; Mattie, the wife of Dr. G. G. Douglas, of Elmwood; Anna, the widow of Frank Richardson, of Elmwood; Cora, the wife of William Gerbeling, of Nuckols county, Nebraska; Lucy, the wife of Edward Gustin, of Elmwood, and Grace, who teaches in Blue Hill high school. The parents are members of the Methodist church, to the teachings of which they have ever conformed. He gives his political support to the republican party and in purely local affairs he has always been a consistent advocate of progress.

Dr. W. N. Hylton was a young lad when his parents left Iowa in 1872 and he secured his preliminary education in the schools of Elmwood, Nebraska, later enter-

ing the Nebraska State University, from which institution he was graduated in 1886 with the degree of M. D. He began the practice of his profession in that year, locating at Valparaiso, Nebraska, where he remained for one year. In 1887 Dr. Hylton came to Gresham and continued his practice, which as time passed and as he became better known gradually grew to large proportions and in the intervening years he has won a place in the front ranks of the medical practitioners of this part of the state. In 1898 he took a post-graduate course at Chicago, thus gaining broad and valuable practical experience along professional lines. His ability is pronounced and he has gained a most creditable name and place in a profession where advancement depends entirely upon individual merit. He is a member of the American Medical Association and of the Nebraska and York County Medical Associations. Dr. Hylton is interested in business affairs as leisure from his professional duties permits. In 1906 he became president of the First National Bank of Gresham and has been serving in that capacity ever since. In 1908 he was responsible for the installation of the lighting plant in Gresham which has been a success and proved an immense boon to the public, and in other directions he has given of his time and ability to the advancement of the town and district. However, the demands of his profession leave him but little time for other work and to the duties of his practice he gives his best efforts.

In 1892 Dr. Hylton was united in marriage to Lula Lanphere, a daughter of Henry C. Lanphere, and to this union three children have been born: Harry, who holds the office of vice president of the First National Bank; Helen, a graduate of the Gresham and York high schools, and the University Conservatory of Music at Lincoln, is now head of the piano department of the Peru Normal; and George W., attending the Nebraska State University. During the World war Dr. Hylton joined the volunteer medical service attached to the United States military department. In politics he espouses the cause of the republican party and has held local offices from time to time. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, with the Woodmen of the World and the Modern Woodmen of America, in the affairs of all of which he takes a vital interest. The doctor and his wife are prominent in the social life of Gresham, where she is recognized as a lady of culture and refinement.

GEORGE FISHER

George Fisher is a retired farmer and Civil war veteran residing at Bradshaw, York county. He has passed the eighty-third milestone on life's journey and well deserves the rest which has come to him for it is the reward of persistent, earnest and intelligently directed effort in former years. He was born in Wurttemberg, Germany, October 6, 1837, a son of Fredrick and Catherine (Shilling) Fisher, both natives of Germany, where the father had been a farmer for many years.

George Fisher came to America when fifteen years of age, the voyage being made on an old sailing vessel which spent sixty days in crossing the Atlantic to New York. After arriving in this country he went to Brandonville, Maryland, and started to work at the saddlery trade, binding himself to the owner of the business for one year. He then migrated to Pennsylvania and engaged in farm labor in that state,

remaining in the employ of one family for twenty-two years. When he first went to Pennsylvania he attended the district schools to learn the language, etc. Shortly after the outbreak of the Civil war Mr. Fisher enlisted in Pennsylvania for service in the Federal army and became a member of Company E, Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Infantry. He was mustered into the service at Uniontown, October 4, 1861, and was with the Union forces for three years and three months, during this period having seen much active service and was in some of the hottest engagements of the war, without, however, having received any dangerous or serious wounds. He was honorably discharged and returned to the farm work he was doing in Pennsylvania when he entered the army.

In 1881 Mr. Fisher went to Illinois and remained there for three years; at the end of that period, or in 1884, he came to Nebraska and settled in York county, buying a tract of land in Arborville township. He built a frame house on his holding and began to cultivate and develop the fields, his general farming and stock raising soon coming to a standard which placed him among the representative and progressive farmers of the township. As he prospered he added more land to his original holding and continued to bring the latter to an excellent state of improvement, finally disposing of the place he first bought, but still retains ownership in two hundred acres, most of which he rents. In 1909 Mr. Fisher retired from active connection with farm life and now lives in Bradshaw. He utilized every chance for judicious investment and never lost faith in the future of this district, for he readily appreciated the fact that nature was kind to this region and had placed before man numerous opportunities for successful business in this section.

In 1867, while residing in Pennsylvania, Mr. Fisher was united in marriage to Martha Rockwell, a native of the Keystone state, and they became the parents of six children: Catherine, the wife of Joseph Piethall; Thomas, who lives in Arborville township; Charles, living in Cheyenne, Wyoming, a preacher of the Congregational church; Albert, who practices medicine at Bismarck, North Dakota; Dora E., the wife of Charles Swanson, a York county farmer, and Walter J., who lives on the old home place. Mr. Fisher and his wife are earnest members of the Congregational church and he is affiliated with Ricketts Post, Grand Army of the Republic. Politically he is a republican, giving stalwart support to the party, while in 1920 Mrs. Fisher recorded her first vote in the national elections of that year, casting it for the republican party. Mr. Fisher is a self-made man, having come to this country empty-handed but through the opportunities here offered and his industry and good management he has gained financial independence. He has reached an advanced age but is still keen of mind and is accorded the honor due those who have left behind them the record of a long and honorable life.

THOMAS KIRBY

The history of the pioneer settlement of York would not be complete without the record of Thomas Kirby, one of the few early residents who still live on their homesteads. Thomas Kirby was born near Dublin, Ireland, in 1841, and was brought to the United States by an uncle when he was very young. His youth was spent in New York city but his education was acquired in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Thomas Kirby began to make his own way in the world at the age of fourteen when he was employed on a farm, later securing work on a railroad. In 1869 he came to Nebraska, taking up a homestead in Beaver township, York county, where he lived in a dugout, the primitive home of the pioneer. Later he lived in a log house and in 1890 built the frame house that has been his home since. Mr. Kirby's success is due entirely to his own untiring zeal, perseverance and determination, as he had no other capital with which to begin his life work.

He was married in 1882 to Miss Millie Nichols, who died leaving one child who has since passed away. His second marriage occurred in 1893 when he was married to Miss Lizzie L. Hoffman. He was at one time a director in the First National Bank of York. Mr. Kirby's political endorsement is given to the republican party, and he keeps well informed upon the questions and issues of the day. He has membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at York, Nebraska. His progress is shown by the fact that he owns seven hundred and twenty acres of valuable farm land and at one time had in his possession more than eight hundred acres. Mr. Kirby is now in a position to enjoy life, receiving from his property a substantial income sufficient to keep him in comfort the remainder of his life. He has always been honorable, upright and straightforward in his dealings, and is a staunch advocate of all those forces which make for the moral welfare and progress of the community and country.

GEORGE A. MORRISON, M. D.

Dr. George A. Morrison, a prominent member of the medical profession in York county who has been actively engaged in the practice for more than sixteen years, is a native son of the county, born near where Bradshaw stands, April 23, 1877, a son of William F. and Virginia (Lichtenberger) Morrison, the former born and reared in Pennsylvania, continuing to reside in that state for several years and later going to Illinois, where he lived for some years before moving to Nebraska.

In 1870 William F. Morrison came to York county and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, located one mile east and one and one-half miles north of Bradshaw. He made the journey from Illinois by team, driving across the country accompanied by his family. They first lived in a dugout and later built a sod house which in time was replaced by a newer building and in these circumstances made the most of life. The ground was broken and cultivation commenced with as little delay as possible after they had settled on the homestead, improvements were effected and prosperity attended their industry and consistent efforts. In 1880 Mr. Morrison moved to another farm of three hundred and twenty acres, situated a quarter of a mile east of Bradshaw and lived on that place for several years, bringing the land to a very high state of cultivation and conducting the work along the most progressive lines. Later he moved to Bradshaw and there passed away in May, 1901, and in his death the community mourned the loss of an honored pioneer settler and most respected citizen. Mr. Morrison took an active part in public affairs. He was the first assessor of the west half of York county, served as county commissioner and chairman of the board and was a member of the board committee to whose care was committed the building of the courthouse. His political allegiance

was given to the republican party. His marriage to Virginia Lichtenberger resulted in the birth of ten children: Harry L., who died in 1882, and was the owner of the first livery stable at Bradshaw; Annie, who died in infancy; Edmund W., who lives at Bayard, Nebraska; Charles O., also living at Bayard; Samuel A., of Bradshaw; Joseph E., living retired at Callaway, Nebraska; Frederick W., also of Callaway; Alfred E., a farmer, of York county; Lee, a farmer and stockman, of Callaway; and George A., the youngest of the family.

George A. Morrison secured his preliminary education in the common schools of the county and later entered York College, going from that institution to the Nebraska State University. He had been reading medicine before entering the medical college and in 1901 entered the medical department of Nebraska University, from which he was graduated in 1905 with the degree of M. D. Following his graduation Dr. Morrison returned to Bradshaw and opened an office for the practice of his profession, at which he has during the intervening years been very successfully engaged and is now recognized as one of the foremost members of the medical faculty in the county. He gives close study to all literature and standard works as well as to the latest phases of scientific research calculated to advance his professional attainments. Dr. Morrison is a member of the County Medical Association, the Nebraska State Medical Association and the American Medical Association, in the affairs of which he takes a practical interest. He is a Scottish Rite Mason, thirty-second degree, and a Shriner, also holding membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has filled many of the chairs in these lodges. He is affiliated with the Phi Rho Sigma Honorary Medical Fraternity, holding this connection since his college days.

In June, 1907, Dr. Morrison was united in marriage to Nellie King, who was born in Collins, Iowa, and they have become the parents of two children: William Howard Morrison and Frank Andrew Morrison. Mrs. Morrison is an active member of the Eastern Star and in the social and cultural movements of her neighborhood she is a zealous participant. Dr. Morrison's life has been an active and useful one and he has made steady progress in the field of his chosen profession, and his ability, industry and thoroughness have brought him a substantial measure of success.

ARTHUR W. THOMPSON

Arthur W. Thompson of York is readily conceded to be the best auctioneer in the state of Nebraska and one of the best in the United States. He was born in Bradshaw, York county, on the 21st of August, 1886, the son of Elwood and Sarah (Wiemer) Thompson, the former born in Morgan county, Ohio, in 1849, while the latter was born in Germany. They were married in Clark county, Ohio, and for a number of years engaged in farming in that state. In 1881 they removed to York county, where Mr. Thompson purchased a farm west of Bradshaw and they resided thereon for a number of years, bringing up their family of three children. Mrs. Thompson passed away in 1902 and shortly after that Mr. Thompson sold the farm and made his home with his children. His last days were spent at the home of his son, Arthur W. His death occurred in March, 1917. In their youth Mr. and Mrs. Thompson had been members of the Quaker church and the



ARTHUR W. THOMPSON

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former was an ardent republican. Four children were born to them, three of whom are living: Abbie L., who is the wife of C. M. Anderson and resides on a farm near York; Edgar, who is residing in York and is a large ranch owner in both York and Cherry counties; and Arthur W., the subject of this review. The grandfather of Arthur W. Thompson, William Thompson, was born and reared in Ohio, but came to Nebraska in later life, passing his last years at the home of his son, Elwood. The maternal grandfather was born in Germany and served some time in the German army. He later removed to the United States and settled at New Orleans, where his death occurred.

Arthur W. Thompson attended the country schools of York county and the York high school, receiving honors in his school work and a scholarship in the Lincoln Business College. Besides the course which he completed in this college he has taken several correspondence school courses with the result that he is excellently fitted for his life's work. His first occupation on leaving school was on the farm and it was here that he laid the foundation for the work in which he is now engaged. He frequently attended sales with T. W. Smith, who was one of the best auctioneers in that part of the country, and after Mr. Smith was appointed warden of the state penitentiary Mr. Thompson succeeded to his place. He has studied every phase of the business and there is no part of it with which he is not familiar. His success in this line has been remarkable and he is considered the best auctioneer in the state of Nebraska and one of the best in the United States. Mr. Thompson makes a specialty of selling real estate and full blooded stock and has conducted large sales in Nebraska, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Colorado, Wyoming, and Oregon. He has broken several records in his live stock sales because of his expert knowledge. In the conduct of his business he comes in contact with some of the most prominent breeders of blooded stock in the county, and by his honorable and fair business methods has won the respect and regard of all of them. He owns some land in the county and is also well known in the financial circles of his community, being director of the York Milling Company and of the First National Bank of York. Mr. Thompson wrote life insurance for some time for the Northwestern Life Insurance Company and was also successful in this line.

On the 15th of December, 1909, Mr. Thompson was united in marriage to Miss Viola N. Swanson, a daughter of N. B. Swanson, who is a native of Sweden. Mr. Swanson came to this country in an early day and homesteaded in York county, where he reared his family. He was financially successful and is now residing retired in York. Mrs. Thompson is a graduate of York College. After having finished her education she became one of York county's most successful teachers. She also was assistant county superintendent for some time. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson one child, Elwood N., has been born. He is now a sturdy lad of seven years. The Thompson family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and prominent in the activities and charities of that organization.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Thompson the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party. Fraternally he is a thirty-second degree Mason and a Shriner and is also a member of the Knights of Pythias. Both Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are members of the Order of the Eastern Star. In the business career of Mr. Thompson his achievements have been the direct result

of enterprise, determination and persistency of purpose. He is a well known and popular citizen and as a business man has made for himself a creditable place in the regard of his fellow townsmen in York.

THOMAS WILLIAM SMITH

Thomas William Smith now a retired resident of York, has been a prominent figure in business circles in York county for a period of forty-six years and is thoroughly familiar with the history of business advancement here. He was born in Ormstown, Province of Quebec, Canada, on the 12th of November, 1853, a son of Patrick and Catherine (Caughlin) Smith, both natives of Ireland. At the age of fifteen years Patrick Smith came to Canada with his parents, while his wife came with her parents at the age of three years. Their marriage took place in Canada and there they resided throughout their lives. His death occurred in 1863, and Mrs. Smith died in 1904. Patrick Smith was a successful farmer and lumberman and active in politics, being a member of the liberal party. He was a faithful member of the Roman Catholic church. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Smith eight children were born, but the only one now living is the subject of this review, Thomas W. Smith. The paternal grandfather, Francis Smith, was a native of Ireland but later removed to Canada where his death occurred.

Thomas W. Smith acquired his education in the common schools of Canada and learned the harness maker's trade. In April of the year 1869 he removed to Illinois and settled on a farm in Grundy county where he remained for five years, during which time his marriage took place. On the 18th of April, 1874, he removed to York county where he purchased some land from the B. & M. Railroad Company and became one of the pioneers of that country. He built a house on this land which he cultivated with the aid of a yoke of oxen and today he not only owns this original farm but five hundred acres of improved land in the county, besides one of the most beautiful residences in York. In 1887 Mr. Smith, in company with G. W. Post and Lee Love, bought the Blue River Bank at McCool, becoming vice president, in which position he is still serving. He has also been a director of the First National Bank of York for the past fourteen years. In 1887 he was engaged by the Kansas City & Omaha Railroad to purchase the right of way through York county and it was through his influence that the road was built from Henderson, east to McCool, it having been first surveyed from Henderson to York. He also secured the location of the village known as McCool Junction. For some time he was engaged in this work, settling claims and other disputes, and he was the first to place town lots on the market. He then removed his family to McCool and was for seventeen years engaged in the grain business, managing the T. W. Smith Grain Company, which had thirteen elevators situated along the line of the railroad. This business venture proved to be very prosperous and in addition he acted as live stock auctioneer for twenty-two years. In 1885 and 1886 he had served as county supervisor, and was chairman of the board in the latter year. In 1905 Mr. Smith and his family removed to York and in that same year he was elected a member of the city council, serving for a term of two years. In 1906 he was influential in obtaining for York its first pavement. Mr. Smith was appointed to his next office of

importance by Governor Shallenberger. This office was that of warden of the state penitentiary in which position he was so efficient and successful that at the end of his administration he was warmly commended by both parties. For the first time in the history of the institution it was put on a paying basis and when Mr. Smith made his final report the successful management of the institution was so manifest that it awakened an interest in other states and a second issue of the report was made to supply the demand. He served York as mayor in 1917-1918, and in addition to his other financial connections is a director of the First Trust Company and vice president of the First Savings Bank at York.

In 1873 Mr. Smith was united in marriage at Morris, Illinois, to Miss Francila Lincoln, a native of Canton, Illinois, and a daughter of Myron Lincoln who was a farmer and stock dealer of that state. To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Smith nine children have been born, six boys and three girls: Gertrude, who resides at home; Myron, of Crawford, who is a prominent horse dealer; O. M., the manager of the Upsyke Grain Company of Omaha; T. L., a rancher in Arthur county; Leo, a ranchman; Mary, who is manager of a large department store in Long Beach, California; Clifford, who runs the Upsyke Grain Elevator at Council Bluffs, Iowa; O. A., who is a veterinary surgeon residing in York county, and during the World war served as instructor at Camp Lee, Virginia, with the rank of captain; and Louise, the wife of Howard Mansfield.

In politics Mr. Smith is a democrat and on coming to this county when a young man organized the party here. He is active in his party and is well versed on the questions and issues of the day. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias, a charter member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, and was one of the first trustees of the lodge. During the World war Mr. Smith was chairman of the council of defense and government agent.

JOHN DORAN

Through the steps of an orderly progression John Doran has reached a conspicuous and enviable position as one of the most prominent business men of York county. He has been identified with various lines of activity, became one of the extensive landowners of this section of the state and for a number of years has been the president of the Farmers' State Bank of York. He was born in New York, his parents being Patrick and Kathryn (Keeley) Doran, both of whom were natives of County Carlow, Ireland. The father who was born in 1811, passed away in 1865. The parents came to the United States about 1848, settling in New York and afterward they removed to Illinois, the father devoting his remaining days to the development and improvement of a farm in LaSalle county, although his death occurred in Livingston county. They were members of the Catholic church and in politics Mr. Doran was a Douglas democrat. To him and his wife were born six children, of whom three are living: T. H., who for the past thirty years has resided at Burwell, Nebraska; Justin R., a resident farmer of Beaver, Boone county, Iowa, who has figured prominently in connection with public affairs of that state, serving as a member of the house of representatives and of the state senate for fifteen years; and John, of this review.

The last named acquired a common school education in Illinois and took up the occupation of farming, to which he had been reared. He had early become familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops and he concentrated his efforts and attention upon agricultural pursuits until 1889. He was also engaged in the grain business at Grand Junction and at Beaver, Iowa, for a time and later removed to Burwell, Nebraska, where he established the first bank of Burwell in partnership with his brother, T. H. This association was maintained for ten years. They also purchased the Garfield County Bank while living at Burwell and consolidated the two institutions. On account of poor health, John Doran disposed of his bank there in 1899 and removed to Bradshaw, taking up his abode on a farm. He became the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of land in that locality and concentrated his efforts and attention upon its development and improvement for nine years. He is still the owner of this tract of land, which is now very valuable. In 1908 he took up his abode in York and for some time gave his supervision to his extensive landed interests, for he has owned property in Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and Kansas. He inherited very little from his father and his possessions have all been acquired through his own labors. His life has been crowned with a notable and gratifying measure of success. In all things he has manifested sound judgment and keen enterprise and his sagacity and determination have been salient features in winning his present prosperity. He has never allowed anything to discourage or dishearten him and he has ever realized the fact that when one avenue of opportunity has seemed closed he could carve out other paths whereby to reach the desired goal. In May, 1916, he became president of the Farmers State Bank of York, which was capitalized for fifty thousand dollars and which has a surplus and undivided profits of five thousand dollars, while its average deposits now amount to two hundred and forty thousand dollars. This is the youngest bank in York and is growing rapidly. It has back of it as its officers and stockholders men of well known reliability and of the most substantial business qualities, and the spirit of enterprise back of the institution is leading to its rapid expansion.

In 1879 Mr. Doran was married to Miss Mammie E. Lafferty, who was born in Monroe, Wisconsin, a daughter of George Lafferty, one of the early settlers of Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Doran have been born four sons and two daughters: George M., who is a ranchman of Pierre, South Dakota; John T. M., a banker and stockman of Erierson, Nebraska, who has won substantial success; Bert, a farmer and stockman of Platte, South Dakota; Mabel, the wife of C. P. Hildebrand, a druggist of York; Justin Roland, a stock feeder of Platte, South Dakota; and Kathryn, the wife of H. C. Van Decar, who is connected with the State Journal of Lincoln. All of the family with the exception of Mr. Doran are members of the Congregational church. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, in which he has taken the degrees of the York Rite, and is also a member of the Mystic Shrine. He likewise belongs to the Knights of Pythias. His service in behalf of Masonry has been far-reaching and effective. He assisted in organizing two Masonic lodges in the state, one at Hampton and one at Bradshaw, and he has ever been a most faithful follower of the craft.

In his political views Mr. Doran has always been an earnest republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He was a candidate for the state senate in 1908 but was defeated, for the party had endorsed the local option issue. He carried his own county, where he is most widely and favorably known, but was

defeated in Fillmore county by reason of the fact that the fourteen saloons worked against him and used their influence in favor of his opponent. Mr. Doran, however, would never sacrifice principle to place or power. He has always been a staunch prohibitionist, doing everything possible to promote the cause of temperance, and he rejoices that he has lived to see a prohibition statute placed among the laws of the nation. He is now devoting most of his time and attention to the bank but also has large landed interests and is half owner of an extensive cattle ranch near Ericson, in Garfield county, Nebraska. His success is the direct outcome of his labors, his perseverance and his capable management. He is indeed a self-made man and the most envious cannot grudge him his prosperity, for it has been most honorably won and worthily used.

CHARLES R. DEFFENBAUGH

Charles R. Deffenbaugh, one of the prosperous farmers of York county was born in Illinois in 1870, a son of S. S. and Arminda (Rush) Deffenbaugh, a record of whom will be found elsewhere in this work. Their son was four years old when the home was established in York county and here among the pioneer conditions which existed at the time he grew to manhood and no man in the county is more familiar with the early events and the location of the historical spots than he. He attended the first school established in York county and later was a pupil in the village school at McCool Junction. At the age of twenty he went to Alliance, Nebraska, and after spending one year there, went to Denver, Colorado, where he was employed by the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, working the last six years as air brakeman for that company at Tennessee Pass, the highest point of the road over the Rocky Mountains. In 1906 he returned to York county and took up farming. His splendid farm of two hundred and forty acres is in the neighborhood of his boyhood home.

In October, 1900, Mr. Deffenbaugh was married to Miss Minnie E. Fouse, a native of Nebraska, who formerly taught school in York county and in Colorado. Her father, John Fouse, was a native of Pennsylvania and located in Seward county in 1865, one mile east of the York county line. He was on his way to Denver or Fort Laramie with three wagons loaded with lard, when he learned that the Indians west of here were on the warpath. He traded his cargo of lard for the ranch, and the former owner of the ranch went on west with the lard. From that time the place was always known as "Fouse's Ranch." It was a stage station on the Nebraska City cut-off, a part of the famous Oregon Trail, joining the main line west of here near the Platte river. John Fouse was married in Pennsylvania to Miss Isabelle McMichael, a native of Ireland. She had been advised to go west for her health. She is now living in Wyoming, and at the age of eighty-seven is keeping house for two of her grandsons, her husband having died in 1898. She came to America on the sailing vessel "Tonawanda," and arrived in this country after a voyage of six weeks. During the early days of the "Ranch" in Seward county she worked very hard, helping to run the store, prepare food for the travelers and cook meals for the men employed by the stage company. This company of the early days was the origin of Wells Fargo Express Company of today. The quarter section of land where Beaver Crossing now stands she owned at one time, inheriting it from a rela-

tive. In the deed to that place it was stipulated that there should never be a saloon on the land, and there never has been.

A brother of John Fouse, Xerva Fouse, was the fourth man to take a homestead in York county where he resided the rest of his life. The history of York county would be incomplete without mention of these people, who from the early settlements in this community played an important part in its development and improvement.

Mr. and Mrs. Deffenbaugh are the parents of two children: Isabel, aged thirteen, and Helen, nine years old. Mr. Deffenbaugh is one of the prosperous and influential men of the county and takes a keen interest in the affairs of the community. In politics he is a democrat and has served as township clerk, treasurer and has held other offices.

HENRY REETZ

Henry Reetz is a resident and representative farmer of York county, his home being on section 31, Stewart township. He was born in Sterns county, Minnesota, October 24, 1859, a son of Martin Reetz, a native of Germany who immigrated to America in 1855 and following his arrival went to Illinois. He spent the first summer at work in the City of Chicago and found employment in the lumber yards of Michigan and Wisconsin during the winter months, continuing in that line for two years. In 1857 he went to Minnesota and bought forty acres of government land near Sauk Center and there carried on agricultural operations for several years. In the fall of 1868 Mr. Reetz set out for Nebraska from Minnesota, making the journey by ox team through Iowa and Kansas, driving a yoke of oxen and two cows and accompanied by his wife and five children. On coming to York county he took a homestead of eighty acres on section 30, Stewart township, and for two years lived in a dugout, but later built a log house containing two rooms below and two above. In the spring of 1869 he succeeded in breaking a few acres of his ground and planted sod corn and potatoes, in the next few years increasing the tillable area and as he opened the land he put it into cultivation without delay. In common with all his neighbors he felt the effects of the grasshopper plague, but by a stroke of good luck fifteen acres of corn that was surrounded by timber escaped. Martin Reetz was married to Mary Mueller, who is still living on the old homestead, being now in her eighty-second year. He passed away in 1901, when he was eighty-three years old. He is numbered among the honored pioneer settlers of this part of Nebraska and during his thirty-six years of residence did his full share in the development and progress of York county.

Henry Reetz was a lad of nine years when he accompanied his parents to York county. He relates that while on the journey from Minnesota they were forced to ford a stream in Iowa and the water went over the wagon-box and practically everything in the wagon was lost. The first school he attended was more than two miles distant from his home and was built of sod, the school term being only for three months of the winter. He spent his youth and young manhood working on his father's farm and hauled grain to Lincoln for marketing, returning with necessary supplies. He bought the first cookstove used in his district at Nebraska City.

Mr. Reetz remained in his father's home up to the time of his marriage in 1884, when he wed Miss Otilia Bulgrin, a native of Germany who was brought by her parents to America when she was six weeks old. Her parents settled in Wisconsin, where she lived for several years and came to York county two years before her marriage. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Reetz: Martha, who married J. L. Meixel and passed away on November 1, 1918, her parents taking her boy Donald to rear; Helen, who became the wife of J. P. Cambridge, of California, November 28, 1920; George, at home with his parents; and Martin, who attends college at Winfield, Kansas, and is studying for the ministry.

Some time after his marriage Mr. Reetz moved to the farm where he now lives, located on section 31, Stewart township, across the road from the old homestead. He is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of prime land, all in a state of excellent improvement, in which work he was assisted by his wife who planted all the trees on the place. He devotes a large part of his ground to grain farming and also gives special attention to the feeding of hogs, these two branches of his agricultural pursuits bringing him most satisfactory results. He has one of the best kept places in the county and is acknowledged on all hands to be a progressive and capable farmer, his success being largely attributable to his business-like methods of handling his affairs. The Reetz family are members of the Lutheran church at Thayer, in which he has been serving as a trustee for a number of years. In politics he generally takes an independent attitude and has always placed the public welfare before all other considerations. His interest in the cause of education is very pronounced and for thirty-three years he served as a member of the local school board, resigning at the end of that long period of public service which was well and faithfully rendered.

JOHN W. MYERS

Since 1910 John W. Myers has engaged in the real estate and live stock business in York and in these connections is enjoying a large amount of success. His birth occurred on the 8th of October, 1873, in McDonough county, Illinois, a son of S. A. and Eliza (Kost) Myers, the father a native of Indiana and the mother born in Illinois. Mr. S. A. Myers was married in Illinois and removed to York at the time when there were no railroads and when the village consisted of but three stores and a sprinkling of houses. This move was made in the spring of 1875, and he settled on a homestead ten miles north of York where he resided until 1901, when he came into town. He then engaged in the real estate business in which he still continues, dealing mostly in local estates although he has done some immigration land business. He is a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Knights of Pythias. In politics he has always staunchly supported the republican party and is chairman of the York county republican central committee. He is a prominent man in his community and has many friends, having won them by his honesty and upright dealings. Four children were born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Myers: William A., a physician and surgeon of Caspar; John W., the subject of this review; Frank, who died at the age of seventeen years; and James Clarence. After the death of his first wife, Mr. S. A.

Myers married again, this time to Miss Jessie Rose, and he has two children by this marriage: Charles B., a farmer of Lexington; and Harold, who is conducting a repair auto service in York.

In the acquirement of an education John W. Myers attended the schools of York county and studied for one year in York College—the year the college was first opened. Having always been interested in farming and live stock raising he then engaged in that business making a specialty of shorthorn cattle. For twenty years he followed this line of work successfully in Benedict. In 1910 Mr. Myers and his family removed to York and he entered into the real estate business there in connection with his father, and in addition conducts a feed yard near the town. He has always taken much pride in full blooded shorthorn cattle and is considered one of the best informed men in the county on live stock.

Mr. Myers was united in marriage in 1895 to Nettie A. Grobe, a native of York county, and a daughter of Henry Grobe who came to York county in 1872, secured a homestead and lived there for many years. He is now retired and residing in Benedict with his wife, and they are prominent citizens of the community. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Myers: Lena, who is in her senior year at York College; Dean W., who is attending York College and is a football player of note, having been chosen as end on the all state team; Alice, who is attending school and specializing in expression; and Dwight, who is attending business college. Dean W. Myers enlisted in the navy July 27, 1918, and was stationed at San Francisco, never getting out of the United States. He was in line for the promotion when the armistice was signed and was well recommended when he was discharged. Mrs. Myers is a member of the Lutheran church. Mr. Myers is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and is a republican in politics. Although he is active in the interests of his party he has never aspired to political office. Both John W. Myers and his father are on the board of directors of the Farmers State Bank of York. Mr. Myers has worked his way upward almost entirely unaided and stands high not only as a real estate and live stock dealer but as a citizen of York.

AUGUST C. JUNGE

August C. Junge, one of the most prominent agriculturists in York county where for nearly fifty years he has been engaged in farming, has in his own name four hundred acres of prime land all in Thayer township. He is a native of Germany, born in that country September 15, 1840, and was reared on a farm operated by his parents and there he laid the foundations of the agricultural knowledge which proved so valuable to him when he acquired land in this county.

In 1867 Mr. Junge immigrated to America, the voyage to New York being made by steamer and he went thence to Illinois, remaining in Cook county for a brief period. He next visited Rock Island and worked on farms by the month, so continuing for three years, receiving two hundred dollars per year for his services, a large part of which he managed to save for the purpose of acquiring a holding of his own. In 1872 he came to York county and took up a homestead of eighty



MR. AND MRS. AUGUST C. JUNGE

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acres in Thayer township, of which he is still the owner. He first built a sod house of two rooms and this served as a habitation for several years. He made no delay in planting crops and in effecting improvements on the holding, success eventually attending his efforts, so much so that he was enabled to add more land to his original homestead and is now the owner of four hundred acres of excellent land on which he has made valuable improvements in the shape of substantial buildings, as well as setting out trees which add immensely to the appearance and value of the entire property. He has employed progressive methods and utilized modern machinery in the care and cultivation of his land and these factors have contributed largely to his success.

In 1868 Mr. Junge was united in marriage to Miss Dora Conrad and their union was blessed with eleven children: William, deceased; Louie, who lives in Thayer township; one, unnamed, who died in infancy; August W., who lives in Thayer township; Mary, who resides at Gresham; Henry, living in Holt county; Albert, who resides in Thayer township; Elvina; Godfred, living in Thayer township; Otto, who lives on the home farm, and Edward, who passed away when fifteen years old. To the sincere regret of her relatives and a wide circle of friends Mrs. Junge's death occurred September 13, 1912. She and the members of her family held religious affiliation with the Lutheran church, in whose teachings she was reared. Mr. Junge votes with the republican party, but has never sought public office. He is interested in all that pertains to the welfare and upbuilding of the community in which he has been a resident for nearly fifty years, and he has been a factor in advancing its material, social and moral progress.

DICK WESSELS, SR.

Dick Wessels, Sr., who is now practically living retired on a farm located on section 1, New York township, York county, is now enjoying a period of well merited leisure made possible by his former successful labors along agricultural lines, and he has turned over to his sons the work of conducting the place. He was born in Germany, October 11, 1857, a son of John and Marie (Gerkin) Wessels, also natives of that country, where the former followed the occupation of a linen weaver and where they spent all their lives. One other child besides the subject of this sketch, Catherine Wessels, came to the United States from the old country.

Dick Wessels spent his early boyhood and youth in his father's home and was educated in the schools of Germany, where he remained until his twenty-fourth year, engaged at such work as his hands could find to do, but mainly following his father's trade of linen weaver. In August, 1881, he immigrated to America, went to Peoria, Illinois, and there worked in lumber yards for a time. He then started farming in that state and rapidly acquired a sound working knowledge of agricultural operations. Desiring to see more of the country and believing from reports that there were vast farming possibilities in Nebraska, he came to York county in 1903, having sold the interest in his Illinois land. Success attended Mr. Wessels' efforts from the beginning of his farming career and he was enabled from time to time to remit money to his relatives in Germany to help them. On settling in York county in 1903 he purchased a tract of valuable land, the area of which is two hun-

dred and forty acres, and immediately proceeded to operate the place, adding improvements as time passed, finally bringing the holding up to the level of the best in the district. For years he followed general farming and stock raising and finally decided to retire from active participation in the work of the farm, which is now rented to his sons in suitable divisions. Much credit is due Mr. Wessels for his success on the farm, more especially in view of the fact that when he came to this country he was almost without funds, but by the exercise of industry and frugality he surmounted all obstacles and now enjoys a comfortable competence.

Before leaving Germany Mr. Wessels was united in marriage to Fannie Gondschaal and they became the parents of ten children as follows: Mary, widow of Louis Simon, living in Illinois; John and Dick, farmers in York county; Carrie, wife of Richard Conrad, a farmer; George, a farmer in York county; Maggie, wife of William Conrad, a York county farmer; Katie, wife of Emil Moggensen, a farmer of Hamilton county; Anna, wife of Mr. Robert Marquardt, a York county farmer; Albert, who operates the home place, and Freddie, living at home. George Wessels entered the military service of the United States, September 6, 1918, and went into training at Camp Grant and later at Camp Hancock. He was not, however, called for overseas service as the armistice was declared some two months later.

Mr. Wessels and members of his family have religious affiliation with the Lutheran church at Thayer and are active participants in all its good works. Politically he is aligned with the republican party and has served as road overseer and as game warden for six years, bringing to the duties of these offices a sound common sense and good judgment. Those who know him, and he has a wide acquaintance, esteem him as a man of genuine worth who well merits the success that has crowned his efforts.

JAMES R. McCLOUD

Prominent in the financial circles of York and York county is James R. McCloud, cashier of the First National Bank at York. He was born on the 12th of December, 1881, in York county, a son of William and Ann (Sears) McCloud, the former a native of West Virginia, while the latter was born in Ohio. Further reference to the mother and father is made in the sketch of Charles A. McCloud, a brother of the subject of this review, on another page of this work.

James R. McCloud received his education in the country schools and in the grade and high schools of York and graduated from the latter institution in 1901. His initial step into the business world was made on the 16th of July, 1901, when he entered the employ of the First National Bank of York as helper and bookkeeper. He was not content to stand still, however, and through his individual effort worked his way steadily upward through the different departments, with the result that in 1903 he was made assistant cashier. He retained this position until the spring of 1909 when he removed to Idaho where he stayed two years. At the expiration of this period Mr. McCloud returned to York and resumed his bank connections, as cashier of the Farmers National Bank. This was in 1911 and in November, 1912, when this bank was consolidated with the First National Bank, he

retained his position as cashier and is still serving in that capacity. There is no feature of the banking business that is not thoroughly understood by Mr. McCloud and he devotes his entire time to the interests of the institution. Besides the interest he manifests in the bank at York he owns stock in seven banks in the county and is president of the First National Bank at Benedict.

On the 10th of August, 1909, Mr. McCloud was united in marriage to Miss Nellie Belle Nobes, whose birth occurred in the penitentiary at Lincoln, where her father was warden. Mr. Nobes came to York at an early day and was a prominent factor in the development of the town. In 1882 he built a large business block and became in time one of the wealthiest men in that section of the country. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. McCloud two children have been born: Mildred, ten years of age; and Ann, nine years of age. Mrs. McCloud is one of the prominent women of her community, taking part in all civic organizations and woman's club activities of York. She is a consistent member of the Christian Science Church.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. McCloud has been a staunch supporter of the republican party, and fraternally he is a member of the Masons, belonging to the Mystic Shrine. He is a charter member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, No. 1024, and also of the Knights of Pythias, No. 13. In the conduct of his banking affairs Mr. McCloud has won a host of friends, for in the execution of his duties he treats all with marked courtesy and respect. His success is the result of his own diligence and labor, his determination and strength of character allowing no obstacle to bar his path.

IRVING S. HARDEN

Irving S. Harden, who is devoting his time and energies to the operation of a good farm on section 3, Lockridge township, York county, has been identified with the agricultural life of the county for many years. Mr. Harden was born in York county in 1889, a son of Pierce and Christina (Troutman) Harden, both natives of the Keystone State, but who came to York county in 1878 from Illinois. Pierce Harden was engaged during his active years in the profitable operation of a farm, from which he retired in 1910 and is now residing at Benedict, Nebraska.

Irving S. Harden was reared on the home farm and his boyhood and youth were spent in the acquirement of a public school education and in helping his father on the farm. When his father retired from active participation in the work of the holding Mr. Harden began an agricultural career on his own account in 1910 and has since been steadily devoting himself to the development of the farm, finally bringing the place to a condition not excelled by any in the district in which it is located. He is engaged in general farming and raises a good grade of live stock, the produce in the latter line always finding a ready market. He also raises feed which is disposed of in the neighboring markets.

In 1912 Mr. Harden was united in marriage to Adeline Johnson, a daughter of William Johnson of Benedict, a native of Lee county, Illinois, where his parents settled in 1863; further reference to Mr. Johnson will be found elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Harden are the parents of three children, namely: Margaret, Jocelyn and Boyd, all of whom are living with their parents. The family are

members of the Lutheran church at Benedict and Mr Harden is an active member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In political affairs he takes an independent attitude and casts his vote for worthy men and measures rather than for parties and party emblems, and it is generally known that he supports all movements seeking the material, moral or civic advancement of his community.

ROBERT McCONAUGHY, M. D.

Dr. Robert McConaughy an able physician and surgeon who since 1885 has engaged in practice in York, was born in Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania, in 1852, a son of James and Harriett (Shallenberger) McConaughy. Both were natives of Pennsylvania and in 1886 they removed to York county, Nebraska. The father was a physician well known in the east in his professional capacity for forty-five years. He attended Washington College, at Washington, Pennsylvania, and was afterward graduated from the Jefferson Medical College, at Philadelphia, with the class of 1845. Following his removal to the west he retired from active practice spending his remaining days in the enjoyment of well earned rest, and he and his wife were consistent members of the Presbyterian church and in politics he was a republican. In their family were five children, four of whom are living: Mrs. George W. Post, who was one of the pioneer residents of York but is now living in California; Mrs. Adalette Woods, a widow living in York; and Dr. Robert McConaughy of this review.

The last named obtained his preliminary education in the schools of his native city and afterward attended Lafayette College, at Easton, Pennsylvania, there pursuing a specifically literary course. He was afterward a student in Jefferson Medical College, of which his father was an alumnus and there he was graduated in 1875. He located for practice in Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania, where he remained until 1885 and then sought the opportunities of the growing west. Coming to York he has since remained here and through all the intervening years has enjoyed an extensive practice. Moreover, he has kept in touch at all times with the trend of professional thought and progress and is thoroughly informed concerning the most advanced ideas in relation to the practice of both medicine and surgery.

On September 26, 1888, Dr. McConaughy was married to Miss Mary Miriam Rice, of Osceola, Iowa, who passed away in September, 1889. On October 5, 1892, the Doctor wedded Mary Floy Lawrence, who was born in Gladbrook, Iowa. He was reared in the faith of the Presbyterian church and has long been a faithful member thereof. He is also a Knight Templar, and a past grand commander of the grand commandery of Nebraska. He is a past president of the State Medical Association and is president for the year of 1920 of the American Association of Railway Surgeons. He likewise belongs to the York County Medical Society and to the American Medical Association. He has ever discharged his professional duties with a sense of conscientious obligation and has put forth every power to broaden his knowledge and promote his efficiency. Accordingly he has taken post-graduate work in Chicago and in London, England, and has often visited different hospitals to acquaint himself with methods therein followed. For twenty-five years he has been the surgeon for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy

Railroad Company and has also at different times been surgeon for the Northwestern and for the Pennsylvania Railway Systems, representing the latter during his residence in Pennsylvania. He is now the oldest practicing physician of York and for about twenty years served as city physician. In politics he is a republican and for several years was a member of the school board, but otherwise has never sought nor desired political honor. The cause of education, however, has always found in him a staunch friend and he has given his support to every project and plan for the city's betterment and improvement, and for its development along material, intellectual, social and moral lines.

ELMER BEAVER

Among the prosperous and well known farmers of York county is Elmer Beaver who resides in York. He was born in Logan county, Illinois, on October 7, 1870, the son of Michael H. and Sarah (Pence) Beaver. The father was a native of Ohio and the mother of Illinois. They were married in the latter state and made their home there. The death of Michael Beaver occurred in 1895 and the mother still lives, residing in Lincoln, Illinois. Mr. Beaver was a stockman and a farmer of note and was an active supporter of the democratic party. Seven children were born to this union of which the subject and two brothers, C. N. and W. R., are the only ones living. C. N. Beaver's review appears on another page of this volume, and W. R. Beaver is a retired farmer of Lincoln, Illinois.

In the acquirement of an education, Elmer Beaver attended the schools of Lincoln, Illinois. He was reared on a farm and after putting his textbooks aside he engaged in farming until he was thirty years of age. His father left him some land in York county, so in 1899 he removed to this county where he bought an additional farm. For four years he remained on this land and then removed to York in 1902 and bought a house on Burlington avenue which he later sold, and subsequently purchased a beautiful residence on Lincoln avenue where he now resides. He is a musician of some ability and played in the town band for a number of years. Most of his time is spent in caring for his five hundred and eleven acres of well improved land and in addition he supervises the care of the land in York county belonging to his brother W. R. Beaver, of Lincoln, Illinois.

In the spring of 1895 Mr. Beaver was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Maltby, a native of Logan county, Illinois, a daughter of John Maltby who was a farmer in that state. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Beaver seven children have been born, namely: Clyde who is a musician of some ability and plays in a theatre at Lincoln; Conaway, who is director of an orchestra in Lincoln; W. R., a musician in a theatre at Grand Island; Fred, who is employed in a freight office at York; and Eugene and Ruth at school. One child, Jessie, who was a member of the band, died at the age of eighteen years. Mrs. Beaver is prominent in social circles in York and is a member of the Christian church.

Mr. Beaver is independent in politics, supporting the man rather than the party and though he takes an active part in any movement promoting growth and improvement of his community, he has never sought nor desired public office. During the World war he took part in all the various activities and his son Clyde entered

the army in 1917 in the Dunwoodey Naval Reserve Band at Minneapolis. He was stationed at the Great Lakes until the signing of the armistice after which time he made five trips to Europe on the *W. S. Henderson*. Mr. and Mrs. Beaver are popular residents of York and Mr. Beaver's genial disposition has won for him innumerable friends and the high regard of all those with whom he comes in contact.

ROBERT BECKORD

Robert Beckord, a prominent and progressive business man of Waco, York county, where he has been residing for near forty years, is a native of Germany, born November 9, 1864, a son of Henry and Anna (Shieltment) Beckord, also natives of Germany, the father being a carpenter in that country during his active years and there he and his wife passed their entire lives. Fritz Beckord, a brother of the subject of this sketch, immigrated to the United States and for a time lived in Kansas. Later he became identified with the furniture business at Seward, Nebraska, and then moved to Utica, where he engaged in the lumber business. He remained there until the last few years, which were spent in California, where his death took place.

Robert Beckord was educated in the public schools of his native country and when he was thirteen years old, in 1879, he came to the United States, landing in Philadelphia, the ocean voyage being made on a steamship. He went to Nebraska and settled in Utica, where he worked for his brother in a lumber-yard, remaining in that line for about one year. He then turned his attention to farm labor for about a year and a half and worked on farms by the month, his remuneration being at the rate of twelve and one-half dollars per month, during this time acquiring a good knowledge of agricultural operations. His stay in this connection covered about eighteen months. In 1882 Mr. Beckord moved to Waco and renewed his connection with the lumber business, becoming manager of the yard known as the Fritz Beckord Lumber Company, later transferring his services to the S. K. Martin Lumber Company, here also holding the responsible position of manager and remaining in that capacity for several years. His next venture in a business direction was to purchase the elevator owned by T. C. Tagg, which he managed and operated for four years, and then bought a drug store, managing the store and the elevator for a considerable time. He now devotes much of his time to the drug store to which is attached a paint and wall-paper department, the entire business being under his immediate control and yielding satisfactory financial results. He also owns farm lands in York county, in western Nebraska and in Kansas. He is a progressive, energetic business man of sound judgment and keen discrimination. He is a stockholder and director in the Farmers & Traders Bank of Waco and also is a director in the American State Bank of York, and in other ways has given of his time and ability to the development of the commercial interests of the community in which he is well and favorably known.

In 1887 Mr. Beckord was united in marriage at Waco to Adolphena Ziegenhagen, who was born in Germany, and to this union the following children have been born: Henry, associated in the drug business with his father, is a graduate of the Nebraska State School of Pharmacy; Ella, the wife of F. L. Propst, county

treasurer of York county; Leo, a farmer in York county; Edward, who is attending the engineering school of the State University at Lincoln; Esther, who is attending the State University at Lincoln; and Donald, who attends the Waco high school. Mr. Beckord has been prominent in public affairs for many years and his efforts have ever been directed to the welfare of his city and district. He is a staunch republican and under the auspices of that party has filled several local offices, including that of mayor, giving faithful and intelligent service to the people. His fraternal affiliation is with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is not only progressive in all that he undertakes, but is thoroughly reliable and his business integrity stands as an unquestioned fact in his career.

SOLOMON S. DEFFENBAUGH

As a representative of the class of substantial builders of the great commonwealth who served faithfully and long in the enterprising west Solomon S. Deffenbaugh stands in the front rank of pioneers. He was born in Ohio, March 25, 1838, and when he had grown to manhood and married he decided to try his fortune in the west, so in May, 1874, he left Wyoming, Stark county, Illinois, with a team and wagon which held all his worldly possessions and set out for his new home. In June of the same year he reached York county, Nebraska, and spent the fall and winter at the homestead of his father-in-law, John Rush, who lived in West Blue township.

Mr. Deffenbaugh established his first home on section eight of this township, where he bought railroad land. In 1889 he sold this property and engaged in the cattle business in Box Butte county, Nebraska, remaining there a few years, after which he returned to York county and purchased the farm where he now resides on section five, West Blue township.

He was married at Ancona, Livingston county, Illinois, to Arminda Rush, the daughter of John and Susan (Stanton) Rush. John Rush was one of the first settlers to take a homestead in the county where he lived until he had passed the ninetieth milestone. Mr. and Mrs. Deffenbaugh have become the parents of seven children, six of whom are living: Charles R., who is engaged in farming in York county, and is mentioned elsewhere in this work; Louie, the wife of Smith Hutchins, who resides in Philipsburg, Montana; J. C., who is at home; Ella, the wife of John Hiner, of York; Maude, who is married to Louis Cook, a resident of York; and Marie, who is married to Sam Williams, of Omaha, Nebraska.

Years have passed since Mr. Deffenbaugh cast in his lot with the pioneers of York county. People of the present day can hardly realize the struggles and dangers which attended the early settlers, the heroism and self-sacrifice of lives passed on the borders of civilization, the hardships endured and the difficulties which had to be overcome. He experienced all of the privations and hardships of the times and recalls the terrible grasshopper pestilence which sorely tried the courage and patience of so many of the farmers at that time. He has eighty acres of well cultivated land and splendid buildings on his farm which stand forth as proof of his victory over the storms and trials of the years.

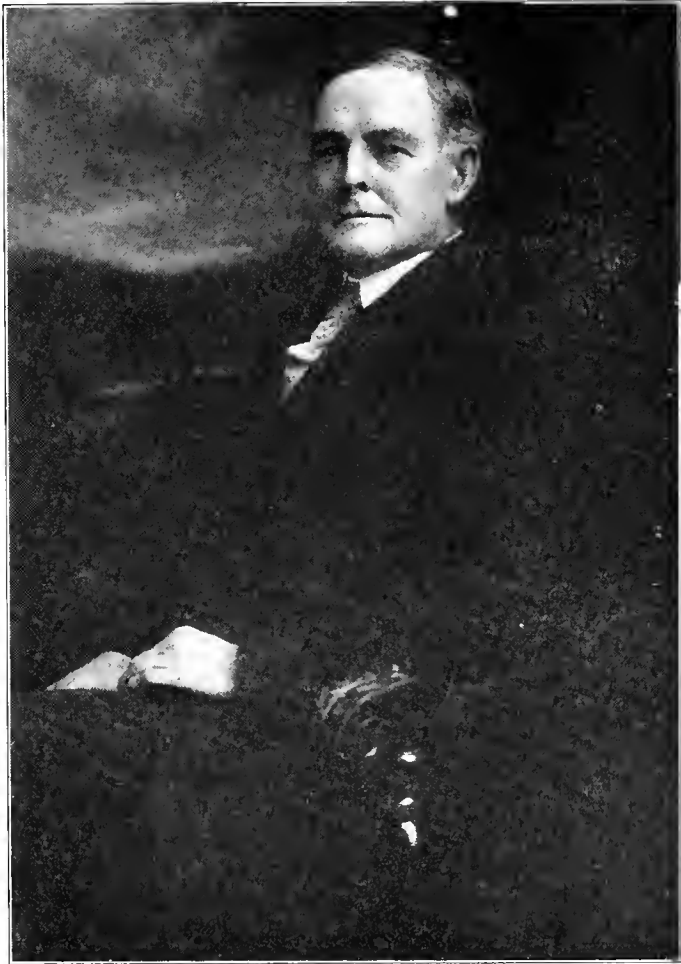
In politics Mr. Deffenbaugh gives his political allegiance to the democratic party but does not seek nor desire office, his attention being concentrated upon his business affairs. Mrs. Deffenbaugh is a member of the Christian church. Mr. Deffenbaugh has brought his farm under a high state of cultivation and the many improvements which he has added thereto make it one of the valuable properties of the district.

GEORGE S. COOK

George S. Cook, engaged in the abstract business in York, is one of the substantial residents of the city who yet remains active in business, although he has passed the seventy-seventh milestone on life's journey. He was born in Provincetown, Massachusetts, June 4, 1843, a son of Ephraim and Rebecca (Wiley) Cook. The father was born in Massachusetts November 4, 1806, and passed away February 22, 1891, at the advanced age of eighty-four years. The mother was born in New England in 1816, and her death occurred December 27, 1850. Their marriage was celebrated in Massachusetts. The father was on a fishing and whaling vessel for a number of years, after which he took up his abode at Provincetown, where he engaged in fitting out vessels, conducting his business very successfully. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and his early political support was given to the whig party, but upon its dissolution he joined the ranks of the new republican party. He represented one of the old New England families, his father Ephraim Cook having also been a native of Massachusetts and a fisherman of that state. The maternal grandfather of George S. Cook, however, was a Methodist minister, devoting his entire life to the work of preaching the gospel. George S. Cook was one of a family of four children, of whom three are living: Phoebe, the wife of W. E. Morgan, of Vienna, Virginia, who is doorkeeper in the United States senate; E. Parker, who is living retired in Boston, Massachusetts; and George S.

The last named obtained his education in the schools of his native city and then entered his father's store as soon as he had put aside his textbooks. He acted as bookkeeper and did other work in the store and there remained until 1871, save for the period of his service in the Civil war. He enlisted in 1862 as a member of Company I, Forty-seventh Massachusetts Infantry, with which he served for nine months, taking part in the Red river expedition. He was an orderly at General Banks' headquarters, and had not yet reached his twenties when he enlisted and saw active service in defense of the Union.

In April, 1871, Mr. Cook removed to York county, where he homesteaded. There was not a dwelling in the city of York at the time of his arrival. All around was the broad open prairie starred with a million wild flowers in June, and in the winter covered with a dazzling, unbroken sheet of snow. He at once began the development of his land and resided thereon until 1878, when he built a nice home in the village of York and afterward sold his farm property. When he erected his dwelling he regarded it as a long distance from the business street. He paid fifty dollars for the lot and twenty-five dollars down and with a year's time to make the remaining payments. The home is just three blocks from the public square, so that today it is in the very heart of the city and is a comfortable, modern



GEORGE S. COOK

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residence in which he has enjoyed many of the best things that life has to offer. During most of the intervening period he has been engaged in the abstract business to which he still gives his attention.

On the 5th of December, 1866, Mr. Cook was married to Miss Julia M. Smith, who was born in Massachusetts, and passed away June 12, 1896, leaving one child, Lydia Smith, who is now the wife of F. R. Clarke, a miner of Spokane, Washington. Mr. Cook was again married November 21, 1899, his second union being with Martha Ellen Hitchcock, who was born in Indiana.

Mr. Cook is a member of the Congregational church and has ever guided his life according to its teachings. Fraternally he is a Mason and was secretary of his lodge for a number of years. He also served for a considerable period as secretary for the Knights of Pythias, and has discharged the secretarial duties in the Grand Army Post, to which he belongs. In politics he has always been a republican and has served as city treasurer for thirty years, deputy county treasurer under two administrations and deputy county clerk for three years.

He has served as secretary of the cemetery for a number of years and at all times has been interested in every project and plan for the city's benefit and improvement. He passed through all of the hardships and privations incident to the pioneer development of this section of the country, and is now largely enjoying rest from business, the fruits of his former toil supplying him with all of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life.

H. BLUM, SR.

H. Blum, Sr., one of the prosperous residents of York county, was born in Posen, Germany, in 1855, the son of Michael and Augusta (Warnek) Blum, natives of the province of Posen, who passed away when their son was a child. His boyhood was spent in Germany, and at the age of seventeen he came to America, and made his way to York county where he had a brother Julius, who had settled on a homestead there a year before. He worked on his brother's farm for more than a year and at the end of that time found employment on a railroad south of Lincoln, where he worked in 1873 and 1874, later working on a railroad in Iowa.

He then came to York county and bought out a homestead from a man who had occupied it but a short time. He paid for the improvements on it and lived the required five years on the eighty acres, that it might become his property. This has been his home ever since and he is now the owner of six hundred and eighty acres of valuable land, with four sets of farm buildings. When Mr. Blum came to York county he was without capital and was two hundred dollars in debt, so it is easily seen to what success he has attained.

He was married to Miss Otilia Suekschewsky who came from the same province in Germany as did her husband, when she was twenty-one years of age. They are the parents of seven children: Ludwig, who is married to Tillie Schleuter, is a farmer in York county, and has four children; Gustav lives at home; Herman, Jr., who is married to Anna Fuss, is engaged in agricultural pursuits in York county, and has two children; Julius, who is the husband of Esther Wightman, is a banker in California; Otto, who is married to Alta Gradosky, is a farmer in York county; Walter lives at home; and Mary is the wife of Dick Wessel, Jr., of York county.

Mr. Blum is a member of St. John's Lutheran church in Beaver township. In politics he is independent, preferring to use his judgment in casting his vote. He displays a keen interest in the affairs of the community and has been assessor of the township for many years and a member of the school board. His life has been one of continuous activity in which has been accorded due recognition of labor and today he is numbered among the substantial citizens of the county. His interests are thoroughly identified with those of farming and he is always ready to lend his aid and co-operation to advance the development of his county and community.

GEORGE P. SHIDLER, M. D.

Dr. George P. Shidler, of York, ranks among the progressive and successful physicians and surgeons of the city and is held in high esteem by both the general public and his professional brethren. He was born in York, February 3, 1882, the son of Dr. George W. and Alice J. (Shirey) Shidler. The mother was a native of Clearfield county, Pennsylvania, her birth having occurred in that state in 1855. She was married to Dr. George W. Shidler in 1880, and of this union two children were born, namely: the subject of this review; and Bertha who is the wife of George H. Edwards. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards reside in San Francisco, California, where Mr. Edwards is engaged in the wholesale hat business. Dr. George W. Shidler was born in Pennsylvania in 1849 and received his medical education at Ann Arbor and Keokuk, Iowa, graduating in 1875. He commenced the practice of his profession at Swedesburg, Iowa, and in 1879 removed to York where he formed a partnership with Dr. Porter, under the name of Porter & Shidler. For ten years this partnership continued, at the termination of which time the doctor practiced alone until 1897 when he entered practice in connection with Dr. O. M. Moore. In 1909 the son of Dr. George W. Shidler, Dr. George P. Shidler, joined the partnership and the firm name became Shidler, Moore & Shidler. After the death of the elder Dr. Shidler, Dr. King became a member of the firm but in 1917 entered the service of the United States in the World war. Upon his return to York in 1919 he immediately resumed his connection with the firm, and it is now known as Moore, Shidler & King, or the York Clinic. Dr. George W. Shidler and his wife attended the Presbyterian church and he was a democrat in politics. He was one of the first surgeons west of the Mississippi river and was also among the first to use a local anaesthetic. The first appendix operation in York county was performed by Dr. Shidler, and in order to keep up with the advance in knowledge of the profession he took a post-graduate course every year. In fact so widely known did Dr. Shidler become that he received a request from Germany for a picture of himself to be placed with the noted physicians and surgeons of their own country. Mrs. Shidler was a typical American woman. She was a leader in social affairs and an excellent housewife. She was also quite talented, and painted a number of charming pictures. After a life of usefulness and unselfish devotion to her family she passed away in 1908.

In the acquirement of his education Dr. George P. Shidler attended the public schools of York and was graduated from the high school in 1899. He then entered the State University and was graduated therefrom, A. B., in 1903. For two years

he pursued a course in the Ann Arbor Medical College and was graduated from Northwestern University in 1907. He commenced his professional career as interne in the Cook County Institution where he remained for six months, and then spent one year and three months in St. Luke's Hospital, both institutions being located in Chicago. In 1908 he returned to York and entered into practice with his father and Dr. Moore and he is now connected with Drs. Moore and King. These three men are known as the York Clinic and have established a private hospital, the Clinic Hospital, which they have conducted since June 20, 1910, where all of their operations are performed. In addition to his duties at the hospital and his general practice Dr. Shidler is an attendant at the York convent and at the Odd Fellows home. He is thoroughly conscientious in the performance of his duties as a physician and surgeon and his skill is generally recognized. He performed, and with great success, the first Caesarean operation in York county.

Dr. Shidler was married in 1909 in Michigan City, Indiana, to Miss Mina Aslton of that place, whose father was a wholesale grocer there for fifty years. To the union of Dr. and Mrs. Shidler four boys have been born: George, ten years of age; John, aged nine years; Fred, six years of age; and James, aged three years. Dr. Shidler and family are members of the Presbyterian church and are active in the work of that organization. Fraternally he is a Scottish Rite Mason, a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, and a Knight of Pythias. Dr. Shidler and his wife are well known in the social circles of the town being members of the York Country Club of which Dr. Shidler is director, and his interest in the public progress and welfare of his community is manifest in his membership in the Rotary Club.

CHARLES J. RUSLER

A pioneer farmer of York county is Charles J. Rusler, who was born in Germany on the 10th of August, 1849, a son of Joseph and Mary Rusler, both natives of that country. In 1850 Joseph Rusler came to the United States, locating at Oregon, Illinois. He worked out on farms, being with one man for a period of four years, and later rented land which he farmed successfully. Joseph Rusler managed to save enough money to purchase some land on which he built a log house and soon after he sent to Germany for his wife and family. For some time they resided on the farm and then retired to the town of Oregon, Illinois, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. Rusler was married twice, three children being born to the first union, namely: Michael, whose death occurred in Custer county, Nebraska; Sophia, who died in Illinois; and Charles J., whose name initiates this review. The second wife of Mr. Rusler was Elizabeth Rusler, and to them four children were born, namely: Susan, who is deceased; Anna, residing in Chicago; Daniel, who lives in Canada; and George, a resident of Oklahoma. Joseph Rusler was a staunch supporter of the democratic party and a consistent member of the Catholic church.

Charles J. Rusler came to the United States from his native land in 1852, the journey taking a period of three months. He settled with his parents in Oregon, Illinois, and was educated in the country schools in the vicinity of his home. After putting his textbooks aside he assisted his father on the farm until he was

twenty-two years of age, when he hired out to other farmers, breaking land and running threshing machines. On the 6th of April, 1874, Mr. Rusler came to Nebraska, settling in York county where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land for which he paid seven dollars an acre. He purchased the first threshing machine ever used in the county and set about to cultivate his land. He built a one room sod house with a dirt floor and roof and there he resided, breaking his own land, sixty acres the first year, which he put out in sod corn. He also set out an orchard but this later mostly died out. The hardships passed through by Mr. Rusler were many and in the year 1874 the grasshoppers destroyed every one of his crops. Supplies had to be hauled from Fairmont, and wood from the Blue River. During the winter he often had to burn cornstalks. Game was plentiful in that section of the county and he remembers seeing many antelopes. The Indians on their season hunts would pass his place and often stop for food and warmth. Mr. Rusler allowed no obstacle, however great, to obstruct his path, and his determination and energy have been rewarded with a substantial amount of success. He is now in possession of eight hundred and forty acres, the land all adjoining, on which he has three sets of fine improvements.

It was while residing in Illinois that Mr. Rusler was united in marriage to Miss Diana Calkins, a native of that state. A niece of Mr. Rusler's, Minnie Burton, makes her home with them.

Mr. Rusler has always maintained an independent course in politics, voting for the man rather than for any particular party. He has taken an active interest in the development and improvement of the community in which he makes his home and has served both as road overseer and assessor. The greater part of his time, however, he has devoted to his agricultural interests. The religious faith of Mr. Rusler is that of the Catholic church. Mr. Rusler is in every sense of the word a self-made man, having reached his present day success only as the result of his own efforts. He is recognized as such a man by his fellow-citizens, and is conceded the confidence, goodwill and respect of all with whom he comes in contact.

GEORGE W. ROSSITER

George W. Rossiter, one of the early settlers in York county, was born near Utica, New York, March 7, 1845. When he was very young his mother passed away and he went to live with an uncle in Illinois, where he spent his boyhood and received his education.

When Lincoln called for troops George Rossiter was among the first of the gallant young men who responded, enlisting in an Illinois Infantry, Seventh Regiment. He received a gunshot wound in his left foot but nothing daunted and determined to do not less than his utmost for his country, he reenlisted in the One Hundred and Sixth Regiment where he was detailed on secret service work until the close of the war. He then returned to Lincoln, Illinois, and engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1870 he came to York county where he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, in LeRoy township. For the ten following years he lived in a sod house, consisting of two little rooms, which was improved as the years passed until it became a very comfortable dwelling.

George Rossiter was married to Colista Rinehart in 1875, and they have become the parents of five children: Roland R., who lives in Montana; Mary, the wife of D. W. Smith, who lives with her mother; Fanny G., the wife of E. E. Bird, who resides in Grand Island; Warren L., of York, Nebraska; and Virna E., who is married to P. J. Hessler, of York, and resides with her mother.

Mr. Rossiter was always deeply interested in the Grand Army of the Republic, and belonged to the Robert Anderson Post No. 32. He gave his political endorsement to the republican party and always kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day. On March 7, 1909, Mr. Rossiter passed away, leaving his sorrowing wife and children, who feel that their loss is irreparable, and many friends and relatives. Mr. Rossiter is justly accorded a place among the prominent and representative citizens of York county, for he belonged to that class of men whose enterprising spirit is used not alone for their own benefit; he also advanced the general good and promoted public prosperity by his ably managed individual interests, thus placing this section of the county on a par with the older east.

GEORGE W. FRIESEN

Among the representative residents of York county is George W. Friesen, for many years identified with banking and farming and at present serving as president of the Bank of Henderson. He was born in Southern Russia, August 24, 1870, a son of John and Mary (Klassen) Friesen, also natives of that part of Russia. These parents immigrated to America in 1875 and in that year came out to Nebraska, locating in Hamilton county, where John Friesen took up a homestead on which he erected a sod house in which he lived for a considerable time. Later he improved the holding with a frame building and carried out other useful projects, all of which served to increase the value of the place. He broke the ground, planted crops and as he prospered in his agricultural operations built fences and effected other worth-while improvements, gradually bringing his holding to the front rank among the best kept farms of the county. He and his wife became the parents of six children, five of whom are living. His wife passed away in 1911 to the deep regret of her relatives and numerous friends, and he survived until 1919 being then in his seventy-ninth year. Coming to this part of Nebraska when it was virtually in the pioneer stage he experienced many of the hardships and disadvantages of that time but lived to see a wonderful transformation and the face of the country changed from a prairie state to one of well cultivated fields and established government prevailing throughout, and in the bringing about of these results he played a conspicuous part.

George W. Friesen was a lad of five years when he accompanied his parents to the new world and he was educated in the public schools of the county, later attending the Fremont Normal School, finishing his educational course in that institution. Upon the completion of his school work he served for four years as deputy county clerk of Hamilton county, giving much satisfaction. Mr. Friesen then turned his attention to banking and entered the Bank of Henderson, of which he later became cashier, filling that responsible position with fidelity and distinction for ten years, meriting alike the warm approval and esteem of the bank officers

and the public. Later Mr. Friesen became president of the bank and under his guidance the bank's business is in a prosperous and flourishing condition, carrying a substantial surplus to its credit, keen business acumen and sagacity being responsible for its present sound financial position. Apart from his banking interests Mr. Friesen is giving close attention to the management of a quarter section of land which he owns in Hamilton county, all of which is in an excellent state of improvement, operated along modern agricultural lines and yielding annually most gratifying returns.

Mr. Friesen has been twice married. His first wife was Miss Hannah Stark, a daughter of William L. and Gertrude (Elworth) Stark, both of whom are still living in Aurora, Nebraska. Mrs. Friesen passed away in 1901, some six months after her marriage. In 1917 Mr. Friesen took for his second wife Miss Marie A. Koss, a native of Lee county, Iowa, and a daughter of Anthony and Anna (Ketterer) Koss, also natives of Iowa and still living in Lee county, that state. To this second union a son was born, George A., whose birth occurred on March 27, 1918.

In his political affiliation Mr. Friesen gives undivided support to the progressive party and in local affairs has given of his time and ability to the public interest. He served on the city council for a time, taking a prominent part in the shaping and formulating of conditions necessary to the well-being of the community. His interest in the advancement of educational affairs has been not less practical and he served as a member of the school board for several years. His life has been a busy and useful one, divided between his banking and farming interests and by unfaltering industry and determination he has advanced steadily on the high road to success. He is one of the leading men of the county in which he resides and is enjoying a prosperity which is the merited reward of his labors, being in the highest sense of the term a self-made man.

SAMUEL R. LICHTENBERGER

Samuel R. Lichtenberger, proprietor of the Cottonwood Stock Farm and a prosperous and well known resident of York county, having come to this part of Nebraska in 1872, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Somerset county, January 8, 1847, a son of Josiah and Eliza (Schneider) Lichtenberger, both of whom were born in that same county. Josiah was a son of John J. Lichtenberger, and the latter with one of his brothers assisted their grandfather in laying out the town of Somerset in the Keystone state. When that town was being organized the Schneider family just mentioned presented the first courthouse building, the jail, seminary and Lutheran church buildings to the people of Somerset, and in many other directions they were benefactors to the well-being of the town and their names are gratefully remembered to this day in the locality.

Samuel R. Lichtenberger was one of nine children born to his parents and was educated in the public schools of his native county. He learned his father's trade, that of a tanner, and continued to work at that business during his boyhood years. In 1863 he migrated to Dixon, Illinois, and there continued to reside until March, 1864, when he enlisted as a corporal in Company D, Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer

Infantry, for service with the Federal troops in the Civil war. He was mustered in at Chicago and from that point was sent to Tennessee with Sherman's army, where his company became part of the Seventeenth Corps under General Blair who accompanied Sherman on his famous march to the sea. He was in several engagements and continued to serve until the close of the war when he was mustered out at Springfield in September, 1865.

At the close of his military service Mr. Lichtenberger returned to Dixon, Illinois, and there rented land which he operated until the spring of 1872. In that year he made the overland journey to York county by horse team and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres located on section 8, Bradshaw township. His first house was built of sod with a sod roof and a dirt floor and here he "bached" for eleven years. The holding was all raw prairie land and he began to break it with ox teams in 1873 and in that year started to put out his first crops. In the following year he had broken fifty acres of the ground and put it to wheat when the grasshoppers came in myriads, being so thick that he could shovel them up with a scoop shovel. In the morning of the following day they rose in a cloud and disappeared as mysteriously as they had come, leaving the wheat practically uninjured. Mr. Lichtenberger has many interesting stories to tell of those early days in the county. He was in the big storm of April 2, 1873, when on the afternoon of that date a drizzling rain started, which later turned into big soft snowflakes which fell to a thickness of about five inches on the ground. It froze hard all that night and the following morning a snow blizzard was raging which lasted for three days, during that time numbers of cattle, hogs and horses being frozen to death. Some time after he settled here he hunted antelopes on the spot where Bradshaw now stands, but buffaloes were not very plentiful. He did most of his trading at Lincoln and hauled his grain to market at Fairmont and Sutton, the latter being twenty-five miles distant.

In January, 1883, Mr. Lichtenberger was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Dickson, a native of Danville, Illinois, a daughter of Robert M. Dickson, who came to Nebraska and homesteaded in Custer county. Five children were born to this union: Mae, the wife of C. W. Will, of Litchfield, Nebraska; Josiah, who works on a farm in Bradshaw township; Cleon, who lives on his father's old homestead; Alice, who died in infancy, and Lula, now attending high school. Mr. Lichtenberger is a democrat and served as school director and treasurer of his school district for thirty years. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, affiliated with Noble Groves Post, and in the affairs of that organization continues to take a warm interest. Since 1878 he has held membership in the Masonic order and for many years has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His wife and daughter are earnest members of the Christian church and all community movements intended to promote the public welfare have their practical support. They are people of genuine personal worth, enjoying in large measure the friendship and kindly regard of those with whom they have been brought into contact. Their own home is noted for its warmhearted hospitality and is the scene of many delightful social gatherings.

Mr. Lichtenberger continued to reside on his old homestead until 1917, when he moved to Bradshaw. During his active years on the farm he was extensively engaged in stock raising and general farming, having been one of the most successful stock raisers in the county and was engaged in the buying and selling of stock

for forty years. He was the first farmer to ship a load of grain out of Bradshaw. After the first few years of his residence on the homestead he began to see greater possibilities ahead and added to his land holdings from time to time until he had accumulated five hundred and sixty acres of prime land of which he is still the owner. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to try his fortune in this part of Nebraska. Here he found conditions favorable to the man who is willing to work, for the land is rich in its natural resources and Mr. Lichtenberger accordingly brought his diligence to play with the result that he is today the possessor of a handsome competence which surrounds him with all the necessities and comforts of life and some of its luxuries.

WILLIAM S. JEFFERY

William S. Jeffery, a prominent and prosperous citizen of York county of which he has been a resident for more than forty-six years, now living practically retired from active participation in farm life, has in his time played many parts in business affairs. He was born in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, January 24, 1844, a son of Robert and Mary (Scott) Jeffery, the former a native of Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, where he was born in 1819 and died in 1906, having then reached the advanced age of eighty-seven years. Mrs. Mary (Scott) Jeffery, his wife, was a native of Hancock county, Virginia, where she was born in 1827 and passed away in 1884, being then in her fifty-seventh year.

Robert Jeffery had a somewhat varied career. He had been a school teacher in the Keystone state and in 1853 moved into Illinois. He became deputy clerk of McDonough county and filled this responsible position for eleven years, enjoying the confidence of his brother officials and the public, and serving with fidelity and ability. For six years he was deputy postmaster at Macomb, Illinois, and brought to bear on the duties of that public department a keen administrative capacity. Later he became express messenger on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad. In 1878 he moved into Nebraska, living near Red Cloud with a brother and began farming. He started for Kansas and purchased a tract of land on which he resumed agricultural operations, and there spent the remainder of his life, his death taking place in 1906, in his eighty-seventh year. To Robert Jeffery and wife six children were born: William S., subject of this sketch; Mary Ann, deceased; Jennie, wife of Mike Ryan, of Lincoln; Austin N., deceased; Anna, widow of Cade Holcomb, of Illinois; and Sarah, deceased in infancy. He and his wife were members of the Presbyterian church and in its work took an active and helpful interest, doing all in their power to extend its growth and promote its purpose. His political support was given to sustain the policies and principles of the republican party.

William S. Jeffery was reared in the home of his parents and secured his education in the common schools of Virginia and Illinois. One of his earliest forms of employment was as a clerk in a grocery store at Macomb, Illinois, being engaged for two years in this line. Later he worked in the office of the Macomb Enterprise, a newspaper of that place, and remained there for twelve months following which he found employment as a clerk in a clothing store. While living in Illinois



MR AND MRS W S JEFFERY

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Mr. Jeffery started out as a farmer, bought land and carried on general farming. About that time he married Laura Louisa Dickey, a native of Ohio, and they moved to Iowa in 1869, going out to the prairie country where he purchased a tract of land on time payments, and on this place he carried on general farming and operated a threshing machine. He remained in the prairie country for about five years and in March, 1874, came to York county and bought railroad land, experiencing in common with others the effects of the grasshopper visitation of that period. Mr. Jeffery diligently applied himself to the development of his agricultural interests and finally acquired over one thousand acres at one time of well improved land, some of which he divided among his children, giving each a farm, and he is now living practically retired, having reached his seventy-seventh year, enjoying the repose to which his active years of energy and industry fully entitle him.

In 1906 Mr. Jeffery's wife passed to her reward, and was buried near Benedict. She became the mother of five children: Orman S., in charge of the home place; W. Earl, living in Loveland, Colorado; Idella, the wife of Charles Wallace, of Hastings, Nebraska; Elmer O., of Stromsburg, Nebraska; and Basil, who died at the age of twenty-two, at that time being a medical student. Mr. Jeffery and his wife have been prominently identified with the services of the Methodist church, in which she always took a deep interest. He gives his political allegiance to the republican party and served one term on the county board, discharging the duties thereof with fidelity and ability. In fraternal circles he is identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Modern Woodmen of America. His memory practically compasses the period of pioneer development and later progress here, and he has ever borne his share in the work of upbuilding and improvement, and as a citizen he occupies a foremost place in the hearts and confidence of his numerous friends and neighbors.

GEORGE H. DICKSON

The potential possibilities of farming and stock raising in York county have no more able exponent than George H. Dickson, who is operating a fine farm on section 5, Thayer township, and in the management of which he has demonstrated his fitness for agricultural life. He was born in the county, February 18, 1890, a son of William and Mary (Troutman) Dickson, both natives of Iowa who were reared in that state.

William Dickson was educated in the common schools of Iowa and started his farming career in his native place. In 1878 he came to York county and became the owner of three hundred and forty acres of railroad land which was in a raw condition when he acquired it. He figured prominently in connection with the pioneer development of the county and is classed with those who aided in reclaiming this region for the purposes of civilization. In the early days of his residence he had to haul grain to Seward, usually returning with necessary supplies from the same point. He improved and developed his half section of land and as his financial standing permitted he bought another quarter section, this latter holding being located near Holdrege. He made everything through his own efforts and

may justly be termed a self-made man. William Dickson married Mary Troutman and they became the parents of seven children: Lela, the wife of Bert Tilbert, of Holdrege; Bertha, deceased; Hattie, wife of Dr. Frank Warner of Gresham; Ray, a farmer of Polk county; Claude, also farming in Polk county; George H.; and Earl, now attending school in Denver. Mr. William Dickson passed away in 1910, being then fifty-five years old. His widow is living in Denver and is in her sixty-fifth year. Members of the Lutheran church, they were always earnest adherents of its religious practices. While giving his political support to the republican party he never sought public office, preferring to devote his time and attention to his agricultural interests; nevertheless he always gave a good citizen's attention to all movements calculated to advance the welfare of the community in the development of which he played an active part.

George H. Dickson was reared on his father's homestead and early became acquainted with agricultural operations, fitting himself for the responsibilities which ultimately devolved upon him. He was educated in the public schools of the county and worked on the home farm, giving his father the benefit of his labors. He is now actively engaged in general farming and stock raising and during the period the place has been in his possession has made many excellent improvements thereon, converting it into one of the model farm properties of the county. In 1913 he was married to Hazel Warner, a daughter of George E. Warner, a native of Pennsylvania, and to this union two children have been born: Lowell and Lyle, residing with their parents. George E. Warner, father of Mrs. Dickson, was born in Pennsylvania in 1848 and married Rose B. Shrader, also a native of the Keystone state. He came to Nebraska in 1873, driving across the country to his destination, and settled in Polk county where he homesteaded eighty acres of land on which he put a sod house and later a frame shanty in which he lived for several years. He prospered as he proceeded with his farm work and bought more land as circumstances permitted, at the time of his death being the owner of five hundred and sixty acres of excellent land all well improved. He and his wife became the parents of eight children: Bertha, the wife of Herbert Richardson, of Polk county; Dr. Frank Warner, living in Gresham; Eva, living at home; Hattie, married; Ray, a farmer of Polk county; Hazel, the wife of George H. Dickson; Glenn, a farmer living in Polk county; and Merle, at home. The parents were members of the Lutheran church and had a wide circle of friends in the community where many of their best years were spent. Mr. and Mrs. Dickson are members of the Lutheran church and he is a republican in political affiliation.

H. W. FAY.

For fifty years H. W. Fay, who is now living retired at Bradshaw, has been identified with the agricultural growth and development of York county, and during that period has made wise use of his time, his talents and his opportunities, and in laboring to promote his individual interests has also advanced the welfare and progress of his district and the county at large. He was born at Port Huron, Michigan, October 5, 1844, a son of Hiram and Luey (Chapin) Fay, the former a native of New York state and the latter of Massachusetts.

Hiram Fay was a builder and contractor who migrated from New York to Michigan when he was twenty-one years old, going thence to Chicago in 1850 and there became engaged at his trade. In 1853 he went to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and resumed his occupation there, working for several years. Later he came to Nebraska, spending the remainder of his life in this state, his death occurring in 1883, being then seventy-four years old. His wife predeceased him in September, 1874, having reached her fifty-eighth year. He was a republican in politics and in religious belief was affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church, to the faith of which his wife also was attached. They were the parents of seven children: Lucy, the wife of James Sisco, of Alliance, Nebraska; Reuben A., living at Portland, Oregon; H. W., the subject of this sketch; Hiram, whose death occurred when eight years old; Claude, who died in his first year; Harlow L., who passed away, aged eighteen; and Alice, who died when eighteen months old.

H. W. Fay was educated in the common schools of Iowa, the schoolhouses at that time being constructed of logs and slab benches doing duty for the regulation desks of a more modern day. He lived with his parents until his twentieth year, nothing occurring in his young manhood worthy of note until he decided to enter the military service of the country. He enlisted at Belle Plaine, Iowa, in the Forty-seventh Iowa Infantry and was mustered into the Federal army at Davenport, that state, in June, 1864, his entire period of service being about seventeen months. In October, 1864, Mr. Fay had a fortunate escape from being wounded, a memorandum book in his pocket causing a bullet to deflect without causing him any injury. He saw considerable activity while with the Federal army and was in many engagements and at the close of hostilities was mustered out, receiving an honorable discharge. In 1865 he returned to Iowa and started work on the railroad, being employed by the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company, remaining in that line for four years.

About 1871 Mr. Fay migrated to Nebraska and settled in York county, making the overland journey from Iowa with the aid of a team of ponies. He took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Henderson township and commenced without delay to break the sod and prepare it for tillage, at the end of a few years having twenty acres fit for cultivation. His first house was constructed out of poles and in this he had to live during the winter season. The barns were of sod and later he built a sod and log house for a residence. All freighting had to be done from Lincoln, over roads which at certain periods of the year were impassable. His agricultural operations turned out satisfactorily, notwithstanding the disadvantageous experiences entailed by visits from grasshoppers, hailstorms and chinch-bugs. As he prospered he added many valuable improvements to the farm, on which he continued to reside until 1915 when he moved to Bradshaw and began buying and shipping produce. He still retains ownership in one hundred and sixty acres, all of which is in an excellent state of improvement.

On January 2, 1870, Mr. Fay was united in marriage to Frances E. Brown, a native of Iowa, and of that marriage there are seven children now living: Hiram W., who lives at Havelock, and who served for eighteen months with the First South Dakota Volunteers in the Philippines, and was wounded at the Block House No. 2; Cora E., the wife of Leroy Perine, who lives in New York City; Henry A., a ship carpenter; Clark D., who farms the home place; Maude M., the wife of P. O. Ferree, of Hershey; Gaynelle, a teacher in the Dundee schools at Omaha;

Allen E., living at Hershey, who served for eighteen months with Battery F, One Hundred Twenty-seventh Heavy Field Artillery, training at Camp Cody; Leonora, who died at the age of four; and Cornelius, who died in infancy. Mr. Fay has always voted for the republican cause and for years has been identified with the Grand Army of the Republic and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He served the public as postmaster of Henderson for five years. He is a man of sound business judgment, sagacious and far-sighted, and his well defined plans have always been carried to successful completion.

HENRY WELLMAN

Henry Wellman arrived in the United States in 1870 a young man with little capital, and he is now living in Waco, York county, having retired from active business affairs. His career was at the outset a struggle for existence, but since then he has steadily progressed and his record indicates clearly what may be accomplished when there is a will to dare and to do. He was born in Germany, a son of George and Louise Wellman, also natives of that country.

Henry Wellman received his education under the excellent system prevailing in the schools of Germany and in 1870 he immigrated to this country, making the voyage on a steamship which took fourteen days to cross the Atlantic. In that year he came to Nebraska and settled in York county, which then was in a state of infancy and was sparsely populated. He has seen the county when it had but a few frame buildings and one sod house in its entire area. He reached Nebraska City by train and there bought a team and wagon and completed the journey to York county, which took a week owing to his missing the road. He walked from Nebraska City, driving a couple of cows behind the wagon, and when he became of age in 1873 he filed on a homestead, on which his first house was of the dugout type. Later he built a sod house with a dirt floor and subsequently erected the biggest frame house in the township at that time, the lumber being hauled from Utica, Nebraska. He then plunged actively into the work of developing and improving the homestead, cultivating crops, planting quantities of trees and setting out an orchard, which died in later years. Mr. Wellman was getting along splendidly when the grasshoppers came and destroyed every growing thing on his place. He asserts that within two hours after the pests visited the farm a leaf could not be seen on the cornstalks, so complete was the destruction. In time he recovered from the setback caused by the grasshoppers and by economy and industry was enabled to purchase more land and also bought a tract of land in Minnesota. From time to time he invested in holdings in York county which he invariably disposed of at terms that left substantial profits. During his active connection with agricultural operations he displayed a marked spirit of progress. He has ever been watchful of indications pointing to success and has never feared to venture where favoring opportunity has led the way.

In 1873 Mr. Wellman was united in marriage to Augusta Bolgren, a native of Wisconsin, and they became the parents of the following children: Arthur, living in Waco; Rinchart, residing in Waco; Arnold, a farmer of Dodge, Nebraska; Laura, the wife of Paul Kotfke of Beaver township. Mrs. Augusta Wellman died in 1888,

and some time later he married Miss Clara Bolgren, a sister of his first wife, and they became the parents of six children: George, who farms in Minnesota; Herbert, living in Hebert, Nebraska; Henry, who enlisted during the great war in the naval service, but being a carpenter was transferred to shipbuilding; Walter, who enlisted in the aviation service, served as a mechanic for two years; Elsie, the wife of Harry Lawver, of Waco; and Hilda, who lives at home. The second wife died in 1913.

Since moving to Waco to make his permanent home Mr. Wellman has built a well finished and comfortable house, modern in all respects, and here he enjoys the fruits of his early enterprise and persistent industry. He has always cast a consistent ballot for the republican party and has filled various public offices, among others having served on the county board for two terms and on the Beaver township school board for many years. He has been president of the German Mutual Fire Insurance Co. for twenty-nine years—its first and only president. So well do the people think of him that he is now filling the office of mayor of Waco, and in this position the interests of all the people are his first care, the same ripe intelligence and characteristic energy which marked his business affairs being also evident in discharging the duties of his public trust. In all his dealings he is thoroughly reliable as well as progressive and his word is considered as good as any bond solemnized by signature or seal.

RAYMOND L. BROTT

Raymond L. Brott a prominent figure in the insurance circles in York, his native city, was born March 7, 1890. He was educated in the public schools passing through consecutive grades to his graduation from the high school, with the class of 1910. He then entered the employ of the American State Bank, at York, and was advanced to various positions in that institution until he resigned as assistant cashier. In 1918 he became district manager of the Franklin Life Insurance Company, of Springfield, Illinois, and has since built up an extensive business, having now twenty sub-agencies. His clientele has become a very important one and in a period of the first seven months of 1920 he wrote insurance to the amount of one million dollars. His close application, his systematic methods, his unfaltering energy and his laudable ambition have been the salient features in the attainment of his success.

On the 18th of September, 1912, Mr. Brott was married to Helen L. Kingsley, a daughter of Jonathan C. Kingsley, who was a captain in the Civil war and became one of the early residents of York, where for many years he figured prominently in financial circles as vice president of the First National Bank. Mr. and Mrs. Brott have one daughter, Patricia, who is five years old. Their religious faith is that of the Congregational church and Mr. Brott is also a member of the Masonic fraternity, having taken the York Rite degree. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias Lodge, to the Rotary Club, to the Young Men's Christian Association, the Country Club, the Sons of Veterans, the Old Settlers Association and other organizations which indicate the nature of his interests and activities. He has served as secretary of the Knights of Pythias and Business Men's Association also

of the Young Men's Christian Association, and at all times is an active worker in support of any project which seems of benefit to the community in any way. His political allegiance is given to the republican party but he has never been ambitious for office, devoting his entire time to business, save where a leisure hour permits him to engage in a game of golf in which he and his father are much interested as well as in other clean outdoor sports. He is regarded as one of the alert and progressive business men to whom opportunity is ever a call to action.

In 1920 the company which Mr. Brott represents saw fit to appoint him as their agent to place money on farm mortgages, in his territory.

JAMES D. HOUSTON

Since 1917 James D. Houston, who was for many years a prominent farmer and stock raiser in York county, has resided in his home at 708 Burlington avenue, York. Mr. Houston is of Scotch descent having been born in Scotland on the 20th of June, 1841, a son of Andrew and Emily (Ritchie) Houston, both natives of Scotland. In 1870 Andrew Houston and his family removed from their native country to the United States, locating in Columbia county, Wisconsin, where they resided until 1871, when they came to York county, settling in the Thayer precinct. There Mr. Houston homesteaded eighty acres, putting up a frame house the lumber for which was hauled from Lincoln. The father was getting too old to engage in active farming and in 1880 both he and his wife passed away, their deaths occurring within two weeks of each other. They had been caught in a sand storm some time previous and the dust settling on their lungs was the cause of their deaths. Andrew Houston was a very prominent man in his community and was one of the first county commissioners of York county. Needless to say a feeling of deep bereavement swept the community at his death.

James D. Houston was twenty-nine years of age when his parents removed to this county and upon his arrival here he also homesteaded eighty acres, engaging in farming on his own account. He broke his own land and the first frame house he erected upon his land was the second largest house of its kind in the county. The wood for his fuel he got from Lincoln creek, and he hauled his provisions from Seward and Fairmont. During the Easter blizzard of 1873 he was snowed in for three days and after the storm subsided it was necessary for him to dig his way out to his barn. During the grasshopper storms he managed to save some wheat, and it was not long before he was making a success in his agricultural pursuits. He began to increase his acreage and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land for which he paid five dollars an acre, with a ten-years limit in which to pay the total amount. He later bought eighty acres for which he paid ten dollars an acre and he was soon recognized as one of the most successful and progressive farmers in the county. At one time he owned four hundred acres of finely improved land and had two sets of improvements on this land. He suffered loss during the droughts of '93, '94, and '95, but he soon recovered. When his son James became of age and wished to engage in farming Mr. Houston gave to him one hundred and sixty acres and to his son William one hundred and twenty acres.

In 1917 Mr. Houston decided to retire from active farm life and he removed to York and is now residing in his home at 708 Burlington avenue.

The marriage of Mr. Houston occurred in England. His wife was Mary Lidington, a native of that country whose death occurred in 1920, at the age of eighty-three years. Seven children were born to this union: James, a native of England, who is now farming in York county; William, whose birth occurred in England and who is engaged in farming in York county; Andrew, who was the first child to be baptized in York county by Rev. Mr. Morgan, and who is now engaged in dairy farming in Washington; Ritchie, farming in Colorado; George, whose death occurred in 1880; Kittie, the wife of Eugene Bemis of York; and John E. who is engaged in the mercantile business as well as farming in Idaho.

For eight years Mr. Houston has served on the county board and was chairman of this board for one year. He likewise served as county assessor two terms. The religious faith of Mr. Houston is that of the Episcopal church of which organization he is a consistant member.

Two sisters of Mr. Houston came to York county with him. Mary Ann died in this county some years ago and Effie who was the wife of John Eatherly, is also deceased. Mrs. Eatherly owned and built a house on the west side of the square where the public market now stands, the front of which she used for a millinery store. The Houston family have played an important part in the development of York county. Mr. Houston has seen the country grow from a wild and uncultivated state into one having many large and busy communities and comfortable homes. He has led a life of diligence and industry and as the result of this close application to his agricultural affairs has become one of the most prosperous and highly respected men of his district.

WILLIAM L. WHITE

William L. White, an insurance man of York, was born in Connecticut August 1, 1859, and was an adopted son of Edward R. and Elmira C. (Franklin) White, both natives of Connecticut. The parents died when William L. White was but two years of age and he was adopted by his father's people, Edward R. and Elmira C. (Franklin) White, and removed with them to Illinois about 1867. His father by adoption was a prosperous farmer and cattle-man and the family were members of the Presbyterian church.

William L. White received his education in the public schools of Illinois, working on the farm in his spare time. He continued work on the farm until he reached the age of twenty-one years at which time he removed to York county and settled in York. He obtained a clerkship in a store and remained there for four years, at the termination of which time he went to Waco, bought an interest in the Farmers & Traders State Bank and remained there for thirteen years. Tiring of the banking business he sold his interest and returned to York where he took up insurance as his vocation. While in Waco he had written some insurance in the bank and so had had some practical experience in this venture. In a short time he had built up a large patronage and his business is steadily growing.

His time is devoted to his business and he has twenty-six companies and the strongest fire insurance agency in the state.

In 1888 Mr. White was united in marriage to Miss Lurah B. Nally, a native of Lafayette, Indiana. The mother of Mrs. White came to York county about 1881 and bought a half section of land near Waco. Her death occurred at the home of Mr. and Mrs. White in York in 1909. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. White four children have been born, namely: Edward, who has been special state agent of the Home Insurance Company for the last six or seven years; Agnes M., at home; D. G., who has been in the navy for twelve years and was chief commissary steward on a transport traveling back and forth to France during the World war; and Hubert L., who has charge of the clothing department of the Middlebrooker Department Store. Both Edward and Hubert L. were in the service of the United States during the World war, the former having been in training camp in Arkansas and had just received his lieutenant's commission when the armistice was signed; and the latter was in the quartermaster's department and served in France for one year.

Politically Mr. White is a republican and has served on the York city council and the school board at Waco. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren church, which organization he serves as treasurer. Fraternally Mr. White is connected with the Masons and has obtained high rank in the order, belonging to the Knight Templar commandery and the Mystic Shrine. He is also a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and has held every chair with the exception of exalted ruler. He has always employed fair and honorable methods in his dealings and as a result has won the confidence and respect of his fellowmen.

GEORGE HAYWORTH

George Hayworth, now living retired at McCool Junction, was born in Davis county, North Carolina, April 14, 1846, the son of Riley and Priscilla (Chambers) Hayworth of North Carolina. His father spent some years farming in Virginia and Appanoose county, Iowa, and later in Indiana where he remained but a short time, returning to Iowa, where he passed away in 1895. The mother died in Indiana.

The boyhood of George Hayworth was spent on his father's farm, and when he grew to manhood he enlisted with Company G of the One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry and served in outpost duty in the vicinity of Bridgeport, Alabama, for one hundred days, when he was discharged. He re-enlisted with Company E of the Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving until the end of the war. He took part in the battles around Petersburg and on April ninth, the day General Lee surrendered, he was captured and was a prisoner for one day. After the war was over Mr. Hayworth sought a quiet and peaceful life, so he engaged in agricultural pursuits in Iowa. In August, 1871, he made a trip to York county, Nebraska, and was so well pleased with the prospects in that community that he moved there in the fall of that year with his wife and two children, coming by horse team with very little household goods in a wagon. He traded the horses for a yoke of oxen because they were easier to feed, as they could work with the native prairie grass as feed. Horses had to have grain. During the



GEORGE HAYWORTH AND FAMILY

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hardships of the memorable winter of 1871-2 they lived in a dugout on Indian Creek, and in the spring of that year took a soldier's homestead claim in the location known as the McFadden precinct. Here he broke forty acres of rough land the first year and raised enough corn to feed the stock. Their home was a fourteen by fourteen sod house, and their beds consisted of ash poles driven in the walls and bound around by rope. A great deal of labor and perseverance were required to accomplish anything in those days, for the ox teams were slow and the journey to Fairmont or Crete to market and to Beaver Crossing to mill required more than a day.

On December 17, 1867, he was married to Mary Ford, who was born in Indiana, the daughter of Jacob and Catherine (Jordan) Ford, natives of Pennsylvania and Kentucky, respectively. To this union have been born twelve children: Louis S., of Frontier county, Nebraska, who has six children; Lucy E., the wife of Grant Spray, who resides in Colorado, and is the mother of five children; Missouri, the wife of Jeff Stoker of York, Nebraska, who has five children; Flora, who is married to Court Glen, resides in York, Nebraska, and is the mother of four children; George and Charles who have passed away; Frances P., the wife of Frank Johnson, who has five children; Jacob; Alice, who is married to Ervin Waldren, resides in Phelps county, Nebraska, and has seven children; Amelia, who is married to Leon Waldren of York county and is the mother of five children; Thomas, who lives in Lincoln county, Nebraska, and has two children; and Mary, who passed away.

Mr. Hayworth is a member of the John Brown Post, Grand Army of the Republic, at Exeter, Nebraska, and in politics is a republican. He always manifests an interest in the affairs of the community and for seven years has been a member of the school board. Mr. Hayworth still gives his attention to the fences and repairs on his two hundred and forty acre farm, but for the most part his time is spent in his comfortable home in McCool Junction where he and his wife reside. He is never negligent in the duties of citizenship but has always supported measures that have had to do with the upbuilding of his community, and has wisely directed his individual affairs, so that he is ranked with the successful men of the county.

HENRY W. BROTT

A spirit of energy and enterprise has actuated Henry W. Brott at every point in his business career and gained for him prominence in the real estate and insurance circles of York. He was born in Appanoose county, Iowa, on the 17th of March, 1861, the son of George and Sarilda (Delay) Brott, both natives of Ohio. They removed to Iowa in their early childhood with their parents. George Brott owned a small eighty-acre farm in that state and engaged in its cultivation prior to the Civil war. On the outbreak of the war he enlisted and met his death at the battle of Marker Mill in Arkansas. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a republican in politics. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Brott three children were born, namely: Rosetta E., who married J. W. Townsend of York who retired from active business life in 1914, but had for twenty-five years engaged

in the mercantile business in Blockton; Henry W., the subject of this review; and George Wesley, a farmer residing near Reading, Iowa.

Henry W. Brott was reared by his maternal grandfather, Henry Delay, who was a local preacher of the Methodist church. Mr. Delay had charge of a church and Sunday school for many years of his life, and when he left his charge and removed to town the church and Sunday school soon faded into oblivion. Mr. Delay had been nearly blind for several years prior to his death which occurred at the advanced age of eighty years. Although he had never had a day in school Mr. Delay was particularly quick in mathematics and when anyone would state a proposition he could solve it without paper or pencil. It was amid such surroundings that Henry W. Brott spent his childhood, receiving the educational advantages offered in the country schools of the state. He was ever ambitious to increase his knowledge and this he did by reading and studying in his spare time. Until he was twenty-four years of age Henry Brott followed farming, and then learning the mason's trade he came to York in 1887 and began to contract in brick and plaster. In this venture he was so successful that he saved enough to build a home. This home he traded for a farm situated five miles from the town. For ten months he kept this farm, making over two thousand dollars out of the investment, and then returned to York where he bought another home. The success which he enjoyed from his first trade was perhaps the stepping stone to his present business, for since that time he has been buying and selling on an ever increasing scale. In 1900 he was elected sheriff of York county, in which office he proved so efficient that he was reelected to the office in 1902. In connection with his general real estate business he has done some immigration land work, and has sold much land in Brown county, South Dakota. His entire time is devoted to his business and he has built up a large trade because of his fair and honorable dealings. Mr. Brott has been through the hard school of experience and is in every sense of the word a self-made man. When he started out in the business world he had practically nothing and today he is worth over one hundred thousand dollars. He owns land in Brown county, South Dakota, some business buildings in York as well as residence property, and also owns a fine piece of business property in Scottsbluff.

In 1885 Mr. Brott was united in marriage to Miss Rosa Sarver, a daughter of Jacob Sarver, who at one time had charge of the state poor farm in Kansas. It was while holding this position that he met and married his wife. He came to York county in the eighties, and his death occurred in April, 1893. After his death the widow made her home with Mr. and Mrs. Brott until she passed away in April, 1920. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Brott four children have been born: Elsie, the wife of George J. Downey, a real estate dealer and insurance man of Scottsbluff; Raymond, who for ten years was connected with the American State Bank of York, five years of the time holding the position of assistant cashier, and who is now district agent for the Franklin Life Insurance Company of Springfield, Illinois, having charge of many sub-agencies; Edith, who is at home; and Marjorie, at home. Mr. and Mrs. Brott are faithful members of the Congregational church, and he is a Master Mason and a Royal Arch Mason. He has been a member of that fraternity for thirty-five years. Since age conferred upon Mr. Brott the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party and the principles for which it stands. He has held the office of alderman of York and was a member of the school board for a number of years. He is a director in the American State Bank

and assisted in organizing the York Investment Company. He has always taken an active part in the development of York and York county and has given unselfishly of his time and money in the raising of funds to support various charities. He is a member of the Commercial Club and the Country Club and is an ardent devotee of all outdoor sports, particularly of golf, in which he excels.

JEROME C. MCKINLEY, M. D.

For fourteen years Jerome C. McKinley has been residing in York county and in this time has built up an enviable reputation as a physician and surgeon. He is a native son of Ohio, born in that state on the 10th of October, 1861, in Fairfield county. His parents were James and Effie (Courtright) McKinley, the former born in Scotland, while the latter was a native of Fairfield county, Ohio. James McKinley came to Ohio with his parents when he was quite young and here he met and married his wife. He engaged for many years in farming but enjoyed a few years of retirement in Lithopolis. His death occurred at the age of sixty-nine years and Mrs. McKinley was called to another life at the age of forty-two years. Ten children were born to this union, four of whom are living: Mrs. Maggie Glick who is a widow and resides in Lithopolis; J. Andrew, a retired cattle-man of Columbus, Ohio; J. F., a druggist of Leigh, Nebraska; and Jerome C., the subject of this review. Mr. McKinley was always a staunch supporter of the democratic party, and both he and his wife were active in the Presbyterian church.

In the acquirement of his education Dr. McKinley attended Central College near Columbus and Pleasantville, and in 1884 came to Dodge county where for one year he was engaged in teaching school. He then taught for two years in Colfax county and for three years in Dodge county, at the termination of which period of time he entered the medical college at Louisville, Kentucky, from which institution he was graduated in 1891. He immediately began the practice of his profession at Leigh, and after seven years removed to Humphrey where he practiced successfully for eight years. On the 1st of August, 1906, he came to York and here he has since resided, having a very prosperous and steadily increasing practice.

In 1888 Dr. McKinley was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Westfall, who was a daughter of D. C. Westfall. Mr. Westfall resided on a homestead in Dodge county for a number of years, but in later life he and his wife removed to Dr. McKinley's home where they died. To the union of Dr. and Mrs. McKinley four children have been born, two girls and two boys, namely: Effie L., the wife of Walter Bernd, secretary of the Wholesalers Association of Omaha; Alfretta Susan, the wife of George N. Gibbs, an attorney at North Platte; Cloyde Edwin of York, who travels for Armour & Company; and Harold Courtright, who is completing his last year at the University of Nebraska and is a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity.

Dr. and Mrs. McKinley are members of the Congregational church and take an active part in all the various activities connected with that organization. He is a member of the democratic party and fraternally is a Mason and an Elk. For one year he has served the county as county health officer and has been county

physician for three years. In connection with his professional duties Dr. McKinley is a member of the County, State, and American Medical Associations and has held the office of president of the county association. In order to keep abreast with the strides ever being made in the medical world Dr. McKinley has taken three post-graduate courses at the medical college in Chicago and has also attended different clinics. Throughout York county he is known as a physician and surgeon of much ability, and although his practice is mostly a general one he makes the diseases of children a specialty.

MARCUS E. PLANK

Marcus E. Plank is now living retired in Bradshaw, but for a long period was actively identified with farming interests in this section of the state and through close application and unremitting energy won a substantial measure of success. He was born February 18, 1851, in Fulton county, New York, on a farm near Johnstown and the following year his parents moved to DeKalb county, Illinois, where he was reared on a farm. He began his educational course in the common schools of that state and finished in the high schools, retiring from school well equipped with the essentials of a sound education. He remained in the family home helping in the work of the farm until he was twenty-two years old, when he began to work out on farms by the month and continued this for three years, although wages at that period were not very tempting. When he was twenty-five he returned to New York state and for five years taught school during the winter and summer terms, between times working on a farm. Mr. Plank was conductor on a street car in 1873-74.

On November 28, 1878, Mr. Plank was united in marriage to Ida Shaffer, a native of New York state who was educated in the public schools of that state. For some years before her marriage she taught school, the system at that time being to board around with the families whose children were being taught. Mr. Plank taught school for one term after his marriage and then turned his attention to farming in New York state where he remained for a while and later returned to DeKalb county, Illinois, where he resumed farming on his father's place and cultivated that holding until March, 1887. Mr. Plank then came to York county and purchased two hundred acres of land for which he paid five thousand dollars. When he moved onto the farm there was a small frame house and a small barn already erected and after a time these were discarded and substantial buildings substituted, the improvements consisting of a modern house and outbuildings in keeping with the demands of the times. From the date of settling down to the work of his farm his efforts were crowned with a well deserved measure of success. He applied himself to general farming and to the breeding of registered Shorthorn cattle and registered Poland China hogs, his produce in these lines netting him handsome returns. Industry and perseverance, guided by keen intelligence, have been the basis of his success, and he can look back over the past without regret. In 1911 Mr. Plank felt that he had earned a rest from the strenuous life and he bought a home in Bradshaw where he has since been living retired surrounded by every comfort and convenience, rewards to which his years of toil fully entitle him.

To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Plank two children were born: Neal, born in Simmonsville, New York, January 8, 1880, and now in Montana where he practices as a veterinary surgeon. He was a graduate of Kansas City Veterinary College and during the World war he was stock inspector for the American government and so continues; Nancy, the second child, became the wife of Carl E. Nicholson and is living on the old home place. They are the parents of three children: Irene, born July 20, 1909; Madeline, born October 27, 1916; and Neil Edward, born November 26, 1920. In politics Mr. Plank gives his support to the democratic party and holds membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and in the Modern Woodmen of America. At the presidential election of 1920 Mrs. Plank cast her first vote for the candidate of her choice and appreciates the duties which the franchise confers upon women. She is an earnest member of the Christian church of Bradshaw, and like her husband enjoys the respect and good will of those with whom she has been brought in contact.

CASPER GEORGE THAMER

Casper George Thamer is now living retired in York. For many years he was closely connected with agricultural interests and through the careful conduct of his business affairs acquired a competence that now enables him to rest in large degree from business cares and labors. He was born in Kurhessen Castle, Germany, on the 27th of April, 1836, a son of John and Catherine (Goembel) Thamer. The father was a weaver by trade.

Casper G. Thamer learned the weaver's trade from his father and in 1856 came to Canada, settling in Waterloo. The trip to America was made in an old sailing vessel and seven weeks were passed in the crossing. For some time in the old country he engaged in damask weaving. In 1859 he went to Illinois, settling in Peoria. He there engaged in farming, working out among the various farmers, his wages being but ten dollars a month. Subsequently he removed to Tazewell county where he worked on a farm until the outbreak of the Civil war when he enlisted in Co. B, Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for three years and two months. During his entire service Mr. Thamer never had a furlough. He was on duty on the Mississippi, participated in the battle of Corinth where he lost a number of comrades, and was in the many engagements taking place around the Red river. He was wounded in the wrist at the battle of Lake Shico and received his discharge in October, 1864, at Springfield. He remained in that state where he rented land on which he raised hogs, selling them for two dollars per hundred. While living in Illinois his marriage occurred and he continued to farm as a tenant in that state for nineteen years. In 1883 he removed to Nebraska and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Lockridge township for the sum of twenty-five dollars per acre, also including the crop for that year. The only improvements on the place were a frame house and a slab barn. He immediately set about to put the land in high cultivation and some time later purchased another one hundred and sixty acre tract. He is now in possession of a half section of the finest land in the county. He set out an orchard on his place but it was destroyed by hail storms. He then devoted his time to general

farming and stock feeding. In 1899 he decided to retire from active life and removed to York.

In July, 1865, in Illinois, Mr. Thamer was united in marriage to Miss Margaret J. McCloud whose death occurred on August 11, 1913, at the advanced age of seventy-five years. Ten children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Thamer: John C., who is residing in York, and William G., who is his twin; Flora E., the wife of Sam Mapps of York; Mary E., living at home; Trennie L., the wife of Lewis Rothman of York; Ida J., the widow of N. G. Brown of Hastings; George H., an osteopath residing in Stamford, Connecticut; Charles O., farming in York county; Margaret E., who is engaged in nursing at Hastings; and Telua M., the wife of Ed A. Garvin of Chester. Mrs. Thamer was a consistent member of the United Brethren church.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Thamer the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party and is well versed on all questions and issues of the day. He served for some time as tax collector in Illinois and also held the same position in Lockridge township, and he was at one time sent as a delegate to a state republican convention. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Thamer is likewise a member of Post No. 32, G. A. R., in which organization he has held official positions. He has always been active in the development and improvement of the community in which he resides and is a highly respected and honored citizen of York.

WILHELM HEIDEN

Wilhelm Heiden is widely and favorably known as one of the worthy pioneer farmers of York county where he owns a valuable farm property from which he derives a gratifying income. He has been actively identified with the agricultural interests of the county for fifty years. He is a native of Germany, born in that country November 19, 1848, and there received his early education.

In 1865 when he was seventeen years old Mr. Heiden immigrated to America, making the ocean voyage on a sailing vessel which occupied five weeks in the crossing. On his arrival at New York he went through to the state of Iowa and there worked on farms by the month, doing that kind of work for two years during which he acquired a good knowledge of agricultural operations and thus fitted himself to work a place of his own at a later date. In 1867 he migrated to Nebraska City, finding work in a brewery at which he continued for a time. When the first state capitol was being built at Lincoln Mr. Heiden assisted in its construction, doing the work of a laborer and remaining until the job was finished. He was one of the first settlers in York county and has therefore witnessed the greater part of its growth and development. He took eighty acres of land in Thayer township where he built himself a dugout of two rooms, which he continued to occupy until he moved to his present place. He is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres of prime land and has been giving his undivided attention to stock raising and general farming. By steady application and industry he surmounted all the initial difficulties in the path of the pioneer, and today he is

recognized as an excellent farmer who fought all obstacles for the worthy purpose of reaching his present satisfactory condition.

Mr. Heiden was united in marriage to Carolina Reitz and they have become the parents of nine children, five sons and four daughters. He votes with the republican party but has never been an aspirant for office. His religious affiliation is with the Lutheran church, in the faith of which he was reared and to whose tenets he rigidly holds. He has many friends who entertain the warmest esteem for him.

ASA B. BENNETT

Asa B. Bennett who died in 1911 in York county was one of the representative residents of the county and a self-made man who in his farming career steadily progressed. He was born in Clark county, Indiana, January 14, 1843, a son of Thomas H. and Rachael (Prather) Bennett, also natives of the Hoosier state, where they lived for several years and later went to Illinois and there spent the remainder of their lives. They were earnest, conscientious people and left the impress of excellent qualities on all the duties which fell to their lot.

Asa B. Bennett was educated in the schools of Indiana and accompanied his parents to Illinois and lived in that state until his thirty-fourth year. In 1876 he decided to try his fortunes in Nebraska and settled in York county. In 1875 he had purchased a quarter section of land, upon which he built a sod house with board floors and board roof, these additions being in advance of the usual start made by the early settler. The board roof had sod on the outside and the walls were composed of plaster made of alkali clay and lime, while the bottom wall was three feet thick, and in this abode Mr Bennett lived for thirteen years. Later he built a frame house which was the equal of any in the district and was substantial in every respect. The first stage of his journey to his farm was made from Illinois to Seward and from the latter place he went by team to York county. It was from Seward also that supplies had to be hauled.

When Mr. Bennett had taken up his residence on the land he commenced without delay to get it into a state of cultivation and presently had a large part of it under tillage. He progressed nicely and the resultant crops yielded good returns, notwithstanding the distance to markets and other disadvantages inseparable from circumstances of the county in its formative stage. He carried out some valuable improvements, including the planting of trees and setting out of an orchard, and brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and demonstrated the possibility of producing fine crops in this section of the state. But his efforts were hampered when the grasshoppers destroyed every vestige of vegetation and left the fields barren. And again during the dry seasons of 1892-94 the work of the farmer was seriously harassed and nothing was produced in those years. Attempts at economy included the burning of weeds and cornstalks as substitutes for fuel. An occasional roving band of Indians might be seen in the spring and fall of each year, but the settlers were never molested.

On January 24, 1867, Mr. Bennett was united in marriage to Kate Davidson, a native of Pennsylvania, and they became the parents of the following children: Flora, the wife of William Perry of York; Eugene, a farmer of Scottsbluff,

Nebraska; John, who lives in Chase county, Nebraska; Ida M., the wife of Frank Stevens of Julesburg, Colorado; Charles E., who died in 1902; and William, whose death occurred in 1888. Mr. Bennett was an earnest member of the Methodist Protestant church, to the upkeep of which he was a liberal contributor. He was an independent voter and was affiliated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Following his retirement from the farm in 1901 he moved to Waco and there spent the next ten years of his life—a life which at all times was marked by uncompromising honesty. At the date of his death, July 27, 1911, many expressions of sincere sympathy found their way to his widow and other members of his family. His passing was regarded as a distinct loss to the community and those who knew him well still cherish his memory.

HERMAN BEHLING

Though more than a decade has passed away since Herman Behling was called to his final rest he is yet remembered by many of York's citizens as a most substantial and progressive business man and one who at all times commanded the respect, confidence and esteem of those who knew him. He was born in Watertown, Wisconsin, November 30, 1844, and died on the 13th of February, 1909. His parents were Herman and Caroline Behling, who settled at Watertown at a very early day, the father there engaging in the furniture business. The son was educated in the schools of Watertown and turned his attention to the dry goods business in connection with George Crawford of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. In the '60s he removed westward to York county, Nebraska, and homesteaded land. He also opened a general store at North York and was one of the oldest merchants of the city. He afterward removed to the present city of York, where he continued in merchandising as a dealer in clothing, remaining active in the business to the time of his death.

January 19, 1887, Mr. Behling was united in marriage to Miss Ida Ganzer, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, a daughter of Matthew and Caroline (Arnold) Ganzer, who were early residents of Wisconsin where the father engaged extensively in vinegar manufacturing. Both he and his wife there passed away. They were parents of four sons and three daughters, of whom five are yet living: Mrs. Brauer, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin; Mrs. Maria Domann, also of Oshkosh; Lewis, who is living in the same city, where he is a mill man; Edward, a wood buyer of Oshkosh; and Mrs. Behling. The parents were members of the Lutheran church, while the children have become members of the Episcopal church. In his political views Mr. Ganzer was a democrat and fraternally he was identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Sons of Herman.

To Mr. and Mrs. Behling were born three children: Carl F., who is an automobile dealer of Long Beach, California; Eda, the wife of E. U. Gunzel, who is a merchant in Lincoln; and Lena, who is a graduate of Notre Dame College of Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Behling were members of the Episcopal church and he was a Scottish Rite Mason and member of the Mystic Shrine. In fact he was very active in Masonic circles and his funeral services were conducted by his brethren



HERMAN BEHLING

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of the order. He likewise belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In politics he was a democrat but never an office seeker. He started out in the business world with a small general store in North York and for some time devoted his attention exclusively to the clothing trade, building up an extensive business. He was county treasurer of York county for two years, and owned considerable farm lands, buying at different times. His success was entirely due to his enterprise, energy and ability and he left his family in comfortable financial circumstances notwithstanding the fact that during the last seven years of his life he suffered from paralysis. He was a well educated man who read extensively and was a most interesting talker. His widow and daughter now occupy a beautiful home in York and are well known socially throughout the city.

REV. HEINRICH D. EPP

The statement that prosperity is the outcome of persistent effort and indefatigable industry combined with close application, finds verification in the life record of Rev. Heinrich D. Epp, a well known educator of Henderson township, York county. He is a native son of this township and county, born October 12, 1882, a son of H. H. and Helena (Peters) Epp, natives of southern Russia, who came to America in 1874. Four years later the mother came and they settled in York county, where she and her husband are still living, well known and respected citizens. To their marriage eleven children were born, eight of whom are living.

Heinrich D. Epp was reared in the home of his parents and secured his preliminary education in the common schools of York county. He later entered Bethel College, at Newton, Kansas, and was graduated from that institution in 1905, following which he taught school for three years, during this period proving his fitness for the instruction of youth in educational matters. With the view to better equipping himself for carrying on his professional career Mr. Epp entered the State University of Nebraska, there taking a two-year course and emerging master of all educational requirements. He then resumed teaching school at Henderson, in which occupation he is now actively engaged, bringing to bear upon the conduct of his exacting duties a ripe experience and practical methods, coupled with a resourceful and tactful disposition, the whole tending in no small degree to promote the welfare of the community at large. He also is an assistant minister in the services of the Bethesda church at Henderson. He is the owner of a fine farm of eighty acres adjoining Henderson, the place being well improved and successfully operated under his supervision. His life is an example worthy the emulation of every young man.

In 1910 Mr. Epp was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Richert, a native of McPherson county, Kansas, and a daughter of H. and Helena (Unruh) Richert, both of whom were born in southern Russia and immigrated to America in 1874, settling in Kansas, where the father died in 1895 and where the mother is still living. Mr. Unruh was twice married and was the father of fourteen children. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Epp two children have been born: Dorothea Helena, born March 11, 1913, and Karl Heinrich, born February 13, 1919. Mr. Epp gives his political support to the republican party but has never sought public office,

preferring to devote his time to the demands of his school and to his other undertakings. He serves as a director on the Henderson school board, his experience and sound judgment being of especial value to that body in the conduct of its affairs. Mr. Epp and his wife manifest a praiseworthy interest in the social and cultural movements of their town and district and are always to be found assisting those projects designed to advance the welfare and happiness of the community.

CHARLES E. CALLENDER

Charles E. Callender has been a resident of Nebraska for the last forty years, and is therefore numbered among the pioneers. He was born in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, his parents being Newell and Harriet (Ferris) Callender, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, where the former spent many useful years as an active minister of the Baptist church. Rev. Mr. Callender was an abolitionist, later a prohibitionist, and always a staunch supporter of the republican party. He died in 1910 at the age of eighty-nine years, and his wife died in 1901 at the age of seventy-eight. They were the parents of ten children, only three of whom are now living: Dr. J. M. Callender, a physician of forty-five years' experience in Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Nebraska, now living in Kansas; C. E. Callender, the subject of this sketch; and Nathan Callender, a market gardener living near Scranton, Pennsylvania. The two oldest sons, Samuel N. and Dr. J. M., served in the Civil war.

After attending the public schools of Pennsylvania Charles E. Callender entered the Waverly Normal School of the same state, from which institution he was graduated in 1874. After finishing his education he taught school in Pennsylvania and later in Illinois. In 1879 he was married to Miss Emily S. Snyder of Waverly, Pennsylvania, whose ancestors were also pioneers in northeastern Pennsylvania where they were prominent in religious and social work.

In the fall of 1879 Mr. Callender came with his wife to Nebraska where he engaged in the mercantile business in Webster county. Later he was in business in Fillmore county where he lived for five years before removing to the northwestern part of the state where he acquired a ranch. He took a prominent part in the organization of Thomas county where he became the first county clerk. He had studied law and in 1890 was admitted to the bar, subsequently becoming county attorney. In 1905 he sold the ranch and removed to York where for more than thirteen years he has been engaged in the real estate business, a line of work for which his knowledge of the west and of legal usage has especially fitted him. He has confined his attention mostly to the emigration business, and has handled land in Minnesota, North and South Dakota, western Nebraska, and eastern Colorado.

Mr. and Mrs. Callender have two daughters, Edith M. and Ruth E., both of whom were graduated from York high school with first honors in their respective classes. Both are graduates of York College where they received the Bachelor of Arts degree. Edith M. has had post-graduate work in the University of Nebraska and in the University of Chicago, and is now Principal of York College Academy,

where she is instructor in English. Ruth E. has had post-graduate work in the University of Nebraska and is now teaching geometry in York high school.

The Callender family are all members of the Baptist church and Mr. Callender is a member of the Royal Highlanders and of the Modern Woodmen, which organization he serves as clerk. In politics he has always been a republican. He now holds the office of city treasurer, in which capacity he has shown himself to be both reliable and efficient. In his long residence in Nebraska he has had opportunity to watch the steady growth and increasing prosperity of the state and has always contributed his influence to clean politics and good citizenship. His active disposition will not allow him to retire as long as he is able to work, and his work has always been such as to command the respect and esteem of all who know him.

SAMUEL A. TOBEY

Samuel A. Tobey, the popular and efficient postmaster of Gresham, formerly connected with the operation of farm land and with the management of a grain elevator, and who has witnessed the growth and development of the town since it was organized in 1887, is a native of Whiteside county, Illinois, born May 21, 1861, a son of George A. and Sylvania B. (Barney) Tobey, both natives of New England, where the father learned the blacksmith's trade.

About 1857 George A. Tobey left Rhode Island and crossed the country to Illinois, settling in the town of Erie and resuming his occupation of blacksmithing. Sometime later he moved to Cedar county, Iowa, and there followed his trade for four years, at the end of that period going to Boone county, where he conducted a hotel for five years. In 1874 he arrived in Butler county, Nebraska, making the journey from Iowa by horse team, and crossing the Missouri river on a ferry boat, the entire trip occupying about three weeks. He took a homestead in Butler county and built a two room sod house with board roof, constructing a cellar under the house and a barn of the dugout variety. All the hauling had to be done from Seward and Columbus and in the winter season, owing to the condition of the roads, it was practically impossible to obtain supplies from these points. Mr. Tobey broke the land on his homestead of eighty acres and set out the fields to the cultivation of crops, but the grasshoppers destroyed almost everything on the land but a small quantity of growing wheat. He recovered from the effects of the disaster and applied himself with renewed vigor to the work of the homestead, which he gradually improved and developed and brought to an excellent state of cultivation, and there he remained until his death at the age of seventy-eight. His wife died in 1895, being then in her sixty-fifth year. Both were members of the Baptist church and their Christian lives gained them the respect of all who knew them. He gave his political support to the democratic party.

Samuel A. Tobey accompanied his parents to Nebraska but before he left Iowa he had been attending the schools of that state and continued his course in the common schools of Butler county, the term being about three months in each year. He assisted his father in the work of the farm and when he reached his twenty-fourth year started farming on his own account by buying eighty acres of railroad land in Polk county for which he paid seven dollars an acre. He occupied this

place for four years, during this time improving and cultivating the holding to advantage and then disposed of it at a substantial profit. In 1887 Mr. Tobey moved to Gresham just as it was beginning to take on town-like form and for the next five years he worked in the grain elevator then owned by Lord & Spitts. Under the Cleveland administration in 1893 he was appointed postmaster of Gresham and in that office gave very general satisfaction. He then entered the service of the Updike Grain Elevator Company of Gresham, first as carpenter and then as manager, the entire period of his connection with the elevator being twenty-one years. On January 5, 1916, President Wilson appointed him postmaster of Gresham and in this capacity he still continues, his fidelity and efficiency being beyond all question. He has not at any time held himself aloof from the everyday interests of life, but has been a factor in the development of Gresham along various lines.

In 1885 Mr. Tobey was united in marriage to Janet Davidson, a native of Canada, and to this union eight children have been born: Mary E., assistant postmaster at Gresham; Leota, at home; Grace, the wife of Fred Hoscheit, a farmer of Boyd county; G. Archie, a railroad man of Wyoming; Paul H., of Ulysses, Nebraska; Bessie, who is employed in Gresham; Lynn, who died at the age of eighteen; and Reynold A., at home. Mrs. Tobey is a regular attendant on the services of the Presbyterian church. He is identified with the Masonic order and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. A democrat in policy and practice Mr. Tobey has filled various local offices apart from his present responsibility as postmaster and at all times has rendered excellent and valuable service. His has been an active and useful life and one which, by its integrity and honor, has gained for him the respect and confidence of all with whom he has been brought into contact.

WILHELM GOCKE

In the period of pioneer development Wilhelm Gocke came to Nebraska. He was born in Hanover, Germany, June 22, 1843, and at the age of twenty-five years came to the United States. He made his way immediately to Nebraska and the first year of his arrival in this country was spent at the ranch of John Fouse, in Seward county. This ranch was at that time a well known stage station on the Nebraska city cutoff, and was located on a part of the Oregon trail. Mr. Gocke had heard many exciting tales of the Indian massacres and he tells of an interesting incident that happened soon after his arrival at the Fouse ranch. One day on returning to the Fouse residence he found Mrs. Fouse surrounded by twenty gesticulating Indians. On approaching the group he was questioned by one of the Indians in good English as to what he wanted. Mrs. Fouse then told him that there was no trouble, she was simply trading them groceries for what they might have in return, and that they were friendly. The following spring, in 1869, Mr. Gocke removed to York county and acquired a homestead of eighty acres in section thirty-four, now Beaver township. Here he built a log house, sixteen by sixteen feet, paying one hundred dollars for the logs, and then sent for his father, mother and brother in the old country. They soon arrived in York county and each took an eighty acre homestead adjoining Mr. Gocke's. For some time they

lived in the house on Mr. Gocke's land, but when he was married he purchased some logs from Mr. Fouse and built himself another home. For five years he lived, cooked and slept all in one room. It was while he was residing there that the grasshoppers came. They made their first appearance one day at noon. Someone on looking out of the window remarked that the flowers seemed to be drying up. Upon investigation great numbers of grasshoppers were found. The only method of conveyance Mr. Gocke had was his yoke of oxen, but in those early days they were thought to make good time. The nearest settlement to Mr. Gocke's homestead was at Milford, a distance of forty-two miles, and calling for a doctor there at one time Mr. Gocke made the trip between sun-up and sun-down, his oxen going along at a steady trot. He hauled his wheat to Lincoln, which was a three days trip, and sold it for from fifty to seventy cents a bushel. Mr. Gocke has many interesting experiences to tell of his early pioneer days. He is now making his home with his son, H. F., who is a prosperous farmer in West Blue township.

Mr. Gocke at an early age was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Schemft, a native of Germany. She was but a young girl when she came with her parents to York county. To this union five children were born, two of whom died in childhood. The living are: H. F., with whom his father lives; Gustav, who is residing in California; and Herman, residing in Grand Island. Mrs. Gocke died at the age of forty-one years, and some time later Mr. Gocke was united in marriage to a Mrs. Schwarting, whose death occurred six years ago.

Mr. Gocke has always given his allegiance to the republican party and is well versed on all questions and issues of the day. He is a consistent member of the Lutheran church. Not only has Mr. Gocke seen York county grow from a wild country with only a few white inhabitants to a rich agricultural country containing thousands of good homes and scores of growing towns inhabited by industrious, prosperous, enlightened and progressive people, but he has participated in the slow, persistent work of development which was necessary to produce a change which is so complete that it has come to be popularly referred to as magical.

FRANK G. SNYDER, M. D.

Since 1904 Frank G. Snyder has been a practicing physician of York, devoting the greater part of his time to surgery. He is recognized as one of the most able and efficient surgeons of the county and has a large and steadily increasing practice. His birth occurred in Carlinville, Illinois, June 16, 1875, the son of Augustus C. and Belle (Teany) Snyder, the former born in Germany while the latter is a native of Illinois. The father came to the United States with his parents when but a baby, and he received his education in the public schools of this country. When he started out in the business world he located at Carlinville and there engaged in the hardware business for a few years. In 1883 he moved to York, engaged in the hardware business here and is still conducting his store at the age of seventy-one years. In politics he is a democrat and is a member of the Methodist church. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder are the parents of two children: Frank G. of this review, and Roy, who is in the hardware business with his father.

Dr. Frank G. Snyder attended the public schools of York and graduated from York high school with the class of 1891. He then went to Northwestern University where he remained two years, subsequently entering the medical department, pursuing his studies there for two years. He then entered Barnes Medical College of St. Louis and was graduated with the degree of doctor of medicine in 1897. Dr. Snyder began his practice at Arborville and after spending two years there went to Chicago and took a post-graduate course. While on a visit to California he took an examination and practiced in Los Angeles during the year 1903. In 1904 he returned to York county and resumed the practice of medicine at York where he has built up a large practice. Since locating in York Dr. Snyder has specialized in surgery and his reputation in this line is becoming widely known. He believes in keeping up with the trend of his profession and every year takes a course at one of the universities.

Dr. Snyder was married in 1905 to Miss Amy Haggard, whose death occurred in March, 1916. She was a native of Nebraska and a member of the Presbyterian church. In August, 1919, Dr. Snyder was united in marriage to Miss Edith Montgomery who was born in York county. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. Politically Dr. Snyder is a democrat. He has served the county as health officer and is a member of the county and state medical societies, having served as president of the county association. He is also a member of the American Medical Association.

WILLIAM P. COOKUS

William P. Cookus, a prominent and representative business man of Lushton, York county, where he is engaged in conducting a hardware store and also acts as postmaster of the town, is a native of Iowa, born in Linn county, that state, April 8, 1857, a son of Joseph S. and Minerva (Doty) Cookus, the former born in Pennsylvania and the latter in Ohio. They settled in Linn county, Iowa, in an early day and removed to Nebraska in 1874, both spending the remainder of their lives in this state. Joseph S. Cookus was a soldier in the Federal army and served throughout the Civil war. He saw much service and was in many engagements during the period of hostilities and at the close of the war, having served three years and six months, he was honorably discharged and returned to his family in Iowa.

William P. Cookus was reared in Iowa and educated in the common schools of that state. In his early youth he became engaged in the blacksmith trade and followed that occupation for twenty-two years, in the meantime saving his money with a view to going into business in another line. He then started in the hardware business in Lushton, York county, Nebraska, and has been successfully conducting a general hardware store ever since, well known to the people of the district as a conscientious and industrious citizen in whom all have unlimited confidence. He is also postmaster of Lushton and in that capacity is giving universal satisfaction, his courtesy and business qualities being always in evidence. Mr. Cookus has the honor of being the first man to build a house in Lushton in

1887 and he is now the owner of a comfortable residence. He has witnessed the growth of the town from the very commencement of its settlement and has played no small part in its development and upbuilding. He is regarded one of the representative citizens of Luskton, actuated by a spirit of enterprise and progress in all that he does. His business has been carefully managed and wisely conducted and his patronage has grown to extensive and gratifying proportions.

In 1880 Mr. Cookus was united in marriage to Miss Florence Billington, a native of Linn county, Iowa, and a daughter of Israel C. and Mary (Parsons) Billington, both of whom passed away some years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Cookus are the parents of six children: George, in Omaha; Pearl the wife of Charles Smith; Stephen, in Bladen, Nebraska; Clara, who lives at home; Alma, the wife of Martin Hebert; and Ruby, who lives with her parents. The family enjoys the high esteem and regard of a wide circle of friends and all are active in movements intended to advance the social and material progress of the community.

L. H. ROGERS

L. H. Rogers, after long years of connection with agricultural interests in York county is living retired at York. He was born in Casco, Cumberland county, Maine, on the 15th of January, 1841, a son of David and Susan (Harmon) Rogers, also natives of Maine. The father engaged in farming successfully for a number of years and for three years served as seaman. In 1852 he removed to Illinois where he purchased a fifty-five acre tract and engaged in general farming for the remainder of his life.

L. H. Rogers obtained his education in the country schools the school houses being of the primitive kind made of slab with home-made wooden benches. He began to work out on farms at an early day, receiving the sum of thirteen dollars a month for his labors and later started farming on his own account on rented land. When his finances permitted he bought forty acres of land in La Salle county and engaged in general farming. He experienced the pioneer hardships of those days and remembers having seen large herds of deer throughout the county. In 1885 he came to Nebraska and settled in York county where he purchased a one hundred and sixty acre tract in Lockridge township. The improvements on the land consisted of a small frame house with orchard and the purchase price was thirty-five dollars per acre. Being successful in his agricultural pursuits he gradually increased his holdings by an additional four hundred acres. He also had two sets of good buildings. For many years he engaged in general farming and feeding. He had many discouragements in his first years in York, his crops of 1893 and 1894 being almost total failures. He had two thousand five hundred bushels of old corn on hand which he sold for fifty-six cents per bushel, and he burned wood taken from his own grove.

While living in Illinois Mr. Rogers was united in marriage to Miss Sophia Knight, a native of Maine, and to them six children have been born: Hattie, the wife of William Reed who is farming in York county; Bennett, whose death occurred at the age of forty-nine years; Curtis, who is residing in Bradshaw; Cyrenius, who is farming the old place; Sherman, who is engaged in railroading

at Council Bluff, Iowa; Blanche, who is the wife of Ezra Lloyd of Lockridge township. Mrs. Rogers is a member of the United Brethren church in the activities of which she takes a prominent part.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Rogers the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party and the principles for which it stands. He has always taken an active interest in educational affairs and for some time served as school director in district 41. Fraternally he is a Mason, belonging to the blue lodge. Mr. Rogers is also interested in the Farmers' Elevator at Mapps. He has seen the work of progress and development carried steadily forward and at all times has borne his part, especially along the line of agricultural improvement.

WILLIAM DOWNEY

A well spent life was that of William Downey, whose industry and integrity in business affairs won him success and the respect of his fellow men. He possessed many sterling traits of character and his death was the occasion of deep and widespread regret among those with whom he was associated. He was born in Derry, Ireland, in 1839, and passed away on October 7, 1917, being then in his seventy-eighth year. In 1858 Mr. Downey immigrated to the United States, the ocean voyage being made on an old sailing vessel which arrived in New York harbor after several weeks, and he went from there to Mercer county, Illinois, and rented a tract of land. Later he joined the military service in Illinois but was subsequently discharged owing to an attack of rheumatism. He married Margaret A. Ferguson in Illinois. Mrs. Downey was born in Cockermonth, England, a daughter of John Ferguson of that place, who came to America in a sailing vessel and located in Illinois, working there as a coal miner and at intervals acted as a minister of the Presbyterian church.

In 1871 William Downey drove from Illinois to Nebraska, the trip occupying three weeks before he reached Stewart township and here he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. About that time he was not in the best of health and his wife built the first house which was of the dugout type, and also put up a sod barn and some time later a sod house. Provisions had to be hauled from Lincoln and trailed across the country and wood had to be hauled from Lincoln creek. He broke the land and commenced the cultivation of crops, but during the two seasons of the grasshopper invasion everything that was growing upon the land was destroyed and his labors went for nothing. He was not discouraged by these disasters and in time had his place again in good condition, crops growing, two orchards set out and other material improvements effected, finally bringing the holding to be one of the best in the district. In this work his wife played no small part and was untiring in her efforts to make the farm a financial success. In the dry seasons of the early '90s cultivation was almost at a standstill and they were compelled to burn corn and cornstalks for fuel.

Following her husband's death in 1917 Mrs. Downey took over the ownership of the farm of one hundred and sixty acres, the old homestead, which is now operated by her son, Alex G. Downey, who is successfully conducting its affairs. In politics the late Mr. Downey gave his adherence to the republican party and his religious



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM DOWNEY

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affiliation was with the Presbyterian church, in which his widow also holds membership and attends its services in Gresham, being now comfortably circumstanced in a fine home in that town. Coming to York county while it was in its infancy Mr. Downey witnessed its growth and development and in this expansion he played a full part. He followed the most progressive methods in the development of his land and stood at all times for every movement calculated to advance the welfare of the community in which he resided for well nigh fifty years.

THERON E. SEDGWICK

Theron E. Sedgwick was born on a farm in Bloomingdale, Dupage county, Illinois, on the second day of September, 1852. His father was Doctor Parker Sedgwick, who had made an unsuccessful attempt to retire from the practice of medicine. His mother was Hepsibah (Goodwin) Sedgwick, who was born in Hartford, Connecticut. She was of Revolutionary stock, a descendant of the Captain Goodwin who rode in "Yankee Doodle."

When the subject of this sketch was thirteen years old his parents moved to Wheaton, Illinois, where he attended college four years. When he was seventeen years of age he taught school in Champaign county, Illinois. In the fall of 1871 he entered the law department of Michigan University, at Ann Arbor, where he remained one year. He entered the law office of Elbert H. Gary, in Chicago, where he remained until the spring of 1874, when he went to Wisconsin, was admitted to the bar of that state at Oconto, and entered the practice of his profession at De Pere, in partnership with his brother, the late Judge Samuel H. Sedgwick. He served as city attorney, county supervisor and county superintendent of schools, of Brown county, Wisconsin.

On the second day of July, 1874, T. E. Sedgwick was united in marriage to Miss Adelaide Thurston, at Fullersburg, Illinois. In September, 1878, they removed to York, Nebraska, where they have since resided. In company with his brother, Samuel, he opened a law office and pursued the practice of his chosen profession until compelled to give it up because of a disease which resulted in the loss of one eye. In March, 1881, he purchased a local paper in York, rechristened it "The York Times," and made it a republican paper. He continued its publication and in 1888 started the Daily Times, which has since been combined with the Daily News, and which he now edits. In the spring of 1880 Mr. Sedgwick was elected city councilman. He was secretary of the Republican State Central Committee two years—1894 and 1895—and was secretary of the state senate in 1895. Mr. Sedgwick was appointed postmaster of York by President McKinley and held that position nine years to the entire satisfaction of the patrons of the office. During his incumbency of that position free delivery was established in the city and rural free delivery throughout the county. Also a site was purchased by the government for a federal building, which was afterward built and which is an ornament to the city.

Mr. Sedgwick has always been a progressive and enterprising citizen. He has built several dwellings, some of which are among the best in the city, and has erected business buildings, one of which is among the most imposing in the business

district. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Sedgwick: Clara A., wife of John Alvah Rockwood of Portland, Oregon, valuation engineer of the Portland Railway, Light and Power Company; Theron E., Jr., an electrician, of Portland; and Phila M. Sedgwick, who resides at home.

DEXTER D. KING, M. D.

Dr. Dexter D. King, junior partner of the firm Moore, Shidler & King, the York clinic, is widely known throughout York county as a physician and surgeon of ability. He is a native of York county having been born near Bradshaw on the 19th of September, 1884, the son of Barnard and Lillie F. (Clark) King, the former born in Pennsylvania and the latter a native of Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. King were married in Illinois and came to York county in 1878, settling on a farm. Here they remained until 1887 when they removed to Fremont and engaged in the furniture business. They conducted this venture in Fremont until 1891 when they returned to York and engaged in the furniture, grocery, and undertaking business. He conducted the undertaking and furniture business until 1895 when he discontinued his connection with the former business venture and became exclusively an undertaker. Just recently he has retired from active business life and both he and his wife are residing in York. Mr. King has always been a member of the republican party and served York as mayor for two terms. Mr. and Mrs. King are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he is an Elk and a Mason. They are the parents of six children of whom the subject of this sketch is the fourth in order of birth, the others being: Gertie, the wife of Frank Couch, a well known electrician of Erie, Pennsylvania; Jennie Maude, the wife of Albert A. Allen, an auto dealer of York; Lillie E., the wife of Charles Lylie, a farmer of York county; Emeline, the wife of William Holloch, a farmer of York county; J. L., who is the manager of the Basket stores of Omaha. Two brothers of Barnard King, Dexter David and Delbert, served in the Civil war and the former was killed at the battle of Fredericksburg.

Dr. Dexter D. King received his education in the public schools of York and was graduated from the York high school in 1904. He then removed to Omaha where he resided for four years, being engaged in the express business. He then decided upon the medical profession as his life work with the result that he entered the University of Nebraska, taking a six-year course in medicine and graduating on the 11th of June, 1911. After his graduation he served as hospital physician in the Iowa Methodist Hospital of Des Moines and in 1915 came to Waco where he practiced for two years. On the 1st of December, 1916, he removed to York and became connected with Drs. Moore & Shidler. He did not practice here long, however, for he entered the service of the United States in the World war on the 9th of October, 1917, and served until March 3, 1919. The first three months of his service he spent at a medical officers training camp, at Camp Greenleaf, Georgia, and the next two months was spent in charge of the officers' ward at Camp Beauregard, Louisiana, in Base Hospital No. 39. He was then assigned to Base Hospital No. 49 at Rochester, New York, and from there he sailed overseas on the 3d of June, 1918. He was at Vichy in June and during part of July

and August of that year was stationed with Evacuation Hospital No. 7, at Chateau Thierry. He was then returned to the Vichy base where he remained until February, 1919, when he returned to the United States. During his stay in France he received a captaincy and he was discharged at Camp Dix, N. J., March 3, 1919. On his return he again became connected with the York Clinic and is still practicing in that connection.

In June of the year 1906 Dr. King was married to Miss Mary Anderson a native of Iowa, and a daughter of Albert A. Anderson who lives in York, having retired from active farm life in 1916. Two children have been born to Dr. and Mrs. King, namely: Boyd G., aged twelve years; and Thomas A., five years of age. Both children are now attending school. Dr. King follows an independent course in politics, supporting the man rather than the party. Fraternally he is a thirty-second degree Mason and an Odd Fellow, and is a member of all branches in the latter organization. Aside from his profession Dr. King devotes much time to the interests of the American Legion, and he was a delegate to the first convention in Lincoln in 1919 to organize the American Legion. He was also a delegate to the first state convention and to the first national convention at Minneapolis. He was first commander of the local post, No. 19, and was instrumental in organizing the first Woman's Auxiliary in the state of Nebraska. Dr. King is well known throughout the county in connection with many public affairs and as a physician and surgeon he is ranked among the foremost. Although he has a large general practice he makes a specialty of surgery.

The York Clinic, commonly known as the firm of Moore, Shidler and King, was formed as such in 1914 by Drs. O. M. Moore and George P. Shidler, successors to the old firm of Moore and Shidler. Dr. D. D. King became a member of the firm in the spring of 1917, coming from Waco, Nebraska, at that time. The facilities at this time include different departments dealing with diagnosis and treatment of diseases, such as complete X-ray laboratory for diagnosis and treatment, a pathological and bacteriological laboratory, eye, ear, nose and throat department, electrotherapeutic offices. The general idea of the doctors in charge is to have a specialist for most of the commoner troubles that afflict mankind. The clinic is located at 107-09 W. 7th St. and is run in connection with the Clinic Hospital. The Clinic Hospital is a modern, up-to-the-minute hospital located at the corner of Seventh and Nebraska avenue, consisting of sixteen rooms with facilities for fifteen patients. Mrs. May Thompson, R. N., is in charge of the hospital. Surgical, obstetrical and medical cases are treated here. The staff doctors are those of the Clinic.

PETER C. FRIESEN

Peter C. Friesen is a resident farmer of York county, owning and cultivating one hundred and sixty acres of prime land on section 19, Brown township. He is a native son of the county, born September 20, 1878, a son of Jacob and Anna Friesen, both natives of Russia where they lived until 1874, in that year immigrating to America. On arriving in this country Jacob Friesen came to Nebraska, settled on section 30, Brown township, York county, and erected a sod house in which the

family lived for several years. He was engaged in agricultural operations which he carried on with success during his active years and passed away in 1913, having reached an advanced age. His widow is living. They were the parents of ten children, seven of whom survive.

Peter C. Friesen whose name introduces this review, acquired his education in the common schools of York county and for some years thereafter helped his father in the work of the home farm. Later he decided to engage in agricultural pursuits on his own account and secured a tract of land which ever since he has been operating with decided success. He is now the owner of a half section located in Brown township, all of which is in an excellent state of improvement and he is actively engaged in general farming and stock raising. His place is improved with substantial buildings, well kept fences and good farm machinery and everything about his farm indicates his careful supervision and his practical and progressive methods.

On March 7, 1901, Mr. Friesen was united in marriage to Katherine Doell, and to this union five children have been born: Rosa, born March 8, 1902, died September 16, 1904; Walter J., born January 26, 1906, died June 27, 1909; Selma S., born April 26, 1909; Ada L., born June 18, 1911, and Waldo R., born September 7, 1912. Mr. Friesen supports the men and measures of the democratic party. He is now serving as a justice of the peace and is a member of the school board for his township. He is a self-made man, whose success in life is due to his own unaided efforts and is regarded as one of the leading citizens of the community in which he resides.

HOMER O. MESERVE

Homer O. Meserve, the popular and well known cashier of the Bank of Lushton, York county, is a native of Colorado, born in that state, October 2, 1888, a son of William H. and Flora (Gross) Meserve, natives of Illinois, who came to Nebraska in 1872 and are now living on their farm near Cortland, this state, having retired from life's active affairs. They are the parents of three children, all of whom are living. In their home town they are deservedly esteemed for their good citizenship and personal worth.

Homer O. Meserve of this review was reared in Nebraska, received his preliminary education in the common schools of the state and later graduated from Cortland high school. He then entered the Lincoln Business College from which he emerged well qualified for his chosen work in life. He became associated with banking business in 1910 and in the intervening years has maintained his connection with that line of activity. In 1918 he moved to Lushton and accepted the responsible position of cashier of the Bank of Lushton and has since been conducting that department of the bank's affairs with credit to himself and with satisfaction to the stockholders and depositors of the bank which is a growing institution with great promise of substantial advancement in the public favor as time progresses.

On September 3, 1917, Mr. Meserve was united in marriage to Miss Winifred Rothman, a native of York county and a daughter of Louis and Trennie (Thamer)

Rothman, both of whom are well known residents of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Meserve are the parents of one child: Homer O., Jr., born October 12, 1918. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the good works of which they take an active part. He supports the republican party and is now serving as treasurer of the local school board and also has a seat on the town board, to the work of these two public trusts giving close attention and efficient service. He has achieved a well deserved measure of success and is a man of sterling worth and unremitting industry.

AXEL RENQUIST

Among the men who have found success in following agricultural pursuits and are now able to live retired is Axel Renquist, a native of Sweden, born in that country June 4, 1853, a son of Jonas and Gustave (Johnson) Renquist, also natives of Sweden where their entire lives were spent. Jonas Renquist pursued his occupation of wagon-maker during all the active years of his life. Of the children born to these parents six came to the United States, namely: Lottie, deceased, who married August Johnson; Charles, deceased, formerly a resident of York county; Axel, subject of this sketch; August W., retired farmer, now living in Stromsburg; Alfred, living in California; and John, deceased.

Axel Renquist was reared in his father's home in Sweden and in the schools of that country received such education as the family circumstances permitted him to secure. In 1870, being then seventeen years old, he and other members of the Renquist family immigrated to America and he went to Illinois, shortly after arriving in that state securing work on farms, thereby acquiring knowledge of American agricultural methods and continuing in this line for three years. He then went to California, spending one year in that state and going thence to Sweden to visit relatives and friends to whom he recounted his experiences in America and the possibilities which this country offered to industrious people. In 1875 Mr. Renquist returned to Illinois, re-engaged in farming and kindred pursuits, spent about five years in that state and then in 1880 moved to Nebraska in quest of that fortune which all new territory is expected to yield.

On coming to Nebraska in 1880 Mr. Renquist was one of a number who came by immigrant train to Stromsburg, and it is stated that it was the first car of its kind to touch that town. He bought land in Morton township and erected a sod house. With characteristic Swedish application he proceeded to develop and cultivate his land, gradually adding to the original tract as his efforts proved successful and he is now the owner of four hundred acres of valuable, well improved land, the equal of any in Morton township. His main energies were directed to the supervision of general farming and stock raising and in the latter line his produce always found ready markets. Having acquired sufficient of the world's goods to justify him in handing over his agricultural responsibilities to others Mr. Renquist retired from the farm in 1903 and moved to Benedict, where he is in enjoyment of that rest to which his early energy and industry fully entitle him. Apart from his work in connection with the farm he was for eleven years a stockholder and director

of the Farmers Elevator at Benedict, bringing sound business judgment to bear on the duties which his directorship called for.

In 1876, while living in Illinois, Mr. Renquist was united in marriage to Bettie Johnson, a native of Sweden, and to their union four children have been born: Hennie, wife of John P. Seymour, of Arborville township; J. A., of Scottsbluff, Nebraska; Alice Maud, wife of A. R. Marshall, of Omaha, and Henry E., who operates the old home farm. Mr. Renquist and the members of his immediate family have religious affiliations with the Methodist Episcopal church at Benedict. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and has practically passed all the chairs in the organization. He gives his political support to the democratic party but prefers at all times to devote his energies to the demands of his farm rather than to the seeking of public office. He is held in high esteem as a citizen and as a man, and his success as a farmer entitles him to rank among the leaders in the agricultural development of York county.

ALBERT HEINE

Albert Heine is a resident and a well-to-do farmer of York county, owning and cultivating two hundred and forty acres of land, eighty acres of which lie in York township and one hundred and sixty acres in Thayer township. He was born in Germany, February 7, 1863, and was reared on a farm where he acquired a sound knowledge of agricultural operations. In 1882, when he was nineteen years old, he accompanied his parents and six other children to America, the family coming to Nebraska and settling in York county, residing here for one year. At the end of that time the family went to North Dakota and there the father entered a homestead, while the son Albert went to Dickey county in North Dakota and there preempted a tract of one hundred and sixty acres. He put up a sod house, proved up on the land, broke the sod and began to get in some crops, at the same time working at the carpenter trade, and he continued to live on that holding for about seven years.

In 1889 Albert Heine returned to Nebraska and located in Buffalo where he bought a quarter section of land and resumed his trade of carpenter. He remained in Buffalo until 1900 and then moved to York county, settling on section 35, Thayer township, buying one hundred and sixty acres of land for which he paid fifty dollars an acre. At that time there was one old shack on the farm doing duty for a house, but as he progressed with his farming operations he effected many valuable improvements and by degrees, giving unremitting effort and attention to the place, he brought the holding up to a standard which ranks it as a valuable property. He later bought eighty acres in York township on which some excellent improvements were made and he is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres well fenced with substantial buildings and good farming machinery and everything about his place indicates his careful supervision and his practical and progressive methods. The results from his general farming and stock raising have been commensurate with the uniform energy and industry put into the work.

In 1889 Mr. Heine was united in marriage to Miss Helen Reetz, born in the state of Minnesota. She came to York county in 1868, being then a mere child,

and her father took a homestead of eighty acres where his son John Reetz now lives. Their first house was a dugout which was later replaced by a log cabin. Mrs. Heine recalls that when she was a little girl wild deer, buffalo and antelopes were plentiful on the surrounding prairie and all the trading was done at Nebraska City. To Mr. and Mrs. Heine four children were born: Otto, a farmer, of Thyer township; Ernest, who lives on his father's farm in York township; Martha, the widow of William Schoeneck; and John, who farms the home place. The Heine family are members of the Lutheran church and its teachings have been the guiding force in their lives. In his efforts to advance the welfare of the community he has displayed the same spirit of enterprise and recognition of opportunity that has marked his business career and York county has reason to be proud of him as a citizen.

BENJAMIN A. ROOT, M. D.

Dr. Benjamin A. Root, who is engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in York, has by reason of broad study and wide experience gained distinction as one of the eminent physicians of his community. He was born in Cass county, in the month of August, 1875, his parents being Byron A. and Eliza A. (Alton) Root, both natives of Ohio. Byron A. Root settled in Cass county in 1874 and has resided there the greater part of his life. Before engaging in farming in that county, however, he had lived in Deuel county for a period of five or six years owning and operating a farm there. He is now residing in Murray where for a number of years he conducted a drug business, but is now retired. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is also a member of the Christian church. The grandfather of Dr. Benjamin Root, Anson L. Root, was born in Ohio. The Root family originally came from England in the sixteenth century, three brothers of that name settling in Connecticut. The great-grandfather on the paternal side was a surgeon in the Revolutionary war. Benjamin Alton, the maternal grandfather, was born in Indiana and later removed to Newaygo county, Michigan. He served in the Civil war for a period of three years.

In the acquirement of his education Dr. Benjamin A. Root attended the rural schools of Cass county and graduated from the high school at Elmwood. He then entered the State Normal school at Peru, and in 1898 entered the service of the United States in the Spanish-American war. He served in Cuba and was discharged on the 11th day of May, 1899. He returned to Cass county in 1901, entered a medical college, and in 1905 was graduated from the Lincoln Medical College. He commenced the practice of his profession in Phillips where he remained until November 8, 1908, when he came to York. He has since resided in York and has built up a large general practice, and in addition to his professional duties takes a good deal of interest in his real estate.

In 1901 Dr. Root was married to Miss Lucy Duncan, a native of Michigan, whose death occurred in 1916. She was the mother of one son, Carl E., who is seventeen years of age. Dr. Root is a member of the Christian church of which his wife was also a member. Politically he is an independent republican and fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the

Encampment of Odd Fellows. He is also a Mason, a Woodmen of the World, and a member of the Spanish Veterans. He is the present commander of the Walter Poor Post, Camp No. 13, York, and has passed through all the chairs of the Odd Fellows and the Woodmen.

Dr. Root makes no specialty in his profession and is active in the county, state and American medical societies. From the age of fourteen years he has made his own way in the world and his is therefore the notable record of a self-made man who by the sheer force of his determination and ability has gained prominence and success.

WILLIAM B. MALCOLM

William B. Malcolm, a real estate dealer of York, is in every sense of the word a self-made man. Starting out in the business world early in life and working at various occupations he has gradually advanced until he now has one of the largest and most lucrative real estate businesses in York county.

William B. Malcolm was born at High Prairie, near Lodi, Wisconsin, on the 22nd day of July, 1867. He was a son of Daniel and Martha (Burt) Malcolm, the former born in Edinburgh, Scotland, while the latter was born near Cincinnati, Ohio. The father lived to the advanced age of eighty-two years and the mother died when sixty-five years of age. In their early youth, coming to Wisconsin they had met and married and in 1869 removed to Iowa. The journey was made with their children by wagon. Mr. Malcolm purchased some railroad land, the section being located in Poweshiek county, Iowa. This land he improved and built a fine home on it where he resided until he retired to Belle Plaine where his death occurred in 1904. Five children were born to this union, only one of whom is living. Mrs. Malcolm was formerly married to a Mr. Clarke and to them two children were born, one of whom, David H. Clarke, is still living. David H. Clarke is residing in Boulder, Wyoming, and was one of the early pioneers of that state. He has a large horse ranch one hundred miles northwest of Green River. During their entire wedded lives Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and every year he gave a settled amount to the church. He had always given his allegiance to the republican party and was very active in its interests.

In the acquirement of his education William B. Malcolm attended the district school and high school at Belle Plaine, Iowa, and after putting his text-books aside made his initial step in the business world as a brakeman on the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad. He served at this occupation until September 10, 1887, when he came to Grand Island, Nebraska, and entered a business college for six months. At the termination of that period he entered into the employ of W. F. Cody at North Platte, remaining there until 1889, when he removed to Merrick county and farmed for one year. For three years he farmed in Polk county and then on the 1st of March, 1896, moved to York. On first removing to York county he had engaged as a salesman in an implement house for two years and then became connected with the Deering Harvester Company, for which concern he traveled five years. He also traveled for the International Harvester Company for one year. On the 1st of March, 1905, he again moved onto a farm because of his wife's health, but



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her death occurred on the 10th of November, 1907, and the following spring he moved to York, where he engaged in the real estate business in which he has since continued. Mr. Malcolm has made a specialty of emigration business and has land in Texas, Colorado, and Wyoming. He also has local land for sale and trade and owns land in Kimball county. The offices of Mr. Malcolm in the City National Bank building are handsomely appointed.

On March 1, 1896, in Polk county, Mr. Malcolm was united in marriage to Nancy A. Rystrom, a widow. She had five children by her first marriage and by her second marriage two children: Martha, the wife of J. H. LaMunyon, a farmer in Butler county; and Daniel Dewey, who is in Denver, Colorado. Daniel D. Malcolm was too young for active service during the World war, but after the armistice was signed he enlisted at Des Moines, serving less than a year when he was honorably discharged because of a disabled hand. Mrs. Malcolm died in 1907 and on the 6th of September, 1911, Mr. Malcolm was again married, this time to Mrs. Grace Roby, a widow.

Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he is a Mason and an Elk. He has always been independent in politics, voting for the man rather than the party, but he has slightly favored the democratic faction. Hard work is the keynote of Mr. Malcolm's success and every minute of his time is devoted to his business which is always on the increase.

D. J. KROEKER

Among the prominent and successful men of York county it is fitting to mention D. J. Kroeker, a progressive farmer, stock raiser and grain dealer. He is a native of southern Russia, born there August 20, 1873, a son of Jacob and Agnes (Jensen) Kroeker, also natives of that country where they spent their early lives and immigrated to America in 1875. Jacob I. Kroeker located in Brown township, York county, and bought a farm which he operated successfully for many years and here spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring 1911. His widow survives and is now in her sixty-eighth year. They were the parents of eleven children, six of whom are living. When Mr. Kroeker settled in York county a process of development and expansion was in progress to which he rendered material assistance and practical effort.

D. J. Kroeker was but two years old when he was taken by his parents to York county and was here reared and educated in the common schools, later taking a course at the Fremont Normal School. When he was twenty-three years old Mr. Kroeker became identified with the grain business at Henderson, in this line of activity proving himself equal to the most exacting demands which the successful handling of that business entails. He rapidly gained a reputation as an expert in the buying and selling of grain, together with a keen knowledge of what constituted quality, and he realized corresponding financial results as a reward for his sagacity. He also engaged in farming, proving himself an adept from the very beginning in stock raising and general agricultural pursuits, controlling a business of large volume that brings him a good financial return. He is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of excellent land, located in Brown township, all of

which is splendidly improved with fine buildings, and its neat and attractive appearance indicates his intelligently directed activity. He has other business connections in Henderson and is a stockholder and one of the directors of the Farmers State Bank of Henderson, this prosperous concern deriving considerable advantage from his association with its affairs.

Mr. Krocker has been twice married. His first marriage was to Miss Anna Friesen and to this union was born one daughter, Anna, now the wife of Jacob H. Rampel, who lives in California. Mrs. Anna Krocker passed away in 1896 and two years later he was married to Miss Anna Wolff, a daughter of Peter Wolff, a resident of this county. To his second marriage eight children have been born: John D., Era, Henry D., Peter, Agnes, Jacob, Mary and Daniel. Mr. Krocker and his wife are members of the Bethesda church and their lives have been guided by high moral standards. He supports the democratic party and has served as assessor for five years, handling the duties of that office with strict impartiality. For thirty years he has been identified with the life and business of York county and has witnessed many favorable changes during this period, having by his own labors in no small measure contributed to the general development and progress which are in evidence on all sides.

WILLIAM HENRY DAVIS

Prominent among the energetic, farsighted, and successful business men of York is William Henry Davis, who has contributed much to the public progress and improvement of this section of the state. He is one of the prominent insurance men of the state, being district manager of the Northwest Life Insurance Company of Milwaukee, in York. He was born in Parke county, Indiana, July 15, 1855, the son of Alonzo and Maranda (Applegate) Davis. The father was born in New York in 1824 and passed away in March, 1919, while the mother was born in Kentucky in 1834, and died in 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Davis were married in Indiana where they came at an early day, and lived there until 1877, Mr. Davis being successfully engaged in the manufacture of lumber and shingles. Disposing of this business Mr. Davis removed to Howard county, Nebraska, where he bought land and homesteaded, remaining there for eighteen years, at the end of this time returning to Indiana where he bought a farm in Vigo county and resided until the death of his wife. After her death he lived with his children and died in Oklahoma at the home of his eldest daughter. Mr. Davis and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he was a republican in politics. He was a man of importance in his community and did much to aid in the growth and upbuilding of Parke county, Indiana. The paternal grandfather, Leland Davis, was born in New York but was among the early settlers of Parke county, while the maternal grandfather, Nicholas Applegate, was born in Kentucky and later removed to Indiana where he died. William H. Davis, the subject of this review, is one of the four living children out of a family of seven born to Alonzo and Maranda Davis. The three other children are: Ella, the widow of William Irvin, who resides in Oklahoma; Ada, the wife of C. H. Patterson of Cheyenne,

Wyoming, who is an engineer; and Levi, who is manager of an ice plant in Terre Haute.

In the acquirement of an education William Henry Davis attended the public schools of Indiana and was employed in the woods during the summer months, earning the money with which to take a course in telegraphy. His first occupation was that of telegraph operator, and he served in that capacity and as station agent for a period of twenty-nine years. He was engaged at several stations in Indiana, and in November, 1879, removed to Nebraska, settling in Sutton. The Burlington was building west and he was sent to Hampton and then to York as station agent in 1889. For five years he remained in this position and then became interested in the insurance business. He became connected with the Northwest Life Insurance Company of Milwaukee and has built up a very extensive business. He is district supervisor and has twelve district agents under his direction. He has an average yearly business of five hundred thousand dollars and the year of 1920 promises to be much larger.

In 1877 Mr. Davis was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Cheney, whose death occurred on the 12th of September, 1894. She was the mother of two children: Dora May, the wife of I. M. Rice, postmaster at Valentine; and Glenn C., a physician and surgeon of California. On the first of January, 1896, he was again married, this time to Miss Clara Clift of Sutton. No children have been born to this union. Mr. and Mrs. Davis are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and she is very active in the affairs of the organization.

Politically Mr. Davis is a staunch supporter of the republican party. He is a Royal Arch Mason and has always been active in Masonic work. He is past master and past high priest, and exemplified the master masons degree before one of the largest bodies of Masons ever gathered, the event taking place in the Chicago Masonic Temple in 1893. For many years he has been an officer and trustee of the York lodge. The success which Mr. Davis now enjoys is the result of his own individuality and merit, for he determined to allow no obstacles to bar his path if they could be overcome by persistent, earnest and honorable effort, and gradually as the result of his determination and enterprise he has advanced until he is classed with the representative business men of York.

SOLOMON SWANSON

Solomon Swanson, who is living retired in Gresham, York county, is now enjoying a period of well merited leisure made possible by his former successful labors as a farmer and stock raiser, in which lines of labor he was actively engaged in the county for about thirty years. He was born in Sweden, September 25, 1839, a son of Swan Swanson and Mattie Lawson, both of whom spent their entire lives in that country where they passed away many years ago.

Solomon Swanson was a farmer in Sweden and when he had reached his thirty-second year he decided to try his fortune in the United States. Accordingly, in 1871, he immigrated to this country landing at New York, the passage being made by steamboat. He went to Branston, Illinois, and worked on farms by the month, remaining in one employment for nine years, which easily established a

record in that connection. Later he worked on a railroad in Indiana, following which he came to Stewart township and bought eighty acres of railroad land for which he paid seven dollars an acre. This was in 1880 but he did not occupy his holding until 1882, when he arrived on the place and put up a frame house, fourteen feet by twenty feet and also a frame barn. He broke the sod and commenced the cultivation of crops, but during the dry seasons failed to produce anything of value. He gave persistent attention to the improvement and care of his farm, planted many rows of trees and set out a fine orchard, while the management of his general farming and stock raising was the equal of any in the district. During the great blizzard of 1887 he was fortunate enough to have all his stock in the barns and so escaped much loss. In 1910 Mr. Swanson retired from the farm and moved to Gresham, where he is comfortably situated.

Mr. Swanson was married in Princeton, Illinois, to Ida Carlson, a native of Sweden, and they are the parents of one son, C. Henry, who now operates the old farm. The family are members of the Methodist church at Gresham and he gives his political support to the republican party. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator, in the Telephone Company and in the Farmers Co-operative Store, and in other ways has helped to promote the business interests of Gresham.

JOHN J. GOOSSEN

A successful career has been that of John J. Goossen, who now follows farming and stock raising on section 27, Brown township, York county. He has lived in this county for nearly forty years and is concentrating his efforts and attention upon the development and improvement of a farm of two hundred and forty acres. He is a native of southern Russia, born in that country January 16, 1868, a son of Johann and Hellen (Peters) Goossen, also natives of Russia and who immigrated to America in 1879. The parents located in York county and became engaged in farming, operating with much success a holding which they acquired. On this farm the mother died in 1906 and in that year the father returned to Russia, where he survived until 1914, passing away at an advanced age. They were the parents of eleven children, four of whom are living. During their residence in York county they won the esteem and friendship of a large percentage of the citizenship, because of their sterling worth and uprightness of character.

When his parents left Russia John J. Goossen was but a lad of eleven years and he was reared on his father's farm in York county, attending the public schools for a few years. He helped on the home farm until he reached his majority when he started farming on his own account and has ever since been successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits. Mr. Goossen is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres of excellent land, located on section 27, Brown township, where he carries on general farming and stock raising, his efforts and industry from the beginning having been well rewarded. Upon this place many modern improvements have been made, the buildings are substantial and commodious, the fences well kept and everything about the place indicates the progressive spirit of the owner. In addition to looking after his business on the farm he finds time to take an interest in the affairs of the Farmers State Bank of Henderson, serving that institution as a

member of the board of directors. He has learned much in life through observation and experience and has become a well informed business man.

In 1891 Mr. Goossen was united in marriage to Miss Agnetha Kroeker, a native of southern Russia and a daughter of Jacob and Agnetha (Jensen) Kroeker, mentioned elsewhere in this work. To Mr. and Mrs. Goossen eleven children have been born, three of whom died in infancy, the others being as follows: Jacob K. married Grace Fisher, and is a farmer in York county; Helen, the wife of J. H. Friesen of York county; Agnes, who married P. L. Wiens of York county; Mary, who is training as a nurse in the Lutheran Hospital in York; J. M., who is now in the United States Army; Kathrine; Daniel, and William. They are members of the Bethesda church at Henderson and cheerfully give moral and financial support to its work. Mr. Goossen's political endorsement is given to the democratic party and he has served very acceptably as a member of the local school board, his interest in educational matters being very pronounced. He has readily adapted himself to changing conditions in the business world and as he has progressed step by step has gained a broader outlook and wider opportunities.

SEDGWICK W. PETTIS

Sedgwick W. Pettis, deceased, was one of the pioneers of York county, having come here in 1870, and there were few experiences of pioneer life with which he was not familiar. He was born in Wyoming, New York, July 3, 1844, a son of Zina H. and Amanda (Sedgwick) Pettis, natives of New York. In the later 50's, the father removed to Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, and there engaged in general farming.

Sedgwick W. Pettis received his education in the schools of New York and at the age of fourteen years removed with his parents to Wisconsin. At the age of eighteen years he commenced farming on his own account, but on the outbreak of the Civil war put aside his agricultural pursuits and entered the service. He joined Co. F, Twenty-Seventh Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, his company being second of the regiment to arrive at Camp Washburn, Milwaukee, where they were mustered into the United States service. They were not ordered south, however, until the 30th of the following March, when they went to Columbus, Kentucky. From this time on Mr. Pettis was in active service and while in the Camden expedition in Arkansas, April 10, 1864, received a wound in the left leg which was not considered serious at the time. However, the wound caused him constant pain and later in life it was necessary to have the leg amputated above the knee. His death, which occurred on the 27th of December, 1894, was attributed to the effects of the wound. After the war he returned to Wisconsin, farming his forty acres of land which he had acquired at the age of eighteen years. This land was thickly studded with timber, mostly maple trees which were the source of a plentiful supply of sugar. In 1870 he came to York county where he acquired a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Leroy township. He drove from Wisconsin to York county in a prairie schooner, it taking him four weeks to make the trip, crossing the Missouri river at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, on a ferry boat. There were only two small buildings in this county when Mr. Pettis first settled here, and his land was

in a wild and uncultivated state. His first home was part sod and part dugout, having a dirt floor and roof, and two half windows which aided in lighting the otherwise dark interior. The barn was also a primitive structure of sod with a straw roof. The first year he broke thirty acres which he planted in sod corn, this crop yielding three hundred bushels. He also put out an orchard and a grove, the first venture proving unsuccessful. He took his grain to the grist-mill at Milford, thirty miles away, and his buckwheat for flour had to be ground in a coffee mill. Mr. Pettis had a cash capital of but fifty cents when he came to York and one team, a cow and a pig. He sold his wheat for twenty-five cents a bushel and used his cornstalks for fuel. Mrs. Pettis remembers many meals which she prepared over the cornstalks. During '93 and '94 he was burned out by the hot winds. Mr. Pettis worked under difficulties which would have overpowered most men but he was of the brave, red-blooded pioneer stock that allowed no obstacle to remain in his way. His wounded leg caused him much trouble and he underwent three operations, finally having the leg amputated above the knee. His farm, however, soon reached a high state of cultivation, and he later purchased one hundred and sixty acres of well improved railroad land which he disposed of, realizing a substantial sum on the sale.

In Wisconsin Mr. Pettis was united in marriage to Miss Amanda Townsend, a native of Monroe county, New York, and to them six children were born; the two oldest, Lewis and Harry, are deceased; Eliza, the wife of J. P. Hart, of Caldwell, Idaho; Alice, who died at the age of two years; Martin, who is deceased; and Ruth, who is the wife of George Page. Mr. and Mrs. Page are the parents of two children, May and Effie, who are now attending grade school, and they all make their home with Mrs. Pettis. Mrs. Pettis is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church in the activities of which organization she takes an active part.

Politically Mr. Pettis gave his allegiance to the republican party, and for some time served as justice of the peace of Leroy township. He was also a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and was for many years a trustee in the church. He was likewise a member of the G. A. R. of York. Mr. Pettis saw the work of progress and development carried steadily forward and at all times bore his part, especially along the line of agricultural improvement. He never hesitated to take a forward step and he gradually advanced until he was ranked among the most successful farmers in York county. The sterling traits of his character were many and all who knew him speak of him in terms of high regard.

HERBERT R. BLUM

Herbert R. Blum is one of the native sons of York county who is successfully engaged in the occupation of farming. He was born on the farm which he now owns and operates, January 5, 1892, a son of Julius Blum, a record of whom appears on another page of this work.

Reared under the parental roof, acquiring an education in the public schools and learning the best methods of planting and harvesting under the guidance of his father, he wisely chose the occupation with which he was familiar. He assisted in

the conduct of the home farm and later became a farmer on his own account. He has come into possession of the old homestead by purchase from his father and owns a well improved tract of one hundred and sixty acres devoted to general farming.

Herbert R. Blum was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Burhoop, a native of York county and they have become the parents of four children: Roy, Verna, Erwin and Clarence.

CHARLES N. CARPENTER

Charles N. Carpenter, who is engaged in the retail coal business, is one of the prominent citizens of York. His birth occurred on the 14th of October, 1862, in Wisconsin, the son of Horatio Nelson and Sarah Elizabeth (White) Carpenter, the former born in Onondaga county, New York, in 1833 and died in 1912, and the latter born in Missouri in 1839, and now residing in Chicago. Their marriage took place in Wisconsin where they resided for a number of years. On the first of March, 1878, Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter removed to Nebraska and settled in Syracuse where Mr. Carpenter conducted a lumber-yard for a number of years, and about four years prior to his death retired to Wymore, at which place his death occurred. In the conduct of his lumber business he was very successful and in addition to his yard at Syracuse he had purchased two yards in York which he consolidated and put in charge of his son, Charles N. Carpenter. Upon the outbreak of the Civil war Mr. Carpenter immediately volunteered his services and served for some time in a Wisconsin regiment. His father was a native of New York state and a shoemaker by trade. He followed his trade in Wisconsin for some years and his death occurred while at work on the bench. Mr. and Mrs. Horatio N. Carpenter were the parents of five children, four of whom are still living, namely: Charles N., the subject of this review; Berdina, who is employed with the Burlington Railway at Wymore and has been with them for years; Dr. Alden Carpenter; and Rubie, who is the wife of Leon Murdock, one of the prominent men connected with the Burlington Railroad. Dr. Alden Carpenter was the first dental surgeon in government service from Nebraska. He has been in service since the Spanish-American war, when he was the first to be sent from the state of Nebraska. During the World war he was chief surgeon at Fort Sam Houston, and he is now located at Washington, D. C.

In the acquirement of an education Charles N. Carpenter attended the high school at Darlington, Wisconsin, and later entered the University of Nebraska where he remained for a short time. He then went to Jacksonville, Illinois, where he took a course in a business college, at the completion of which he entered into the employ of his father for a year. At the termination of this time his father placed him in charge of the yard, which he conducted from 1882 until 1893. He met with much competition in this business, but by his fair and honorable methods built up a large trade and made many friends. In 1893 he sold his lumber-yard and for twenty years traveled on the road in the capacity of general eastern agent for the Wyoming Coal Company. He traveled throughout the state selling coal and handled all of the coal shipments to the east. During this time he made his home in York. In 1910 he quit the road and started into the retail coal business in

which he is still successfully engaged. Although most of his time has been spent furthering the development of his coal business he served York as city clerk for three terms and has always been interested in the growth and improvement of his community.

In 1884 Mr. Carpenter was married to Miss Eva I. Bray, a native of Michigan, and to them two daughters were born, namely: Pearl, who was first married to Gray Bemis, who was on the staff of the World-Herald for a number of years to the time of his death; she later became the wife of a Mr. Leonard, a wholesale druggist, and makes her home in Omaha; and Cecile, who is the wife of Orson Sovereign, an employe of the Burlington Railroad at Lincoln. Mrs. Carpenter's death occurred in 1887, and in March, 1888, Mr. Carpenter was again wedded, this time to Miss Elaine Barnes, a native of Nebraska. To this last union two children have been born: Elaine, who is married and resides in Newcastle, Wyoming; and Charles, who resides on a claim in Medicine Bow. Charles Carpenter is an expert horseman. He entered the World war in 1917 and went to France where he was engaged in active service for one and one-half years. The death of the second Mrs. Carpenter occurred in 1916. She was an active member of the Episcopal church.

Politically Mr. Carpenter is a republican and fraternally he belongs to the Masons and to the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. Not only has Mr. Carpenter aided in the development and growth of York but he was also influential in the development of the oil business in Wyoming at an early day. He is still actively engaged in the coal business and is recognized by his fellowmen as one of the most successful business men in York county.

WILLIAM HOHNBAUM

William Hohnbaum, formerly connected with the agricultural development of York county and in more recent years associated with the business life of Waco where he lived up to the time of his death, December 29, 1919, was a native of Germany, born March 15, 1847, a son of Conrad Hohnbaum and wife. The parents immigrated to America about 1852, the voyage being made on an old sailing vessel and about six weeks were occupied in crossing the Atlantic. Following his arrival in New York harbor the father went on to Pennsylvania, where he worked for some years and in that state his last days were spent.

William Hohnbaum, when a little lad of five years, accompanied his father to this country in 1852 and received a limited education in the common schools of Pennsylvania. He was reared in his father's home and when he had reached his seventeenth year volunteered for service in the Civil war, becoming a member of Battery L, Third Pennsylvania Artillery, serving for a time as a colonel's orderly. Later he was appointed one of the guard placed over Jefferson Davis, president of the Southern Confederacy, when Davis was captured at Ft. Monroe. His war service extended over a period of one year and eight months and at the end of hostilities he was honorably discharged and returned to Pennsylvania where he began the life of a farmer, in which line he continued for about six years in that state.



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM HOHNBAUM

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On December 26, 1867, Mr. Hohnbaum was united in marriage to Catherine Girton and to this union one child was born: Mrs. Sadie Stroup, now residing in Burke, South Dakota. About four years after his marriage, or in October, 1871, Mr. Hohnbaum came to Nebraska, making the journey to Lincoln by train, and took a homestead within one-half mile of Waco. His place consisted of one hundred and sixty acres of land on which he put up a small shanty built of lumber which he hauled from Lincoln and a barn constructed of sods. He proved up on the holding and commenced to prepare the ground for cultivation, breaking the sod with a team composed of a cow and an ox and in a short time had a large part of the open prairie under control and in productive condition. As things progressed with him he improved and developed the farm on which he planted large numbers of trees, but in bad seasons he was compelled to burn corn-stalks for fuel and also chopped wood along the banks of the Blue river, which he hauled home for the same purpose. Finally Mr. Hohnbaum succeeded in getting his entire holding into a condition of profitable agricultural operation and continued to reside on the place for several years, when he sold the homestead and bought a home in Waco. On taking up his residence in Waco he bought and sold grain and handled live stock, in addition to these activities managing a general mercantile store and at the same time gave attention to farming. His business energy was practically without bounds and his indefatigable efforts produced splendid results. He was exceedingly popular and his death on December 29, 1919, was the occasion for widespread expressions of regret and sympathy to his widow and family.

Sometime after the death of his first wife Mr. Hohnbaum married Elizabeth Knorr, a native of Pennsylvania, and a daughter of John and Miranda (Skaden) Knorr, who settled in York county and bought a tract of railroad land which they operated for many years, finally moving to Waco, where their last days were spent. To Mr. Hohnbaum's second marriage the following children were born: Dora, who was married and subsequently died, after which her father reared her family; John W., a farmer of York county; Carrie Ellen, the wife of Gene Roland of Havelock; Harry S., living at Friend, Nebraska; and William C., deceased. For years Mr. Hohnbaum was active in the affairs of the Grand Army of the Republic and also held membership in the Ancient Order of United Workmen. His religious affiliation was with the Methodist Episcopal church, to the teachings of which he was ever loyal, modeling his life by the Golden Rule. In political matters he supported the republican party but had never been a seeker after public office, preferring to devote his time and efforts to his business interests.

WARREN F. ECKLES, M. D.

Dr. Warren F. Eckles, eye, ear, nose and throat specialist of York, has by reason of broad study and wide experience gained distinction as one of the most eminent physicians west of Omaha in the state of Nebraska. He performs most of the surgical operations of the kind in York and is one of the most successful physicians in the state.

In the acquirement of his education Dr. Eckles attended the Carthage College, at Carthage, Illinois, for a period of four years, at the termination of which time,

deciding upon a professional career, he entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Keokuk, Iowa, now the University of Iowa. In 1898 he was graduated from this college and commenced practice at Carthage, Illinois, remaining there for two years. In 1900 he removed to York where he engaged in a general practice for thirteen years, when he decided to specialize. As a result of this decision Dr. Eckles discontinued his general practice and devotes his time and practice exclusively to the diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. He has built up a practice and does most of the surgical work of this kind in the county. In keeping abreast with the advances being made in his profession Dr. Eckles has taken a number of post-graduate courses, attending the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat College of Chicago, taking a course under A. B. Andrews of Chicago, and under Dr. Ketcham of Los Angeles, California. He has made a study of the eye alone under J. E. Vallee of New York, and also in Chicago and Kansas City, and at the Knapp Memorial Hospital in New York.

In 1898 Dr. Eckles was united in marriage to Miss Dora Bower, who was a native of Kansas. One son, Robert, has been born to this union, and is now a sturdy lad of ten years. Mrs. Eckles was also educated in medicine and while attending the College of Physicians and Surgeons she met her husband. For ten years following their marriage she practiced with Dr. Eckles, but has now given up her profession. Dr. and Mrs. Eckles attend the Congregational church.

Politically Dr. Eckles is a republican, well versed on the questions and issues of the day but without ambition in the line of office holding. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masons and the Knights of Pythias, and professionally he is a member of the York County, Nebraska State and the American Medical Associations. Dr. Eckles stands very high in professional circles and has one of the largest practices west of Omaha in the state of Nebraska.

F. O. PRICE

Among the native sons of York county who have elected to continue residents thereof is F. O. Price, who is engaged in farming on section 2, New York township. He was born in 1882, a son of Thomas Price and wife, well known residents of this part of Nebraska and further and extended reference to whom is made elsewhere in this work.

F. O. Price was reared in his father's home and received his early education in the public schools of the county, later entering the York Business College at York, from which institution he emerged well equipped with a business education, the advantages of which have been apparent in the results of his farming operations. Believing that a farming career offered inducements the equal of any other that a man starting in life may select, Mr. Price commenced the operation of a farm on his own account in 1906, and his well directed efforts have brought him a substantial competence, enabling him and his family to enjoy some of the solid comforts of life. His sphere of farm activities covers general farming and stock raising, at the same time feeding a choice strain of live stock which find ready markets at good prices. The farm is maintained in good condition and a substantial and well-built residence houses the family.

In 1907 Mr. Price was united in marriage to Nora Bowesock, a native of Thayer, daughter of S. H. Bowesock, a sketch of whose life is given elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Price are the parents of two children: Sheldon and Reginald, both attending school. The Price family are earnest members of the Presbyterian church, in all the good works of which they take a deep interest. He gives political allegiance to the republican party and in local affairs stands for progressiveness and clean public life. For years he has been serving as a member of the county board, to the duties of which he brings a sound intelligence and practical common sense. Men who know him speak of him in terms of the highest regard both as to relationship with business affairs and in matters of citizenship.

THOMAS J. HATFIELD, D. D. S.

For forty years Dr. Thomas J. Hatfield has practiced dentistry in York and he is now the oldest representative of his profession in that place and one of the oldest in eastern Nebraska. He was born in Greene county, Indiana, on the 11th of October, 1851, the son of Armisted and Mary (Richison) Hatfield, both of whom were natives of Tennessee and removed to Indiana in 1839. The grandfather of Dr. Hatfield, Ale Hatfield was a native of Virginia and was descended from the Hatfields of England who were among the Roundheads. When he grew to manhood he was married to Miss Nancy Young. During early life they removed to eastern Tennessee, and located in the midst of the beauty and grandeur of the Cumberland mountains, on the last fork of the Cumberland river where the inhabitants were very few. Here nature was found in her wildest forms, and this isolated spot held a great attraction for Mr. Hatfield. Bear, deer and other game were in abundance and he was a strong devotee of the chase. His little valley farm he cultivated with great care and pride, and the products of this little farm together with the deer and bear meat kept his table plentifully supplied. The greater part of their lives was passed on this farm which contained not more than thirty acres. During their early residence here the nearest cabin was a distance of fifteen miles and no wagon could be driven within twenty miles of this "hunter's paradise." It was amid these beautiful natural surroundings that Mr. and Mrs. Hatfield reared their family. Some of them reached manhood and womanhood unable to read or write, and none of them had ever seen a newspaper or book until they reached middle life. The boys became experts in the use of the rifle, and also with the hoe, the only agricultural implement in use at that time. The girls of the family were taught to grow and spin flax and they wove all of the cloth used in making the garments worn by the family. It was in this mountain home that Armisted Hatfield grew to manhood. His birth occurred in Fentress county, March 9, 1809, and on reaching man's estate he was married to Mary Richison, who was a native of eastern Tennessee. After their marriage they left the mountains and removed to southern Indiana settling on a farm in Greene county, in 1828. Here they resided for thirty-two years and cultivated and developed their land. Dr. Thomas J. Hatfield, whose name heads this review, was the youngest of a family of twelve children born to this union, ten of whom grew to maturity.

Dr. Thomas J. Hatfield is indebted to the public schools of Greene county, Indiana, for his education, and at the age of twenty years he was married. He continued to work with and for his father until he reached the age of twenty-five years, when having aided his father in securing considerable property he felt that he was free to seek another means of livelihood. He then commenced the study of dentistry in the office of Dr. Driscoll where he remained for one year, at the termination of which time he entered the dental department of the Indiana University. On completing his dental education he returned to his old home in Owensburg and opened an office where he practiced successfully for a period of four years. In 1882 he decided to remove to Nebraska and as a result located in York. He opened an office here and immediately established a very large practice, which he still enjoys at the age of sixty-nine years.

In 1871 Dr. Hatfield was united in marriage to Miss Martha Rush and they have become parents of one son, Homer R. Homer R. has followed in the footsteps of his father and is now a successful dentist at Grand Island. He was prepared for his professional career at the Northwestern Dental School of Chicago and later was graduated from the Omaha Dental College.

Since age conferred upon Dr. Hatfield the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party, and fraternally he is a Mason and a Knight of Pythias.

C. MASON ALBIN

C. Mason Albin, a prominent and well-to-do farmer living on section 33, Lockridge township, is generally regarded as one of the representative agriculturists of York county. Mr. Albin is a native of West Virginia, born in that state January 26, 1867, a son of John A. and Betty (Allison) Albin, also natives of West Virginia, where for many years John A. Albin was in the milling business, conducting a flour mill at Kabletown and carrying on others under lease. Mr. Albin was one of the prominent millers in the section of West Virginia in which he resided and in that place his family was reared. Mr. Albin and his wife were earnest members of the Methodist church, in the good works of which they were active participants, and he was a member of the Masonic order. His political affiliation was with the democratic party but he had never been a seeker after public office, and at all times gave a good citizen's attention to development and progress along sane lines. Mr. and Mrs. John Albin became the parents of twelve children, those besides the subject of this sketch being: Alice, wife of Horace Hoffmaster of Benedict; John A., of Osceola, Nebraska, in former years living at Washington, D. C.; Mary, deceased, who married Joe Jackson of Osceola; Nanny, wife of William Lewis of Springfield, Missouri; Maggie, widow of James Langdon of Charlestown, West Virginia; Ida, wife of Edgar Konklin, also of Charlestown; Bessie, living in Charlestown; James, living in Charlestown; Abner, an M. D. of Charlestown; Lewis, cashier in the Farmers and Merchants Bank, Charlestown; and William, deceased. The members of the family are all well circumstanced and owe their success in large degree to the worthy example set by their parents.

C. Mason Albin, the subject of this sketch, was reared in his father's home in West Virginia where he received his education in the public schools, continuing to live in his native state until 1891 in which year he took up residence in Benedict. On settling in this part of Nebraska he commenced working out by the month engaged on neighborhood farms and after the lapse of some time he rented land which he continued to operate for some years. He then moved to Harlan county where he purchased a farm and worked that place along agricultural lines, ultimately selling to advantage and returning to York county in 1914. In the latter year he acquired his present place and has since been closely identified with the agricultural life of the district, being extensively engaged in general farming and stock raising, success attending his well-directed efforts from the very commencement. Mr. Albin has effected extensive improvements on his holding and has now one of the best kept and most valuable farms in his section of the county. He operates his place on the most scientific plans and in consequence his labors are rewarded with maximum results.

In 1895 Mr. Albin was united in marriage to Emma Sidwell, a daughter of Levi Sidwell, a well known citizen of York county. Mr. and Mrs. Albin are faithful attendants on the services of the Methodist church, in the practical affairs of which they are active participants as they are in all community good works. He gives his political support to the democratic party but has never been a seeker after public office, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his agricultural interests. He is genial in manner and social in disposition. These qualities have won him personal popularity, while his enterprise and diligence have gained him prominence in business circles.

JOHN A. MERKEL

John A. Merkel after long years of connection with agricultural interests in York county is now living retired in York, enjoying the fruits of his own diligence and industry. He was born in Wayne county, Ohio, October 3, 1856, a son of Jacob and Mary (Emig) Merkel, both natives of Germany, but their marriage occurred in Ohio. The father was a brick maker and plasterer by trade and emigrated to the United States in the late '50s. He located in New York and later in Wayne county, Ohio, where he followed his trade for some time. In 1858 he removed to Iowa where he bought some land which he farmed in connection with his other trades. In 1871 he decided to come to Nebraska, with the result that he set out from Iowa in that year with an ox team. He left Boone, Iowa, on the 18th of April and arrived in York on the 6th of May, driving up what is now Lincoln avenue. At the time he came to that town it consisted of but two frame buildings and a sod shanty. He pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres in Bradshaw township which he later bought, and his first home on this land was a dugout with dirt floor and two small windows. The next house he built of frame which was sixteen by twenty-four feet, hauling the lumber from Lincoln and Columbus. All supplies were also hauled from these places. His land he broke with an ox team and he also planted a grove and orchard, but the latter mostly died out. He hauled his coal from Central City and got his wood from the Platte river. Mr. Merkel remem-

bers having seen many antelopes and stray herds of buffalo. In 1873 the grasshoppers destroyed all of the corn and in the same year at Easter time a blizzard kept the members of the family in the house for a period of three days. For a number of years he lived on the land and then sold it, removing to another place which he had bought and resided there until he retired. He spent the remaining years of his life with his son, John A. Merkel, the subject of this review, and died in 1908 at the age of seventy-six years. He was married in Ohio to Mary Enig who preceded him in death. The following children were born to them: John A., the subject of this review; Katie, who is deceased; Fannie, deceased; Emma, deceased; Maggie, who is the wife of John Glasser, a farmer in York county; Nora, who is the wife of W. A. Miller of York, engaged in the real estate business; Charles, residing in Marion, Ohio, where he is engaged in the implement business; and one child who died in infancy in Iowa. Both Mr. and Mrs. Merkel were staunch supporters of the United Brethren church, and he gave his allegiance to the democratic party.

In the acquirement of an education John A. Merkel attended the public schools of York county, the first school he attended being built of sod and containing home-made benches. At an early age he started farming and homesteaded eighty acres in Bradshaw township. He also bought forty acres in Arborville township. His first house was built of sod and was fourteen by twenty feet, consisted of one room and had a dirt roof. Here he made his home for a number of years when he sold the homestead in 1910, purchasing a quarter section in South Dakota and a half section in Canada. He engaged in general farming and stock raising and had a fine grade of cattle. In 1910 he retired and moved to York as a result of impaired health and here he is now residing.

In 1878 Mr. Merkel was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Mosgrove, a native of Iowa, and they have become parents of two children: Arthur, who is a graduate of the State University and is now practicing medicine in Ankeny, Iowa; and Blanche, who is the wife of W. R. Findall who is engaged in farming in Canada.

Mr. Merkel gives his allegiance to the democratic party, having firm belief in the efficacy of the principles of the party as factors in good government. He is likewise a consistent member of the United Brethren church. Mr. and Mrs. Merkel are now residing in York, where they enjoy all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life as the result of his well directed thrift and energy in former years. His labors have brought about settlement and development in various districts and he is now enjoying the well earned rewards of former toil.

HENRY H. JOHNSON

Henry H. Johnson is one of the younger farmers of York county who is carrying on farming operations very successfully. He was born in Tacoma, Washington, November 7, 1893, a son of John H. and Sophia (Jenson) Johnson, both natives of Sweden who came to America as young people. In 1898 the Johnson family left Washington and came to York county, the father purchasing a farm which he operated for several years and on which the subject of this sketch is now residing. John H. Johnson gave careful attention to the development of his place, added land to the original holding as he prospered and finally succeeded in getting under his

control one hundred and eighty acres of the best of land. From the very commencement his efforts were rewarded with success and when he retired from active control of his farm he had the satisfaction of turning over to his son a well improved and highly valuable holding. He and his wife are constant attendants on the services of the Methodist church, in the good works of which they actively participate. In politics he takes an independent attitude.

Henry H. Johnson was the only child born to his parents and was five years old when he accompanied them from Washington to York county, in the public schools of the county receiving his education and helping his father in the labors of the farm. He now resides on the home farm which he is successfully operating, using modern methods and latest machinery in the carrying out of the work. Yet young in years he has before him a great prospect for agricultural development and present indications are that he will measure up to all demands in that connection.

On June 29, 1920, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Miriam Bent, a native of Buffalo county, Nebraska. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and in all affairs designed for the welfare of the community they take an active and practical part. They have a wide acquaintance and a large number of warm personal friends.

WILLIAM H. FOTHERGILL

For the past fifteen years William H. Fothergill has been living retired at Gresham, York county, and there he is in the enjoyment of the many comforts to which his early industry and self-denial justly entitle him. For many years he was prominently and actively identified with farming, taking up that work when the county was in its formative stages and encountering all the hardships and privations incident to the conditions of life at that time. He was born in London, England, July 31, 1848, a son of George and Freike Fothergill, also natives of that country and there they passed away, having reached advanced ages. For many years of his active life the father operated a steam hammer in the old country.

William H. Fothergill, in 1869, left England and immigrated to America, the ocean voyage being made on a steamship which arrived at Portland, Maine. He went directly to Omaha, Nebraska, and the first money he made on American soil was in payment for his distribution of handbills in Omaha. Later he found employment on the Union Pacific Bridge across the Missouri at Omaha and continued in that line for two years. It was in 1871 that Mr. Fothergill came to York county, took a homestead of eighty acres in Thayer township and immediately began to get the place into shape. He started by putting up a half sod and half dugout house in which he took up his residence, and also put up a temporary barn which was superseded in time by proper buildings. He broke every foot of his land and commenced the planting of crops and for the better carrying out of the work he bought a team of horses in Council Bluffs, Iowa, and hauled lumber for the construction of his buildings, both horses and lumber having to be ferried over the river, the entire journey occupying about two weeks. Provisions and other commodities had to be hauled from Lincoln and Columbus in like manner. In 1876 he built a frame house fourteen feet by twenty feet and this structure is still standing. He set out

trees and planted an orchard, for some years getting good results from the latter but finally it died out.

Mr. Fothergill is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of prime land, which is in an excellent state of improvement, and up to the date of his retirement in 1905 he had been carrying on general farming and stock raising with sustained success, except during the period that the grasshoppers visited York county when he lost everything with the exception of some wheat, and the seasons 1893-94 proved so bad that he was unable to raise any crops. In hard times he had to burn buffalo chips and brush from the creek for fuel, at another time burning corn and cornstalks for the same purpose. When the blizzard of 1874 came he was lucky enough to have all his stuff housed and consequently escaped destruction. He asserts that while Indian scares were plentiful in the early years he never suffered any inconvenience.

Since Mr. Fothergill retired to Gresham in 1905 he has continued to retain ownership of his place, which he rents. For fifteen years he has resided in Gresham where he has become widely and favorably known and he has never had occasion to regret his determination to try his fortune in the new world, for here he found good business opportunities and in their utilization has worked his way steadily upward. He supports the policies and principles of the republican party and is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in the work of which he has ever taken a warm interest.

JACOB SMITH

Jacob Smith, a retired farmer, is one of York's most prosperous and revered citizens, having been a gallant soldier in the Civil war where his record was as splendid as it has since been in his years of civilian life in York county. He was born in Hessen-Darmstadt, Germany, July 2, 1834, the son of Peter and Elizabeth (Ceber) Schmidt, who have since died. When Mr. Smith took out his naturalization papers the German way of spelling the name was dropped, and since that time it has been spelled Smith. His grandfather on his mother's side was a well-to-do farmer in their province when the war between Germany and France was in progress, having on his farm twenty-eight milch cows and several teams when Napoleon's army invaded that country and took possession of his stock. Their owner being a loyal German at once crossed to the other side of the mountain and reported to the Prussian general the location of Napoleon's men and the information that they intended to make a raid the following day. The news bearer was held under guard until his story was investigated and verified, and the Germans made a night attack and completely routed the French. For his loyalty to his country Jacob Smith's grandfather was made a Prussian count, was given the land he rented from the king free from rent or taxes, and was exempted from military service.

The mother of Jacob Smith was born in 1800 and immigrated to America in 1848 with her three sons, her husband having passed away. It took a great deal of courage to make this venture and the trip was an expensive one, as she had to pay one hundred dollars for each child's transportation charges on the ocean sailing



JACOB SMITH
WHEN A SOLDIER IN CIVIL WAR

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vessel. After landing in this country they settled in Fort Wayne, Indiana, when but a few houses were to be seen in that town. Jacob Smith was then not yet fourteen years old but it was necessary for all the children to go to work in order to make a living, and so it was that he never saw the interior of a schoolhouse in this country. However, he learned to read though he never did much writing. In 1855 his mother passed away at the home of her daughter in Fort Wayne where she lived since she came to America.

Jacob Smith's first trade was learning to chop wood as there was much heavy timber in Indiana then. At that time there was not a railroad in the state and in 1856 he made a trip to Minnesota driving a team. For thirty-five miles of the journey there was not a house to be seen and his only companions on this lonely ride were two revolvers.

When the Civil war broke out he went back to Indiana and enlisted. The following is a copy of the record of Jacob Smith's life as a soldier:

"This certifies that Jacob Smith enlisted October 18, 1861, from Fort Wayne, Indiana, to serve five years, afterward changed to three years, and was mustered into the service of the United States at Fort Wayne, Indiana, as a private of Captain William's, Company D, Nineteenth United States Infantry, First Battalion, Major Carpenter commanding the battalion."

"The United States Infantry was organized in conformity with the president's proclamation of May 4, 1861. Company A was organized August 24, Company B in September, and in October companies A and B were ordered to report to General Sherman in Kentucky and were attached temporarily to the first battalion of the Fifteenth Infantry. Company C was organized in November, 1861. In February, 1862, orders were issued designating companies A, B, C, D, and E, F, G, and H as the first battalion of the regiment. Companies C and D, under Major Campbell, were ordered to proceed to Louisville, Kentucky, and report to General Buell. Company E was organized March 15, 1862, and with companies A, B, C, and D participated in the battle of Shiloh, April 6-7, 1862. Major Carpenter was complimented for his gallant conduct in this engagement by his brigade commander, General Rosseau. The first battalion participated in the battle of Corinth, Mississippi. Company F was organized in April and sent to Pittsburg Landing and companies G and H were organized in May and were ordered to Washington, D. C., joining the army of the Potomac, and Company G was present at the battles of South Mountain and Antietam. In September Company H was detailed as a body-guard to General McClellan. Colonel Canby was made brigadier general. During the battle of Murfreesboro, on Stone River, Tennessee, the gallant commander, Major Carpenter, gave up his life, falling from his horse with six mortal wounds. The loss to the regiment was heavy. It was eighteen months in the field, including a march of over a thousand miles, in two battles and a number of skirmishes. Early in 1863 the regiment was united, the battalion having been reduced from five hundred to less than a hundred and fifty men, and on September 19 the first battalion was engaged in the battle of Chickamauga, suffering heavily in killed and wounded, Lieutenant King being killed during the battle September 20th. During the Chattanooga-Ringgold campaign and at the battle of Missionary Ridge, the Nineteenth Infantry was a mere detachment and was reconsolidated with the Sixteenth Infantry and designated as a detachment of the Sixteenth and Nineteenth Infantry. Fort Willard, a redoubt in the Potomac, was

named after General Willard, major of the Nineteenth Infantry. In the spring of 1864 the regiment was on the march toward Ringgold, Georgia, and was in many skirmishes and engaged in the battles of Resaca, Georgia, New Hope Church, near Dallas, Georgia, and on June 1, 1864, the battalion was at Kenesaw Mountain and took part in the battle there. It was also in action at Neal Dow Station, Peach Tree Creek, and finally on July 22d took a position on the railroad within two miles of the Atlantic and built breastworks. September 1st it took part in the battle of Jonesboro and on October 1st went into camp at Lookout Mountain, where it remained during the winter. The said Jacob Smith was mustered into service of the United States and remained a few days at Fort Wayne, Indiana, then moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, remaining there in drill and military discipline until February 14, 1862, then ordered to Louisville, Kentucky, and later marched with the army on the campaign. He was always to be found with his army at his post of duty with his comrades, and he bore a loyal and faithful part in all its campaigns and battles as above outlined until August, 1864, when on account of having contracted rheumatism and heart disease from exposure and hardships, he was ordered to Fort Wayne, Detroit, Michigan, where he remained until October, 1864, when he received a certificate of honorable discharge at Fort Wayne, Detroit, Michigan, by reason of expiration of term of enlistment, having achieved a gallant record for meritorious service and soldierly conduct at all times."

During his life as a civilian Mr. Smith worked at many occupations, driving a team on a towpath, working in a paint shop which injured his health so that he had to give it up, clerking in a store and working in a saloon. However he did not remain at any of these very long, always returning to the farm after each new venture lost its allurements. On March 22, 1871, he came to Nebraska and filed on one hundred and sixty acres of what is now Baker township. He left his wife and three children and his mother-in-law in Lincoln three weeks while he came on and looked for a location. He rode on the first train to come from Lincoln to Fairmont, a conveyance which ran on a track laid in grass with the low places filled with dirt. His first home was a fourteen by sixteen frame house, but the following year he built a sod house, thirteen by nineteen feet inside and walls three feet thick. Because of the thickness of the walls Mr. Smith called his home his "fort." A ridgepole from the roof was covered with willow brush which reached to the eaves and this was covered with thatch and sod shingles. This was the home of the family for eleven years during which time they endured the privations and hardships that were the lot of the early settler. There were many dry seasons and then came the grasshopper plague that devastated the fields and laid waste the much needed grain. However, he did not lose heart and after eleven years during which time he was prosperous he sold and rebought tracts of land until 1903 when he moved to York. Since then Mr. Smith has lived retired, engaging in no business enterprise other than looking after residence properties.

Jacob Smith was married at Fort Wayne, Indiana, July 24, 1868, to Miss Katherine Brick, a native of Hessen-Darmstadt, daughter of Theodore and Marie Brick. The former died in Germany, the latter died in York county, Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have six living children: A daughter, Annie Maria, is the wife of Frank Cunningham, a farmer of York, and they have eleven children; G. H. Cornelius, who is also married, is engaged in farming in York; Matilda, the

wife of Dan Routt, lives in Perkins county, Nebraska, where her husband is engaged in farming; William, who was a farmer in Montana, is now an engineer at Antioch, Nebraska, is married and has one child; Katherine is the wife of Edward M. Johnson, a carpenter at Pawnee City, Nebraska, and the mother of ten children; a son, Edward D. Smith, died in childhood; and Minnie is the wife of Charles Southworth, living in Montana. Mrs. Smith is a member of the Woman's Relief Corps and Mr. Smith is a member of the Robert Anderson Post and the G. A. R. Post No. 32 at York. They attend the Lutheran church. In politics Mr. Smith is a republican. He is now past eighty-six years of age and quite as keen and interested in the affairs of today as many of the younger generation. He is in splendid health, and his wife, who is seventy-three years of age, is very active and well able to do all her own housework. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have braved the storms of the years and now live comfortably and happily with many memories of the past to recall, now that they have earned a well deserved rest.

ANDREW PINNEO

Andrew Pinneo, who is residing on the southeastern edge of York, has reached the advanced age of eighty years and is living retired, enjoying the fruits of his former well directed labor. He was born in Clark county, Ohio, January 3, 1840, a son of Andrew Pinneo, who was born in Vermont in 1768. The father was reared in that state from which he enlisted in the war of 1812, taking an active part. He was but a little lad at the time of the Revolutionary war but often told his family of the cannonading during that period. He married in Vermont and later moved to Ohio where his wife died, and at the age of seventy years he married again, this time Mrs. Sarah Mead, nee Oliver, who was a widow. Of the last marriage there were three children: Thomas, living in Illinois; Mary, died in 1865; and Andrew, of this review. The father's death occurred on his farm in Clark county, Ohio, at the age of eighty-seven years. Previous to his death he made application for a land warrant which his widow received, but as it was for land in Iowa or Nebraska and she did not care to come west she sold it. She brought her family to Illinois after the death of her husband and died in Logan county. Mr. Pinneo was in politics a whig.

Andrew Pinneo was but sixteen years of age when the family came to Illinois. His education was very limited and at an early age he engaged in farming. He later purchased some land in Champaign county, Illinois, and there resided for ten years, at the end of which time he returned to Logan county. In 1891 he came to Nebraska and bought two hundred and forty acres in Leroy township, York county, which land was but slightly improved. Mr. Pinneo experienced hard times after coming to this county and during those Cleveland years when Nebraska suffered from drought and money was scarce he had a hard time to make ends meet. As it was he was thirty-three hundred dollars in debt. It was not long, however, until time readjusted affairs and he became a very successful farmer. He was ever diligent and persistent and difficulties and obstacles seemed only to stimulate him to further effort. A number of years ago he decided to retire from active life and is now living in a comfortable home on the southeastern edge of York. He was at

one time in possession of valuable land in Red Willow county which he recently sold, realizing a fair profit.

While residing in Illinois, Mr. Pinneo was united in marriage to Miss Leah Shaw, a native of Cleveland, Ohio. They have spent fifty-four happy years together and Mrs. Pinneo says of this union: "We have raised ten children and God has spared the lives of all of them. The family is still unbroken." The five sons and five daughters are: Jennie, who is the widow of Henry Alecock, and with her three children resides in York; William, who resides on his father's farm in LeRoy township and is the father of six children; Sarah, who is the widow of Albert Woodruff, and has two children; Joseph, who is engaged in farming in McFadden township and is the father of eight children; Elizabeth, who is the widow of Jasper Hall, and is residing in Fairmont with her eight children; Andrew, who is residing in Washington state; Laura, who is the wife of Peter Walbright of Buffalo county and has ten children; Edward, who is farming in LeRoy township and has one child; Alice, who is the wife of Charles A. Briley, of Colorado, and has two children; and Albert, who is farming in McFadden township and has become the father of three children. Mr. and Mrs. Pinneo are devoted to their large family and to their forty-three grandchildren and one great grandson.

The first vote cast by Mr. Pinneo was for Abraham Lincoln for his first term, and he was not then quite twenty-one years of age, but was allowed to vote. Had his father lived a few months and voted in the election of 1856 the Pinneo family, father and son, would have voted at every election from that of Washington to the present day. Mr. Pinneo has led a very busy life, being dependent upon his own resources from an early age. The success he has achieved has come to him as the direct reward of his persistent and earnest labor and he is indeed a self-made man, deserving much credit for what he has accomplished.

JOHN J. DAVIS

John J. Davis, a real estate dealer of York, was born in Earlville, LaSalle county, Illinois, October 11, 1856, a son of David Jenkins, and Dorcas (Folsom) Davis, the former was born in Wales, while the latter was born in Maine. Their marriage took place in Illinois, where they both came in their youth, and the father engaged in farming until his death. To this union six children were born: May and Samuel J., deceased; Rachael, who lives in Illinois; John J., the subject of this review; Arthur, who manages a store in Wichita, Kansas; and Theron, who resides in Earlville, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Davis were faithful attendants of the Universalist church, and he was a staunch republican.

In the acquirement of his education John J. Davis attended the public schools of Illinois. He then engaged in farming and in 1879 removed to York county, where he resided on a farm which he purchased there, until 1907. At that time he sold his farm and removed to York. In his farming enterprise he had been very successful and this was due entirely to his own labor and determination. The hardships endured in his early struggles were many, but he determined that no obstacles, however great, should obstruct his path. Three different times

his crops were ruined by hail and he had hardly enough to live on, but he again immediately set about to cultivate his land, and as a result of this indomitable courage he made of his farming a success. When he removed to York he retired from active farm life, but purchased some land in Brown county, South Dakota, which he still owns and visits at various times. In 1909 he engaged in the real estate business, confining himself mostly to local deals. In addition he also does some insurance business.

In August, 1878, in Illinois, Mr. Davis was united in marriage to Miss Louise R. Bean, of Polk City, Iowa, whose father Steven S. Bean, of the state of Maine, was killed in action in the Civil war. Her mother's maiden name was Ellen L. Halladay, born in Earlville, Illinois. To this union three children have been born: David Earl, who homesteaded in Cherry county and later removed to the state of Washington where he now resides; Mable, deceased; and LeRoy, who is a book-keeper in Arlington, Colorado. Both sons are staunch supporters of the republican party. Mr. Davis has two grandsons namely: Glen Leroy Davis and John Albert Davis.

Mr. Davis is of a retiring disposition and has never been active in politics as regards the holding of public office, however, he is a member of the republican party, as was his father before him. He is in every sense of the word a self-made man and one of whom York has a right to be proud.

ROBERT F. LORD

Robert F. Lord, cashier of the Blue River Bank of McCool Junction, is one of the successful and prosperous men of the community. He was born in McFadden township November 20, 1890. His father, Robert Felsted Lord, was born in London, England, June 10, 1850, and when a child five years of age was brought by his parents to America, the family home being established at Bloomington, Illinois. Here he attended the public schools and also the Illinois State Normal at Normal, Illinois. Upon reaching manhood he became a farmer and resided there until 1884 when he came to York county, Nebraska, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved land in McFadden township. This he improved and resided there three years when he engaged in mercantile pursuits at Red Lyon, one of the early day trading points in this neighborhood. When the town of McCool Junction was established he became one of the early merchants there continuing in business several years. He then became a teacher and preacher and his last days were spent as a farmer and gardener. He was an active member of the United Brethren church and will long be remembered as one of the men who was anxious to promote the welfare of the community along educational and religious lines. He died October 4, 1908. In 1884 he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah E. Wilcox, who was born in Illinois, a daughter of William and Saraphina Wilcox who came to Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1870 where they both passed away. After the death of her husband Mrs. Lord became the wife of Charles M. Turner and resides in York.

Mr. and Mrs. Lord were the parents of six children: Frank E., a resident of Pasadena, California; Telfor C., superintendent of schools for York county;

Charles S., a resident of Idaho Falls, Idaho; Robert F., of McCool Junction; Nellie, the wife of Lawrence Valentine, of York county; and Mabel, the wife of Clarence Cudabaek, of McCool Junction.

Robert F. Lord attended the public schools of McCool Junction and his boyhood days were spent in his native place. At the age of sixteen he entered the employ of the Blue River Bank as bookkeeper and two years later became assistant cashier of that institution. Ability and worthiness were demonstrated when after five years he was made cashier, a position he has held for nine years.

Mr. Lord was married to Miss Gladys M. Bellows of McCool Junction and they have become the parents of four children: Dwight, Roland and Kenneth are members of the family household. Forrest died May 8, 1920, from an attack of double pneumonia, aged seven months and eighteen days.

Mr. and Mrs. Lord are members of the United Brethren church and in politics Mr. Lord gives his allegiance to the republican party. He is serving the community in many positions of trust and is township treasurer, village treasurer, school treasurer and treasurer of the Sunday school. He has membership with the Modern Woodmen of America and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He stands loyally for what he believes to be for the best interests of the community and has cooperated with all those enterprises which are of the greatest value to the public.

WILLIAM C. PETERSON, M. D.

Dr. William C. Peterson, living in Henderson, is a well known and prominent member of the medical profession in York county where he has been engaged in practice for several years. He was born in Platte county, Nebraska, April 7, 1886, a son of Nels C. and Elsie (Sorensen) Peterson, natives of Denmark, who immigrated to America about the year 1873. Shortly after arriving in this country the parents came to Nebraska and settled in Platte county, residing there for a time and later moved to Boone county, where they are now living, honored citizens whose probity and sterling characters command the respect of all who know them. To their marriage six children were born, five of whom are living.

Dr. Peterson spent his early days in Platte and Boone counties. He pursued his education in the public schools and later entered high school, going thence to Creighton College, from which institution he was graduated in 1909, receiving his medical degree. Following his graduation he located at Henderson and there began the practice of his profession, adding to his medical and scientific knowledge in the intervening years, and he is now regarded by his brethren in the profession and the public at large as an eminently skilled and painstaking doctor. His ever growing clientele embraces some of the most influential citizens of the district in which he resides. Dr. Peterson keeps well informed on all the latest phases pertaining to the development of his profession and misses no opportunity to broaden the scope of his knowledge to the end that he may be the better able to alleviate pain and suffering. His present status indicates that he has many years of usefulness before him, with every prospect that he will reach the position to which his established ability entitles him.

In 1910 Dr. Peterson was united in marriage to Miss Nannie Case, who was

born in Boone county and a daughter of R. E. Case and wife, both of whom are still living in that county. To this union one son, Wendell Peterson, has been born, his birth occurring on April 7, 1912. The Doctor and his wife are popular in social circles, their aid and influence are always given on the side of progress and improvement and they advocate as well those high standards which work for civic betterment. His political influence is extended to the republican party and for eight years he was a member of the local council, during this period serving the people with ability. His interest in education is pronounced and he has served on the board of school directors for three terms, thus demonstrating the hold which cultural advancement has on his time and attention.

CHARLES G. PFEFFER

Charles G. Pfeffer, president of the York Water Company, was born in Württemberg, Germany, January 30, 1858, the son of Jacob and Eva Marie (Bentzlar) Pfeffer, both natives of Württemberg. The father was born in 1810 and died in 1858 and the mother was born in 1820 and passed away at the age of fifty-four years. They were married in Germany and spent their lives there, Mr. Pfeffer being a successful and well-to-do farmer. Seven children were born to this union, four boys and three girls, five of whom are living: Frederick, who resides in Germany; Fredericka, a widow who resides in Kankakee, Illinois; Christiana, a widow who resides in Otis, Colorado; Gottlob, a retired farmer of York; and Charles G., the subject of this review. The family were members of the Lutheran church.

Charles G. Pfeffer received his education in the schools of Germany and when tales reached him concerning the opportunities of the United States he determined to try his fortune in America, with the result that he and his brother set out on their voyage alone. Financial conditions rendered it necessary for him to start to work immediately, and his first venture into the business life of this country was as a baker, which trade he had learned in Germany. He settled in Springfield, Illinois, and there successfully conducted a bakery from 1884 until 1900. At that time he removed to York and lived practically retired for about four years on an acre and half of land on which he raised a garden and did a little truck farming. He again entered into active business life, however, when on the 1st of July, 1905, he became connected with the York Water Company which was incorporated at sixty thousand dollars. He was secretary and treasurer of this company until 1912 when he succeeded to the presidency and is still serving the city in that capacity. This company supplies water for the entire city. In addition to his interests in this company he became connected with the York Gas and Electric Company, but sold his interest in this business in December, 1912.

In 1887 Mr. Pfeffer was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Killius, who was a native of Springfield, Illinois, and to them four children have been born: Clara, Helena, Angela, and Frederick Charles, all of whom are attending school. The family are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Pfeffer gives his allegiance to the republican party and served his community as a member of the city council from 1902-1904. His fraternal affiliation

is with the Knights of Pythias. His career is that of a self-made man and York recognizes him as one of its public-spirited citizens, devoted to the general welfare, honorable and straightforward in every relation of life and at all times a man whom to know is to esteem and honor.

JOHN A. BOON

In the passing of John A. Boon, York county lost an honored pioneer who had contributed in substantial measure to the agricultural development and progress of the community in which he made his home for more than a quarter of a century. During the last twelve years of his life he lived retired in Utica, enjoying in well earned rest the fruits of his former toil. His birth occurred at Selinsgrove, in Union county, Pennsylvania, on the 17th of November, 1839, his parents being Thomas and Harriett (Robinson) Boon, who were likewise natives of the Keystone state. They removed westward to Illinois at an early period in the settlement of that state and there the father followed farming and also worked at the carpenter's trade. The mother passed away at Weeping Water, Nebraska.

John A. Boon accompanied his parents on their removal from Pennsylvania to Illinois, continuing a resident of the latter state until he came to York county. At the time of the Civil war he joined the Union army and served for two years and ten months as a member of the Eighty-fifth Illinois Infantry, with which command he participated in the battle of Lookout Mountain and also went with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea. Though spared to celebrate the victory of the Union arms he saw his brother fall in battle by his side. He was a young man of about thirty-three years when he decided to establish his home in Nebraska and traveled to Lincoln by train. After reaching his destination he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Waco Township, York county. This was in 1872 and the district was still largely unsettled and undeveloped. He erected a shack with lumber which he hauled from Lincoln, that fall, built a sod house, covering the dirt floor with hay. He broke his land with a team of horses which he had brought from Illinois and set out an orchard, but most of the trees died and he was obliged to plant others. All of the obstacles and difficulties of life in a frontier region had to be overcome before he could carry on the work of farming with any degree of success. All supplies had to be hauled from Lincoln and wood was so scarce that he burned corn-stalk and corn for fuel. During the memorable Easter blizzard of 1873 he and his family were shut in the house for three days, when they shoveled their way out. During the period of the grasshopper scourge his farm produced nothing. However, as the years passed success rewarded his well directed industry and untiring labors until at length the property yielded him a gratifying annual income. He had put a hedge around his quarter section and made many other improvements which enhanced its value and attractiveness. He came to the west in limited financial circumstances and through his own efforts worked his way steadily upward to a place among the prosperous and respected citizens of his community. It was in 1887 that he put aside the active work of the fields and took up his abode in Utica, where he spent the remainder of his life in honorable retirement.



MR. AND MRS. JOHN A. BOON



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March 2, 1860, Mr. Boon was united in marriage to Miss Hannah Ruckman, a native of New Jersey. They became the parents of ten children, namely: David, who died in infancy; Wallace N., who is engaged in the grain business in Minneapolis, Minnesota; Anna R., the wife of P. A. Drake, who is a carpenter residing at Winner, South Dakota; P. S., who is living retired at Utica; Fattie, who is the wife of E. J. Jones, an agriculturist of York county; Emma, the wife of A. B. Carter, who is engaged in the grain business at Kimball, Nebraska; Mildred, the wife of John Frazer, who operates the old homestead farm; John, deceased; Lucia, at home with her mother; and Archie, who has also passed away.

Mr. Boon was a staunch republican in politics, ever supporting the party which was the defense of the Union during the dark days of the Civil war. He served as justice of the peace and made an enviable record in that official capacity. Fraternally he was a Master Mason and an Odd Fellow, and he maintained pleasant relations with his old military comrades through his membership in the Grand Army of the Republic. His demise, which occurred November 24, 1899, when he was sixty years of age, was deeply deplored by all who knew him and it was generally conceded that the county had lost one of its most esteemed and valued citizens. His widow, who still resides in Utica, is a Methodist in religious faith and a woman whose many excellent traits of character have won her a large circle of warm friends.

ISAAC J. FARLEY

The family of Isaac J. Farley residing in Benedict, pays fitting tribute to his memory in preserving a brief record of his life in this history of York county. He was born in the state of Pennsylvania, where he was reared, educated and grew to manhood, during his youth being engaged in farming.

Mr. Farley was married in Pennsylvania to Annie C. Sidler, a native of that state, and after their marriage they moved to a farm which he continued to operate for two years. In 1875 they migrated to York county, locating in Thayer township, and bought eighty acres of raw prairie land for which six dollars per acre was paid. There were no improvements of any kind on the holding and a house sufficient for their temporary needs was erected. The ground was broken and tilled and Mr. Farley was in a fair way to make a success of his labors when death called him. He passed away in 1896, while still in the prime of manhood. To his family he was a devoted husband and father and found his greatest happiness in promoting the welfare of his wife and children. In business affairs he was progressive and reliable and his sterling worth was acknowledged in many relations.

After the death of her husband Mrs. Farley assumed the responsibility of carrying on the farm and paid off all the accrued debts. From time to time she added land to the original holding and is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres of prime land, on which she effected many valuable improvements and planted large numbers of trees which enhanced the appearance and value of the place. She became the mother of six children as follows: Catherine, the wife of Ellis Troup; Christian, who lives in Thayer township; Hattie, the wife of Fred Liebtke; Edgar, who lives in Thayer township; Isaac, who assists on the home farm; and

Samuel, who died at the age of eight years. Mrs. Farley remained on the farm until 1917 when she moved to Benedict, where she is pleasantly and comfortably situated. She is a regular attendant on the services of the Lutheran church, as was her husband. Her social position is indicated by the fact that the hospitality of the best homes of Benedict is freely accorded her.

JULIUS BLUM

Julius Blum was one of the courageous frontiersmen who dared to locate in York county in the days when it was a wild district with its lands unclaimed and its resources undeveloped. Mr. Blum has not only witnessed the wonderful transformation but has aided largely in the labors that have converted this raw country into the splendid commonwealth of today. Julius Blum was born in Posen, Germany, November 23, 1844, the son of Michael and Augusta (Warnek) Blum, who passed away while their son was in military service. Julius Blum was excused to go home to the family of brothers and sisters, and rather than re-enter the service he came to the United States in 1868, locating at Watertown, Wisconsin, for a time, and later in Clayton, Iowa, where he worked on a farm.

In 1871 he came to York county where he took up a homestead of eighty acres on section thirty-two of what is now Beaver township, built a dugout and experienced the hardships that were so well known to the pioneer. Whenever it rained the dirt on the roof of his little home crumbled down upon him, often falling on the table during a meal. In 1874 Mr. Blum bought a reaper. This was quite an investment and proved an unfortunate one, for that was the year when the grasshopper plague wrought such havoc with the crops and the reaper remained unused. In spite of adversity and misfortune of the years Mr. Blum prospered, and at one time was the owner of four hundred acres of good farm land which he has since sold to his sons. He still resides on the old place, though he is retired from active labor.

He was married to Caroline Markworth, a native of Germany, who passed away leaving a family of four children: Louis, who is married, resides in McFadden township; William, who lives in Beaver township; Herman, of Beaver township; and Augusta, deceased. Later Mr. Blum was married to the widow of Ludwig Brueggemann, whose maiden name was Sophia Wellman. She had five children by her former marriage: Alice, the wife of R. Widle, who resides in Nance county, Nebraska; Rose, who is married to Fred Goeke, of Pierce county, Nebraska; Albert, who lives in Beaver township; Tillie, the wife of William Blum, of Beaver township; and R. L., who resides in Beaver township. Mr. and Mrs. Blum are the parents of five children: Emma, the wife of Leonard Leyboldt, of Beaver township; Ed. F., who is engaged in farming in Beaver township; Clara, the wife of Adolph Pieper, of West Blue township; Hulda, who is married to John Burhoop, a resident of Seward county; and Herbert R., born January 5, 1892, who is farming the home place. A sketch of him appears elsewhere in this work.

Mr. Blum has not only become a substantial citizen who now enjoys life in rest and comfort but has also rendered service to his adopted country in times

of peace as well as in times of war. As a pioneer he contributed materially toward the upbuilding along agricultural lines and thus helped to make possible the prosperous conditions that now maintain in York county, while as a citizen he has always been loyal to American ideals and American standards.

REV. HEINRICH H. EPP

Rev. Heinrich H. Epp is a retired farmer residing in Henderson township, his home being on section 9. For many years he was closely associated with the agricultural development of this section of the state and owns a highly improved and productive farm which annually returns to him a substantial income. Mr. Epp was born in southern Russia, April 8, 1857, his parents being Heinrich and Marie (Regier) Epp, who were also natives of Russia, in which country the mother passed away. Later the father married again and in 1874 came to America, settling on the farm in York county which is now owned by his son Heinrich. He secured a tract of railroad land which he purchased for four dollars and twenty cents per acre. It was entirely undeveloped and unimproved but with characteristic energy he began to break the sod and till the fields and on his place he built a little board dwelling and a sod barn. He continued to engage in the cultivation and development of this place until his death, which occurred in 1885.

Heinrich H. Epp of this review is the only surviving member of a family of four children. He spent the period of his boyhood and youth and acquired his education in Russia and in Germany. He was but seventeen years of age when he came to the new world and he continued to make his home with his father until the latter's death. He then came into possession of the farm but has extended its boundaries from time to time by additional purchase and was once the owner of sixteen hundred and eighty acres of valuable land. Since then, however, he has given to each of his children an eighty-acre tract but still retains a valuable holding for himself. He always carried on general farming, producing the crops best adapted to soil and climatic conditions here and likewise engaged successfully in stock raising. In fact he became recognized as a very progressive agriculturist and one who at all times displayed sound business judgment. He added to his farm all modern improvements, secured the most up-to-date machinery to facilitate the work of the fields, planted a fine orchard and raised fruit of all kinds. He also became one of the stockholders of the McCloud Hotel.

In 1880 Mr. Epp was married to Miss Helena Peters, a native of Russia, who came to America in 1878 with her parents, Dietrich and Helena (Fast) Peters, who were also natives of that country. To Mr. and Mrs. Epp were born the following children: Margaret, the wife of D. J. Mierau of York county; Rev. H. D. Dietrich; Cornelius; Helen, the wife of D. P. Mierau; Marie the wife of J. K. Freisen; Jacob, who was born February 12, 1892, and died on the 4th of September following; Johann, who was born in 1894; Elizabeth, born July 19, 1896; Sarah, who was born July 24, 1898, and died January 3, 1909; and Gustav, who was born August 7, 1901, and died December 31, 1908.

In his political views Mr. Epp has been a stalwart republican since age conferred upon him the right of franchise and for several years he served as school

director. He has always been interested in everything pertaining to public welfare and progress and his cooperation has been an important element in advancing many interests for the public good. He has long been a most active worker in the Bethesda church, served as deacon for eleven years and in 1895 was ordained as a minister of the church in which he is now also serving as elder. He has always stood for those forces which make for the material, intellectual, social and moral progress of the community and has long been recognized as one of the valued and representative citizens of York county.

FRANCIS M. BRABHAM

A man of well balanced capacities and powers is always a strong character and one who inspires confidence in others: he may not have genius or any phenomenal characteristics, yet he is capable of mature judgment of his own capacities and of the people and circumstances that make up his life's contacts and experiences. What a man does and what he attains depend largely upon his opportunities, and even-paced energy will generally carry him forward to the goal of success. These thoughts are reflected in the life and work of Francis M. Brabham, born in Washington county, Ohio, June 17, 1846, now in his seventy-fifth year, living retired after the strenuous activity of a life on the farm.

His parents were John P. and Docia (Webster) Brabham, the former a native of the state of Virginia and the latter of Connecticut. Early in life they found themselves in Ohio, were married in that state and there brought up their family. In 1867 they moved to Illinois and secured a tract of land for which John P. Brabham paid eighteen dollars per acre and there, assisted by his sons, he broke the sod and cultivated the fields, finally bringing the place to a condition of excellent improvement and he and his wife there spent the remainder of their lives. Before taking to farming he had been following the trade of a cooper. Mr. and Mrs. Brabham were the parents of five children: Walter and Leonidas, both deceased; David, living in Decatur, Illinois, employed as salesman by a wholesale house; Dianthy, deceased, and Francis M., subject of this sketch. The parents were Methodists and loyal to the teachings of their denomination. He had always been an active adherent of the republican party and displayed a progressive spirit in community affairs.

Francis M. Brabham attended the public school of Ohio in the acquirement of an education and in his early youth he learned the cooper trade and also worked at farming. In 1867, being then in his twenty-first year, he accompanied his parents to Illinois and worked at farming, receiving, as he asserts, fifty cents per day for his labor. In 1871 he purchased a tract of land which he operated for some time and finally sold out, realizing a handsome profit on the investment. It was in 1882 that Mr. Brabham came to Nebraska and purchased two hundred and forty acres of school land located in Morton township, York county. He paid seven dollars per acre for the holding, proceeded to set it out to cultivation, improved and developed the tract as he went along, finally making it one of the best kept places in the township or county. His practical methods and his industry were rewarded by large crops and he gave careful attention to markets,

and thus was able to dispose of his crops and stock to good advantage. He has had numerous offers made for the farm and has refused as high as three hundred dollars an acre for it. In 1910, feeling that he had earned a period of repose, he retired from active participation in the agricultural affairs of his place, and since that date has been living in comfortable retirement in Benedict. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company at Benedict.

Mr. Brabham's marriage took place in Illinois, his bride being Rebecca Dieter, a native of Akron Heights, Ohio, and to their union two children were born: Carrie, who died at the age of three years; and Ella, wife of Fred Grobe, a York county farmer. The family are members of the Methodist church and Mr. Brabham is a staunch republican. Interested in the advancement of education, he served on the local school board for some years. He is a man of genuine worth and occupies a high place as a citizen, unstinted esteem being extended to him on all sides.

HENRY H. SHRIGLEY

For a number of years Henry H. Shrigley engaged in farming in Nebraska, and in 1914 when his death occurred in York widespread grief was experienced by his many friends. He was an Englishman by birth, born on the 14th day of February, 1862, in London, England, the son of English parents who died in his early manhood.

Henry H. Shrigley received his education in England where he resided until he was twenty years of age at which time he came to the United States, settling in Galena, Illinois. For one year he remained there working on a farm and in 1885, removed to York county and worked as a farm hand near Arborville for several months. This farm which consisted of one hundred and sixty acres he later purchased and operated for a period of years. He sold this farm but purchased a farm in South Dakota and one in western Nebraska, removing to the former where he remained for only six months, at the termination of which time he returned to York and retired from active farm life. He had bought a nice home on Blackburn avenue in 1911 and here he resided until his death which occurred on the 18th of August, 1914. At the time of his death he had acquired three hundred and twenty acres of land and was considered one of the progressive farmers of his community.

In 1889 Mr. Shrigley was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Jane Moore, a native of Hanover, Jo Daviess county, Illinois, and a daughter of William and Jane Moore, who were born in Ireland of Scotch-Irish ancestry. They came to this country in their early life and settled in Jo Daviess county, Illinois, where they died. Mrs. Shrigley was one of ten children born to them; the others living being: Mrs. Lynn, who resides in South Dakota; Mrs. Wilson of Davenport, Iowa; Mrs. Woodward of York, Nebraska; and Josiah, a farmer of Jo Daviess county, Illinois. Five other children are deceased. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Shrigley three children were born: Joseph Edward, who is assistant cashier of the City National Bank of York; Margaret Katherine, who died at the age of seven years; and Muriel, who died in infancy.

Mr. Shrigley gave his political allegiance to the republican party, and frater-

nally he was an Odd Fellow and a Woodman. He also belonged to the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Mr. Shrigley was a consistent member of the Congregational church and his widow is still active in the various activities of this church. Mrs. Shrigley is residing in the home place with her son, Edward. All that Mr. Shrigley acquired during his life was the result of his own diligence and industry and for three years prior to his death he lived in York, retired, enjoying the fruits of a successful life.

ROBERT E. BYERS

Robert E. Byers, a well known and well-to-do retired farmer and business man, who for more than forty years has been a resident of York county and in that period has been a witness to and a participant in its growth and development, is a native of Illinois, born in Putnam county, that state, in 1853. He is a son of William and Lydia Ann (Plank) Byers, both natives of Pennsylvania who later moved to Illinois, where the father followed the occupations of farming and blacksmithing. In addition to the subject of this sketch, the other members of his family were: Oella Ham, a daughter, who lived for three years in Polk county and then returned to Illinois; Emma Hilton, who lived in York county for three years and then moved to Iowa; and William, who lived in York where he taught school and is now living in Salt Lake City. The parents of these children passed away many years ago.

R. E. Byers was educated in the schools of Illinois and helped on his father's farm for some years. In 1878, being then in his twenty-fifth year, he came to Nebraska and bought land in York county on the county line, also buying a tract in Polk county two years later. His first purchase consisted of two hundred and forty acres of land, to which he later added eighty acres of railroad land, the price of the latter being seven dollars an acre. One of the holdings had a small frame house upon it and he erected another of the same description, hauling the lumber from York. As he progressed with his agricultural operations Mr. Byers added valuable improvements in the way of buildings and planted trees and set out orchards, thereby bringing his place into the front rank among farming lands in the county. For about eight years he carried on general farming and stock raising, his success being assured from the very beginning, as he brought keen judgment and business-like methods to bear upon all of his operations. At the time of his retirement from the farm in 1886 he was the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of excellent land, all of which is still his property.

When Mr. Byers retired from the farm he moved to Gresham which in that year was being organized and settled. He brought a little house from the farm to the town and placed it in a cornfield and was one of the very first settlers to reside in Gresham. From the commencement of his residence in the town he saw the great possibilities for commercial development which it offered. He established the first hardware store in Gresham, styled the Byers & Dullum Hardware Company, which was under his management for ten years. This was followed by the opening up of general merchandise stores and a drug store. Two years after starting the store he was in the elevator business with Mr. Davidson and his son. He also

for a time was a director of and a stockholder in the First National Bank of Gresham, this being an institution which he helped to organize. He retired from active participation in commercial affairs in 1910 and has since been living amid the most pleasant surroundings, honored and respected by all who know him.

In 1875, in Iowa, Mr. Byers was united in marriage to Carrie Graff, a daughter of John Graff, who immigrated to American and settled in Iowa, where his last days were spent. For many years Mr. Byers has been an active supporter of the prohibitionist cause and has lived to see his desires in that connection become a legislative fact. He served as mayor of Gresham for some years and in that representative capacity lent much dignity to the good name of the town. His religious affiliation is with the Presbyterian church, to the upkeep of which he is a liberal contributor. At different points in his career difficulties have barred his path and he has had many obstacles to overcome, but persistent energy has enabled him to work his way upward and his life proves the eternal principle that industry wins.

WILLIAM A. CHORN

William A. Chorn, deceased, was for many years a prominent farmer in Nebraska, owning land in Saline, Jefferson and York counties. He was born near Kansas City, Missouri, on the 20th of March, 1852, and died in York in August, 1909. His parents were James K. and Sarah (Russell) Chorn, the former a native of Kentucky, while the latter was born in Kansas City, Missouri. Seven children were born to this union, among them the subject of this review.

William A. Chorn was reared and received his education in Indiana, but on reaching young manhood removed to Iowa settling near Hamburg. Here he engaged in farming for some time and in 1881 was married. In 1886 he and his wife came to Nebraska and settled in Saline county where they rented land for one year. The following year he bought a farm in Jefferson county and moved on to it. The original land consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, but he soon added another one hundred and sixty acres and subsequently one hundred and twenty acres more. This farm was highly cultivated and one of the finest in the county. Mr. and Mrs. Chorn made their home here until February, 1909, when they removed to York and purchased a home. Mr. Chorn did not live long to enjoy his home, however, for he passed away in August of that year. His widow still resides there enjoying a substantial income from two hundred and forty acres of the original farm in Jefferson county.

Mr. Chorn's marriage took place in Iowa, in 1881. He was wedded to Miss Viola E. Snyder, a native of Lee county, Iowa, and the daughter of Henry and Pauline Snyder, the former born in Pennsylvania and the latter in Columbus, Ohio. For a number of years they resided in Illinois but later removed to Iowa where they died. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Chorn three sons were born: Sidney R., a ranchman in Idaho; Wallace S., automobile agent for the Paige car, in Los Angeles; and Miller H., who is engaged in the clothing business in San Francisco.

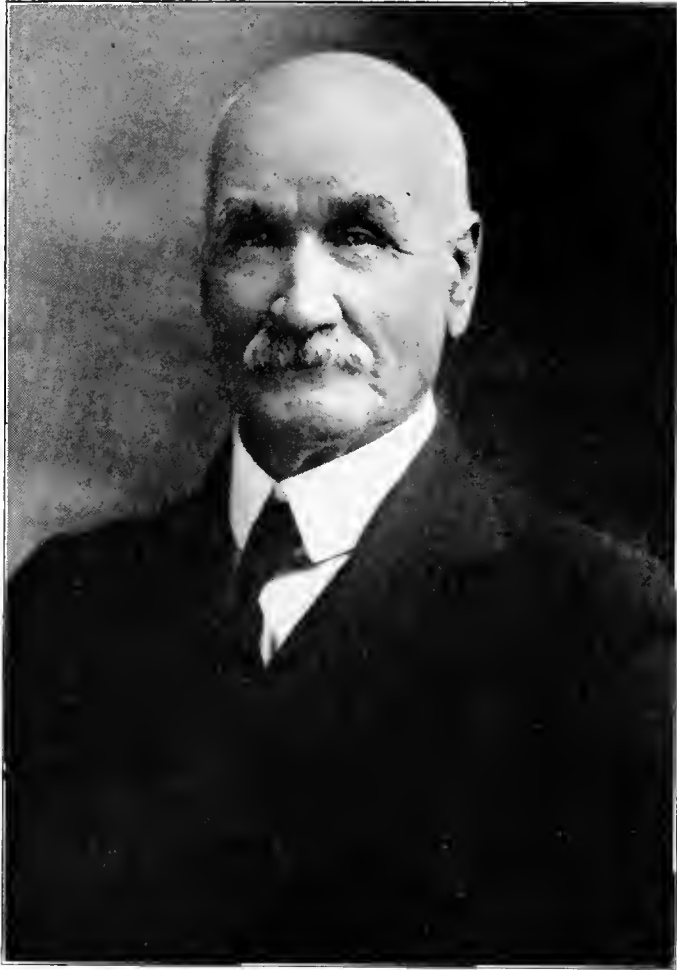
Throughout his life Mr. Chorn was a staunch supporter of the democratic party and well versed on the issues and questions of the day. He did not lightly shoulder

the responsibility of his citizenship and was ever active in the interest of his party, although he never desired nor sought public office. He was a member of the United Brethren church and a strong prohibitionist. During the early married life of Mr. and Mrs. Chorn they experienced many hardships, but later enjoyed the success of their courage and labors. Although Mr. Chorn resided in York but a short time before his death he made many and fast friends who felt a great bereavement at his demise.

SEBASTIAN GILMORE

It has been said that when a boy or a man has a nickname it is a good sign that he has friends. This is certainly true in the case of Sebastian Gilmore, familiarly known as "Boss," who was one of the pioneer homesteaders of York county. Mr. Gilmore had an uncle in Pennsylvania who was called "Boss" and this is probably where his name originated. "Boss" Gilmore was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, March 2, 1847, the son of Elias Gilmore of Virginia, who married Hulda Rush, a native of Pennsylvania, and became a resident of Livingston county, Illinois, in 1858. In 1865, accompanied by his oldest son, John Rush Gilmore, and William Taylor, Elias Gilmore left Livingston county for Nebraska, traveling overland with a team and wagon. They were delayed at Sidney, Iowa, for some weeks waiting for the ice on the Missouri river to become sufficiently strong to permit them to drive across and consequently did not arrive in York county until the latter part of December. Leaving the old freight road at the Fouse ranch they followed a dim wagon track westward along the Blue river, finding John Anderson, who was the first homesteader in York county, already located near the eastern line of the county on what is now the southwest one quarter of section two of West Blue township. Coming west they ate their Christmas dinner in camp on section six, just north of where the Knights of Pythias camp is now located.

After looking over their land they returned to Nebraska City and homesteaded their claim, January 1, 1866. Driving back to the land they made preparations for their new home. The winter was spent in a small dugout which was situated near the river and completely surrounded by Indians. They went back to Illinois the next summer and November 3, 1866, Elias Gilmore returned to Nebraska with his family, and made a permanent settlement. Their home was built by digging a cave in the side of a hill and the front built up with logs. A huge fireplace in one end of the ten by twenty-four feet dwelling was built of sod, plastered with mud and the rough boards overhead were covered with dirt. It was a wet summer, unfortunately, and the dirt roof failed to keep out the rain, so it was necessary to build a new home. Mr. Gilmore raised a good crop of barley and buckwheat, taking the latter to Camden Mills, thirty miles distant, to be ground into flour which he took to Nebraska City and sold for eleven dollars per hundred pounds. The barley was also sold there for one dollar and seventy-five cents per bushel. Lumber was purchased and brought back and the first frame house was built in York county. The building was twenty-four by fourteen with a sixteen-foot ell and the fact that it is still standing proves that it was well built. It was here that Elias Gilmore resided and successfully engaged in farming until he passed away twenty-



SEBASTIAN GILMORE

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two years ago after he had passed his eightieth milestone. Mr. and Mrs. Gilmore were the parents of the following children, and two who died in Pennsylvania: Arminda J., who resides in California; Mary C., the wife of A. J. Corey, of Fairfield, Nebraska; Sabina, the widow of Nelson Creech, of Portland, Oregon; Margaret, the widow of Asahiel Beckwith, of Livingston county, Illinois; W. C., born in Illinois, who resides in Shenandoah, Iowa; J. W., who passed away in California, where he lived with his sister, Arminda; Sebastian, of this review; and J. R., who formerly conducted a store at Blue Valley and is now a resident of California. Elias Gilmore was a member of and helped to organize the first Christian church in the county. In politics his endorsement was given to the democratic party and he was a man who kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day. It is to such men as Mr. Gilmore, men who have displayed a spirit of undaunted enterprise, that York county owes her development and progress, for they have utilized her natural resources to the best possible advantage, overcoming the hardships that must needs be theirs who make easier the way for others who are to come to a new country.

Sebastian Gilmore was a lad of nineteen years when the family came to York county and at the age of twenty-one he took up a homestead of eighty acres where he built a log house in which he lived for ten years. Later he built a large frame house and is now the owner of over four hundred acres of rich farm land. "Boss" Gilmore was a young man when the first post-office was established in that neighborhood in 1869 and he became a mail carrier, riding on a pony from Lincoln to Milford, Camden, West Mills, Beaver Crossing, Blue Valley and McFadden. "Boss" Gilmore was very successful in general farming and devoted his time to feeding cattle for several years. He was one of the very first residents in the county, there being not more than two or three who preceded him here. The privations and hardships of the pioneer are all familiar to him and he well remembers the year of the grasshopper pestilence.

Mr. Gilmore was married to Laura Randall, a native of Wisconsin, who passed away seven years ago leaving eight children, three of whom are living: Odin S., an attorney of York, Nebraska; Robert L., who practices law in Omaha, Nebraska; and Blanche, the wife of Charles Bucy, who is operating Mr. Gilmore's farm. His life has been one of continuous activity in which has been accorded due recognition of labor, and today he is numbered among the substantial citizens of his community. His interests are thoroughly identified with farming and he is at all times ready to lend his aid and cooperation to any movement calculated to benefit this section of the country or advance its development.

WINFIELD SCOTT FREEMAN

A life of industry and thrift brought to Winfield Scott Freeman a substantial measure of success, while the sterling worth of his character gained for him warm friendships and high regard. He resided for a number of years in York county and enjoyed the confidence and esteem of all who knew him. He was born in Genoa, Wisconsin, July 18, 1854, and his life record covered the intervening years to the 14th of November, 1919. He was reared and educated in Wisconsin and

when twenty-three years of age left that state and removed to Nebraska, settling in York county in 1876. Here he purchased railroad land twelve miles southwest of the city of York and this he improved and developed. There was a tiny house on this place when he bought it, and he occupied it for some time, but later built a larger residence, the lumber for which was hauled from Nebraska City. In 1911 he moved to York.

In 1878 Mr. Freeman was united in marriage in York to Miss Sophia Spindell, who was born in New Orleans, La., a daughter of William and Myra (Long) Spindell, both of whom were born and reared in Germany. Following the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Spindell they sailed for New Orleans in 1846 and there Mr. Spindell became connected with the French market, selling poultry. His death occurred in the Crescent City and there he was buried. The mother afterward came with her daughter to York county in 1876. She purchased land which she turned over to Mr. Freeman to take care of, and for a long period he was closely associated with the agricultural interests of the state. He became the owner of two hundred and forty acres, constituting a valuable and highly developed property. Mrs. Freeman still owns the same farm. He was a hard worker, his industry and capable management constituting the basis of his success.

Mr. Freeman held membership in the Christian church. His political support was given to the republican party and he took a deep interest in all matters of progressive citizenship. While he was active in politics he never sought nor desired office. He and his wife left their old home in 1911 and removed to the city of York, where he passed away, while his widow resides in a pleasant home at No. 101 Lincoln avenue. He was in very limited circumstances when he came to the west and had but fifty cents left after his marriage. His courage and determination, however, carried him steadily forward to success and he was thus able to leave his widow in very comfortable financial circumstances. He was also survived by two brothers and a sister: Adolph and Earl, both of whom live at Maywood, Nebraska; and Mrs. Ella Faling, a resident of Oregon. Coming to York county in early manhood Mr. Freeman was well known, gaining many friends during the long years of his residence in this state, so that his death was the occasion of deep and widespread regret.

GEORGE A. FRIESEN

It is said that few men possess the ability to attain success along both commercial and agricultural lines but George A. Friesen, a well known merchant of Henderson, York county, has made a creditable record in both connections. He was born in Hamilton county, Nebraska, March 28, 1888, a son of Peter B. and Magrata (Abrahams) Friesen, both natives of the southern part of Russia and who immigrated to America in 1875. Shortly after arriving in this country the parents came to Nebraska and located on a farm in Hamilton county which they operated for several years, making a splendid success of their holding. In 1912 they retired from the active labors of the farm and moved to Henderson where they are very comfortably and pleasantly situated, enjoying the esteem and regard of a wide circle of friends to whom they have endeared themselves by their simplicity of life

and unquestioned integrity. To their marriage six children were born, five of whom are living and doing well in the world's work.

George A. Friesen was reared on his father's farm in Hamilton county and was educated in the common schools of the county, later entering college in which he spent one term. He then turned his attention to farming and for several years was engaged in agricultural pursuits, applying himself with close attention to its many details and operating his holding to considerable advantage, gradually taking a front place among the younger group of successful farmers in the county. In 1916 Mr. Friesen forsook the fields for mercantile life and became associated first with the clothing business, remaining in that line for four years. He then formed a partnership with Mr. P. J. Ratzlaff in the general mercantile and clothing business in Henderson, and their combined efforts and industry have met with results of a most encouraging and satisfactory character. A reputation for integrity and straight dealing has been no small factor in their success and an increased volume of trade is constantly being accorded them. In addition to his interest in the mercantile store Mr. Friesen is the owner of forty acres of prime land located in Hamilton county, from which he derives a gratifying annual income.

Mr. Friesen was united in marriage to Miss Katie A. Friesen, a namesake but no relation and she is a daughter of John W. Friesen, of Henderson, where he is widely and popularly known. To this union four children have been born: Elsie, Lenora, Richard and Carolina. The family are members of the Batarta church at Henderson, in the work of which they take an active and helpful part. In politics he votes for progress without regard to party and his efforts are always directed toward the advancement of all projects calculated to improve the material and social welfare of the community, and in these movements he is ably supported by his wife. Mr. Friesen is chief of the fire department in Henderson and is always in readiness to do his duty in connection with this work. His name is virtually a household word and his influence on the life of the district in which he lives is far-reaching and useful in all its phases.

EDWARD F. BLUM

A successful farmer and landowner of York county is Edward F. Blum, who was born on the old homestead farm of his father, Julius Blum, of whom further mention is made on another page of this work.

Edward F. Blum was reared on a farm in York county, received his education in the public schools, and after putting his textbooks aside decided to engage in farming. In 1907 he commenced farming on his own account and is now the possessor of one hundred and sixty acres purchased from his father. This land is very well improved and Mr. Blum engages in general farming.

In early life Mr. Blum was united in marriage to Miss Anna Zwieg, a native of Beaver township and a daughter of William Zwieg, one of the earliest settlers of this township. Four children have been born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Blum: Lawrence, Victor, Alfred and Harold. Miss Ruth Brueggeman, a niece of Mrs. Blum, also makes her home with them, her mother having died when she was just a child. Mr. and Mrs. Blum take an active interest in the development and

improvement of the community in which they reside, and their land, section thirty-two, Beaver township, this county, is highly improved and cultivated. They are known to be progressive citizens and are happy in the esteem and regard of their fellowmen.

CHARLES H. BEDIENT

Charles H. Bedient, who has been living retired in Bradshaw for many years, was long and actively identified with agricultural pursuits in York county and is still the owner of four hundred and sixty acres of valuable land. His birth occurred in Lee county, Illinois, December 27, 1863, his parents being Osborn and Hannah (Marshall) Bedient, both natives of Boone county, New York state, where the former was a farmer and stock buyer.

In 1854 Osborn Bedient migrated to Illinois and was in possession of but two dollars. He went to Amboy and there prevailed on a friend to return to Mendota with a team to bring his family to Amboy. The country around was almost all in a raw prairie state and the settlers were living in log houses. Mr. Bedient commenced farming on his own account by renting land and in the absence of the necessary machinery had to plant corn by hand. After the lapse of some years his agricultural operations began to prove successful. He devoted the greater part of his time to the buying and shipping of live stock and his efforts met with satisfactory financial results. He spent the remaining years of his life in Illinois and at the date of his death, in 1916, he was eighty-four years old, having been born in 1832. His wife, who was born in 1830, passed away on June 22, 1906. They were the parents of the following children: Lewis, who lives in Lee county, Illinois; Edwin, living in Arborville; Alice, the widow of Daniel Craig, who lived in Illinois; Carrie, who married A. J. Rogers, now deceased; Eugene, a farmer, living in Illinois; Frank, who farms in York county; Charles H., the subject of this sketch; Addie A., the wife of F. J. Tewell, of Julesburg, Colorado; Edith M., the widow of William Fell, of Illinois; Fred, a farmer living in Arborville township; Grace, the wife of John Theiss, of Julesburg, Colorado; and Sarah, who died in infancy. Osborn Bedient gave his political support to the republican party, but never sought public office, preferring to devote his energies to his farming operations.

Charles H. Bedient was educated in the common schools of Illinois and was reared in his father's home, assisting in the labors of the farm during his youth and early manhood and was in his twenty-second year before he left his parents' roof. In 1887 he arrived in York county and settled in Arborville, commencing his agricultural career by renting land. He continued to rent until he had accumulated sufficient money to enable him to make a purchase of a holding for himself. This he eventually acquired and devoted his place to general farming and stock raising, his untiring energy and industry being rewarded by excellent returns. He added more land to the first purchase and is now the owner of four hundred and sixty acres of farm land, all well improved and the equal of any in his part of the county. In 1901 Mr. Bedient moved to Bradshaw, from which point he bought and shipped live stock. Apart from his farming interests he displays activity in the affairs of the Farmers State Bank, of which he was one of the organizers in 1912 and now fills the office of vice president of the institution.

Mr. Bedient has been twice married. In 1895 he was married to Tillie Ruch, who died in 1914. On November 3, 1915, he took for his second wife Mattie C. Steinberg and they are the parents of one child, Frank Osborn Bedient. Mrs. Bedient attends the services of the Christian church. He is a member of the Masonic order and of the Modern Woodmen of America, while in political affairs he gives his support to the republican party. He has held several township and city offices and served on the county board for some years. His well directed business activities have won him material success and by his upright and honorable life he has gained the warm regard and friendship of many with whom he has been brought into contact.

EMANUEL REISINGER

The agricultural development of York county is largely attributable to the efforts of such men as Emanuel Reisinger, who has now reached the venerable age of eighty years and who has for an extended period been actively engaged in farming and stock raising in York county. In addition to his agricultural pursuits he has also followed the shoemaker's trade, being so successful in all lines of work that he is now living retired in York at 317 Nebraska Avenue, enjoying the reward of his labor and diligence.

Emanuel Reisinger was born in York county, Pennsylvania, March 18, 1840, a son of John and Polly (Wyland) Reisinger, both of whom were born in Germany. They later emigrated to the United States where the father was employed as a laborer and both of them died in Pennsylvania. In the acquirement of an education Emanuel Reisinger attended the common schools of his native state and early in life learned the shoemaker's trade. He followed this trade at Marysville, Pennsylvania, until 1863, at which time he enlisted for service during the Civil war. At Carlisle, Pennsylvania, he joined Company D, One Hundred and Forty-ninth Battalion and participated in the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Northend River, Cold Harbor, and Petersburg. He was discharged at Elmyra, New York, in 1865. At the close of the war he returned to Pennsylvania and resumed his trade at Marysville. There he remained until 1875 at which time he went to Illinois, settling in Bureau county and following his trade. In 1879 he came to York county where he worked for some time as a shoemaker and in the same year purchased one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land which he moved onto and began to cultivate. The land was located in Beaver township and was entirely unimproved and he broke the ground himself, also building a small frame house and barn. He also set out an orchard and shade trees and until 1884 engaged in general farming and stock raising. In 1884 he disposed of the land, resumed his trade for a short time and in 1905 retired from active life.

In Perry county, Pennsylvania, Mr. Reisinger was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Dice, a native of Pennsylvania, and nine children have been born to them, five dying in infancy. The four children living are: F. P., who is residing in York; J. W., who is farming in York county; Millie, who is the wife of A. H. Trim, engaged in farming in York county; and Herbert, who is engaged in the shoemaking business in York.

Mr. Reisinger's political allegiance has always been given to the republican

party and it is a well known fact that he is a stalwart champion of any good cause. The duties of citizenship have not set lightly upon his shoulders and he served as a member of the county board for one term, 1887, and was a member of the city council several times. He has also taken an active interest in promoting the educational opportunities of his community and to this end was for a number of years school director. Mr. Reisinger is a consistent member of the United Evangelical church in the activities of which organization he takes a prominent part. He is well accounted one of the representative citizens of York and his worth as a man and as a citizen is widely acknowledged, for he measures up to high standards in both connections.

GEORGE J. HURLBUT

George J. Hurlbut was for many years engaged in farming on a tract of one hundred and sixty-six acres of excellent land in York county, and it was recognized that the county had lost a valued citizen when he was called to the home beyond in 1912, regret for his demise being very general. He was born at Mishawaka, Indiana, 1843, a son of Harris and Melissa Hurlbut, the former of whom was in legal practice as an attorney in that town for many years and here he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives, being among the earliest settlers in that part of the Hoosier state.

The early days of George J. Hurlbut were passed under the parental roof and he was educated in the common schools of his native town, where he also spent the first period of his young manhood. Some time later he moved to Lincoln, Illinois, and there became identified with the drug business in partnership with his brother Edward. He then moved to Charles City, Iowa, and resumed his connection with the drug trade, residing in that city for a considerable period and finally, owing to the state of his health, he moved to Nebraska in 1878. He purchased a tract of land and presently engaged in farming and stock raising in York county. The outdoor life of the farmer gave him renewed vigor and he applied himself diligently to the problems of wresting from the soil the best it could yield, and finally succeeded in getting a well-improved place around him, the holding containing one hundred and sixty-six acres of excellent land. For a considerable time his life had been one of untiring industry and perseverance, during which he was watchful of every opportunity and indication pointing toward progress. His death occurred in 1912 and was a source of grief to the large numbers of friends he had made during his residence in York county.

In 1870 Mr. Hurlbut was united in marriage to Adelaide Wilber, born in Rutland Hollow, New York, but the marriage was celebrated in Charles City, Iowa, where her husband was living at the time. They became the parents of four children: Grace, deceased, who married Frank Kibler, of California; William, engaged in the California vineyards; Myron, who farms the home place, and George, of Portland, Oregon. His widow still survives and cherishes her husband's memory, for he was most devoted to the welfare and happiness of his family. Mr. Hurlbut was a faithful member of the Methodist church, in the affairs of which he took a practical interest, as he also did in the Order of Elks. In

politics he pursued a line of independent thought and action; not being a seeker after office himself he did not countenance the mere professional politician, but believed in supporting all movements designed to advance the welfare of the community where he had made his adopted home. When the present courthouse at York was being erected he was chairman of the commission appointed to superintend the work and in this capacity gave excellent service.

MONTRAVILLE ROBBINS

Among the pioneer farmers of Nebraska was Montraville Robbins, whose death occurred in York on the 17th of March, 1917. He was born in Ohio, August 31, 1840, the son of Elijah Robbins, who came to Indiana in an early day but died in Ohio.

Montraville Robbins received his education in Indiana and when the Civil war broke out enlisted from that state in the Sixty-eighth Indiana Volunteers with whom he served for three years. He participated in many of the famous battles of that war and was wounded and captured, spending some time in a prison in Kentucky. In 1869 Mr. Robbins was married and in 1871 removed to York county, Nebraska, Hayes township, as one of the early pioneers. The fall had set in when they arrived in this state and they acquired a homestead some miles from Lincoln. There were few settlers in the vicinity and the country was in a wild and uncultivated state. Their first home was a dugout but later they succeeded in hauling some timber from Fairmont and built a frame house. This home proved to be a shelter for travelers coming from miles around and many Indians who were out on hunting expeditions stopped here for food. Game was in abundance and Mr. Robbins brought in many elk, deer and smaller game. Whenever it was necessary to replenish their supplies Mr. Robbins had to travel to Lincoln which trip took three days. In the cultivation of the land they were gratifyingly successful and here they resided until 1904, watching the growth of the community around them. In 1904 Mr. Robbins desired to retire from active farm life and he and Mrs. Robbins removed to York where they built one of the finest homes in the town. For thirteen years Mr. Robbins lived here in retirement, although he took an active interest in the affairs of his community, and his death which occurred on the 17th of March, 1917, was a sad blow to his many friends. Mr. Robbins before he died owned eight hundred acres of land which was divided after his death. He also owned four hundred and eighty acres in Hayes county. Mrs. Robbins is still living and resides in York with her son Harry. She is still in possession of the old homestead and makes frequent visits there.

Montraville Robbins married Miss Martha Sloan, a native of Dearborn county, Indiana, and a daughter of Jesse and Rebecca (Anderson) Sloan, the former born in Maryland and the latter in Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Sloan had come to Indiana in an early day but later removed to Illinois where the latter's death occurred. In 1871 Mr. Sloan removed to Nebraska and settled in York county where he homesteaded until his death. Mr. and Mrs. Robbins have become the parents of four children: Eva, who is the wife of Irvin Fuller, a farmer near McCool; Lillie, the wife of Edward Hayes who is in the United States mail service

in Omaha; Lulu, who is the wife of Charles Van Vleet, a garage man in Omaha; and Harry who resides in York with his mother.

Mr. Robbins was a staunch supporter of the republican party and of the principles for which it stands and he held many different township offices. He was a consistent member of the Baptist church and an active worker in the York G. A. R. He was in every sense of the word a self-made man. When he first started farming his only assets consisted of a team and wagon, indomitable courage and grim determination. He allowed no obstacle to obstruct his way, however, and at the time of his death was the owner of twelve hundred acres of land.

WASHINGTON C. CONKLE

For many years farming interests of York county found a worthy representative in Washington C. Conkle, now living practically retired in his home at Benedict. He was born in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, October 6, 1847, a son of Henry and Mary Jane (Whims) Conkle, natives also of the Keystone state, where the father learned the carpenter's trade and followed that line of work for several years. In 1877 Henry Conkle decided to try his fortune in the rapidly developing west and moved to Nebraska, carrying on general farming shortly after he settled. Later he moved to Holt county, and took up a homestead north of O'Neill, Nebraska, where he resumed farming operations, meeting with considerable success, and there he spent the remainder of his life. His wife passed away in Colorado in 1910, being then in her sixty-seventh year. To their marriage twelve children were born, four of whom are living: Washington C., subject of this sketch; Laure, wife of Andrew Gibson, of Wisner, Idaho; Estella, wife of Thomas Roy, of Alma, Texas; and John, living in Washington state. Henry Conkle and his wife were earnest and active members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and were ever ready to endorse plans and measures for the moral uplift of the individual or for the betterment of the community at large. In politics he voted independently.

Washington C. Conkle received his education in the public schools of Pennsylvania and remained with his parents during his boyhood and youth, engaged for some time in farm work. In 1874, being then in his twenty-seventh year, he came to Nebraska and worked on farms during the years which covered the grasshopper plague. He succeeded in accumulating sufficient money to enable him to purchase a tract of school land which he presently worked into a state of cultivation and conducted general farming and stock raising, meeting with considerable success in his agricultural operations. Finally he acquired a place of one hundred and twenty acres, all under excellent improvement, which he turned over to his son Francis E., who now carries on and directs the work on the farm. Aside from his farming interests Mr. Conkle is a stockholder and director of the Farmers Elevator at Benedict and also holds stock in the Benedict Lumber & Fuel Company. While connected with the farm he closely applied himself to the care and management of his property interests and has long ranked with the leading and representative agriculturists of his section of the state.

On October 1, 1875, Mr. Conkle was united in marriage to Isabelle Herron, a native of West Virginia, the marriage ceremony taking place in that state. The



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first house in which they lived after settling in Morton township was a sod structure and provisions had to be hauled from York. He put up a well built home in later years which is now occupied by his son. They became the parents of two children: Mina E., who died in infancy, and Francis E., farming the home place. Mrs. Conkle passed away September 12, 1920, being then in her sixty-eighth year and expressions of sympathy and regret at her death were widespread and sincere. She was a faithful member of the Methodist church. Mr. Conkle has always been identified with the democratic party and is a consistent supporter of its principles and policies. There is in his life record nothing spectacular but his career is one that places him among the substantial citizens of this part of the state of Nebraska.

FRED W. ROMSDAL

Fred W. Romsdal is one of the native sons of York county who has decided to continue as a resident thereof and operates a farm on section 10, Lockridge township. He was born in York in 1878, a son of John and Mary (Danielson) Romsdal, natives of Norway. The father was a miner by occupation and commenced working at that occupation in his native country when he was fifteen years of age. In 1869 he and his family set out for America and on reaching this country went to Calumet, Michigan, securing employment in helping to sink the Hecla and Calumet shafts in that region. Later he moved to Helena, Montana, and worked in the mines.

It was in 1870 that John Romsdal decided to come west, and making Nebraska his objective settled in York county and is credited with having erected the first log house in this part of the state. He earned money by doing freighting between Lincoln and Fairmont, and subsequently turned his attention to general farming and stock raising. He had previously acquired a tract of land which he proceeded to develop and put into cultivation. After laboring strenuously for some years he succeeded in getting his agricultural affairs into good condition, and having secured to himself a substantial competence he retired from active work in 1899, turning the conduct of the farm over to his son, Fred W. Romsdal, the subject of this sketch. For a time after his retirement Mr. Romsdal made his home in York and in 1919 moved to California. His wife died in 1902 in the sixty-fifth year of her age. They were the parents of nine children, those besides Fred W. being: Jacob, living in Iowa; Philip, in North Dakota; Charles, of Hastings, Nebraska; John, deceased; Lena, married and living at Dalton, Nebraska; Rosa, the wife of A. J. Quick, of York county; Mary, the wife of Charles Sandall, of York, and Elizabeth, wife of O. F. Quick, of Washington. The parents had religious affiliation with the United Brethren church, to the upkeep of which they were liberal contributors. He always voted an independent ticket and served two terms as a member of the board of county commissioners.

Fred W. Romsdal was reared on the home farm and his boyhood and youth were spent in the acquirement of a district school education and in helping his father in the labors of the farm. He continued along the latter line until 1899, when his father retired from active connection with the holding, and from that date has been keeping the place up to the standard to which his father had brought

it. He has effected several valuable improvements and is constantly on the alert for any contrivance that will help to improve cultivation or increase the yield of his fields. In addition to his general farming he gives special attention to the breeding of a choice strain of Poland China hogs, liberal returns from this branch rewarding his labors. His energy and practical industry have placed him in a sound financial position, and he has been immune from the risks which usually accompany a bad season.

In 1900 Mr. Romsdal was united in marriage to Miss Lucy Miller, a daughter of Oscar Miller, who took a homestead in York county in 1870 and now lives in Washington. To this union four children have been born: Cecil, Earl, John and Fred W., all living with their parents. The Romsdal family are members of the United Brethren church and are active in attendance upon its services. He holds fraternal affiliation with the Modern Woodmen of America. In political affairs he usually casts an independent vote. He was appointed to fill an unexpired term as county commissioner, and when that term was completed was re-elected and is now serving his first term. During the many years that he has been active in the affairs of York county he has done his part in bringing about the wonderful developments that have taken place. He has a wide acquaintance and a large number of personal friends.

CHARLES SIMMONS HARRISON

Charles Simmons Harrison left the impress of his individuality and ability upon the history of Nebraska in large measure. He resided for many years in York and as a minister of the gospel contributed largely to the moral progress of the state, while there was probably no one who did more to develop the horticultural interests of Nebraska than he. His life was indeed one of great activity and usefulness, winning him well deserved honor, and in his passing the most sincere sorrow was felt by all who knew him.

Charles Simmons Harrison was born in the state of New York in 1832. He pursued his education in Illinois and in early life became a resident of the middle west. It was in Huntley, Illinois, that he married Miss Charlotte Cummings, also a native of the Empire state. After his marriage he started out as a young missionary, going to Minnesota in the '50s, his duties extending over a territory of one hundred square miles in that state. He rode horseback over the entire section and engaged in missionary work there until 1862, when he returned to Huntley, Illinois, where for a short time he occupied the pulpit and was also instrumental in building a church. He next went to Union, Illinois, where he also built a church, and afterward removed to Tipton, Iowa, where he was instrumental in building three churches. At a later period he took up his abode in Earlville, Illinois, and a church edifice there stands as a monument to his untiring labor and zeal. He remained in Earlville from 1867 until 1872 and during that period built churches at Plano and at Sandwich, Illinois. At the same time he engaged in the nursery business, establishing a nursery in Earlville in 1868 and conducting it successfully in connection with his church work.

In the year 1872 Mr. Harrison left Illinois and removed to York, Nebraska,

where he was joined by his family in 1876. For a number of years he conducted excursions on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad in order to bring settlers into Nebraska, and at the same time continued preaching in York, visiting different homes until it was possible to erect a church building. He was untiring in his efforts in connection with church affairs and his influence in that direction was immeasurable. It was Mr. Harrison who induced the Burlington Railroad to donate forty acres of land in connection with the establishment of an academy, which was conducted for a number of years as a high school, while later a college took over the property and eventually the lots were divided and sold. In 1873 Mr. Harrison laid out Arborville for the Union Pacific Railroad and built a church there.

With his removal to York he brought with him his nursery stock from Earlville, Illinois, transferring it a little at a time, beginning in 1875, and in the course of years he had developed a splendid nursery, which eventually passed into the hands of his sons. All through his life Mr. Harrison conducted profitable business enterprises and yet devoted much time to the church, accomplishing great good in that connection. In 1881 he removed to Pueblo, Colorado, and built two or three churches in that state. He afterward went to Boston, Massachusetts, where he acted as financial agent to get money for the academies of the Congregational churches of Nebraska. Removing to Weeping Water, Nebraska, he was there instrumental in freeing the church from its debt during the two or three years of his residence there.

Mr. Harrison also made valuable contribution to the horticultural development of the state. He was greatly interested in fruit raising and was the author of some of the works on the subject which are still used as textbooks in different colleges throughout the United States. He probably did more to develop an interest in horticultural affairs in Nebraska than any other one man and at the time of his death was one of the best known horticulturists in the entire country. He was a large man weighing over two hundred pounds, and a man of wonderful strength. He possessed great energy and endurance and his entire life was characterized by an unflinching industry. He greatly enjoyed manual labor and it was undoubtedly this that led to his splendid physical development. In a word the interests of his life were well balanced, leading to a splendidly rounded character in the line of physical, intellectual and moral progress.

To Mr. and Mrs. Harrison were born three children, of whom two are living: Willard A., of York, who is president of the Harrison Nursery Company; and H. S., who was born in Tipton, Iowa, in 1867 and who was married in York, Nebraska, to Miss Maude Chilcote, their home being now in California, where he owns a large orange grove in which his brother, Willard A., is a partner. For the past eight years he has resided in California, while Willard retains his residence in York and manages the nursery business here. The company is now incorporated for five hundred thousand dollars, of which three hundred thousand dollars is paid up. W. A. Harrison is the president, with H. S. Harrison as vice president of the company, E. H. Smith as secretary and treasurer and Ernest Mason as sales manager. They sell their stock all over the western states and the business is one of extensive and gratifying proportions. This was the business that was established and developed through the father, who as age came upon him lost his eyesight and became almost totally deaf, yet in spite of these afflictions he prepared a book on peonies—a work that became recognized as a standard volume of its kind. A few years before his

demise he returned to Boston, Massachusetts, thinking that he would retire, but he soon began in a small way to raise plants, as indolence and idleness were utterly foreign to his nature and he could not be content without some occupation. He found this work too slow for him, however, and returned to York, where he established another nursery, which he conducted until about four years prior to his demise, when he sold the business and retired, his death occurring in February, 1919. At his passing Nebraska lost one of its valued pioneers and honored citizens. He had contributed in most notable manner to the growth and progress of the state, leaving the impress of his individuality upon its improvement and development in many ways, especially along horticultural lines, and in the work of moral advancement through his intense activity in the church.

PETER J. HUEBERT

Peter J. Huebert, one of the leading agriculturists of York county where his holdings embrace four hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, resides on section 28, Brown township. His birth occurred in York county, February 9, 1876, a son of Johann Huebert and wife, both natives of southern Russia and now living in Brown township. The parents of Johann Huebert were Peter and Katie (Peters) Huebert, both natives of Russia, where they were reared and spent all their lives. They had ten children, five of whom survive. Johann Huebert received his education in his native land where he resided for the first twenty-two years of his life and in 1874 decided to try his fortunes in the new world. In that year he immigrated to America and on coming to Nebraska located in York county, settling on a farm which he now owns and on which he has been living ever since, held in the highest esteem as a citizen and as one of the pioneer farmers who helped to bring living conditions to the present satisfactory status. He is a man of unassuming disposition and of genuine worth, and his energy in former years and his unquestioned integrity have gained for him the respect of his fellowmen. He was married in York county, to Sarah Buller, and they have become the parents of twelve children, eleven of whom are living. He supports the republican party by vote and influence.

Peter J. Huebert of this review was reared on his father's holding and secured his education in the public schools of York county, dividing his time between the schoolhouse and work on the home farm where he assisted until he became of age. He then began agricultural operations on his own account and bought a tract of land which he farmed successfully for years, employing modern methods and machinery and in the cultivation of his crops met with excellent results, annually gathering substantial harvests. As his affairs prospered he added to his original holding and is now the owner of four hundred and sixty acres of land located on section 28, Brown township, all of which he has brought to a state of splendid improvement, with good buildings and well kept fences, the whole a tribute to his untiring industry and progressive spirit, and he is generally recognized as one of the most prosperous farmers of his township.

In 1906 Mr. Huebert was united in marriage to Miss Lena Goossen, a daughter of Johann Goossen, further reference to whom is made elsewhere in this work. Mr. and

Mrs. Huebert have no children of their own but have adopted two children who bear the family name: Elma Huebert and Levi Huebert. They are members of the United Brethren church and take an active part in all church work, as they do in all community movements having for their object the welfare and advancement of the people along legitimate lines. They are widely and favorably known in their part of York county and have an extensive circle of warm friends who esteem them highly. Mr. Huebert is a republican in his political views but has never aspired to public office. He prefers to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his farming interests which are wisely and carefully directed and as the years pass he is meeting with continued success.

WILLIAM ZWIEG

William Zwieg is an example of what a poor boy with no advantages but his own determination to succeed can do if he possesses brains, perseverance, and the ability for hard work. He was born in Brandenburg, Germany, which is six hours travel from Berlin, on the 22nd of August, 1843. His father, William Zwieg, came to America in 1848, the subject of this review being then but five years of age, and settled in Dodge county, Wisconsin. Sixty-three days were spent in crossing the ocean from Hamburg to New York. In Dodge county the father purchased some good land for one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre, which he cleared and on which he built a nice home. Here he spent the remainder of his life. The mother's death occurred on August 30, 1855, just eight days after the son William was twelve years old. Mr. Zwieg passed away July 4, 1876.

William Zwieg was reared on the pioneer homestead in Wisconsin, receiving a limited education, for it was necessary for him to go to work at an early age. He was but a young man when the Civil war broke out and on the 3d of September, 1864, he enlisted in Co. E, First Wisconsin Cavalry for a period of three years, or for the duration of the war. He was mustered out July 22, 1865. He was active in several small skirmishes and was on his way to take part in the battle of Nashville when his detachment was shut off by the rebels and did not participate in the battle. He was afterwards on the battle fields of Atlanta, Chattanooga and Franklin, and never received a wound, although he saw many of his comrades shot down when they were standing but three feet from him. After the close of the war he returned to his home in Wisconsin, arriving there at three o'clock in the afternoon of July 26, 1865, and the next morning he shouldered a cradle and cut wheat all day. In the spring of 1869 he set out for Nebraska, coming to Lincoln and from there he walked to York county where he took a soldier's claim of one hundred and sixty acres and he moved onto it, thereby answering the requirements of the homestead law for five years occupancy. He hired a team, went to Lincoln for his wife and while there purchased a yoke of oxen, a cow, a second-hand wagon and a plow. He left his family in a log house on the east side of Beaver township while he returned to his claim and completed the dugout home. This was the family home for a period of two years, at the termination of which time a sod house was built. In the cultivation of his land he had good success and from his seed corn raised a plentiful crop. From Lincoln he brought

a washtub full of potatoes and cut off the ends which he planted in the ground. With no further attention his crop in the fall netted twenty-four bushel sacks of the finest potatoes he had ever seen. To sell his grain it was necessary for Mr. Zwiég to drive his yoke of oxen to Milford and Crete to the mill, and it was 1877 before the road went through and Exeter became the trading point. When Mr. Zwiég first came to York county there was not a house where the town of York now stands and he watched the wild country grow from a place with but few white inhabitants to a rich agricultural country, containing thousands of homes and scores of good towns. Mr. Zwiég is still hale and hearty and is residing on his old homestead with his son William and wife.

On September 23, 1867, Mr. Zwiég was united in marriage to Miss Augusta Schuristine, a native of Wisconsin, whose death occurred in York county, May 8, 1896. Twelve children were born to this union, seven of whom are living: Ida, who is the wife of Tom Kennedy, residing near McCook; Frank, who is engaged in blacksmithing at Blue Vale; Charles, who is farming in York county; William, who is on the old homestead; Henry, who is engaged in farming in West Blue township; Mrs. Ed. Blum of Beaver township; and Mrs. Henry Heckroat. Mrs. N. Ferguson, and Melinda who married Robert Brueggeman, are deceased. Three other children died in childhood. Mrs. Zwiég was a staunch member of the Lutheran church.

During the Civil war Mr. Zwiég left the army and went to his home to vote, casting his vote for Lincoln for his second term. He voted for the republican party until the second term of Cleveland, at which time he gave his allegiance to the democratic party. He voted for Woodrow Wilson in 1916 and is still a stalwart advocate of the party. Mr. Zwiég receives a pension of fifty dollars a month for his service during the Civil war and together with the income from his land is financially independent. The success which Mr. Zwiég has won has come to him as the reward of persistent, earnest labor, and his life illustrates what can be accomplished through individual effort, combined with persistency of purpose.

JOSEPH FOUNTAIN

Joseph Fountain, who passed away August 31, 1918, made for himself an enviable and creditable position in public regard by reason of the success he achieved in business life and by reason of the straightforward and honorable methods which he always followed. He was born in Waterford, Pennsylvania, July 22, 1843, and removed with his parents to Illinois, in which state their deaths soon afterward occurred. Mr. Fountain was then adopted and reared by another family. He made the best of such educational advantages as were offered and in 1863, at the age of twenty-one years, joined Company C, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, at Cairo, Illinois, for service during the Civil war. He enlisted December 21, 1863, and served until receiving his discharge on the 29th of May, 1866, at Houston, Texas. He participated in many skirmishes. At the close of the war he returned to Illinois where he farmed for one year, after which time he went to Glenellyn, that state, and engaged in the painting business. In 1876 he came to Nebraska and settled in York county where he bought eighty acres of land in Bradshaw town-

ship. His first home was built of sod and consisted of one room with a board floor and dirt roof. He also erected a sod barn. Mr. Fountain broke his land with a horse team. When he came to this county he made the trip from Illinois in a prairie schooner which took him five weeks. He crossed the Missouri river at Plattsmouth, thence coming direct to York county. In addition to the general cultivation of his homestead Mr. Fountain set out a large orchard which was entirely destroyed by hail. For five years he resided on his farm and then removed to Bradshaw where he engaged in painting for a period of eight years. Subsequently he came to York and engaged in the painting business with his two sons, building up a fine reputation. They had charge of that line of work in connection with many of the largest and most important buildings of York. In 1915 he went to Fergus county, Montana, where he homesteaded three hundred and twenty acres, and returned to York in 1917 because of his health. His death occurred on the 31st of August, 1918, and came as a severe loss to the community which recognized his true worth and ability.

In 1868 Mr. Fountain was united in marriage to Miss Emily Rhoads, in Aurora, Illinois, of which state Mrs. Fountain is a native. They became the parents of six children: Charles F., now deceased; Norman W., deceased; Ina J., who became the wife of Myron Hurlburt, but is now deceased; Herbert, who is engaged in the painting business in South Dakota; Rolland, also engaged in the painting business at Trinidad, Colorado; and Cora, who is the wife of Harry Martin, of Lewistown, Montana, a farmer. The Fountain family were reared in the faith of the Congregational church and Mrs. Fountain still maintains an active interest in the organization.

Mr. Fountain gave his political allegiance to the republican party and had a firm belief in the efficacy of the principles of the party as factors in good government. He held but one public office, however, and that was when he served as constable at Bradshaw. Fraternally he was a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen to which organization he had belonged for a period of twenty years, and he was also a member of G. A. R. Post No. 32, of York. Progressiveness in business and agricultural affairs brought him steadily to the front and his worth as a man and a citizen was widely recognized.

AUG REETZ

Aug Reetz, who resides on section 31, Stewart township, York county, is the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of prime land and enjoys an excellent reputation as a successful and representative agriculturist. He was born in Germany, December 17, 1867, a son of Carl and Henrietta Reetz, who also were natives of Germany and immigrated to America in 1882. On arriving in this country the family came direct to York county and in Stewart township Carl Reetz bought eighty acres of prairie land, for which he paid ten dollars per acre. Here he and his family settled and managed to live in a sod house for some time, while a dugout served for a barn to house the cattle. He broke the land and planted crops as he cleared the place, gradually bringing the holding to a condition sufficient to make it tolerable for the family to live. He also rented land in Thayer township and as his

efforts began to meet the success he deserved he purchased an additional eighty acres in Stewart township, all of which was well improved and had a fine set of buildings. Carl Reetz died December 11, 1918, at the age of eighty-seven. He was held in respect by all who knew him and was regarded as a good citizen and a skillful farmer. His widow passed away December 6, 1920, in her eighty-sixth year. There were six children born to their marriage: William, of Stewart township, a farmer; Ernestine, the wife of Otto Woodke, of Thayer; Aug, subject of this sketch; Anna, wife of Joe Rostler, of Saline county, Nebraska; Amelia, the widow of Anton Rostler, of Wilcox, Nebraska, and Albert, of York county. The parents were faithful members of the Lutheran church and were liberal subscribers to its upkeep.

Aug Reetz received his education in the schools of Germany and was fifteen years old when he accompanied his parents to America. He helped his father in the work of breaking and reclaiming the homestead and here learned the rudiments of agriculture. Later he worked on neighboring farms by the month and was paid ten dollars per month for his services, continuing in this way for two years. He is now operating one hundred and sixty acres of prime land on which he is doing general farming, producing crops that it pays to cultivate, while his live stock section is also worked on a profitable basis. His success is entirely due to his own industry and untiring efforts as he started virtually without any assistance: in fact he is a self-made man, having come to this country empty-handed, but through the opportunities here offered and his industry and good management he has gained financial independence.

Mr. Reetz lived with his parents up to the time of his marriage which took place in 1895, in that year taking for his wife Ernestine Hoffmann, a native of Nebraska. They are the parents of one son, Herbert, who lives at home. The family are members of the Lutheran church, in the good works of which they are active and practical and they have won an extensive circle of warm friends throughout the community, being recognized as people of genuine worth whose aim and influence are given on the side of right, progress and improvement. Mr. Reetz votes independently in political affairs, feeling that freedom of judgment is sometimes impaired through blind adherence to party.

AUGUST C. DREIER

August C. Dreier, a retired farmer of McCool, now deceased, was born March 26, 1855, in Germany, the son of Christian and Lena (Ebbeke) Dreier, natives of Germany who passed away in that country. When August Dreier was sixteen years of age he came to this country to escape military training, finding his way to Pennsylvania where he was employed on a farm, and later going to West Virginia where he worked one year. He came west and lived in Carroll county, Illinois, for two years, after which he came to York county, Nebraska, where he continued as a hired helper until he had saved enough to rent land for his own use. His first purchase was a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved land which he brought to a high state of cultivation. He and his young wife worked hard and



AUGUST C. DREIER

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accomplished much, and in 1911 Mr. Dreier retired and moved to McCool Junction, where he built a beautiful home.

He was married in York county, to Miss Ada S. Soelter, a native of Oakland, Garrett county, Maryland, the daughter of Lewis and Elizabeth (Tekelnburg) Soelter, natives of Germany. Mr. Dreier's father and his wife's father were school-mates in Germany, a fact which Mr. and Mrs. Dreier discovered in Maryland. To this union were born nine children: Lena, the wife of Homer Fair, of Custer county, Nebraska; Albert A., a teacher in Horton, Kansas; Bertha M., the wife of Henry Miller, of West Blue township, York county; Lillie M., the widow of Edwin Cites, who resides with her mother; Clarence, who is married to Edna DeBoer, and is a farmer in York county; Ernest, a farmer in York county; Dora, the wife of Orville Jacks, a farmer in Fillmore county; Frank, who is engaged in farming in York county; and Carl G., who is employed in the Farmers and Merchants Bank in McCool Junction. Mrs. Dreier is very proud of her twenty grandchildren.

In 1907 Mr. and Mrs. Dreier made a trip to his old home in Germany, remained there visiting for two months, and before returning home paid a visit to Berlin. Mrs. Dreier's father had often told her of the conditions and mode of living in Germany and she found that there had not been many changes since his youth. Before his death which occurred January 10, 1914, Mr. Dreier divided his property between his children. He had five eighty-acre tracts the accumulation of which was the fruit of his own toil, as he had no capital with which to begin, did not inherit a penny, and received but fifteen dollars a month at the time of his marriage.

Mr. Dreier was a member of the Lutheran church and his political endorsement was given to the democratic party, keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He was always ready to do his share for the service of the community and served as township clerk, school treasurer, and as road overseer for many years. He had the respect and good-will of all who knew him, was faithful in friendship and devoted to the welfare of the family, and his many sterling traits won for him the confidence and high regard of all with whom he came in contact.

WILLIAM H. SCHUCH

William H. Schuch, a leading farmer and stock raiser of Morton township, York county, is the owner of a compact and well kept place and is meeting with signal success in the management of his affairs. He was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, July 26, 1853, a son of Daniel and Harriet (Martin) Schuch, who were farming people in that part of the Buckeye state and there spent the remainder of their lives.

William H. Schuch was reared on his father's farm in Ohio and was educated in the common schools of his native county, at the same time helping on the home farm thereby acquiring a sound knowledge of agricultural affairs. He remained at home until he was twenty-one years old and then went to Tippecanoe county, Indiana, and worked out on farms by the month, continuing thus for four years. At the end of that period he became connected with the car shops at

Lafayette where he found employment for six years. About that time a desire to return to agriculture took hold of him and in 1886 he removed to Nebraska and settled in Lancaster county, there renting land for five years. He had in all the preceding years been making good use of his earnings and steadily saving with the view to securing a farm of his own. He then purchased one hundred and sixty acres which now comprise the home farm located on section 27, Morton township, York county, and on this place he now lives. At the time of the purchase there were a few improvements of small value on the place and one hundred and thirty acres of the sod was broken. Mr. Schoch overhauled the entire holding and made many valuable improvements, bringing the farm into the front rank in all respects. He added to the original purchase and is now the owner of two hundred acres of excellent land, all in one body, and on which he carries on general farming operations and stock raising. He gives special attention to the breeding of Shorthorn cattle, of which some fine strains are to be found on his place. He is now enjoying a substantial income from his industry and energy, and has the satisfaction of knowing that his farm is the equal in every respect of any of its size in the county.

In 1882 Mr. Schoch was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Turner and to them five children were born: Roy, now living in York; Ray, living at home; Carrie; Laura, the wife of Walter Melton, of near Charleston, Nebraska; and Guy, residing in York county. In politics he supports the democratic party and from time to time has been the incumbent of various minor offices. He and his wife hold religious affiliation with the Methodist Episcopal church in the affairs of which they take an active and helpful part. Mr. Schoch has been a resident of York county during the period of its most active development and expansion, and has been a participant in and zealous worker for that expansion for about thirty-five years, having earned the respect and esteem of countless friends and well-wishers.

JOHN SHAW

John Shaw, a prosperous and progressive farmer, owner of a compact and well-kept farm on section 10, New York township, York county, is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Newcomerstown, Tuscarawas county, Ohio, in 1854, a son of Jonathan and Carolina (Park) Shaw. His father was born in Brownsville, Pennsylvania, and the mother was a native of Newcomerstown, Ohio, and passed away at the early age of thirty-six years. Jonathan Shaw was a plasterer by occupation, having learned that trade in Pennsylvania and worked at it as an operative in Ohio. In 1858 he moved to Marion county, Iowa, and there purchased a tract of land, which he cultivated, at the same time following his trade of plasterer, and remained in that part of Iowa for fourteen years. In 1872 Jonathan Shaw came to York county and continued to work at his trade, later taking a free claim in section 10 in New York township and became actively engaged in general farming and stock raising, which in due course brought him success and profitable results. He hauled the first lumber from Lincoln and built a combination house composed of sod and frame, and here he and his family lived for several years. He was the father of six children, three of whom are living. He and his wife were members

of the Methodist church and earnest attendants on its services. He gave his political support to the republican party but was never a seeker after public office.

John Shaw was reared at home and in the acquirement of his education attended the common schools of Iowa, following which he learned the plasterer's trade from his father and having become expert under that training he plastered some of the first buildings in York, his proficiency along this line bringing his services into much demand by house builders and contractors. When he had accumulated sufficient money Mr. Shaw turned his attention to farming and purchased a tract of land on which he commenced agricultural operations, at first on a modest scale but as success attended his business-like efforts he added to his holdings and is now the owner of two hundred acres of well improved land, to the cultivation of which he devotes all his time. The success which he gained in a comparatively short time is quite unusual but amply serves to demonstrate his ability to adapt himself to a new condition and to make it pay.

Mr. Shaw has been twice married. In 1884 he was united in marriage to Esther Egley and they became the parents of three children, namely: Guy Shaw, living on a farm in Cheyenne county; Gertrude, wife of Earl Hiett, of Cheyenne county, and Grace, wife of Fred Schriener, living in Unadilla, Nebraska. Sometime after the death of his first wife Mr. Shaw was married to Hanna Denny, who became the mother of three children: Miles, living on a farm in York county; Blanche, who married Ray Bolton; and John, who lives at Kimball, Nebraska, engaged in farming. All these children are living and in comfortable circumstances, the guidance and assistance of the father being a considerable factor in shaping their welfare. Mr. Shaw casts his ballot in support of the democratic party, whose principles accord with his political beliefs. His fraternal affiliation is with the Modern Woodmen and at all times he consistently gives his influence on the side of moral advancement. He has gained many friends since coming to York county, his salient characteristics being such as never fail to command respect and win regard.

HENRY C. CITES

Henry C. Cites who is a retired farmer of York county, was born in Harrison county, Indiana, September 21, 1861, the son of Frederick Cites who was born in Holstein, Germany, and worked there at his trade of nail-making until he came to the United States in the early '50s. When President Lincoln called for volunteers Frederick Cites was one of the gallant men who answered the summons, for he enlisted in Company E, Eighty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He died from sickness in December, 1863, and was buried in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. The mother of H. C. Cites was Harriett (Swift) Cites, a native of Indiana who died when her son was but five years old.

Henry C. Cites lived with his grandmother after the death of his mother, and later made his home with F. M. Stapleton who came to York county at an early day. Mr. Cites bought a farm in Leroy township where he engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1892 when he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Hayes township, which he improved greatly, converting it to a model farm where he lived until two years ago. He then retired and moved to York where he has a nice home at 529

West Fifth street. Since taking up his residence in town Mr. Cites has sold his farm and is enjoying a well earned rest. The early days of his life were filled with hardships so well known to the pioneer farmer whose manual labor took the place of the many devices which make farm work comparatively easy today.

Mr. Cites was married in York county to Miss Janette Kingsley, a native of Harrison county, Indiana, the daughter of Absalom and Elizabeth Burns, of Indiana and Germany, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Cites are the parents of four children: Edwin Lee, now deceased, who married Miss Dreier of McCool, and became the father of Mr. Cites' only grandchild; Mabel, the wife of Frank McGregor, a farmer of Leroy township; Frank M. and Helen, who are living at home.

For twenty years after his arrival in York county Mr. Cites gave his attention so unreservedly to his farm work that he never left the county except on the occasion when he took the girl who afterwards became his wife to Fairmont to the railroad station that she might take the train to visit her people in Kansas. However, later in 1915 when leisure was permitted him, he took a trip to the Pacific coast, visiting many important places in the west, and covering over seven thousand miles.

Mr. Cites is a republican in politics. He has held many minor township offices and is now filling a vacancy by appointment on the county board of supervisors. He has a record of honesty and uprightness, always applying the Golden Rule to his dealings with business associates and neighbors, owing not a dollar to any man and content in the knowledge that he possesses sufficient wealth to care for him the rest of his days.

JOHN JACOB HUBENBECKER

John Jacob Hubenbecker, a former sailor and farmer, is now living retired at McCool Junction, York county, Nebraska. He was born in the free city of Lubeck, Germany, April 18, 1850, the son of David and Magdalena Hubenbecker who passed away in that country when he was but three years old. He was reared by relatives in the city of Hamburg, where as a boy he used to watch the sailboats passing on the canal until he became so attached to them that he decided to go to sea. When he was fourteen years old he became apprenticed to serve three years as a sailor, for which he received the sum of thirty pounds, equivalent to about forty dollars a year. He became a good sailor and was fascinated by the roving life, cruising in many waters and visiting many foreign ports, including Florida, Cuba and Havana. During the Franco-Prussian war in 1871 he was on a vessel plying on the coast of China and Japan and for forty months had his headquarters at Yokohama. On one occasion while the ship "Vicksburg" was sailing between New York and Florida a dense fog was encountered and the ship broke in two, one of the crew losing his life. Soon after this Mr. Hubenbecker gave up the life of the sailor, though he was very fond of the sea and often wished he might become the owner of a vessel. Even after he came west he thought that when he had saved five thousand dollars he would buy a ship, but when he had become prosperous and the possessor of more than that amount a friend reminded him of his often repeated wish, to which he replied, "Now I am too old." The strenuous life of the sea held its charm for him, however, and he often recounts the adventures he experienced in the days when each sailor was given ten minutes in which to dress and be on deck.

He had to furnish his own clothes and bedding and was allowed a small space for a bunk which was all he could call his own. In case of a storm or hurry call the sailors often went on deck clad only in their woolen underwear and in one instance Mr. Hubenbecker tells of his shirt being torn to pieces and blown off when he climbed the rigging during a storm.

He had a brother somewhere in America who was a stone-cutter by trade, but never succeeded in locating him. He thought of following his brother's trade but was advised that owing to his unsound lungs it would be unwise as the dust might injure his health. He went to Cleveland, Ohio, and shoveled coal in loading steamers, which meant handling from seventy-five to one hundred tons a day, for which he received the sum of one dollar and a half a day. After two years spent in this work he came to Nebraska and in the winter of 1878-9 went to McFadden township, York county, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved railroad land and engaged in agricultural pursuits there for many years. His first home was an upright board shanty which the Nebraska wind destroyed and another was built in its place with the addition of a sod roof and sod walls built around it to withstand the havoc of the wind. In 1881 the crops were good and the little home was enlarged to sixteen by twenty-four feet. Later as Mr. Hubenbecker prospered he replaced this crude structure by a frame house and added the necessary buildings of shelter for the stock. This nicely improved farm has been his home until six years ago when he moved to McCool Junction and retired from active labor. Recently he sold the tract of land that was formerly his home but still owns two hundred and forty acres of fine land, which is his proof of triumph over the hardships and privations endured as a pioneer settler.

He was married in New York city to Dorothea Stein, a native of Hessen, Darmstadt, Germany, who passed away twenty-two years ago leaving five children: Dorothea; Henry, an attorney at Sioux City, Iowa; Marie; Emma; and John, a doctor practicing at Morse Bluff, Nebraska.

Mr. Hubenbecker has during his leisure time devoted his moments to modeling a sailing vessel. It is a work of art, carefully cut out of wood with a pocket knife, with sixteen sails that appear to be filled with wind. This little ship is said to be perfect and the creation of it no doubt gave the old sailor much pleasure in the hours when he could recall his sea-going days.

Mr. Hubenbecker is a member of the Lutheran church and in politics is independent, voting for men and measures without regard to party ties. As a result of a life of perseverance and diligence he has obtained a comfortable competence, and is in a position to enjoy the remainder of his days in comfort.

ALBERT A. METZ

Albert A. Metz who is engaged in the undertaking business in York was born in Seward county on the 26th of November, 1880, the son of John and Elizabeth (Anderson) Metz, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania. In early life they came to Seward county where they met and were married, farming in that county for many years. They retired about 1905 and removed to Seward where they are now residing, he being seventy-two years of age and she sixty. When Mr. John

Metz came to Seward county he was a poor boy and he has worked his way to success practically unaided. They are consistent members of the United Brethren church and he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Three children were born to them, two of them still living, namely: Albert A., the subject of this review; and Mabel, who is the wife of Bert Kirk, an oilman of Topeka, Kansas.

Albert A. Metz received his education in the country schools of Seward county and later entered the Western Normal College at Shenandoah, Iowa. He then entered the Lincoln Business College and took a commercial course with the result that he soon obtained a position with the Deering Harvester Company. He severed connections with this firm and removed to Seward where he entered into the furniture and undertaking business with W. H. Moore, remaining for a period of five years. In 1905 he came to York and for three years was engaged in like business with Al White, at the termination of this time selling out the furniture and engaging exclusively in undertaking. In 1914 he took into partnership with him Olin Hitchcock, the firm name becoming Metz & Hitchcock, and they have a large business. When he first started in this business he took some courses in the Barnes School of Embalming in Chicago and there is no phase of the business with which he is not familiar.

In 1902 Mr. Metz was united in marriage to Miss Olga Oppenheimer who was born in Iowa and whose parents are now residing in Shenandoah, that state. Three children have been born to this union: Don, aged seventeen years, who is in school; Dorothy, aged thirteen years; and Jean, four and one-half years of age.

Mr. Metz gives his political allegiance to the republican party in which he has always been very active. For two terms he served York county as county treasurer and is county central committee-man of his party at the present time. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masons, in which he has attained the thirty-second degree; the Knights of Pythias, which he has served as past chancellor commander; the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks; Odd Fellows; Woodmen; Ben Hur and Royal Highlanders. Although the greater part of his time is devoted to business he has not forgotten that there are duties of citizenship demanding his attention and he is one of the most active members of the Rotary Club. In social affairs he and his wife are also prominent and they are members of the York Country Club.

CHARLES A. WONDERLY

Charles A. Wonderly, who has been living retired in Benedict for several years, was long and actively identified with agricultural pursuits in York county and is still the owner of a tract of valuable land. His birth occurred in Jackson Hall, Franklin county, Pennsylvania, January 27, 1843, a son of John and Anna (Mawell) Wonderly. John Wonderly was born in Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, and lived to the great age of ninety years. His wife was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and passed away in 1866, being then in her sixty-sixth year. He was reared on a farm and worked for a time in a store at Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, and later carried on a country store on his own account and served as postmaster for fifteen years. The great-grandfather on the paternal side came originally from Prussia, was a printer by trade and conducted the Lancaster County Press for forty

years, the journal at that time being one of the few papers circulated in that district. The maternal grandfather was a native of Ireland, at the time of his departure being but twelve years old. John Wonderly devoted most of his active years to mercantile pursuits. In 1854 he and his wife moved to Illinois and were among the pioneers of that period in the state, and it was there many of their children were born and reared. The children were as follows: Sarah E., now living in Jefferson, Iowa, aged eighty-five; F. M., living in Mendota, Illinois; John, Anna L. and Mary E., all died some years ago; Charles A., the subject of this sketch; Joseph P., died at the age of twelve; William H., living in Mendota, Illinois; Clara and David, both deceased; and Emma K., a widow, also living at Mendota. He was a member of the Lutheran church and his political adherence was given to the democratic party. His wife was a member of the Episcopal church, in the teachings and practices of which she was a firm believer.

Charles A. Wonderly was reared in his father's home and secured his early education in the public schools of Pennsylvania, later, on moving to Illinois, attending the Henderson Institute at Mendota for one year. He worked on the home place assisting his father and later was employed as foreman of a lumber yard at Rock Falls, Illinois, continuing his connection with the lumber business for five years. In 1879 the lure of the west attracted him to Nebraska and he settled in York county. He started farming three miles west of York and later rented land east of Benedict which he operated for fifteen years, during these years, by thrift and industry, placing himself in a position to buy a tract, and he ultimately secured a quarter section of land. He put all his energy into the development of his holding, living in the beginning of his occupancy in a sod house. Finally his practical and progressive methods bore fruit and he rapidly came to the front as one of the foremost farmers in that section of the county. He still owns the land but has in recent years retired from active participation in carrying on the affairs of the farm, is now living in comfortable surroundings in Benedict, and is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator at that place.

On December 31, 1884, Mr. Wonderly was married to Clarissa E. Gunnell, of Marston, Illinois, a daughter of John Gunnell. The marriage was celebrated at York, and has been blessed with four children: Grace E., wife of John B. Ellis, who operates the old Wonderly farm; Jennie, living at home; Mary Winifred, at home; and Robert Wayne, now six years old, also at home. Mrs. Wonderly is a member of the Methodist church and her aid and influence have always been directed for the advancement of the moral welfare of the community. Mr. Wonderly casts an independent vote and at all times his attitude has been that of a public-spirited citizen, willing to subordinate private interests to the general good and entirely free from self-seeking ambitions or the taint of cheap popularity.

JAMES WOLSTENHOLM

James Wolstenholm, who is a respected and valued resident of York county, and who now lives retired in McCool Junction, was born in Peoria county, Illinois, January 18, 1854, the son of John and Hannah (Lonsdale) Wolstenholm, mention of whom is found elsewhere.

He came to York county with the family when he was a boy and witnessed the hardships and privations that were the lot of the pioneer farmer. When he became of age he pre-empted eighty acres of land on section twenty-six of McFadden township, and his first home was like that of the early settlers, a little dugout on the side of a hill. After years of well directed effort, perseverance and hard work, he became a prosperous agriculturist and the little farm was improved and enlarged until it covered four hundred acres. A few years ago Mr. Wolstenholm sold this property and bought one hundred acres of land adjoining the town of McCool Junction, which he has improved with a new set of farm buildings making it one of the ideal country homes of the county. He rents the land and is living retired.

Mr. Wolstenholm was married September 28, 1878, in McFadden township, to Miss Mary Wullbrandt, the daughter of Charles H. and Fredericka (Hollock) Wullbrandt, early settlers of the township who have since passed away, mention of whom is made elsewhere in this review. Mr. and Mrs. Wolstenholm have become the parents of seven children: C. E., who is married, and resides in California; William, of Hayes township, York county, who is married; Elva, who lives at home; Jesse J., a resident of Hayes township, York county, who is married; Richard E., who was a soldier in the World war, now at home; Harry E., who is married and lives in Hayes township; and Mabel E., who lives at home.

Mr. Wolstenholm is interested in any project for the upbuilding of the community where he resides and has held several township offices including assessor of the county and membership on the school board. He stands today as one of the most prosperous and substantial citizens, and looking back to the days of the pioneer farmer he should have the satisfaction of feeling that he has had a part in bringing about the prosperous conditions which now prevail.

DIETRICH TEINERT

Dietrich Teinert, one of the prosperous and progressive farmers of McFadden township, York county, was born in Westphalia, Prussia, Germany, August 4, 1851, the son of Andrew and Gertrude Teinert, natives of the same place. The father died when the son was fourteen years of age. The mother died in York county, Nebraska, the same year the family located here.

Dietrich Teinert attended the public schools of his native place and as a boy was taught by his grandfather to care for milk cows, attend to crops and swing the scythe with much skill, and worked on the threshing machine, for which he received ten cents a day. He also spent ten years as a stone-cutter. When nine years old he suffered an attack of black typhoid fever which affected his hearing. It was quite annoying to him when a boy in school to have the teacher ask him a question which he did not hear and then ask him if he were dreaming. The family lived in a village and he was excused from military duty because his mother was a widow and his services were needed in the support of the family.

In 1882 Mr. Teinert and a brother-in-law, Henry Karre, came to the United States and to York county, Nebraska, where they purchased one hundred and sixty acres on section 5, McFadden township. The first year the two families occupied



DIETRICH TEINERT AND FAMILY

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the house that stood on the place but the next year Mr. Teinert erected a dwelling on his own land and this is one of the finest country homes in this part of the county. Other substantial buildings make his one of the well improved farms of the neighborhood. Mr. Teinert has given considerable attention to the raising of pure bred horses and has owned some very fine animals. He has been successful in his farming operations and is the owner of four hundred acres of land. Having shifted the active work to younger shoulders he is now living retired.

In Germany Mr. Teinert was married to Miss Marie Eddlebrook, a native of the same place as her husband, born there September 20, 1856, a daughter of William and Elizabeth Eddlebrook, who became residents of York county several years ago, and here the mother passed away while the father is living at the age of eighty-five years, making his home with Mr. and Mrs. Teinert. Mr. and Mrs. Teinert have become the parents of nine children, three of whom died in childhood. Those living are: Lizetta, the wife of Joe Shafer, residing in Missouri; Mary, who married George Shafer and lives in Minnesota; Henry, lives at home; Eda is the wife of William Stuck, living in Minnesota; Harry William, who is at home, and Anna, the wife of Clarence Foster, of York county.

Mr. Teinert was possessed of about twenty-four hundred dollars when he landed in America and the success that has come to him is the result of his own well directed efforts and perseverance. He is one of the substantial men of the county and is a good citizen and neighbor. The family are members of the Lutheran church and held in the highest esteem by all who know them.

GEORGE A. THOMPSON

George A. Thompson, deceased, was for many years a prominent farmer in York county. He was born in Green county, Wisconsin, March 24, 1862, and his death occurred on the 10th of September, 1918, in York county on his farm. He was a son of Alden B. and Mary E. Thompson, the former a native of Maine and the latter of New York state. At an early day the father removed to Wisconsin where he purchased some land and in 1873 he came to Hamilton county, Nebraska. Here he acquired a homestead where he resided for a number of years and then went to Montana where he died at the age of eighty-six years. The mother is still living and makes her home in Kalispell, Montana. She is now eighty-nine years of age. Nine children were born to this union, six of whom are living, Frank who is engaged in the hardware business at Edgar, being the only child besides George A. residing in Nebraska.

In the acquirement of an education George A. Thompson attended the district schools of Wisconsin and Hamilton county. He was reared on a farm and after putting his textbooks aside it seemed only natural that he should choose to follow that line of work. He owned a farm in Hamilton county whereon he resided for some time but in 1909 came to York county where he purchased land on which he remained until his death. He started life on practically nothing but had a strong determination and was not afraid of hard work. His land soon became some of the finest in the county and in addition to general farming he engaged extensively in cattle and stock raising. As he progressed his opportunities and advantages

increased and he gathered to himself the rewards of a well spent life. When his death occurred on the 10th of September, 1918, the community suffered a great loss.

On the 26th of November, 1891, Mr. Thompson was united in marriage to Miss Dillie Ely, a native of Monroe, Wisconsin, and a daughter of David and Mary C. (Starr) Ely. Her father was born in Green county, Wisconsin, while her mother was born in Illinois. Their marriage was celebrated in Wisconsin and the father engaged in farming in that state until 1873 when he removed to Hamilton county, Nebraska. Here he acquired a homestead and resided until 1913 when he went to Sutton in Clay county where he located and remained until his death in April, 1919. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Ely six children were born: Mrs. George A. Thompson, the widow of the subject of this review; Mrs. Fay Copsey, whose husband is a retired farmer residing in York; Thurman H., who is farming near Broken Bow; Mrs. Rose Hagemeister, who resides in Potter; Arthur G., who is a cattle man and raucher residing at Sun River, Montana; and Walter D., a farmer of Stockham and also a grain buyer and in the elevator business. The Ely family were consistent members of the Christian church and the father was a republican in politics. He was fraternally connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson became parents of two children, namely: Mary Ethel and Floyd C. Mary Ethel received her education in the country schools and later attended Sutton high school and the York college. She is now teaching in the York schools. Floyd is farming near Stockham. He obtained his education in the rural schools and later took a commercial course at York College.

Throughout his life Mr. Thompson was a staunch supporter of the republican party and fraternally was affiliated with the Woodmen. He was likewise a member of the Congregational church and his widow is still prominent in the various church activities. For one year Mrs. Thompson remained on the farm after her husband's death. At the end of that time, however, she removed to York and purchased her present home at 802 East Fifth street. During the World war Mrs. Thompson took a prominent part in the various activities of the community and her son Floyd entered into service in the fall of 1917. His branch of service was the aviation and he was stationed at both Kelly and Wright Fields. The armistice was signed before he got across and he was discharged at Montgomery, Alabama, in March, 1919.

OLIN HITCHCOCK

Among the prominent citizens of York county is Olin Hitchcock, junior partner in the undertaking firm of Metz & Hitchcock. He is a native of Shoals, Indiana, having been born in that place, May 15, 1882, a son of James F. and Dora (Beaver) Hitchcock. The father was born in Canton, Ohio, on the 15th of February, 1850, while the mother was born in Indiana, December 27, 1853. In their early life they went to Indiana where they met and were married. For some time Mr. Hitchcock engaged in farming in Martin county, Indiana, but in 1882 removed to York county where he purchased some railroad land. For thirty years he resided on this land and in 1910, desiring to retire from any kind of active life, he removed to York and here they are still living, respected and prominent citizens. On the last farm owned by Mr. Hitchcock many improvements were made and a

modern home erected, having electric lights, steam heat and other comforts of the city home. He did not sell this place until 1915. Seven children were born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock, five of whom are living, namely: Olin, the subject of this review; R. C., a traveling salesman residing in Kansas City, Nebraska; Dwight, who is with the Pacific Electric Railway Company of Los Angeles; Mrs. Wayne Soper, whose husband is principal of schools at Eagle; and Gladys, who is teaching school in York. Mr. Hitchcock is a consistent member of the United Brethren church, as is also his wife, and he is a member of the democratic party.

In the acquirement of his education Olin Hitchcock attended the public schools of York and in due time entered York college. His initial step into the business world was in 1913 when he entered the undertaking business. To prepare himself for this work he entered the Worsham School of embalming in Chicago and became familiar with every detail. In 1914 he sold out his business and entered into partnership with Mr. Metz. They have the only undertaking business in York.

On the 22nd of September, 1904, Mr. Hitchcock was married to Miss Edith M. Montsmith, who is a native of York county. Her father was Henry Montsmith, one of York county's earliest pioneers. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock two children have been born, namely: Helen V. who is eight years of age; and Ree Maribel, aged four months.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Hitchcock the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the democratic party and the principles for which it stands. He served York county as coroner for two years, from 1914-1916. When elected to this office he carried the county by three hundred votes which well demonstrated his popularity, for normally there was a republican majority of seven hundred or eight hundred. Fraternally he is a member of the Elks; Knights of Pythias; Royal Highlanders; and Odd Fellows. He and his family are members of the United Brethren church in which they take an active part and Mr. Hitchcock is regarded as a leading and progressive citizen of the community.

DIETRICH D. EPP

Dietrich D. Epp, who is successfully engaged in farming and stock raising in Henderson township, York county, was born on the 10th of June, 1884, in this county, his father being Heinrich H. Epp, who is mentioned at length on another page of this work. The son spent his youthful days under the parental roof and at the usual age began his education in the public schools, while later he spent one term as a student in a college at Newton, Kansas. During vacation periods he worked in the fields and early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. He continued at home until he had attained his majority and then began farming on his own account, taking up the work of cultivating the place upon which he now resides on section 14, Henderson township. As the years have passed he has become the owner of a valuable property, having today three hundred and twenty acres of finely improved land. He follows the most progressive methods in the cultivation of his fields and the care of his crops

and is accounted one of the representative and enterprising business men of his community.

In 1907 Mr. Epp was united in marriage to Miss Barbara Epp, who, though of the same name was not a relative. To them have been born five children: Elbert E., born April 2, 1908; W. H., born February 3, 1910; Edward H., born March 10, 1913; Arthur R., born December 5, 1915; and Elsie M., born October 30, 1918.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Epp are members of the Bethesda church of Henderson and are loyal followers of its teachings, while for its support they make generous contribution. In politics Mr. Epp is a republican and is now serving as supervisor of Henderson township. He has also filled the office of township assessor for four years and at the present time is acting as school treasurer of his district. He started out in life without financial assistance and by industry and energy has steadily worked his way upward, overcoming all difficulties and obstacles in his path and winning a place among the prosperous farmers of his section of the state.

EDWARD D. COPSEY

Edward D. Copsey, deceased, was for many years a prominent farmer of York county, and his death which occurred on the 8th of August, 1917, came as a great shock to his friends. He was born in Herkimer county, New York, in 1841, the son of John and Mary (Talbot) Copsey, both of whom were natives of England. They removed to Wisconsin before the outbreak of the Civil war and there engaged in farming. Edward Copsey, was one of their seventeen children, fourteen of whom grew to manhood and womanhood. While a boy he attended the country schools in Wisconsin receiving such education as these facilities offered.

On the outbreak of the Civil war, Edward Copsey enlisted with the Eighth Wisconsin Regiment, which was famous as the eagle regiment. At the completion of this term of enlistment, he joined a New York regiment. During the four years of the war he was engaged in active service and participated in many important battles, among them being Vicksburg, Iuka and Corinth. On receiving his discharge at the close of the war Mr. Copsey returned to Wisconsin but soon turned his face westward. He arrived in York county in 1867, securing a homestead upon which he built a log house. After spending about a year on this claim he became homesick for Wisconsin and returned to that state. In 1870, however, he again made the long trip by wagon back to York county, enlarging his farm by purchasing railroad land. He was successful in the cultivation of his land and after a few years built a frame house. During the early days of pioneering supplies were hauled from Nebraska City, a distance of about one hundred and twenty miles. In 1870 the Burlington and Missouri Railroad was built through Sutton, which furnished a market only eleven miles away. There were numerous Indians in the country in the early days, for the most part inclined to be friendly. At one time three thousand of them accompanied by a white man passed the homestead. However, the community soon became settled and civilized and after twenty-five years of hard though successful work on the farm, Mr. and Mrs. Copsey retired to York, where his death occurred. In October, 1867, Mr. Copsey was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Henderson, a daughter of David and Helen (Brown) Henderson, both natives of Scotland.

Mrs. Copsey is a sister of Robert Henderson, mention of whom is made elsewhere in this work. To this union four children were born: Fay D., who farmed until 1912 when he retired and lives in York; Nellie, the only daughter, is the wife of W. M. Welsh, who is agent for the Burlington at Central City; Robert, the third member of the family, is mentioned elsewhere in this work; and Hugh, the youngest, lives in Lincoln and is a conductor with the Burlington Railroad. Mrs. Copsey still resides in York and takes an active interest in all its affairs.

Mr. Copsey was always a staunch supporter of the republican party, and a prominent member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He was a loving husband and a kind and devoted father, who found his greatest happiness in providing for the welfare of his family. The salient traits of his character were such as won for him the highest regard and goodwill of all.

JOHN WHOLSTENHOLM

John Wholstenholm, now deceased, was born in Lancashire, England, April 27, 1828, the son of William and Martha (Aspinwall) Wholstenholm, who spent their lives in England. John Wholstenholm was reared in his native town and owing to the financial circumstances of his parents was obliged to go to work in the cotton mills at the age of eight years, where he received the sum of one shilling for his week's labor. When he reached the age of twenty-five years he had become a very capable carder but as he was an ambitious youth he was not satisfied with this sort of career, so he sailed to America in 1850, landing at New Orleans. Later he made his way to Peoria, Illinois, where he found employment on a farm, receiving thirteen dollars a month which he considered a large salary.

On August 15, 1862, he enlisted in Company K of the Seventy-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served throughout the war, taking part in many important engagements in the war in the west. He saw service at Chickasaw Bluffs, Arkansas Post, Magnolia Hills, Champion Hills, Black River Bridge, Vicksburg, Jackson, Mansfield, Kane River, Marksville, Yellow Bayou, Fort Gaines, Spanish Fort, Blakeley, Whistler Station, and was in other important skirmishes. He encountered many dangerous situations but was never wounded nor taken prisoner, though he would have sold his chances for a small consideration many times. On one occasion he was struck by a spent rifle bullet which pierced two thicknesses of his leather belt and was stopped by his cartridge box. When the war was over he received his discharge at Mobile, Alabama, July 10, 1865, and was mustered out at Springfield, Illinois.

In 1871 he came to Nebraska and filed on a claim in McFadden township, where he secured a quarter section under the laws relating to soldiers' claims under the homestead act. In 1874 his sod house was replaced by a two-story frame house which was considered a most imposing residence at that time. The new settler found no water in that locality except in the basins, but Mr. Wholstenholm foresaw this difficulty and came prepared with tools and immediately drilled a well. As neighbors began to congregate he found well drilling a paying occupation, and many of the best farm wells in this region are the result of his labors. At that time Lincoln was the nearest trading post for the people of this vicinity and as it was fifty miles

distant going to market was an inconvenient undertaking. There were no roads on the prairie and on one occasion when the neighbors had exhausted their supply of flour, Mr. Wholstenholm started for the mill which was about eight miles distant, to get more flour, and lost his way and as the sun was hidden by clouds he became confused as to the directions. Three days passed before he returned with four sacks of flour, during which time the neighbors lived on crushed corn, and his coming was the event of a demonstration of joy. He relates that when the settlers were coming in rapidly and the land was being taken correspondingly fast he started for Fairmont one morning to do some trading, taking the usual path, and before he had noticed anything unusual about the path he had driven across an elevation on the ground which proved to be the dugout home of a newcomer. The man came out and talked to him, saying that he had lived there for two weeks in his little cave covered with a roof of sod. Mr. Wholstenholm remained on his homestead converting it into a splendid farm home, adding one hundred and sixty acres to the property which he later divided between his two sons.

Mr. Wholstenholm was married to Miss Hannah Lonsdale, who was born in his native town in England. She was the daughter of Thomas and Helen (Halsted) Lonsdale, and passed away in 1875. Mr. Wholstenholm later married Mrs. Hannah Ramsden who has since passed away. Of his eight children, four are living: James, of McCool Junction; Miles, a farmer in West Blue township, York county; Ellen, the wife of Charles Prescott, who resides at Merna, Nebraska; and Alice, the wife of C. E. Seeger, of Merna, Nebraska.

Mr. Wholstenholm took much interest in the Grand Army of the Republic Post at Lushton, of which he was a member. In politics he was independent, voting for the men he considered best qualified to fill the offices, and for the measures he deemed most wise. After many years of active life on the farm he retired and moved to McCool Junction where his death occurred in March, 1899.

Mr. Wholstenholm was a man who never allowed obstacles nor difficulties to discourage nor deter him, but regarded them as an impetus for renewed effort on his part, and as the years passed his progress continued until at the time of his death he was one of the most prosperous and prominent men in the county, with a host of friends who regarded him as a man of sterling worth and splendid principles.

NELS B. SWANSON

Nels B. Swanson, one of the early settlers in York county has by his own efforts become one of the prosperous residents in York, where he lives retired. He was born in Sweden, March 4, 1848, the son of Swan Nelson and Kauer Jepson Nelson who owned a little farm in the old country where he spent his youthful days and helped with the farm work.

In 1871 he came to the United States making his way to Johnson county where he found employment on a farm and later rented land and farmed there and in Henderson county, Illinois. In 1879 he came to York county, Nebraska, and bought eighty acres of raw land where the town of Charleston is now located. Here he built a sod house with a board roof, which, after it was whitewashed and plastered, made a very comfortable little home. When the Northwestern railroad was

built he sold a portion of his land to the townsite company, keeping the land in section seventeen, Baker township, which he improved and made one of the best farms in the county. Here he engaged successfully in farming his two hundred and forty acres until eleven years ago, when he retired and moved to York where he has a comfortable home at 827 West Fourth street. Besides this property he still owns his farm of two hundred and forty acres.

On October 6, 1877, he was married to Miss Carrie Pierson who was born in Sweden, October 24, 1849. To them were born the following children: Alma, the wife of Claude Swanson who operates his father-in-law's farm; Hulda, who is a clerk at the Middlebrook store at York; Selma and Oscar who have passed away; Mabel, who is a teacher in Lincoln; Viola, the wife of Arthur W. Thompson, a noted auctioneer of York; and Clara, who is teaching at Shickley, Nebraska.

In politics Mr. Swanson is not bound to any party but votes for men and measures, taking into consideration the qualifications of the men and the advisability of the measures. He is always willing to do all he can for the service and betterment of his community and has served on the county board of supervisors and on the school board for several years. Mr. Swanson may well be proud of the success he has gained, for he has risen entirely by his own effort, having but two dollars and a half when he landed in this country. His progress and the success he has earned should serve to encourage others, for his life has proved that his prosperity is the result of individual effort and ability.

SIMEON STARK

Simeon Stark, a well known farmer of York county, residing on section 4, Bradshaw township, now owns two hundred and eighty acres of valuable farming land and enjoys an excellent reputation as a successful and representative agriculturist. He was born in Boone county, Iowa, November 24, 1856, a son of Jesse Stark and wife, the former a native of Indiana.

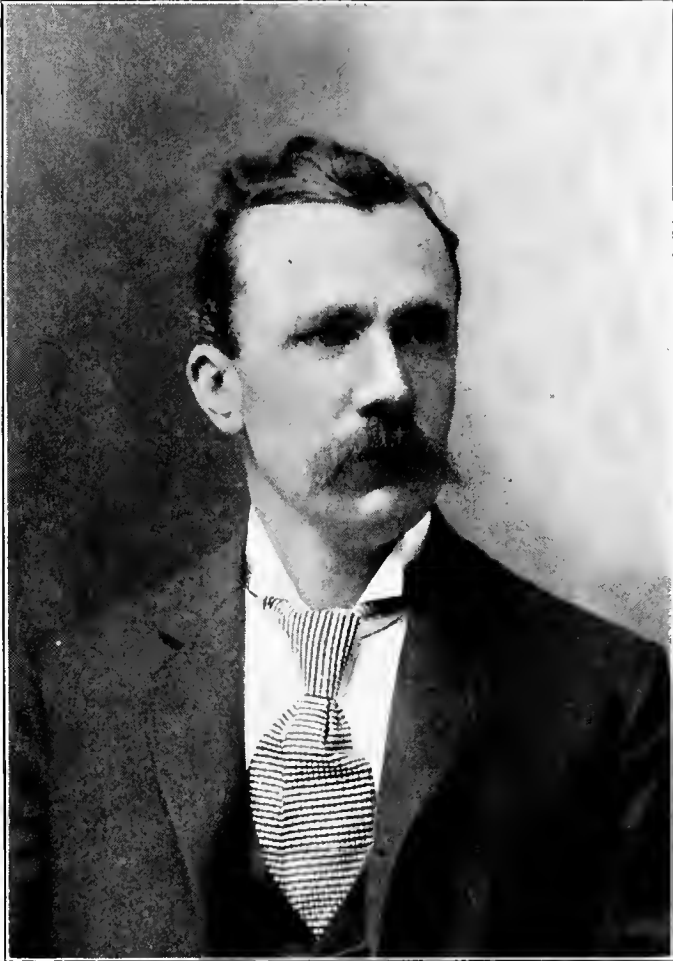
The father was one of the early settlers of Iowa, where he was reared and educated and spent many years of his active life engaged in farming. In 1875 he left Iowa and made the journey to Nebraska accompanied by the members of his family, coming straight to York county and settling in Arborville township, where he rented land for two years. In 1877 Mr. Stark acquired a holding of his own on section 4, Bradshaw township, consisting of eighty acres, for which he paid about six hundred dollars. There was a sod house upon the ground, part of which was broken for tillage, and there he continued to reside for about fifteen years during this period improving and developing the place with satisfactory financial results. In 1890 he moved to Frontier county and bought a homestead on which he resided for the remainder of his life, his death occurring in March, 1910, at the age of seventy-seven years. He married Winnie Mitchell and they became the parents of thirteen children, eight sons and five daughters, and eight of these children are living. Mrs. Winnie Stark passed away in March, 1919, having then reached the age of ninety years. They were very worthy people, esteemed by all who knew them, no less for their homely virtues than for their stability and uprightness of character.

Simeon Stark was reared on his father's farm in Iowa and there assisted in the work during his boyhood and youthful days. His opportunity for securing an education was very limited as the school term at that date did not last more than three months, but he availed himself of the advantages such as they were. In 1875 he accompanied his parents to York county and remained on the home place until he was twenty-one years old when he began to work out on neighboring farms at seventeen dollars a month, so continuing for two years. He saved enough money to buy a team of horses, a wagon and a plow, and then began work on his own account by renting land, his industry and energy being rewarded at the end of four years with a large measure of success. The favorable results of his renting operations induced Mr. Stark to purchase forty acres of land which he still owns. He secured this tract by making an initial payment of only forty dollars, the purchase conditions calling for seven dollars an acre, which was then the standard price for railroad land. There was a sod house already on the place and he lived on the holding for twelve months, "baching" it during that period. He then bought another forty acres on which fine buildings now stand, first putting up a sod house, which he later replaced by a small frame. He is now the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of most productive land, all well improved, having two fine sets of buildings and trees scattered over the entire acreage. His crops have been uniformly successful and in the raising and marketing of stock he has had equally satisfactory results. He has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and everything about his place indicates careful supervision and progressive methods.

On September 1, 1881, Mr. Stark was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth C. Lockwood and they have become the parents of eight children: William Lester; Winnie F., the wife of J. C. Gray; Simeon L.; Dora Elizabeth; Wesley E.; Viola, the wife of Elmer Cash; Millie A.; and Harold L., who died at the age of five. Mr. Stark is a member of the First Baptist church of York and in politics gives his support to the democratic party, without seeking or desiring public office. He and his wife are actuated by a spirit of progress and enterprise in all they undertake and their interest deeply centers in those affairs which promise to upbuild and develop further the section of the state in which they live.

OTTO E. EVANS

Otto E. Evans is now living retired in York but for many years was active along commercial and industrial lines and also for some time filled public office. He was born in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, November 2, 1865, and is a son of E. N. and Eliza (Dorr) Evans, both of whom were natives of Maine, and they were married there, having removed to that state in 1849. The father engaged in the lumber business there and was connected with three or four sawmill enterprises of the state, successfully conducting his business affairs. He came to Nebraska in April, 1879, and settling in York was engaged in the lumber business for a time but retired soon after his removal to this state, spending his remaining days in the enjoyment of well earned rest. He passed away in 1906 in the faith of the Presbyterian church, in which he had long been a consistent member and active worker. In politics he was a republican and served on the village board in North York and



OTTO E. EVANS

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was also active in consolidating the two towns of York and North York. To him and his wife were born three children, of whom one died in infancy, while Fred passed away in 1898.

The surviving member of the family is Otto E. Evans of this review, who pursued his education in the schools of York and in the Methodist Seminary of this city. He started out in the business world as a clerk in the store of his uncle and for a time was employed in a bank. He afterward worked in the office of the county clerk and county recorder and later conducted a paint and wall paper business in York. He is an expert mechanical draftsman and followed the business for a number of years. His father was also a mechanical engineer of some note and Otto E. Evans took up drawing soon after completing his public school education. He is now living a retired life and for some time has engaged in no active business pursuit. At present he is erecting a beautiful home at No. 2209 Lincoln avenue and the success he has attained enables him to supply himself with all of the comforts and conveniences of life.

Mr. Evans is an attendant on the Presbyterian church. He belongs to the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, his membership being in York Lodge No. 1024, and in politics he is a republican who for eight or ten years served as a member of the city council. He is republican committee-man from the second ward and does everything in his power to promote the success of his party and secure the adoption of its principles. He belongs to the Country Club and is popular in its membership. Throughout the period of his residence in Nebraska he has been an earnest champion of the city and county in which he resides and at all times his aid and cooperation can be counted upon to promote measures for the general good.

HENRY C. GRAVES

Among the alert and enterprising business men of York is Henry C. Graves, who is one of the largest real estate men in the county. The greater part of his life has been spent in this connection and his success indicates the keenness of his sagacity and the soundness of his business opinions.

Henry C. Graves was born two and one-half miles east of Arborville, on the 6th of April, 1890, a son of Dan and Martha H. (Loomer) Graves, the former born in Vermont in 1841, while the latter was born in Illinois in 1846. The mother is still living and resides in York but Mr. Graves died July 27, 1917. In early manhood Dan Graves removed to Illinois and there met and married his wife. In the early sixties they came to York county where they acquired a homestead on which they built a sod house and resided there for fifteen years. The country was in a somewhat wild and uncultivated state and the wild geese were so numerous that they would eat the oats as they were put into the ground. Indians were also numerous but for the most part of friendly disposition, and would often stop at the Graves house on their hunting expeditions for food and warmth. Dan Graves was always a staunch supporter of the democratic party and held a number of local offices in Arborville. During the years of his residence on the farm he was head of District School No. 66, and was a strong advocate of education. When he later went to

York to live he did his part in the building of the courthouse with the understanding that no saloons were to be allowed in York within a period of twenty years. He was also a prominent man in financial circles being a stockholder in the York Bank and a director in the bank at Polk. It was about 1905 that he retired from active business life and his death occurred in Bailey's Sanitarium at Lincoln. He had always been a large landowner and at the time of his death was in possession of two sections of land in York county, a large number of acres in California, and some city property in Lincoln. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Graves, five of whom are still living: Myra, the wife of Edward Koon, a real estate man in York; Nora, who married H. J. Clarke, a dealer in tombstones in Omaha; Daniel, residing on the farm homesteaded by his father; Mable, who is the wife of Moses Keahler, a farmer near York; and Henry C., whose name heads this review. The family were reared in the Congregational faith, and the father, Dan Graves, was a leader in the activities of that organization. Mrs. Graves is still residing in York at the advanced age of seventy-four years.

In the acquirement of his education Henry C. Graves attended District School, No. 66, and in due time entered the Kearney Military Academy, from which institution he was graduated in 1906. He then entered the state agricultural school at Lincoln where he remained for one year, at the termination of which time he engaged in farming for a period of seven years. On the 11th of August, 1913, he removed to York and built a garage. He ran this business for five years, selling Cadillac, Chandler and Nash cars. On the 15th of September, 1918, he sold this business but continued to manage it for one year after the sale. He had been very successful in this business but it was not the line of work in which he wished to continue. His next venture was in the real estate business and while it is mostly general he does some emigration business in Colorado and western Nebraska. He is perhaps one of the biggest landowners in the county having thirty-one hundred acres in Colorado, two hundred acres in York, and his home at 316 East Ninth street. He also owns one-fourth of a section in Perkins county.

In 1908 Mr. Graves was united in marriage to Miss Nettie E. Tewell, a native of Arborville and a daughter of Jordan Tewell. When Mr. Tewell first settled in York he worked for a Mr. Grover a while and then decided to go into business on his own account. He ran stores at Arborville and Polk and is now living retired and well-to-do in Julesburg, Colorado.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Graves the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the democratic party and is well versed on all the issues and questions of the day. His fraternal affiliation is with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and he is a member of the Baptist church. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Graves is one of the finest in York and is noted for its hospitality.

RICHARD PRYCE

Richard Pryce, deceased, an honored pioneer of the west in the 60's, was during the latter part of his life a prominent factor in the advancement of the business interests and development of this section of the country. Mr. Pryce was born in Montgomeryshire, North Wales, February 5, 1837, and died at his home near

Thayer, Nebraska, February 4, 1920, being eighty-three years old lacking one day. He came to America with his parents in 1845 and the family settled on a piece of government land in Wisconsin, where the parents made their home for the rest of their lives.

Richard Pryce crossed the plains in the early days, starting from Nebraska City and driving five yoke of oxen through to Denver, Colorado. There were sixty wagons in the train and nearly five hundred head of oxen and cattle, and the journey was a slow and perilous one, in which they covered about twenty miles a day. He afterwards made the trip by rail and lived to see the automobile and aeroplane in successful operation. He remarked a short time before his death that he had lived to see all the modern methods of travel and transportation, none of which was in use when his father was a boy. In 1882 Mr. Pryce bought a tract of railroad land in Thayer township which by unremitting toil he developed into a well arranged and productive farm, building thereon a commodious home which he occupied until the time of his death. He became the owner of five hundred acres of fine land which he acquired at the moderate figure of seven and one-half dollars per acre. He made many valuable improvements on his holdings and his general farming and stock raising were conducted with success, while his diligence and determination brought him prominently to the front in connection with the line of his chosen occupation. He was regarded by all who knew him as a man of strict integrity and sterling honesty. He was of kindly spirit and generous disposition toward all with whom he came in contact and was liked by all. It fell to his lot to experience many phases of pioneer and frontier life and he made liberal contributions of strength and wisdom to the development of the great west. He stood in the front rank of those who planted civilization in this part of Nebraska and was particularly active in the growth of York county. Although an ardent supporter of the republican party he never aspired to public office, preferring to devote his time to his agricultural interests, but at the same time he never neglected to use his influence to advance any movement intended to promote the social and material welfare of the county.

In 1867 Mr. Pryce was united in marriage to Miss Martha George, also a native of Wales, and to their union five children were born, one of whom died in infancy. The surviving members of the family are: Russel, who lives on the home farm; Mrs. Malissa Hattel, who lives near Thayer; Albert J., also living near Thayer; and Mrs. Carrie Harris, of Stromsburg, Nebraska; also a foster-daughter, Miss Grace Pryce, who had been a member of the family since childhood. One sister survived Mr. Pryce—Mrs. Bartlett of Attica, Wisconsin, who passed away in March, 1920. At the time of Mr. Pryce's death he had seventeen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Mrs. Pryce passed away February 6, 1912, to the deep sorrow of her family to whom her domestic virtues and noble character had ever been sources of abiding love and veneration.

Russel Pryce, the eldest of the children, now owns the old homestead of two hundred and forty acres. He had always lived on the home farm during his father's lifetime, and was a great help from young manhood in carrying on the affairs of the holding. In his father's declining years he practically relieved him of all business cares and is now proving himself a worthy successor, having long since established a reputation as an experienced agriculturist. Albert L. Pryce, the second son, remained on the home farm until 1908, when he moved to the other

part of his father's estate consisting of two hundred and eighty acres located in Stewart township and there makes his home. He married Margaret Hoffer and they became the parents of ten children, of whom nine are living, one having died in infancy. Following the lead of their father, Russel and Albert Pryce give undivided support to the republican party.

JAMES N. PLUMB, M. D.

For twenty years Dr. James N. Plumb has been practicing in York and in that time has built up a large and steadily increasing practice. He is a native son of Nebraska, born in Rulo in 1868. His parents, Lewis and Mary (Schaff) Plumb, were natives of Ohio and were married in that state. The father was a carpenter by trade and for some time ran a lumber-yard and continued his carpentering, becoming very successful in both lines. During the Civil war Mr. Plumb served in the provost marshal's office at Camp Chase and his wife was in charge of the prison camp dining-room. It was during the war that Jacob Schaff, the father of Mary Schaff, went to Nebraska. He was born in Somerset county, Turkeyfoot township, Pennsylvania, but at an early day removed to Ohio. When he left for Nebraska Mr. Plumb gave him some money with which to purchase some land for him with the result that at the close of the war Mr. and Mrs. Plumb removed to this state. That was in the year 1866 and they settled in Richardson county taking up the cultivation of their land. Two children were born to this union: Perry E., who was a physician at Gothenburg, Nebraska, and died at the age of forty-five years; and James N., the subject of this review. The mother died in 1891 and Mr. Plumb was again married, this time to Mary Simpson. He was a member of the republican party and of the Methodist Episcopal church. James Plumb, the grandfather of the subject of this review, followed the carpenter's trade in Ohio and died as the result of a fall from the top of a house he was razing. Grandfather Schaff was a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, and was well known throughout Richardson county which he represented one term in the state legislature.

Dr. James N. Plumb acquired his education in the schools of Rulo and in due time entered York College. For two years he attended the University of Nebraska and then entered the medical department of the University of Iowa at Iowa City where he remained for one year. At the termination of this period he enrolled in the Rush Medical College and was graduated therefrom with the degree of M. D., in 1891. Establishing himself in Fairmont, Nebraska, he began his practice and remained there for ten years. His success was insured from the beginning and he built up a very large practice. He gave up his practice there in 1901, however, and removed to York, determining to retire from general practice and to specialize in eye, ear, nose and throat. In this special line of work he is recognized as one of the finest specialists in the county. About every two years he takes post-graduate work at the Polyclinic at Chicago, his last course having been in 1918. Although the greater part of his time is devoted to his profession he is interested in the financial circles of York, being a stockholder in the City National Bank and a director in the City National Trust Company.

In 1899 at Fairmont, occurred the marriage of Dr. Plumb and Miss Ella Graves. She was born near Winnebago, Illinois, and was the daughter of Noble and Betsy B. (Beecher) Graves. Her parents came to York county in 1871 and acquired a homestead southwest of Bradshaw. In their later life they removed to York where Mr. Graves' death occurred in 1879 and she passed away in 1893. Mr. Graves served in the Civil war, and the G. A. R. post at Bradshaw is named in honor of him. Dr. and Mrs. Plumb have become parents of three daughters: Helen who is the wife of W. R. Ward, a farmer near Overton; Florence, who is engaged in teaching; and Elmor, who is in school. The two elder daughters were graduates of the Wesleyan University at Lincoln and Helen also graduated from the Omaha Methodist Hospital as nurse.

Dr. Plumb gives his allegiance to the republican party in the interests of which he takes an active part, although he has never sought nor desired public office. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Highlanders, the Odd Fellows, and the Ancient Order of United Workmen and holds chairs in all three orders. Dr. and Mrs. Plumb are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and active in that organization. He has built up a large practice and ranks high among the men of his profession.

THOMAS ELWOOD DOAN

Thomas Elwood Doan is one of the few men now living in York county who came to this part of Nebraska in the spring of 1868. In the fifty-two intervening years he has been a witness to the wonderful transformation which the prairie soil underwent—converting the district from a state of nonproduction to one of well tilled fields and abundant crops and side by side with this evolution was the increase year by year of the population. Mr. Doan passed through the scourge of the grasshopper invasion, the blizzards and the droughts and he is one of the men who has lived through all the hardships of a new country settlement, faithfully performing his part of the tasks necessary to bringing about a settled and contented civilization.

Thomas Elwood Doan was born in Henry county, Iowa, June 19, 1853, and educated in the schools of York county. In 1858 his father moved to Linn county, Kansas, and settled on a tract of government land on which he continued to reside until 1861, when he returned to Iowa owing to war conditions then existing in Kansas. He remained in Henry county, Iowa, for a further period of six years and in 1867 went to Council Bluffs, going thence in the spring of 1868 to York county where he settled in Stewart township and took up a tract of eighty acres of government land located on section 26. Here he erected a log cabin in which he lived for several years. On taking possession of the holding he immediately began to get the place into productive condition and after the lapse of a few years had effected many substantial improvements. He died at the age of seventy-three years while living in Nuckolls county, whither he had gone to reside some years before.

Thomas E. Doan was fifteen years old when he accompanied his father to York county, other members of the family driving two yoke of oxen while he walked

nearly all the way driving two milch cows. His school days were spent in a log schoolhouse which stood on land owned by his uncle, Newton Hyatt, and in those days everything in connection with educational facilities and equipment was of the most primitive character. Mr. Doan assisted his father in the agricultural operations of the home farm, continuing in this line until he was twenty-one years old when he went to Iowa and worked for an uncle at shucking corn. At the end of a year he returned to York county and worked out on farms by the month, after which he bought a team and began to farm on his own account by renting land, during this period saving all his available money to enable him to purchase a holding of his own. In the early days he had to haul grain and other produce to Lincoln and Nebraska City for marketing, returning from each trip with necessary supplies for home and farm. In 1890 Mr. Doan found himself in a position to buy a farm of his own and secured a tract on section 22, Stewart township, on which he now resides. As he prospered in his farming work he was enabled to add to his holding and is now the owner of two hundred acres of prime land, a large part of which is given over to the cultivation of grain. He also raises a fine grade of hogs for which he finds a ready market at good prices. The property yields him a gratifying annual income and he has long been numbered among the representative agriculturists and substantial citizens of the county.

In 1880 Mr. Doan was united in marriage to Miss Ella Hendrickson and they have become the parents of the following children: Alice, the wife of Roy Rogers; Ellen, who married Tanney Blount; Elmer; Maude, living at home; Clark; Louie; and Arthur and Mabel, deceased.

Mr. Doan is a staunch republican, having supported the men and measures of that party since he was entitled to exercise the franchise. He has given active support to the cause of education along practical lines and has served as school treasurer of his district for several years. He has witnessed the development of this section of the state from pioneer times to the present and has borne his share in the work of progress and improvement, while in the conduct of his private business interests he has always manifested the sterling traits of character which have won him the high regard and esteem of his fellow citizens.

THOMAS CURRAN

Thomas Curran, owner and editor of the Daily News of York, has devoted practically his entire life to newspaper work. He is a native of Ireland, born in county Donegal, on the 16th of November, 1872, a son of Thomas and Mary (Heekin) Curran, both of Irish birth and ancestry. The father engaged in farming throughout his life and they were both consistent members of the Catholic church. Eight children were born to this union, six of whom are still living, Thomas Curran, the subject of this review, being the youngest. Both parents died when he was just a lad and at an early age he began to shoulder responsibility.

The education of Thomas Curran was obtained in the schools of his native country, and upon hearing of the wonderful opportunities offered here he determined to leave his native land, with the result that in 1888 he came to Nebraska and has resided in this state ever since. He established himself in Lincoln and his

first employment was as an apprentice on the Lincoln News. He worked for this paper for nine years, at the termination of which time he removed to Fremont obtaining employment on the Tribune. During the five years of his work on this paper he learned book manufacturing with the result that in 1902 he came to York and started the York Blank Book Company, running it as a printing establishment. Some time later he established the Daily News and in 1916 purchased the Times, consolidating the two papers under the name of the News-Times, which is the only daily paper in York. In connection with his newspaper he has a complete manufacturing plant, one of the best between Omaha and Denver.

In 1897 Mr. Curran was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Menlove, a native of Lincoln, and to them seven children have been born, six of whom are living; Edward and Thomas A. are engaged in business with their father; and Frank, Bessie, James, and Nellie are all attending school. Stella was drowned in the city park in 1912.

Mr. Curran gives his allegiance to the republican party and fraternally is a Knight of Columbus and an Elk. Mr. and Mrs. Curran and family are also members of the Catholic church. It has always been the habit of Mr. Curran to give strict attention to his newspaper interests and it is this spirit of thoroughness and fidelity which has constituted one of the basic elements of his progress and success since he started out in life on his own account when but a boy.

ERWIN EUGENE LINCOLN

Erwin Eugene Lincoln is a relative of the immortal Abraham Lincoln, and is numbered among the prominent and successful merchants of McCool where he conducts the leading hardware and furniture store in the town. He was born in Canton, New York, April 27, 1857, the son of Myron and Sylvia A. (Page) Lincoln, natives of New Hampshire and Vermont, respectively. His father moved to New York at an early age and later went to Grundy county, Illinois, in 1857, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits for many years. He passed away in Streator, Illinois, in 1874, and his wife's demise occurred about five years ago. Erwin Lincoln grew to manhood in Illinois and was educated in the public schools there.

At the age of sixteen he moved to Streator, Illinois, with his parents and began an independent career as a teamster. Later he entered a partnership with his brother-in-law, buying a farm and engaging in its cultivation until 1877 when he made a trip to Nebraska, and spent the two following years farming some leased school land in York county. In 1888 he located at McCool where he worked in an elevator for a few months and later conducted a butcher shop before he entered upon the successful business career that has been his. He purchased one-half interest in a hardware store and went into business under the firm name of Lincoln & Grier, where he prospered to such an extent as to be able to buy out his partner's share of the business within a year. For twenty years he was the leading hardware, furniture and implement dealer in the town, and at the end of that time retired from business for a few years. Four years ago he again purchased the business and since that time has enjoyed a large trade and a flourishing business.

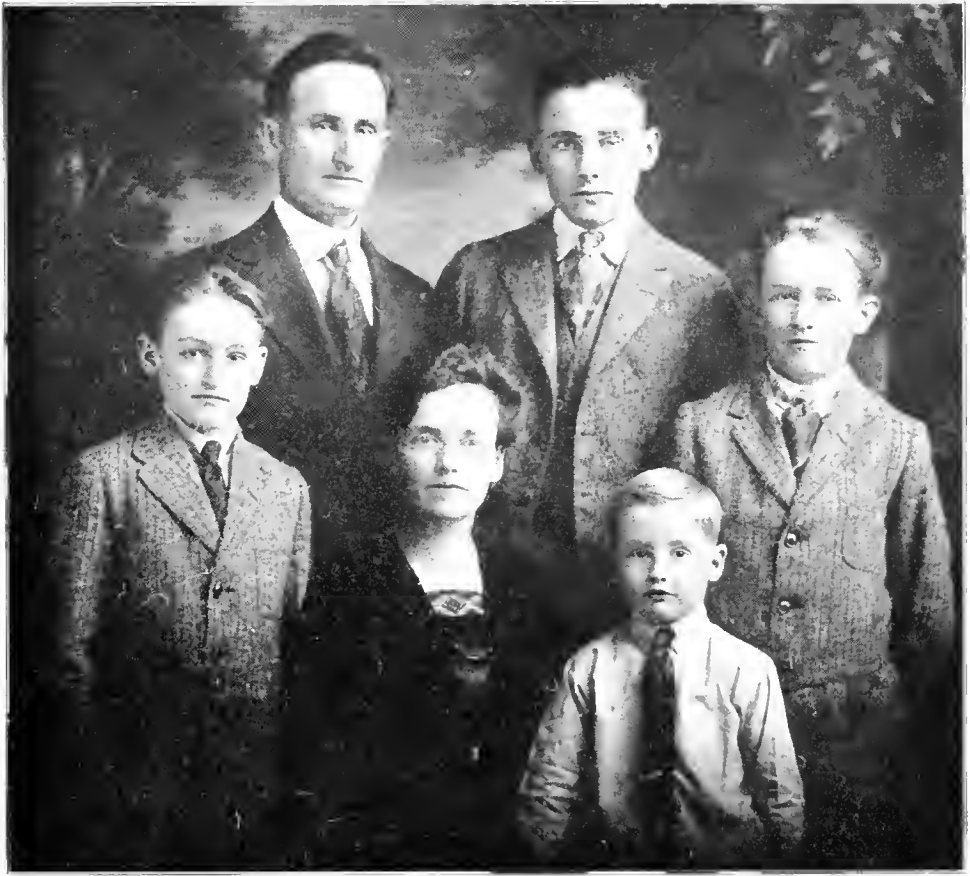
September 18, 1881, Erwin E. Lincoln was married to Miss Kate Teter, a native of Grundy county, Illinois, the daughter of John and Susan (McAllister) Teter, natives of Ohio. To this union have been born four children: Cora, the wife of William Owen, of Seattle, Washington; Lewis, who is married and resides in Nampa, Idaho; Emmet, of Lushton, Nebraska, who is married; and Forrest who lives at home, assisting his father in the store.

As one of the leading men and progressive merchants of his community Mr. Lincoln has always been interested in progress and development and is ready to give his support to worthy movements. He has served on the village board many times and was a member of the county board of supervisors several terms. In politics he is a democrat. When the Farmers and Merchants Bank was organized in 1904 Mr. Lincoln was made president of that institution, holding this office for seven years. He has well earned the reputation of a successful and high principled business man and public spirited citizen, always giving his service or means in order to promote the development of his community.

FRANK G. BURNHAM

Frank G. Burnham, president of the York Brick and Tile Company of York, is one of the county's most progressive and representative citizens. He is a native son of Nebraska, his birth having occurred in Lincoln on the 31st of December, 1877, a son of Horace A. and Lizzie A. Burnham. Both parents were born in Portland, Maine, and in 1871 removed westward settling in Lincoln. The father engaged in farming and stock raising, to which occupations he devoted the greater part of his life. In 1882 Mr. and Mrs. Burnham removed to Custer county, going as far as Kearney by train and driving the remainder of the way and here the father acquired a homestead on which he lived until 1895. The mother's death occurred in 1889. In 1895 Mr. Burnham removed to Cherry county where his death occurred. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Burnham, namely: Harry, who is farming in Custer county; Frank G., the subject of this review; Horace E., who is engaged in the insurance business at Seattle, Washington; Sumner, a ranchman in Scotts Bluff county; and Silas, a farmer in Custer county. The Burnham family were reared in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church and the father was a republican in politics. In every sense of the word Horace A. Burnham was a self-made man.

In the acquirement of an education Frank G. Burnham attended the common schools of Lincoln and in due time was graduated from the high school at that place. On completing his education he started upon his business career in connection with the American Exchange Bank at Lincoln, and for some time he remained in this position. In 1896 he went into business on his own account and commenced the manufacture of brick in Lincoln. He carried on this line of work successfully for a period of eleven years, and in 1907 came to York, continuing in this same business and he now has a large plant worth one hundred thousand dollars. He is president and general manager of the company and under his guidance the business has flourished. The bricks are of the best quality on the market and are shipped to all points in Nebraska, Kansas, the Dakotas, and Iowa. When he first entered into the business he shipped an average of twenty-five cars of brick per annum



FRANK G. BURNHAM AND FAMILY

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out of the state but now his shipments amount to over five hundred cars per annum.

In 1899 Mr. Burnham was united in marriage to Miss Maude Wilson, a native of Lincoln, and to them four sons have been born: Summer aged eighteen years; Ralph, sixteen years of age; Frank, who is thirteen years old; and Herbert, eight years of age. The Burnham family are members of the Christian church and Mrs. Burnham takes an active interest in the charities of that organization.

Mr. Burnham gives his allegiance to the republican party in the interest of which he takes an active part. He served as county councilman of York for a period extending over three years. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen, the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and the Highlanders. In each of these orders he is an exemplary member. His business interests demand the greater part of his time and he is always endeavoring to improve the conditions under which his employes, numbering forty men, work. There is the best of feeling between Mr. Burnham and his men for he pays them fair wages, his pay roll amounting to forty thousand dollars per annum. Mr. Burnham has always been quick to recognize the possibilities of a situation, prompt in formulating his plans and energetic in their execution, and it is to these qualities that his success is due.

WILLIAM G. TROUTMAN

Since 1907 William G. Troutman, a successful farmer in York county for many years, has lived retired in York. He was born in Pennsylvania on the 31st of March, 1850, a son of Michael and Rachael (Winters) Troutman. His father was born in Pennsylvania December 25, 1823, and died in 1913, while the mother was born in Maryland in 1828 and died in 1884. They were both educated and grew to maturity in Pennsylvania and their marriage occurred in Somerset county, that state. The father followed the carpenter's trade there for a number of years but in 1856 went to Illinois where he purchased some land and engaged in farming for twenty-two years after which time he came to Nebraska. He settled in York county and retired. His death occurred here at the age of eighty-six years. Mrs. Troutman's death occurred in Benedict and she is buried there. Eight children were born to this marriage, six of whom are living: Elizabeth, the widow of Joseph Boyer who resides in California; William G., the subject of this review; Christina, the wife of Pierce Harden, who is a retired farmer living at Benedict; Oscar, who is engaged in farming in Colorado; Ella, the wife of H. P. Walker who is retired and is residing in Benedict; and Albert, a real estate dealer in Omaha. The Troutman family were reared in the faith of the Lutheran church and the father was a staunch supporter of the democratic party. The first of the Troutman family in the United States were William and Peter Troutman who removed from Berks county, Pennsylvania, to Somerset county, that state, at an early day. The grandfather of William G. Troutman, the subject of this review, was William Troutman a native of Pennsylvania, and he married Catherine Uhl who was born in Germany and crossed to the United States when but seven years of age.

William G. Troutman received his education in Illinois and after putting his textbooks aside began life as a farmer. While residing in Illinois he rented a farm

but in 1875 purchased some land in York county and four years later removed to that county. The land he had purchased was unimproved railroad land in Lockridge township, and for many years he made his home there, residing in a little frame house, sixteen by twenty-four feet. In that early day there were no school-houses and churches and for the first few years of his residence in that township school and church services were held in the different homes. He engaged in general farming and also fed live stock. In 1907 he decided to retire from active farm life and so removed to York, building a fine home at 1026 Grant avenue, although he spends considerable time on his farm. He is owner of a farm in Lockridge township and a half section of fine land. He rents his farm to his son on a fifty-fifty basis. Besides the interest he still retains in his land he holds stock in the telephone company and elevator at Benedict.

In 1875, while residing in Illinois, Mr. Troutman was united in marriage to Miss Malinda Harden, a native of Maryland and a daughter of Jacob and Catherine (Cook) Harden. Her parents were both born in Pennsylvania but later removed to Maryland where they resided for a number of years. In 1854 they removed to Illinois and settled in Lee county and here the father died. Mrs. Harden made her home with Mrs. Troutman for a few years until her death. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Harden, five of whom are living: Dennis C., a farmer in Lee county, Illinois; Mrs. Troutman, the wife of the subject of this review; Demetrius G., lives in California; Emanuel J., who is head man of the International Harvester Company at Winnipeg, Canada; Jesse, a farmer at Falon. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Troutman six children have been born: Josie, the wife of S. S. Reed, who is farming in York county; Flossie C., who is the wife of C. E. Huff, a farmer raising principally wheat in Kimball county; Agnes E., the wife of T. L. Green who is in the lumber and coal business at Sterling, Colorado; Lester L., a farmer in York county; Bertha, who is living at home; and Forrest H., who is residing on his father's farm.

Mr. Troutman has always given his allegiance to the republican party and is well versed on the questions and issues of the day. Fraternally he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen in which order he has won the degree of honor. Mr. Troutman has made his way in the world by his own diligence and labor and he is a well known and representative citizen of York.

JOHN TOWLE

John Towle is numbered among the pioneer settlers of York county whose life bore the impress of many events which shaped the history of the county, marking the development and the progress of the region. He was born in Leeds, England, April 7, 1838, was brought to the United States when an infant, and his childhood was spent in Wisconsin where his people settled after arriving in this country.

He received his education in the schools of Wisconsin and his initial step in the business world was made with a woolen manufacturing company owned by his father and an uncle. In 1871 he came to York county Nebraska, and took up a homestead where he experienced all the hardships and privations known to the

pioneer settler. On one occasion he and his brother nearly lost their lives when they became lost in a storm. Mr. Towle's first home was a frame house for which he hauled the lumber from Lincoln. The betterment of homes and living conditions marked the progress of the homesteader and when Mr. Towle had completed his frame house he sent for his wife, who came the following year—1872. During the next year they endured many trials including the grass-hopper plague and drought periods and moved back to Wisconsin in 1873 where they remained the following ten years, Mr. Towle being employed in the woolen factory.

Mr. Towle was married on December 25, 1866, to Sarah Barlow, who was born in England, September 4, 1817, the daughter of John and Eliza Barlow, natives of England who came to Wisconsin in 1848. Mr. Barlow passed away there at the age of eighty-four years. Mr. and Mrs. Barlow became the parents of eight children, five of whom are living. All are residents of Wisconsin with the exception of Mrs. Towle. To Mr. and Mrs. Towle were born nine children, seven of whom are living: A. J., who is engaged in the real estate business at Snyder, Texas; William Charles, who lives on a farm near Charleston; Sarah Elena, wife of N. P. Watt who lives on a farm in York county; Samuel D., who passed away; George G., who died in infancy; Effie G., wife of C. B. Campbell, who is employed in an oil station in York, Nebraska; Howard Garfield, who is engaged in the jewelry business at Snyder, Texas; Gordon P., who is a telegraph operator at Trenton, Nebraska; and Ralph R., who is an eye, ear, nose and throat specialist practicing in Boise, Idaho.

Mr. Towle served three years in the Civil war during which time he was wounded. The following is a record of his life as a soldier:

"When the war broke out John Towle was among the first to respond to the country's call for aid, enlisting May 17, 1861, for three months service as a member of Company D, Third Wisconsin Infantry. He was mustered in at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, on June 29th for three years service. The regiment went immediately to the south, arriving at Harper's Ferry, July 18, 1861, and Mr. Towle served in the campaigns in Virginia and Maryland for two years, two months and sixteen days, in the army of the Shenandoah under General Banks, the army of Virginia under General Pope, the army of the Potomac under Generals McClellan, Burnside, Hooker and Meade, and was in New York city on military duty during the draft riots of August, 1863, under General Colby. He left Bealton Station, Virginia, with his regiment October 3, 1863, to join the army of the Cumberland at Chattanooga, Tennessee, and was mustered out at the latter place July 5, 1864, on account of disability. He participated in the following engagements: Bolivar Heights, Winchester, Cedar Mountain, Pope's campaign, Antietam, Chancellorsville, Beverly Ford, Gettysburg and the draft riots. He was mustered out with the rank of corporal. During the battle of Antietam he was shot through the leg and had both ear drums punctured which destroyed his hearing. He was also wounded at Beverly Ford when an exploding shell struck him in the leg. On account of his wounds and the loss of his hearing he has experienced ill health for years and is one of the honorable pensioners of the government."

This is a record of which any soldier might well be proud and it is kept in reverent memory of Mr. Towle who passed away March 17, 1916. Mr. Towle was a member of the Methodist church and fraternally had membership with the

Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He resided at York at the time of his death, at 900 Burlington Avenue, where his widow now lives. He was a man well informed on the topics of the day, a good reader and a very intelligent man whose life devoted to the welfare and service of his fellowmen has made his memory honored wherever he was known.

SOLOMON A. MYERS

Solomon A. Myers, who since 1901 has engaged in the real estate business in York, was born near Terre Haute, Indiana, December 16, 1849, a son of James and Sophia (West) Myers, who are natives of Indiana and Ohio respectively, their marriage being celebrated in the former state. The father was a farmer throughout his entire life. In the early '50s he removed to Illinois, where he purchased land near Bushnell, and upon that farm his wife passed away. Subsequently Mr. Myers moved to Oregon where he spent his last days. However, he was in many places prior to that time, residing for a period in Oklahoma, afterward in Nebraska, later in Colorado, and eventually in Oregon. He was a member of the Christian church and gave his political support to the republican party. To him and his wife were born the following children, of whom six are living: B. F., a retired farmer residing in York, Nebraska; Anna, who is the widow of John Keppel and resides in Bardolph, Illinois; Cassandra, who is the widow of Dudley Pelley of Macomb, Illinois; Solomon A., of this review; Emma A., the wife of William Jackson, a retired farmer of Bardolph, Illinois; and William P., an attorney of Culver, Oregon. Alice grew to womanhood, then passed away. She was not married.

Solomon A. Myers obtained his early education in the country schools of Illinois. He started out in life as a farmer, renting land in Illinois, and also took up veterinary work in early manhood. In 1875 he came to Nebraska, purchased a homestead right and took up his abode in a sod house in York county. The following year he brought his wife and two children to his new home and in time built a frame house on his land and continued the work of further developing and improving the property which he transformed into an excellent farm, residing thereon until 1901, when he sold the place. In that year he took up his abode in York and turned his attention to the real estate business in which he has since engaged. He conducts a general real estate, emigration and insurance business and in this way has done much to promote the settlement and development of York county.

In 1870 Mr. Myers was married to Miss Eliza R. Kost, and to them were born four children: William A., a physician of Casper, Wyoming; John W., living at York; Frank, who died in 1892 at the age of sixteen years; and James C., who is in California. The wife and mother passed away August 3, 1888, and on the 25th of December, 1890, Mr. Myers was united in marriage to Jessie R. Rose, who was born in Sheridan, Iowa, and they have two children: Charles B., a farmer of Lexington, Nebraska; and H. G., a mechanic living at York.

Mr. Myers and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He has attained the Royal Arch degree in Masonry and is also a member of the Knights of Pythias. His political endorsement is given to the republican party. He filled

the office of county commissioner, has served on the city council and as a member of the school board, and at all times has discharged his public duties with marked capability and fidelity. He is always loyal to any interests tending to advance the welfare and progress of the community, and his cooperation is valued as an element in general improvements. As a business man he has been systematic and thoroughly reliable. At different periods he has owned land in Nebraska, Colorado and Illinois, but has now disposed of most of it.

WILLIAM BRAHMSTEADT

William Brahmsteadt has been actively and prominently identified with farming and agricultural interests and stock raising for many years in York county and is now handling a vast tract of eight hundred acres of prime land to the operation of which he devotes all his activities. He was born in Cook county, Illinois, in 1870, a son of Henry Brahmsteadt and wife, both natives of Germany, from which country they immigrated to America in company with Henry's father, William Brahmsteadt, who located in Chicago, where he followed his trade of blacksmith for several years and also worked with Henry for the American Express Company.

It was in 1870 that the elder William Brahmsteadt (grandfather of the subject of this sketch), came to York county and here bought a tract of land which he immediately proceeded to cultivate and on which he did general farming and stock raising. He continued in these lines during the active years of his life, his death occurring in 1904 at an advanced age, and his widow passing away two years later, in 1906. Henry Brahmsteadt, father of our subject, also was engaged in agricultural operations and worked the old home place after the death of his father. He died in 1909 at the age of sixty-two years; his wife predeceased him by several years. These worthy people were the parents of six children: Ann, wife of John Churchill, of York; William, of this sketch; Louis D., a farmer; Henry, who works for William; Ralph, a farmer of Monmouth, Illinois, and Edward, a machinist, living in Chicago. His first wife died and Henry Brahmsteadt married Minnie Swattager, and they became the parents of one child, Ella, wife of Carl Barr, a York county farmer. He was a member of the Lutheran church, in the affairs of which he took a practical part; he supported the republican party and warmly espoused their principles. He counted it his greatest happiness to provide for the welfare and comfort of his family, and in every relation of life he manifested those sterling qualities which command respect, confidence and honor.

William Brahmsteadt spent his boyhood and youthful days in his father's home and acquired his education in the public schools of Illinois. When little more than an infant he accompanied his parents to Nebraska, where his grandfather settled and acquired land. In time Mr. Brahmsteadt became proficient in agricultural operations and added to his land holdings, set out additional improvements to those already placed on the farm by his grandfather, and he is now the owner of eight hundred acres of the very best land in this part of the state. He is extensively engaged in general farming and stock raising, ranking among the foremost agriculturists of the county, and his energy and time are devoted to maintaining the high standard he has reached in the farming world.

In 1901 Mr. Brahmsteadt was united in marriage to Mattie Welch, a native of Illinois, and this union has been blessed with five children: Oliva, Charles, Nora, Benjamin and Ivan, all living at home with their parents. He acts independently in political affairs, preferring to support well considered measures and men rather than professional politicians and doubtful legislation of the "pork barrel" variety. As a business man his position is one of prominence and his capability is widely recognized. He deserves much credit for what he has accomplished, for from an early age he has been practically dependent on his own resources. As the years have gone by his labors have brought substantial results and he is today accounted one of the foremost agriculturists in York county.

ALBERT E. CALKINS, D. D. S.

Dr. Albert E. Calkins of York ranks among the most progressive and successful dental surgeons of the city and is held in high esteem by both the general public and his professional brethren. He was born in Polk county in 1877, the son of Kirkland J. and Louella (Williams) Calkins, both natives of New York state. The father and mother were married in Iowa to which state they had come with their parents at an early date and he was employed as a teamster there for many years. In the early sixties they decided to remove to Nebraska and finally settled in Polk county where they had acquired a homestead. In 1895 they removed to York and retired, his death occurring in 1920. Mrs. Calkins is still residing in York. Albert E. Calkins the subject of this review, was the fourth in order of birth of their five children, the other children being: Fred, M. D., who resides in Fremont; Royal W., a physician of Cortez, Colorado; Lucy, who is the wife of J. M. Rovenscroft a farm owner, and a mason by trade living in York; Charles A., a dentist in York. The family were reared in the Presbyterian faith, and the father was a staunch supporter of the democratic party. When the Civil war broke out Kirkland J. Calkins was one of the first to volunteer his services and joined the Twenty-fourth Iowa regiment Company I. A sketch of him appears elsewhere in this work. The Calkins family is a very old family dating back before the Revolutionary war and it is said that Hugh Calkins, an early ancestor, was at one time governor of the English colonies.

The early education of Dr. Calkins was received in the schools of Polk and York counties and in order to obtain the further education which he deemed necessary to fit him for his chosen career, it was necessary to earn the money, which he did by working at various occupations. In 1901 he entered the college of dentistry at the Omaha University and was graduated from this institution with his degree in 1904. His first professional venture was in North Bend where he remained for a little more than a year and then in 1905 removed to York. He here entered into the profession with his brother, Charles A., and remained in this connection for a period of ten years. He has taken two post-graduate courses in this line of work and is always interested in the strides being made in his profession. Aside from his professional duties Dr. Calkins devotes some time to his farm which is located in Kimball county and is one of the finest in the community.

In February, 1920, Dr. Calkins was united in marriage to Mrs. Martha Walling-

ford who was born in Lancaster county, her parents being among the early settlers of this state. The father is now engaged in the harness business in Panama. Mrs. Calkins is one of the prominent young matrons in York and as a member of the Christian church is a leader in its activities.

In politics Dr. Calkins is an independent, supporting the man rather than the party. Dr. Calkins has always been a close and discriminating student of the principles of dentistry and has made continuous advance in his profession by reason of his devotion thereto as displayed in wide reading and study. He puts forth every effort possible to make his services of greater professional worth and his ability is widely recognized throughout the community in which he resides.

PETER J. RATZLAFF

The best traditions of the commercial life of York county are well sustained in the business activities of Peter J. Ratzlaff, a well known resident of Henderson. He is a native son of the county, born July 10, 1890, a son of John and Maria (Dueck) Ratzlaff, both natives of the southern part of Russia who immigrated to America in 1876. After landing in this country the parents came to Nebraska and located in York county, where the father acquired a farm which he continued to operate with a marked measure of success for many years. He passed away in 1915 and his widow is still living. They were the parents of five children, three of whom are living.

Peter J. Ratzlaff was educated in the public and high schools of York county and was reared on his father's farm where, for some years he assisted in carrying on the agricultural operations. At the close of his high school course he entered college, receiving tuition for a period of one year. He then engaged in business on his own account and became identified with dairying, which he found to be a remunerative occupation. He remained in that business for three years when he sold out, and turned his attention to the mercantile trade, joining in partnership with George A. Friesen in Henderson, under the firm title of Friesen & Ratzlaff. The business handled is of a general character and the store is reputed to be one of the best of its kind in the town. Mr. Ratzlaff has proved himself an invaluable factor in expanding the business connections of the store and industry and perseverance are among the salient characteristics—shared equally by the partners—upon which the success so far attained has been built. He is the owner of a well-improved piece of land containing seventy-two and one half acres, located in York county, and from this he derives a substantial revenue, his income from all sources placing him in a position of secure independence, this satisfactory condition being entirely due to his foresight and sagacity in handling business affairs.

In 1917 Mr. Ratzlaff was united in marriage to Miss Anna E. Friesen, a daughter of Rev. P. J. Friesen who is now deceased, and to this union one son, Robert L. Ratzlaff, has been born. Mr. Ratzlaff and his wife are faithful members of the Mennonite church, in whose teachings and doctrines they were reared and upon whose services they are regular attendants. They are widely and favorably known in the community where they reside and they give practical aid to all movements

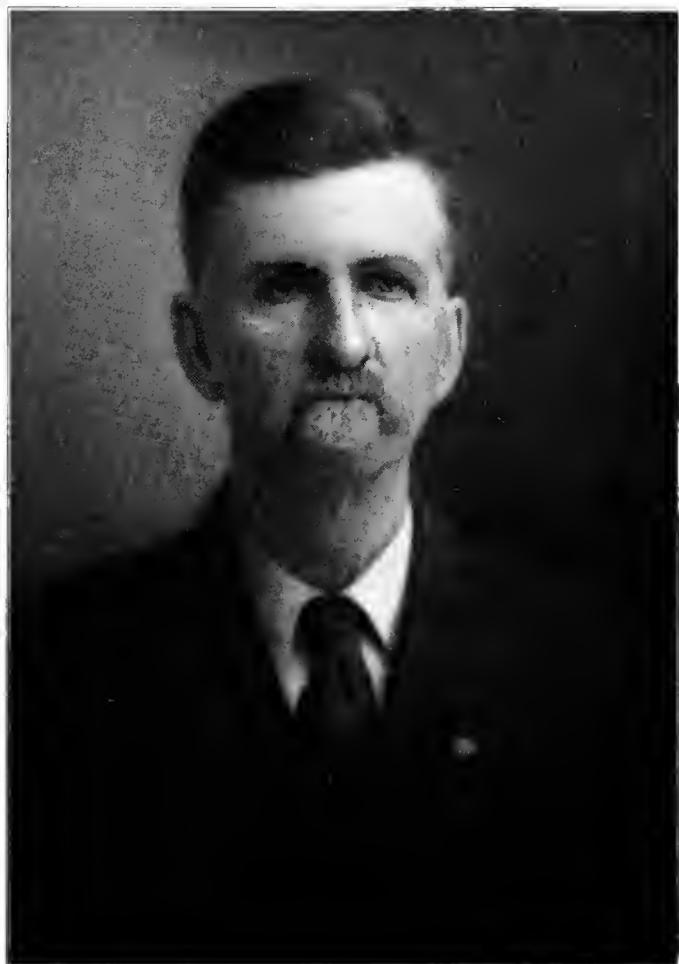
designed to advance the welfare of the people as a whole. He has no particular political party leanings and has never aspired to office; however, he ranks among those progressive citizens who give of their time and ability to further civic development by all legitimate methods, and in this as well as in his commercial relations he measures up to the highest standards of citizenship.

PHILANDER CHURCH

Philander Church, a veteran of the Civil war and a retired farmer residing in York, was born in Jefferson county, New York, October 24, 1811, a son of John and Elizabeth (Hunt) Church, both natives of Ireland. The father died in 1842 and the mother fifteen years later, the death of the former occurring in New York, while the latter passed away in Iowa. Soon after their marriage, which took place in Ireland, they removed to the United States and in this country their two children were born, the subject of this review, Philander, being the only one living. Mr. and Mrs. Church were members of the Presbyterian church and he was a staunch supporter of the republican party. After the death of Mr. Church his widow married again, this time to Samuel Negus, a native of Vermont, and to them four children were born, two of whom are living: Abbie, who is the wife of a Mr. Whittimore and lives in Seattle; and Lucy, the wife of a Mr. Whittimore, who resides in Central City.

In the acquirement of his education Philander Church attended the schools in New York state and Iowa, having removed to the latter state with his mother in 1854. He began life as a farmer and followed that occupation until his retirement. On the outbreak of the Civil war Mr. Church was among the first to volunteer his services to the Union army, with the result that in September, 1861, he joined Company K, Twelfth Iowa Regiment with which he served until receiving his discharge on the 20th of January, 1866. His regiment was a part of the western army. He participated in the siege of Vicksburg and at Fort Donelson, and was captured at Shiloh, being imprisoned at various places in the south. For eight months he was held prisoner and was then exchanged, remaining with the army until 1866 when he was discharged with the rank of first corporal. He was also present at the battles of Tupelo, Mississippi; Jackson, Mississippi; Nashville, Tennessee; Mobile, Alabama; the Spanish Fort; and many others. After the close of the war he returned to Iowa, where he was married and in 1871 removed to York county acquiring a homestead. For thirty-five years Mr. Church and his wife lived on this homestead and in 1906 they sold the place and removed to York, where they are now residing, at 1603 Iowa avenue. Mr. Church owns considerable property in York, and has land in Texas in the oil district. Numerous gushers have been found near his Texas land and it is consequently of much value.

On his return to Iowa after the close of the Civil war Mr. Church was united in marriage to Miss Alice Hurlbutt, a native of Connecticut and a daughter of William and Sarah Hurlbutt, also natives of that state. Her parents came to Iowa in 1854 and the father engaged in the carpenter and contracting business for the remainder of his life. Mrs. Church is the second in order of birth in a family of four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hurlbutt. To the union of Mr. and Mrs.



PHILANDER CHURCH

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Church seven children have been born, three of whom are living: Nellie, Jennie, and Julia. Nellie is the wife of George Tilden, of Stromsburg, an auctioneer, now working for the Harrison Murray Company. Two children have been born to them: Wallace and Donald; Jennie is the wife of Pirl Frazer, a farmer and stock raiser, and they are the parents of six children: Lloyd, Vesta, Iva, Laura, Dorothy, and Enola; Julia, now Mrs. August Dreier, of York, has become the mother of two children: Albert and Alice. Mr. Dreier is manager of the outside work of the electric plant in York.

Politically Mr. Church is a staunch supporter of the republican party and of the principles for which it stands. For a number of years he was justice of the peace and for five years served on the county board of supervisors. Throughout the seventy-nine years of his life Mr. Church has witnessed the great advances made in civilization. His life has been one of labor and diligence and the success which he now enjoys is only his fair reward. Mr. and Mrs. Church are now retired, happy in the love of their children and grandchildren and in the respect and esteem of the community. He is a member of the G. A. R. Post.

REV. H. WUNDERLICH

One of the spiritual leaders in York county who is the object of much affection and veneration is Rev. H. Wunderlich, pastor of the German Evangelical Lutheran John's congregation, at Beaver Creek. He was born in Spring, Texas, July 13, 1860, a son of Peter and Marie (Hofius) Wunderlich, both natives of Westphalia, Germany. His parents came to the United States when young people and met and were married in Texas. The father was killed in 1864 when an explosion destroyed the powder mill in which he was working. He had been in the employ of the government for some time. The mother is now also deceased.

Rev. H. Wunderlich received his early education in his native town and at the age of fourteen years entered Concordia College at Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he remained for a period of six years. He then decided to enter the ministry and as a result went to the Evangelical Lutheran College in St. Louis for his theological training. His first charge was at Perry, Texas, where he ministered to the spiritual welfare of that community for a period of twenty years. In 1907 he came to his present charge at Beaver Creek and during the years of his residence has endeared himself to the hearts of his people. He is pastor of a church with a membership of three hundred and sixty and is in charge of two schools of thirty-six and forty-two pupils respectively. Mr. Wunderlich has found his work a great physical and mental strain and he prepares the greatest part of his material on the typewriter.

Mr. Wunderlich was married in Texas to Miss Bertha Klein, whose death occurred three years ago. They were the parents of twelve children, namely: Travengott and Theophile, who are teaching in Chicago; Alma, who is the wife of a Mr. Wanke, teacher in the schools of St. Louis; Ellen, a musician; Renata, who keeps house for the father; Frieda, who is attending the state university at Lincoln; Walter and Arthur at home; Lawrence, who is attending the high school

in Lincoln; Roland and Robert, in school in Lincoln; and Herald in school at St. Louis.

Mr. Wunderlich is a man of broad sympathies and the poor and needy have found in him a friend. It is widely acknowledged fact that the most important work to which a man can direct his energies is that of teaching, whether it be from the pulpit, from the lecture platform or from the schoolroom, and to this teaching of the gospel Mr. Wunderlich has devoted his time, energies and thought.

CITIZEN BENSON CLITHERO

Citizen Benson Clithero is an honored resident of York. For many years he engaged in farming but retired from active life in 1901. He is a native of Belmont county, Ohio, having been born there on the 1st of February, 1846, son of J. D. and Jemima R. (Rush) Clithero. His parents were both born in Ohio and were married and died there. The father was a well-to-do farmer and one of the most progressive men in his community. Eleven children were born to this union, two of whom are living: Citizen B., the subject of this review; and Cyrus W., who lives in Kansas and is a retired farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Clithero were reared in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church in the affairs of which they took an active part. The father was known throughout the community as Bishop Clithero. The paternal grandfather was a native of England and the maternal grandfather, Isaac Rush, was born in Ohio.

In the acquirement of an education Citizen B. Clithero attended the schools of Ohio. His first work after putting his textbooks aside was farming and he followed that occupation for the greater part of his life. He learned the carpenter's trade in early youth and in 1865 went to Grundy county, Illinois, where he engaged in that line of work for a period of ten years. At the termination of that time he came to York county where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land. He moved onto this place in 1876. The land was unimproved and badly in need of cultivation. Along with his household goods he had brought enough timber to erect a small frame house, eighteen by twenty feet, and this was his home for about ten years. He later built a more modern home on the place and it is still standing. Subsequently he sold the old home place and purchased another piece of land in York county. He is now the owner of a quarter section of the finest land in the county, in McFadden township. In 1905 he removed to the city of York and purchased two lots, putting out shade trees. He built a modern home on one of the lots at 1202 Nebraska avenue and here he and Mrs. Clithero are residing. For four years before coming to York Mr. and Mrs. Clithero were residents of Benedict.

While Mr. Clithero was residing in Illinois he returned to Ohio for a short period and was at that time married to Miss Amanda M. Timberlake, a native of Noble county, Ohio, and a daughter of Nelson and Hannah Timberlake. Her parents were Ohioans and the father who was a carriage-maker, was killed when Mrs. Clithero was but a child. Five children have been born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Clithero, four of whom are living: Alice who is the wife of Willis Moul, a farmer near Fairmont; William, who is engaged in farming and vegetable trucking in Kimball county; Louis B., who is farming in York county; and Mary

Louise, the wife of Otis M. Smith who is a very successful grain man of Omaha. Mr. Smith is president of the Updyke Grain Company. Mr. and Mrs. Clithero lost their youngest son, Romeo, in 1910. He was but twenty-six years of age and a young man of considerable ability. He was a graduate of the York high school in the activities of which he had always taken an active part. He was also the possessor of a splendid tenor voice.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Clithero the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party and the principles for which it stands. Although most of his time was spent in farming he served on the city council for a number of years. Fraternally he is a member of the Woodmen and takes an active interest in the order. Mr. and Mrs. Clithero are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Clithero has conducted the church choir for many years. For thirty years he has conducted the choirs of the various churches which he has attended. He is at present assistant chorister in the Sunday school and is likewise a class leader. He has served in this capacity for a period of thirty years. To every occupation undertaken he has given his entire attention and energy with the result that his life is now crowned with successful achievement. He takes an active interest in the development and improvement of his community and York is fortunate in having him for a citizen.

DIETRICH PETERS

For four years Dietrich Peters, now deceased, was a prominent and progressive farmer of York county. He was born in southern Russia and died in this county in 1882 at the age of fifty-four years. He received his education in the common schools of his native land, engaged in farming for some time there, and in 1878 came to the United States, settling in York county. Here he purchased a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres and also eighty acres of railroad land.

Dietrich Peters was married in his native land to Helena Fast, a native of Russia, whose death occurred in 1910 at the age of seventy-five years. Nine children were born to this union: Helena, who is now the wife of H. H. Epp, a farmer of York county; Sarah, the wife of Isaac Bergen, farming in York county; Dietrich, deceased; Cornelius, farming in York county; Marguerite, the wife of Peter Hiebert, a farmer of Hamilton county; Jacob; John, farming in York county; Isaae, farming in York county; and Abraham, who is living in Henderson.

Deitrich Peters, whose name initiates this review, maintained an independent course in politics and his religious faith was that of the Mennonite church in which organization he always took a prominent part. The Peters family have taken a prominent and active part in the affairs of York county since their emigration here, and all of them are citizens of whom York county has a right to be proud.

Jacob D. Peters was eleven years of age when his parents removed to this country. He helped his father break the land of the homestead and received his education in the country schools of the county. He remained at home assisting his mother until he was twenty-seven years of age, at which time he bought eighty acres and started farming on his own account. He later bought one hundred and sixty acres which land he highly cultivated and improved. During the drought of '93,

'94, and '95 he raised no crops and it was necessary for him to burn cornstalks, corn and straw. In 1895 Jacob Peters was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Thieszen, a native of Russia whose death occurred in 1918. To this union four children were born: Mary, who was the wife of George Friesen, both of whom are now deceased, her death having occurred in 1918; and Fred, Aaron and Helena, at home. Some time after his wife's death Jacob Peters was again wed, Miss Sarah Harder becoming his wife. To this union one child, Sarah, has been born. The Peters family are members of the Mennonite church, of which Mr. Peters is a trustee. He maintains an independent course in politics supporting the man rather than the party. As an active man in the community he has served as road overseer and is director of school board district, number 37. Mr. Peters has always engaged in general farming and stock raising and is recognized as a representative agriculturist throughout the county.

SWAN LINDSTROM

An eventful career has been that of Swan Lindstrom, who, of Swedish birth, came to America when he was about twenty years old, unaccompanied by any friends, and being of a progressive spirit speedily applied himself to the new conditions and ultimately achieved success along agricultural lines. He was born in Sweden, July 23, 1849, a son of Swan and Josephine (Swanson) Lindstrom, also natives of that country where the father was a manufacturer of pig iron for many years.

Swan Lindstrom was educated in the schools of Sweden and when he was about twenty years old he decided to immigrate to this country. After his arrival in New York he went to Princeton, Illinois, and there worked at the carpenter trade which he had learned in Sweden and in that way made a living for several years. Altogether he spent eleven years in Illinois and three of these he devoted to farming, renting land for the purpose and materially increasing his income by laboring in the fields engaged in the cultivation of crops. In 1880 Mr. Lindstrom came to Nebraska and settled in York county, but prior to coming he had bought eighty acres of land in Stewart township, for which he paid six dollars and ninety cents an acre. On taking possession of the holding he built a small frame house which now forms part of his home and put up a small frame barn, also planting large numbers of trees and otherwise improving the place. He broke all the land and prospered in his farming operations from the beginning, his success inducing him in 1895 to buy a further tract of one hundred and sixty acres, which is in excellent condition. In 1893 he raised corn which yielded fifty bushels to the acre, this being regarded as a record crop at that time. When fuel was scarce he burned corn and cornstalks as substitute. There were ample supplies of prairie chickens and geese in the district and Mr Lindstrom relates that on one occasion he killed five geese in his cornfield with one shot. Being in York county for forty years he is familiar with all phases of the history of the district in its development and he rejoices in what has been accomplished as the work of improvement has been carried forward.

In 1872, while living in Illinois, Mr. Lindstrom was united in marriage to

Hanna Swanson, a native of Sweden, and to their union four children have been born: S. A., a farmer, of Stewart township; John M., of Gresham, working as a carpenter; Frank, who farms in Stewart township; and C. A., who conducts a mercantile business in Gresham. The family are members of the Methodist church and are earnest advocates of its teachings.

Mr. Lindstrom in his political views is a staunch democrat and served on the county board at the time the present courthouse was being built. Interested in the cause of education he has served as a school director in district 35 for over thirty-five years, and in other directions he has given unstintingly of his help to all projects intended to serve the public welfare. For some time past he has been renting the greater part of his land, and from this source derives a handsome income. He retains ten acres for his own use, on which he carries on farming. The period of his residence in York county covers four decades and he has won a place among its esteemed and representative citizens.

WILLIAM STAEHR

One of the most successful farmers and largest landowners in York county is William Staehr, who has resided in this county since he was a boy of ten years. He was born in Oldenburg, Germany, October 15, 1863, a son of Carsten Staehr, further mention of whom is made elsewhere in this work.

The early education of William Staehr was obtained in his native town in Germany and he was but ten years of age when he removed with his parents to the United States, settling in York county. He has vivid recollections of the early pioneer days and of his first home in this country—a dugout. He assisted in farming in the early days, being so small that he had to stand on tiptoe to grasp the handles of the plow while his brother drove the oxen. When he was twenty-five years of age he began farming on his own account and four years later with the assistance of his father purchased one hundred acres of land, the improvements on the land consisting of a small house and shed for a stable. Today he is in possession of twenty acres in addition to his four eighty-acre tracts. He has a fine set of buildings on each of his farms and is widely recognized throughout the surrounding country as a successful and progressive farmer. Mr. Staehr recollects the awful cold winters when he first came to York county, there being days at a time when no member of the household would venture out-of-doors. During these cold, stormy spells the oxen were put in the dugout to keep them from freezing.

Mr. Staehr at an early age was united in marriage to Miss Mary Huffscheider, a native of York county, and a daughter of Henry Huffscheider. Her father, who is now deceased, was an early settler of York county. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Staehr, ten children were born, eight of whom are living: Bertha, who is the wife of Carl Stahr; John, who is married and lives in North Dakota; Martin, who is married and residing on one of his father's farms; Emma, who is employed at Lincoln; and Walter, Dora, Elsie, and Edmond who are at home. Two children died in early childhood.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Staehr the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party and the principles for which it stands. He is

also well informed on the topics of the day. The Staehr family are all consistent members of the Lutheran church, attending the church at Beaver Creek, and Mr. Staehr is serving his second year as elder in the local church. A life of intense and well directed activity has brought Mr. Staehr to a position among the most successful farmers of York county.

EDGAR A. WELLS

Edgar A. Wells, a retired farmer and stock raiser who in former years was most actively and extensively engaged in carrying on agricultural pursuits in York county and who now makes his home in the city of York, was born in Chenango county, New York, on September 23, 1854, a son of Halsey and Loriania (Rogers) Wells, both of whom were born in the Empire state. They went to Illinois in 1855, settling in De Kalb county, where the father purchased land and thereon spent his remaining days. He was of English lineage, while the maternal grandfather, Davis Rogers, was born in New York but was of Irish descent. Halsey Wells gave his political support to the republican party and in his religious faith was a Baptist. To him and his wife were born five children, of whom three are living: Augusta, the wife of Marcinas Hall, a farmer of De Kalb county, Illinois; George, who also follows farming in De Kalb county; and Edgar A., of this review.

The last named was educated in the schools of Illinois and after his textbooks were put aside he took up the work of boring wells and followed that occupation for a year and a half. He afterward rented a farm for two years in Illinois and in 1879 arrived in York county, Nebraska, where he purchased eighty acres of unimproved land. With characteristic energy he began the development and improvement of his farm and built thereon a small frame house. After obtaining title to his land he sold it the same year and then purchased a quarter section which he improved and upon which he erected new buildings. From time to time he bought other property, extending the boundaries of his farm until he became one of the leading agriculturists of his section of the state. He also engaged very extensively in raising hogs and cattle and also in feeding stock, and his carefully managed business affairs brought to him gratifying success. In 1907 he removed to York and built a beautiful home at 605 East Ninth street. However, he still gives supervision to his farming interests and raises between four hundred and six hundred head of hogs annually. His landed possessions embrace eight hundred and eighty acres and from his fields he annually gathers golden harvests, making his yearly income a most substantial one. He was largely without capital when he arrived in Nebraska. He paid six dollars per acre for his first land, making a payment of one dollar down and meeting the remaining payments on time. He became connected with the First National Bank of Bradshaw upon its organization, serving as a member of its board of directors, and is also the vice president. He is likewise on the directorate of the First National Bank of York and of the First Trust Company & Savings Bank. He assisted in organizing the Bradshaw Telephone Company, of which he was president for ten years. Thus he has been actively and prominently connected with business interests in this section of the

state, his labors at all times being of a character that have contributed to public prosperity and progress as well as to individual success.

In 1877 Mr. Wells was married to Miss Stella Ball, who was born in Kane county, Illinois, a daughter of William H. and Julia Ann (Arnold) Ball, the former a native of Kentucky, while the latter was born in Ohio. They were married in Illinois and resided in that state for a number of years. Her father died in 1907, but Mrs. Ball is still living, making her home with Mr. and Mrs. Wells at the advanced age of ninety years. Mrs. Wells taught school in District 48 of York county in 1880 and 1881 and she was also a teacher in Illinois prior to her removal to the west. She had attended high school in Sycamore, Illinois, and was also a student in the normal school at Valparaiso, Indiana. To Mr. and Mrs. Wells has been born a daughter, Coila, the wife of Frank Moyer, formerly a resident of York.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Wells hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. He is also identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and his political support is given to the republican party. He has never been an office seeker, however, preferring to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs, and for many years his activity made him one of the leading live stock raisers of the county. He always gave more attention to feeding cattle than to cultivating his fields and always kept high-grade cattle, for which he received the highest market price. For thirty-five years, with the exception of one year, he never fed less than three car-loads of cattle and sometimes fed as many as five hundred head. He also raised more alfalfa than any other resident of the county and at one time had three hundred acres planted to that crop. His entire life has been actuated by a spirit of enterprise and progressiveness, and as the result of his carefully directed labors he is today one of the prosperous citizens of York county.

EDWARD BLENDER

Twelve years have passed since Edward Blender was called to his final rest, but his memory is cherished by many who knew him in and about York county, as he stood as a high type of manhood and citizenship and was devoted to the welfare and progress not only of his family but of the community in which he lived. He was born in Germany June 5, 1842, and died in 1908, being then in his sixty-fifth year. While a mere boy he accompanied his parents to America from the old country and on arrival the family went to the state of Illinois, where the father engaged in farming and spent the remainder of his life.

Edward Blender completed his education in the public schools of Illinois, continued to reside in his father's home helping in the work of the farm, and when he was about twenty years old enlisted as a member of the 58th Illinois Infantry and served with the Union army during the Civil war, his service covering a period of over three years. He was in numerous engagements while with the colors of the North and at the close of his military service he received an honorable discharge, returned to the family home in Illinois and resumed farming operations. He felt the call of the west and in 1872 set out for Nebraska, coming straight to York county and taking a homestead in Morton township. On taking up his residence

on the holding he put a frame shanty together which served as a home until better times came, and his first barn was composed of sod and earth. Mr. Blender lived amid those primitive surroundings for about two years, in the meantime having steadily applied himself to the development and cultivation of the farm. He experienced the hardships of dry seasons and struggled through the grasshopper plague which made havoc among the crops in that region. However, fortune began to smile. His agricultural interests were carefully and successfully conducted and for many years he concentrated his efforts and attention upon the development of the fields. He ultimately became the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of well improved land, and when he was called away February 13, 1908, he left behind him a substantial property for the benefit of his widow and family. With very little of this world's goods to his credit when locating in the county he applied himself to the problems of wresting from the soil all that it could be expected to yield, and marked success attended his efforts. Prosperity came to him, but his natural modesty and simplicity of manner were in nowise impaired. His personal qualities were such as won for him the warm regard of many and there was sincere regret when he died.

In 1871 Mr. Blender was united in marriage to Louise Blessman, a native of Germany who came to this country in the year of her marriage, accompanied by her sister, Elizabeth Bristol, now living near Waco. To their union nine children were born: John, a farmer, living in South Dakota; Edward, farming his father's place; Albert, who died at the age of thirty-six; William, a farmer, of Arborville township; Charles, a farmer, of York county; Clara, wife of Pat Mulligan, of Newton, Kansas; Louise, who married Neil Deremus, and lives in Polk county, Nebraska; Belle, wife of Guy Wildman, a farmer, of Morton township; and Minnie, who married Russell Nixon, now deceased. Mrs. Blender is a member of the Lutheran church and in the social and cultural activities of her neighborhood she takes a prominent place. She lives amid pleasant surroundings in Benedict and has hosts of friends who admire her traits of character and cordiality of manner. Mr. Blender was a member of the G. A. R.

EDWIN MILLER, D. D. S.

Since November, 1916, Dr. Edwin Miller has been a resident of York and his thorough training and previous experiences as a dentist have gained for him the confidence of the public and his fellow practitioners. He was born in Springfield, Illinois, on the 11th of March, 1874, a son of Joseph R. and Mary (Buri) Miller, both of whom were natives of southern Germany. The father served in the German Revolution of 1848 and soon after that time removed to the United States, settling in St. Louis. It was here that he met and married his wife and in 1850 they went to Springfield, Illinois, to make their home. For thirty-four years they resided in that city and then removed to York where he purchased some land from one of the early pioneers of that place. Here Mr. and Mrs. Miller resided until their deaths, becoming well known and prominent citizens of the community. Mr. Miller was a staunch supporter of the republican party and the first presidential vote ever cast by him was for Abraham Lincoln. It is said of Mr. Miller that his features



FROM A MEDALLION MADE BY HIS SON, DR. EDWIN MILLER

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were similar to Mr. Lincoln's and he was known throughout York county as "Old Abe." Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Miller, five of whom are living: Mrs. George Ragan, whose husband is a retired farmer of York; Frank R., a bridge contractor residing in Springfield, Illinois; W. A., a real estate man in York who was at one time county clerk of York county; H. M., who resides near Bradshaw and is county supervisor and farmer; and Dr. Edwin Miller the subject of this sketch. The family were reared in the United Brethren faith.

In the acquirement of his education Dr. Miller attended the public schools of York county and later deciding upon a professional career entered the dental department of the Omaha University, in September, 1901, and was graduated from this university with his degree in 1904. He first located in Bradshaw for the practice of his profession, but in 1916 removed to York where he has since continued to practice. He has ever kept abreast with the advances made in his profession and in 1907 took a post-graduate course at Haskell Post Graduate Dental College. Dr. Miller has gained a wide and favorable reputation as a dentist and has built up a large and representative patronage.

On the 24th of September, 1907, occurred the marriage of Dr. Miller and Miss Pearl Boles, a daughter of M. M. Boles, who is now residing in David City and is one of the high officers in the Royal Highlanders. Dr. and Mrs. Miller have become the parents of three children, namely: Joseph M., aged ten years; Edwin, Jr., who is six years of age; and Dan McMullin, who is three years of age. Mrs. Miller is prominent in club and social circles and is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

As was his father before him Dr. Miller is a staunch supporter of the republican party and when he resided in Bradshaw served for two terms on the board of trustees of that village. He was also village treasurer for three years. Fraternally Dr. Miller is affiliated with the Masons, the Modern Woodmen, Woodmen of the World, the Royal Highlanders, and both he and his wife are members of the Eastern Star. Dr. Miller is fond of sculpturing and finds some recreation in this work, although most of his time is devoted to his duties at the office. He considers that his professional duties have the first claim upon his time and interest but is not indifferent to the progress of his city along various lines of endeavor. His outstanding characteristics are such as commend him to the warm regard and confidence of his fellowmen, and he is held in high esteem in York and in the surrounding community.

DANIEL GRAVES

For many years Daniel Graves, now deceased, was an honored and respected citizen of York county being widely known as an agriculturist and business man of great ability. He was born in Rutland county, Vermont, June 22, 1844, a son of Daniel and Almira (Rogers) Graves, both natives of the same state. The Graves and Rogers families are among the representative families of New England and are of English ancestry. For nine generations the Graves family have resided in the United States, Thomas Graves who came from England in 1610 being the progenitor of the family in this country. Thomas Graves died in 1662, leaving a

son John who was killed by the Indians in 1677 while defending his home in Hatfield, Massachusetts. John Graves, another ancestor, was born in 1652 and died in 1750 and his son John was born in 1682 and died in 1716. Nathan, the son of John, was born in March, 1716, and died in 1786. The grandfather of Daniel Graves the subject of this review, was also named Daniel and was born in either Vermont or Massachusetts on the 25th of September, 1769. During the War of 1812, he was captain of a company of militia. For some time he conducted a hotel and tannery, also engaging in the manufacture of potash. He had learned the latter's trade when a young man but seldom followed it, devoting the latter part of his life to farming. When grandfather Graves was but a lad of fourteen years he played the fife and his brother the drum and they assisted in the enlistment and mustering of a regiment in which their father was captain of a company. When the regiment started on the march Mr. Graves and his brother went with them to Crown Point, but when the battle commenced were sent to the rear and soon afterward sent home. The father of the subject of this review, Daniel Graves, removed to McHenry county, Illinois, in 1847 and engaged in farming until his death on the 21st of July, 1869. His wife was Almira Rogers and they became the parents of six children, four sons and two daughters, of whom the subject of this sketch is the youngest. One of the sons is Bishop Graves of Nebraska and California for the past ten years.

In the acquirement of his education Daniel Graves of this review attended the common schools of McHenry county, Illinois, and having been reared on a farm followed that occupation his entire life. When but twenty-one years of age he started out in the world empty-handed but soon became owner of a small farm of fifty-six acres in Illinois, which he sold in 1877. He then came to York county where he purchased four hundred acres of railroad land near Arborville, subsequently increasing his acreage until he owned one thousand and forty acres. This land at the time of purchase was nothing but a wild prairie but soon became some of the most highly cultivated land in the county. His next step in improvements was to build a beautiful home and outbuildings in keeping with it. The timber for this house they shipped from Chicago as far as Clarks and hauled it across the Platte river the remainder of the way. He set out three thousand pine trees on his place and it was not long before they made a fine grove in which church and Sunday school picnics were held for many years. As a result of his diligence and labor he was soon recognized as one of the leading farmers in the county and was readily acknowledged the largest stock feeder in the county. For seventeen years before his death Mr. Graves suffered from paralysis and when he passed away on the 27th of July, 1917, it came as a sad blow to his many friends as well as to his devoted family.

In 1872 occurred the marriage of Mr. Graves and Miss Martha Loomer, a daughter of Timothy and Almira Loomer, the former a native of Nova Scotia, while the latter was born in Vermont. Mr. and Mrs. Loomer settled in Illinois in an early day. To Mr. and Mrs. Graves, the following children were born: Almira who is teaching art in the United Brethren college is the wife of E. B. Koon, a real estate dealer and retired farmer of York. Mrs. Koon received her training in art in Chicago where she attended the Art Institute; Nora is the wife of H. J. Clarke of Lincoln, who is engaged in the monument business; Daniel is residing on the old homestead; Mabel P. is the wife of M. H. Kealiher, a farmer in

York county; and Henry C. is mentioned on another page of this work. The family were reared in the Episcopalian faith.

Throughout his entire life Mr. Graves gave his allegiance to the democratic party and was always interested in the development and improvement of the community in which he lived. He was a member of the committee to build the courthouse at York, and was also on the committee having in charge the building of a Congregational church at Arborville. Fraternally he was a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and of the Modern Woodmen. In church circles both Mr. and Mrs. Graves always took an active part. For many years he taught classes in the Sunday school and for twenty-five years Mrs. Graves led the singing in both church and Sunday school. Mr. Graves was a man of unusual character, one inspiring the confidence and trust of every person with whom he came in contact. In all matters needing advice his neighbors appealed to him and he was always called upon to settle differences, both parties being assured fair judgment. During the seventeen years of his affliction he was ever cheerful and Mrs. Graves sacrificed everything for his comfort. For eleven years Mrs. Graves took Mr. Graves to Florida and two years to California. In fact for years she devoted her time night and day to Mr. Graves' comfort, sacrificing years of her life to that noble effort. In his passing York county lost an honorable, upright and successful citizen. Mrs. Graves is residing in her beautiful home at 916 East avenue, secure in the deep respect and regard held for her by her fellow citizens.

HARRY L. BLAIR

An excellent farm of one hundred and twenty acres pays tribute to the care and labor bestowed upon it by Harry L. Blair, whose place is located on section 32, Stewart township, York county. Moreover, he is a native son of the county, born March 14, 1872, a son of Cyrus and Emma (Bedell) Blair, the former a native of Illinois and the latter of Ohio, who lived in Illinois until 1870 when they came to York county and homesteaded.

Cyrus Blair was a farmer in Illinois up to the outbreak of the Civil war and in response to President Lincoln's first call for volunteers he enlisted in April, 1861, becoming a member of the 60th Company, 11th Illinois Infantry and served with that command throughout the entire period of the war. He was in the famous battle of Gettysburg and at Shiloh and participated in other important engagements. In one of those battles his clothes were riddled with bullets but he escaped serious injury. During his war service he applied for and obtained a short furlough and while home on leave he was married, after which he returned to his regiment. At the close of the war Mr. Blair was mustered out, receiving an honorable discharge, and went back to Illinois where his wife was awaiting him, and in that state he engaged in farming for about five years. In 1870 he decided to go further afield and came to York county in that year. He took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Thayer township and there erected a dugout for a temporary home and also put up sod barns for the cattle, and it was in the dugout that his son, Harry L. Blair, was born. Lincoln was the nearest place from which supplies could be had and he had to do all the freighting from that town. He broke the land and

opened it up to cultivation and things were going well with him until the grasshopper invasion, when he lost all his crops and had to burn his corn. However, he renewed his efforts and in time his place had recovered from the ravages of the grasshopper plague and he finally had the satisfaction of seeing his place in first-class condition and well improved, the equal of any in the township. He disposed of the homestead in 1894 and retired to the Soldiers Home at Grand Island and there passed away in 1910, being in his seventy-fifth year. His wife predeceased him by several years, her death occurring in 1893, at the age of fifty-four. They were the parents of four children: Nellie, the wife of Charles Heaton, a farmer of Gothenburg, Nebraska; Ida, the wife of H. B. Mowery, of Greenfield, Massachusetts; Harry L., the subject of this sketch; and Guy, living in Bayard, Nebraska. He was a staunch republican and an active and earnest member of the Grand Army of the Republic of York.

Harry L. Blair spent his youthful days under the parental roof and early became familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops, dividing his time between the acquirement of an education and the work of the fields. Later he started farming on his own account and bought a tract of land which he operated successfully in the early years of his occupation. He added to his holding as circumstances permitted and is now the owner of a well kept farm of one hundred and twenty acres and is giving his undivided attention to general agricultural pursuits, including the raising of a good grade of live stock. There are substantial buildings on the land and he utilizes the latest improved machinery in carrying on the work of the fields. He is a stockholder in the Farmers State Bank and in the elevator at Thayer.

In 1893 Mr. Blair was united in marriage to Charlotte E. Robertson, a native of Illinois and a daughter of Joseph Robertson who came to York county in the 80's. They are the parents of eight children: Nina, the wife of Perry Schwasinger, of Alliance; Utha, who married Charles Elrod, of Hazard, Nebraska; Emma, the wife of D. R. Kinney, of Lincoln; Florence, who died at the age of eighteen; and Hosea, Homer, Marion and Joseph, all at home. Mr. Blair gives his political allegiance to the republican party and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Those who know him esteem him highly, for his marked characteristics of manhood and citizenship are those which commend him to the warm regard, the confidence and the goodwill of those with whom he has been associated.

CHARLES A. CALKINS, D. D. S.

A native son of Nebraska is Charles A. Calkins who since 1903 has been engaged in the dental business in York. In his profession Dr. Calkins has achieved a substantial amount of success and his practice which is now one of the largest in the county is steadily increasing.

Dr. Charles A. Calkins was born in Polk county, Nebraska, December 25, 1881, a son of Kirkland and Lorilla V. (Williams) Calkins, extended mention of whom is made elsewhere in this work. Dr. Calkins received his early education in Polk county and on the removal of his parents to York county attended the high school. He then entered York College and after completing a course there decided on

dentistry as his life work. He began the study of this profession at the Omaha University and was graduated, D. D. S. in 1903. The same year he commenced practice in York and sometime later his brother Bert entered into practice with him, continuing in this connection for some time. Dr. Calkins is now practicing his profession alone, however, and is winning a name for himself among the members of his profession in the county. Dr. Calkins also maintains a great deal of interest in country life, and has purchased one thousand acres of land in Colorado, making trips there each year. This land is some of the finest in the state and is very productive.

In 1904 Dr. Calkins was united in marriage to Miss Olga Wiig, a native of Omaha and a daughter of Peter Wiig, a pioneer merchant of that place. He established the first Boston Store there and is still in the business owning the New York Department Store. To the union of Dr. and Mrs. Calkins two children have been born: Ardith and Kirkland Jack, both of whom are attending school.

Dr. Calkins aside from his work has devoted considerable time to the improvement and development of York and was for some time a member of the city council. Fraternally he is a member of the A. F. & A. M., the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. Dr. Calkins is a member of the United Brethren church while his wife belongs to the Lutheran church. Dr. and Mrs. Calkins are likewise members of the York Country Club and are prominent in the social affairs of the community. Industry, energy and laudable ambition have carried Dr. Calkins steadily forward and he is today a representative citizen of York.

MILES WHOLSTENHOLM

For many years Miles Wholstenholm engaged in farming in York county and so ably managed his affairs that he gained financial independence and is now trying to content himself with a retired life. He was born in Peoria county, Illinois, October 25, 1855, a son of John Wholstenholm who is now deceased, and further mention of whom is made elsewhere in this work.

Miles Wholstenholm was a lad of sixteen years when the family came to Nebraska and for some time lived in a dugout on his father's land. His father had taken a tree claim to which our subject, Miles Wholstenholm, fell heir by purchasing a relinquishment and proving up under the homestead act. He sold this land, however, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of slightly improved land in section 30, West Blue township. He has since greatly improved his land and his farm is now recognized as one of the finest in the community. In the intervening years he has also purchased more land and now owns a quarter section in Fillmore county and a half section in Kansas. Employing every opportunity for advancement Mr. Wholstenholm has made steady progress and is now regarded as one of the substantial farmers of York county.

In York county occurred the marriage of Mr. Wholstenholm to Miss Sarah Ramsden who was born in England in 1857. She was a daughter of Edwin and Hannah (Perrin) Ramsden who came to the United States when their daughter was but one year old. They settled in Peoria county, Illinois, where Mr. Ramsden died. The mother died at the home of her daughter, June 25, 1917. Mrs. Wholsten-

holm was a young woman of twenty when she removed to York county where she was married. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Wholstenholm: Ruth, who is residing at home; Felix, who is a veteran of the World war and is now living at home; Freda, who is the wife of Henry Gillan, a farmer of West Blue township; and Alice, who is the wife of Bryan Tatman of Lincoln. The Wholstenholm family are all consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Wholstenholm the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party and of the principles for which it stands. He has always been active in the educative circles of his community and has been a member of the school board for twenty-five years, with the exception of one term. Mr. Wholstenholm is now living a retired life and is very prominent in West Blue township where he continues to make his home. In all of his business affairs he has displayed sound judgment and indefatigable energy, and these qualities have been the basis of his present success.

EZRA H. SMITH

Business enterprise at York finds a worthy representative in Ezra H. Smith who is manager as well as secretary and treasurer of the Harrison Nursery Company. He is a native son of Nebraska born in Clay county on the 8th of January, 1873, a son of Neri and Esther (Faires) Smith, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of the state of Ohio. Their marriage occurred in Iowa where they had removed with their respective parents at an early day, and where they remained until 1874, then removing to Clay county, Nebraska. Mr. Smith was successful in acquiring a homestead in this county which was also the home of numerous Indians and big game. Hunting was not so much a sport as a necessity in those early days, and Mr. Smith brought in many elk, buffaloes and smaller game. Antelopes were especially plentiful. Mr. and Mrs. Smith resided on this farm until 1914 when they went to California, after three years returning to Nebraska. This time they settled in York and here they are now residing, retired. When the Civil war broke out Mr. Smith was among the first to enlist from Ohio, joining the Forty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry with which he served three years and seven months. He participated in some of the important battles of the war and was with Sherman on his march to the sea. Ezra H. Smith is the first in order of birth of a family of five children born to this union, four of whom are living: the subject of this review; Nona, who is married and living at Long Beach, California; Rollo N., a contractor residing at Long Beach; and Rena, the wife of L. M. Swartz, a farmer near Kearney. The family were reared in the faith of the Christian church and Mr. and Mrs. Smith still take an active interest in that organization. Mr. Smith gives his allegiance to the republican party and is a prominent member of the G. A. R. Grandfather Martin Smith was a comparatively young man at the time of his death which occurred at his home in Pennsylvania. The maternal grandfather was Thomas Faires who was born in Ohio but later removed to Missouri where he made his home and engaged in farming and fruit growing.

But little education was received by Ezra H. Smith, for at an early age he began

to work for his father. Subsequently in 1894 he started to work on a railroad section for which he was paid the sum of one dollar and fifteen cents per day. From his home to his work was a distance of two miles, and this Mr. Smith covered on foot daily. While working on the section he learned telegraphy, studying it in his spare time, with the result that soon he was employed in that capacity on the Burlington road at various offices. At Havelock he was paid fifteen dollars per month and was soon transferred to Aurora where as night operator he received forty dollars per month. He was operator at Aurora and Ravenna, then agent at Cushing, Cairo, Palmer and York. He was the youngest man to hold a competitive station when he came to York. For seven years he held the agency in York and then became connected with the Harrison Nursery Company, acting as sales manager for a period of two and one-half years. His devotion to his work soon won him the position of manager and he has served in this connection since. In addition to his duties as manager he is secretary and treasurer of the company. In the financial circles of York he is also prominent, being a director in the American State Bank and secretary of the York Investment Company.

In 1897 Mr. Smith was married to Miss Myrtle E. Zook, a native of Clay county and a daughter of William Zook, who homesteaded in Clay county in 1872 and died on his farm in 1899. Mrs. Zook is also deceased, her death having occurred in York in 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are the parents of two children: Vivian, the daughter, graduated from the Cotner University at Lincoln in 1920 and is now teaching music in Gresham and York; and the son, Leslie R., is in high school.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Smith the right of franchise he has supported the republican party. Fraternally he is a York Rite Mason and Shriner and has passed through all the chairs of the blue lodge. He is a past patron of the O. E. S. and past generalissimo in the commandery. He is a charter member of the Rotary Club and one of its directors, and is vice president of the York County Commercial Club and a member of the board on which he has served since its organization. He is on the board of the Young Men's Christian Association and past president of the Business Men's Association, one of the trustees of the Cotner University of Lincoln and a member of the Sons of Veterans. Since his entrance into the horticultural business he has furthered his knowledge in this line by reading and studying and in connection with his work is vice president of the Western Association of Nurserymen and president of the State Horticultural Society. He is well known in social circles and is a member of the York Country Club.

REV. PETER P. EPP

The student of history cannot carry his investigations far into the records of York county without learning of the close connection of the Epp family with the material, intellectual and moral progress of this section of the state. Rev. Peter P. Epp, well known as an honored citizen of Henderson township, is engaged in farming and stock raising, a valuable tract of land of five hundred and twenty acres paying tribute to the care and labor which he bestows upon it. He was born in southern Russia, November 3, 1861, a son of Peter and Barbara (Isaak) Epp, both

of whom were natives of Russia. They came to America in 1875 and crossing the continent to Nebraska settled on section 3, Henderson township, York county, where the father purchased railroad land. Upon this he built a little house of slab planks and the family occupied the pioneer dwelling for forty years. In 1879 the father died but the mother long survived, passing away in 1906. In their family were ten children, of whom five died in Russia, while the other five came with their parents to the new world.

Peter P. Epp was a lad of thirteen years at the time the family left Russia and came to the United States. His educational opportunities were largely received in his native country but throughout his life he has learned many valuable lessons in the school of experience. He continued upon the home farm until he reached the age of twenty-seven years and his training in all of the farm work was most thorough and comprehensive. He then determined to engage in business on his own account and purchased a tract of land to which he has added from time to time, thus constantly extending the boundaries of his place until he now owns five hundred and twenty acres, constituting one of the highly improved farms of Henderson township. Upon it are good buildings for the shelter of grain and stock and fine farm machinery enables him quickly and thoroughly to do the work of the fields. He has ever been a most energetic man and his labors are crowned with substantial success.

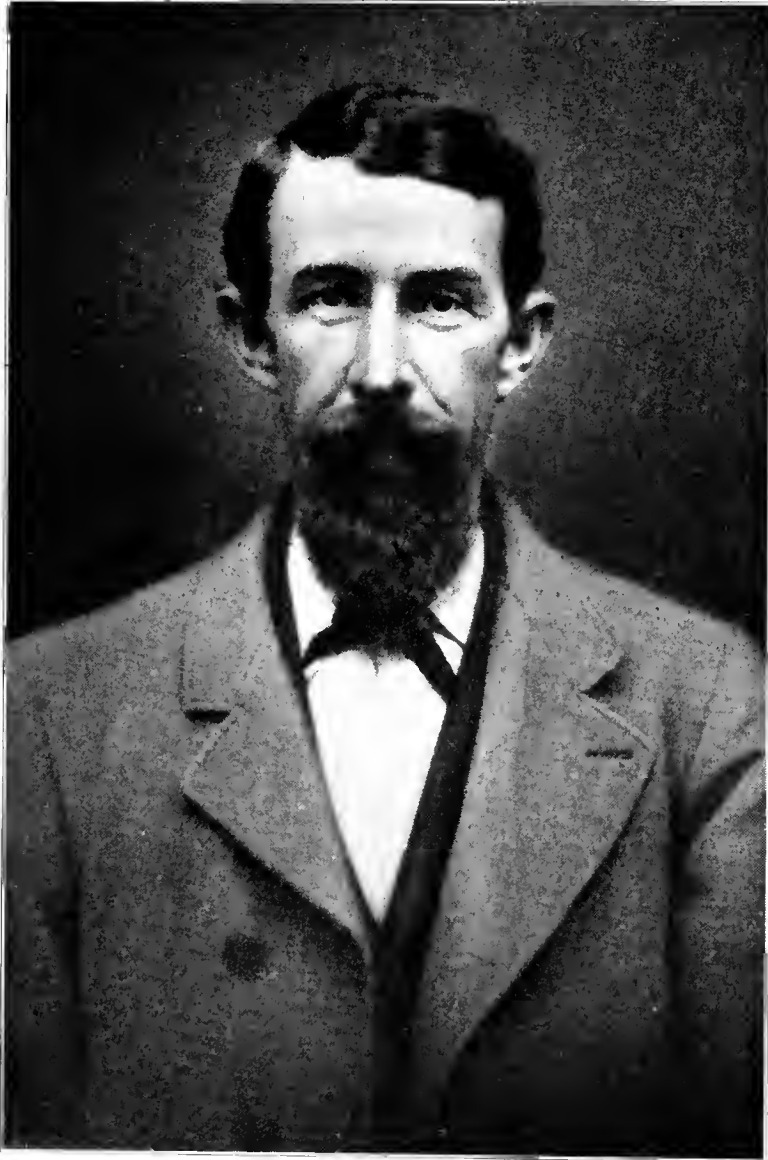
In 1885 Mr. Epp was united in marriage to Miss Katherine Wall, a native of Russia, who came to America with her parents in 1874, she being a daughter of C. M. and Helen (Dierksen) Wall. Her father has now passed away but the mother is living and makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Epp. To Mr. and Mrs. Epp have been born eleven children: Jacob and Barbara, both of whom have passed away; Peter E., now living in Montana; Helen, the wife of Jacob F. Penner; Cornelius, at home; Barabara, the wife of David A. Regier, of Minnesota; Jacob and John, who have departed this life; Abraham E.; Tina E.; and Marie.

Mr. and Mrs. Epp are members of the Ebenezer church, of which he was deacon for five years, and they take a most active and helpful interest in all the church work. Mr. Epp was ordained a preacher and is now devoting a part of his time to the work of the ministry. He is one of the prominent men of the county, honored and esteemed by all by reason of an upright life and the sterling worth of character which everywhere wins confidence and regard.

McLANE B. THOMPSON

For a number of years McLane B. Thompson was a prominent and progressive farmer of York county. He was a self-made man, his success being the result of his own diligence and determination. For twenty-two years he lived retired in York and when his demise occurred on the 20th of September, 1919, it was the occasion of widespread grief in the community.

McLane B. Thompson was born in Maryland in 1845, a son of Edward and Matilda Thompson, who are both now deceased and buried in Maryland. Mr. Thompson received his early education in the country schools in Maryland and some time after putting his textbooks aside removed to Illinois, subsequently com-



McLANE B. THOMPSON

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ing to Nebraska and settling in York county in 1879. He purchased railroad land in this county and resided thereon for a number of years. He then removed to Lushton and engaged in the lumber business in which venture he won more than a substantial measure of success. In 1898 he removed to York and retired. In 1906 he built a fine modern residence on his lot in York at 906 East Sixth street, and here resided until his death. The widow is now residing in the home alone, a highly respected citizen of the community.

In 1876 Mr. Thompson was united in marriage to Miss Emma Norton, who was a native of Marshall county, Illinois, and a daughter of John and Elanor (Berry) Norton. The father was a native of Ohio, while the mother was born in England. They removed to Illinois at an early day where the father engaged in farming and here they resided until they passed away. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Norton, three of whom are living, namely: George, who is living retired at Varna, Illinois; Mrs. Thompson, the widow of the subject of this review; and John, who is also living retired at Varna, Illinois. No children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, but Mr. Thompson had two children by a previous marriage, namely: Carrie, now deceased; and Gertie, the wife of Charles McDonough, of York, who is in the mercantile business.

Mr. Thompson was a staunch supporter of the democratic party and was well informed on the questions and issues of the day. Fraternally he was a member of the Modern Woodmen and was likewise a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mrs. Thompson is also a member of that church and takes an active part in the various affairs of that organization. The life of Mr. Thompson was one of intense activity, intelligently directed, and during his residence in York made many friends.

LEWIS S. LOOMER

Lewis S. Loomer, who at one time was probably the largest cattle feeder in York county, is now making his home in the city of York, giving his attention largely to the supervision of his investments and business interests. He is connected financially and officially with several important business concerns and at the same time manifests a most helpful interest in many projects which have been of the greatest worth and benefit to the community in which he lives. While success has attended his efforts the attainment of prosperity has never been the sole end and aim of his life. He has ever recognized his duties to his fellowmen and in many ways is contributing to the work which is making the world better. Mr. Loomer was born in Walworth county, Wisconsin, February 22, 1855, a son of Timothy and Almira (King) Loomer, the former a native of Nova Scotia, while the latter was born in Vermont. They were married in Wisconsin, having become pioneer residents of that state, and in 1855 they removed to Illinois. The father was extensively engaged in farming in McHenry county of the latter state for a number of years and eventually removed to York county, Nebraska, where he and his wife spent their last days in the home of their son Lewis. They had a family of six children, of whom five are yet living: Melvin, who is a retired jeweler making his home in Waterloo, Iowa; Mrs. Martha Graves, mentioned elsewhere in this

work; Timothy, a wealthy property owner of Leadville, Colorado; Lewis S., subject of this review, and Arthur, who is living on a farm in Wisconsin. The parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal church and lived consistent Christian lives. Mr. Loomer was a republican in his political views and was always helpfully interested in projects for the general good. He was widely recognized as a self-made man and one who deserved great credit not only for the upbuilding of his own fortunes but for the development of a character which everywhere commanded confidence and respect.

Lewis S. Loomer largely obtained his education at Marengo, Illinois, and started out in the business world as a farmer. In 1877 he arrived in York county, Nebraska, which was still a frontier district, and took up a homestead claim of eighty acres, after which he proceeded to buy more land, adding to his holdings from time to time until he now has two thousand acres. He had no assistance at the outset of his career and his notable success is the direct outcome of his industry, perseverance and good business judgment. For years he drove oxen in developing his farm property and for seven years lived in a sod house. As time passed on all this condition changed as the result of his industry and unflinching enterprise, and he became one of the most prosperous residents of this section of the state. He turned his attention to the feeding of cattle while on the farm and was probably the largest stock feeder in York county. His property holdings still return to him a most substantial annual income. In November, 1909, he removed to York, where he purchased a new and attractive home, and while residing in the city, gives his attention to the operation and direction of his business affairs. He has been closely associated with many business enterprises which have proven of great benefit to the city and county. He put an investment of six thousand dollars in the McCloud Hotel and purchased stock to the extent of ten thousand dollars in the York mill in 1919. He is now the vice president of the York Milling Company and has ten thousand dollars' worth of stock in the York brickyard, of which he is the vice president. He is also a director of the First National Bank of York and of the First National Bank of Bradshaw and is likewise a director of the Farmers' State Bank of Polk, Nebraska.

On the 3d of January, 1877, Mr. Loomer was married to Miss Mary W. Wild, who was born in Union, Illinois, and reared in Marengo, Illinois, and they have become parents of six children, of whom three are living: Earl, a resident farmer of Wollbach, Greeley county, Nebraska; Ruth, the wife of Roy N. Gilbert, of Nampa, Idaho, and the mother of two sons, Edward and George; and Ruby, twin sister of Ruth, who is at home. The daughters are graduates of York College and of Doane College and both were teachers for two years.

Mr. Loomer holds membership in the Congregational church and he is also connected with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. In politics he is a republican but has never been an office seeker, preferring to discharge his public duties in other connections. He has been most liberal with his means, giving to York College fifteen hundred dollars in 1918 and five thousand dollars in 1919. He also gave to York Hospital fifteen hundred dollars and has been most liberal in his support of the Young Men's Christian Association and other public institutions. As he has prospered his benefactions have increased and he is constantly extending aid where he believes the best results can be achieved. When he arrived in York county his cash capital was but fifty-five dollars. Today he is one of the wealthiest

men of this section of the state and is now enjoying life with all of its comforts and many of its luxuries. The most envious cannot grudge him his success, so honorably has it been won and so worthily used. He has recognized and embraced opportunities that others have passed heedlessly by and his sound judgment and diligence have been the basic elements in the attainment of his splendid success.

DENNIS MEEHAN

Among the prominent citizens of York is Dennis Meehan who has been engaged in the shoe business in that place for a period of thirty-two years. He was born in Morris, Illinois, on the 6th of August, 1863, a son of Dennis and Mary (O'Connor) Meehan, both of Irish birth. The father was born in County Leitrim, Ireland, in 1812 and the mother in 1813. Mr. and Mrs. Meehan were married in Ireland but later came to the United States, arriving in Chicago in 1859. On first coming to this country the father worked as a contractor and builder and by his own labor and diligence became financially so successful that he was soon able to purchase some land. This land was on what is now Blue Island avenue in Chicago. Cultivating and improving the land he grew fine grain and hay which he sold, thereby adding to his finances and in 1861 removed with his family to Morris, Illinois, where he soon after retired. Mr. and Mrs. Meehan were consistent members of the Catholic church and he was a staunch supporter of the democratic party. Eleven children were born to this union of whom the subject of this review, Dennis Meehan, was the youngest. Four are living, namely: Mrs. Frances Boyle, who is a widow and resides in Grand Island; P. W., a coal dealer in Galesburg; Mrs. Maria Whalen, a widow residing in Wichita, Kansas; and Dennis, the subject of this sketch. Mr. Meehan's death occurred in 1874 and his wife died in 1875. In their passing the community lost two of its most progressive and prominent citizens.

Dennis Meehan received his education in the schools of Braidwood, Illinois, and after putting his textbooks aside he worked in the coal mines, later serving an apprenticeship to the shoemaker's trade and worked in general merchandise stores. For a number of years he worked at this trade in Illinois and in 1888 removed to York. When he arrived here his chief asset was a thorough knowledge of the shoe business. He immediately entered into the shoe business on his own account and has since continued. Beginning with but a small stock he has steadily increased his trade until he now has one of the largest stores of the kind in Nebraska and also owns the building. Aside from his shoe business he is well known in financial circles, being a director in the First National Bank and he also owns considerable land in York county. His two farms are among the best improved and most highly cultivated in the county.

In 1890 occurred the marriage of Mr. Meehan and Miss Mary E. Gallagher, a native of Canton, Illinois, and to them four children have been born, namely: Peter A.; Rose G.; Dennis, Jr., who is in business with his father; and Mary A. The oldest son, Peter A., entered the service of the United States in the World war in 1917, serving with Motor Truck Company, No. 414. He sailed for France on the 26th of May, 1918, remaining there until June 27, 1919, when he returned to this country, secured his discharge and came back to York. He participated in

all the engagements from the Champagne-Marne to the Argonne, inclusive, having been moved to the front nine days after they landed. He has an interest in his father's business and spends all of his time in that connection.

The Meehan family are all members of the Catholic church and Mr. Meehan is a Knight of Columbus and an Elk. In politics he has always given his allegiance to the democratic party. He has always been active in the development and improvement of the community and for three years was president of the Commercial Club and a member of the Rotary Club. Mr. Meehan owns a beautiful home in York where hospitality abounds and here he and his family reside—highly respected, progressive and representative citizens.

WILLIAM A. JOHNSON

William A. Johnson, who is engaged in farming, was born in Lee county, Illinois, August 29, 1868, a son of C. B. and Hulda (Holdren) Johnson, both natives of Pennsylvania. The father, who started farming in Pennsylvania and remained in that line for several years, removed to Illinois in 1863 and settled on a tract of prairie land which he proceeded to get into a state of cultivation and on which he carried on general farming for about seven years. In 1879 he came to York county, when this part of the state was assuming definite shape, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Morton township. He worked his place and ultimately brought it to a good condition of improvement, raising fine crops which were disposed of in neighboring markets at remunerative prices. Mr. Johnson added to his land holdings and finally became the owner of three hundred and twenty acres, which at the time of his death were in a state of excellent improvement. All his success was attributable to his own unaided efforts. He learned how best to conserve time and effort and to make each movement tell in the accomplishment of his purpose. His work on the farm was done in a methodical manner and with the view to securing maximum results, and it is to his systematic habits a large part of his success may be traced. He died in 1916 in his seventy-second year. His wife predeceased him, passing away in 1901 at the age of fifty-seven years. They were the parents of three children: J. M., living in Benedict; Ida, now deceased, was the wife of C. H. Read; and William A., the subject of this sketch. He was affiliated with the Elks and the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and gave his political support to the republican party, of whose principles and policies he had always been a consistent adherent.

William A. Johnson was eleven years old when his parents came to York county from Illinois and he was educated in the public schools of the county. For several years he assisted his father in the operations of the home farm and thus acquired a sound working knowledge of agricultural affairs which proved valuable in his later career. When he had reached his twenty-second year he started farming on his own account and in the intervening years he has worked diligently and has gained a place among the substantial farmers of the county, his general farming operations, stock raising and feeding for the market being reckoned among the best in the district. Evidences of his personal supervision and attention to business are available in the results which he has achieved, and his career has been notably success-

ful, owing to the steady application and persistent effort which he brought to bear on the details of agricultural affairs. He has a substantial and well built home and he and his family are very pleasantly and comfortably situated.

In 1891 Mr. Johnson was joined in wedlock to Esther Large, a native of Wisconsin and a daughter of Jonathan R. Large. The union has resulted in the birth of twins, both daughters: Jennie, who became the wife of Lawrence Sidwell; and Addie, wife of Irving Hardin, a farmer of York county. The mother of these children died in 1902, and Mr. Johnson married his present wife in 1904. Her maiden name was Clara Osborne, and she was born in Illinois. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Elks order, in the work of which he is much interested. His political allegiance is given to the republican party but he has never sought nor desired office. His industry and perseverance are among his salient characteristics and upon these qualities he has builded his success.

JOHN W. PITTMAN

John W. Pittman, superintendent of the Odd Fellows Home at York was born in Harrison county, Indiana, July 9, 1872, a son of E. J. and Anna (McBride) Pittman. Both Mr. and Mrs. Pittman were born in Harrison county and were married there. For a number of years Mr. Pittman engaged in farming in Indiana but in 1873 removed to Cass county, Nebraska, where he bought a claim on which he resided until 1897. In that year he removed to York and for some time engaged in the handling of horses, being a great lover of them. He is now practically retired but is serving as street commissioner of York, these duties taking up the time which would otherwise hang so heavily after a life of great activity. Mr. Pittman is now seventy-four years of age and his wife is seventy-two. They are consistent members of the Presbyterian church and he gives his allegiance to the republican party. Fraternally they are members of the order of Ben Hur. During the Civil war the father served in the home guard. To this union two children were born: Walter, a farmer in York county, Nebraska; and John W., the subject of this review. The paternal grandfather of John W. Pittman, David Pittman, was a native of Pennsylvania but later became a pioneer of Harrison county, Indiana, and of Cass county, Nebraska, in which latter place he died. The maternal grandfather was George McBride an early pioneer of Indiana and Cass county, his death occurring at the home of his daughter in Lincoln.

In the acquirement of an education John W. Pittman attended the public schools of Nebraska City and later took a course in a business college in Lincoln. His first experience in the business world was in connection with the hardware, undertaking, and furniture business at Union where he remained for three years. Giving up this work he entered into the employ of the Farmers Bank at Nebraska City as assistant bookkeeper and served in that capacity for a period of one and one-half years. At the expiration of this time he went to Omaha and accepted a position with the firm of Rector & Wilhelm, wholesale grocers. In 1894 he resigned this position and for two years after his marriage, which occurred in this year, he engaged in farming in Cass county. In 1879 he came to York where he resided on rented land until he accepted the superintendency of the State I. O. O. F.

Home in 1917. The duties connected with this institution are manifold and take his entire time. There are fifty-five children in the home and twelve old people. The institution has recently acquired a farm consisting of one hundred and sixty acres.

In 1894 Mr. Pittman was united in marriage to Miss Rose A. Smith who was born in Johnson county, Nebraska, and to them two daughters have been born: Winona, who is the wife of C. A. Hansen, an express agent at Seward; and Pansy, who is the wife of Irvin Fiekens connected with the street railway in Lincoln. Mrs. Pittman is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and prominent in the activities of that organization.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Pittman the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party and is well informed on all the questions and issues of the day. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which order he has filled all of the chairs and is past grand patriarch of the state. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen.

CARSTEN STAEHR

A life of intense and well directed activity, together with persistent, earnest labor, brought to Carsten Staehr, now deceased, a position among the successful pioneer farmers of York county.

Carsten Staehr was a native of Germany, his birth having occurred in that country on the 28th of December, 1836. He was reared and educated in the city of his nativity and on putting his textbooks aside engaged in farming. In 1862 he was married and ten years later removed with his family to America, coming to Nebraska and settling in York county. He acquired a homestead of eighty acres on section 4, of what is now Beaver township and their first home on that land was a dugout and later a sod house. In 1883 he built a frame house and it is still standing. He endured all the pioneer hardships and the destruction wrought by the grasshoppers, each obstacle in his path only seeming to spur him on to greater effort. He took his grain to Milford to the mill, using ox teams for transportation for the first few years. On arriving in York county Mr. Staehr had less than two hundred dollars but he soon became financially independent as the result of hard work and good management. When he came to this country he could not speak a word of English and much of his spare time was devoted to study. Previous to his death he was in possession of several hundred acres of the finest land in the county and he helped each of his sons buy farms, one son Fred now residing on the old homestead. The death of Mr. Staehr, which occurred on the home farm in 1917, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret. Mrs. Staehr had died some years before, her health having been poor for over twenty years.

In 1862 Mr. Staehr was united in marriage to Miss Margaretta Hopkins, a native of Oldenburg, Germany, born there on the 4th of June, 1838. Nine children were born to this union, six of whom are living, namely: William, of whom further mention is made elsewhere in this work; Carsten, who is married and lives in North Dakota; Lillie, who is the wife of Henry Naber, a farmer in York county; and Henry, Charles and Fred, all residents of York county, and of whom further

mention is made elsewhere in this work. One son, John, died about eight years ago and another son and a daughter passed away in early childhood.

The success which Mr. Staeger won came to him as the reward of persistent, earnest labor, and his life illustrates what can be accomplished through individual effort combined with persistency of purpose.

CLEMENT E. MERCHANT

A pioneer farmer of York county was Clement E. Merchant who is now living retired in York, enjoying the success which comes after a life of diligence and industry. Like many other prominent men of the county he is a native of another state, born in Pottawattamie county, Iowa, April 16, 1850. His parents were Lucius and Hortensia (Patrick) Merchant, both natives of Massachusetts, the father's birth having occurred in 1817. In 1842 the father removed to Hancock county, Illinois, and in 1851 took up his residence in Harrison county, Iowa. His death occurred there in 1895. He was married on the 15th of April, 1844, to Hortensia Patrick and they became the parents of seven children, five sons and two daughters, namely: Amasa, a retired farmer residing in Iowa; Clement E., the subject of this review; Mary, the wife of J. B. Hardy, a merchant residing in Logan, Iowa; Joseph, who is engaged in farming in Iowa; and Charles, a farmer at Oneta. The other two children are deceased.

Clement E. Merchant spent his boyhood days on a farm in Iowa and there he acquired a fair common school education. On becoming of age he engaged in farming in his native county where he was very successful. In 1872 he removed to York county and the following year located on a claim in section 18, Arborville township. Mr. Merchant was married in 1871 but did not bring his wife on this trip. The journey was made overland in a covered wagon drawn by horses, in which he carried all of his household goods. When he arrived in York county he had but five dollars but soon received an additional seventy-five from some wheat he had left in Iowa to be sold. The first home on this land was a little frame house twelve by fourteen feet which he built and piled sod around it. He added a sod lean-to. Mrs. Merchant made the trip by train and her husband met her at Columbus, a distance of fifty miles. This country was then in a most primitive state and had but few accommodations. It was necessary that Mr. Merchant remain at the hotel in Columbus over night and funds were secured for this purpose by pawning his revolver. On this trip as night came on he lost his way. Wolves were plentiful in those days and their howls were the only noise breaking the great silence. It was with some difficulty that Mr. Merchant found his way to Columbus. Mr. and Mrs. Merchant made their home on this farm for a number of years during which time they so improved and cultivated it that it soon became one of the finest and most progressive farms in the community. Becoming quite well-to-do as the result of his agricultural pursuits Mr. Merchant invested in more land and today is in possession of three hundred and twenty acres, well improved. In 1908 he decided to retire from active life and removed to York where he purchased three lots and built a fine home at 1306 Burlington avenue. He is still

deeply interested in his farms to which he pays occasional visits and he also works around his lots.

In 1871 Mr. Merchant was united in marriage to Miss Kate Alter, a native of Germany and a daughter of John and Martha (Geltz) Alter. Her parents came to this country from Germany in 1852, first settling in Pennsylvania. In 1869 they removed to Iowa and were prominent citizens of the communities in which they resided. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Merchant, namely: Frank, who is residing on his father's farm in York county; Alice, who is the wife of J. B. Kingston, a farmer of York county; Rollie C., who is residing on his father's farm; and Agnes, the wife of Walter Ely who is manager of the farmers' elevator at Stockham.

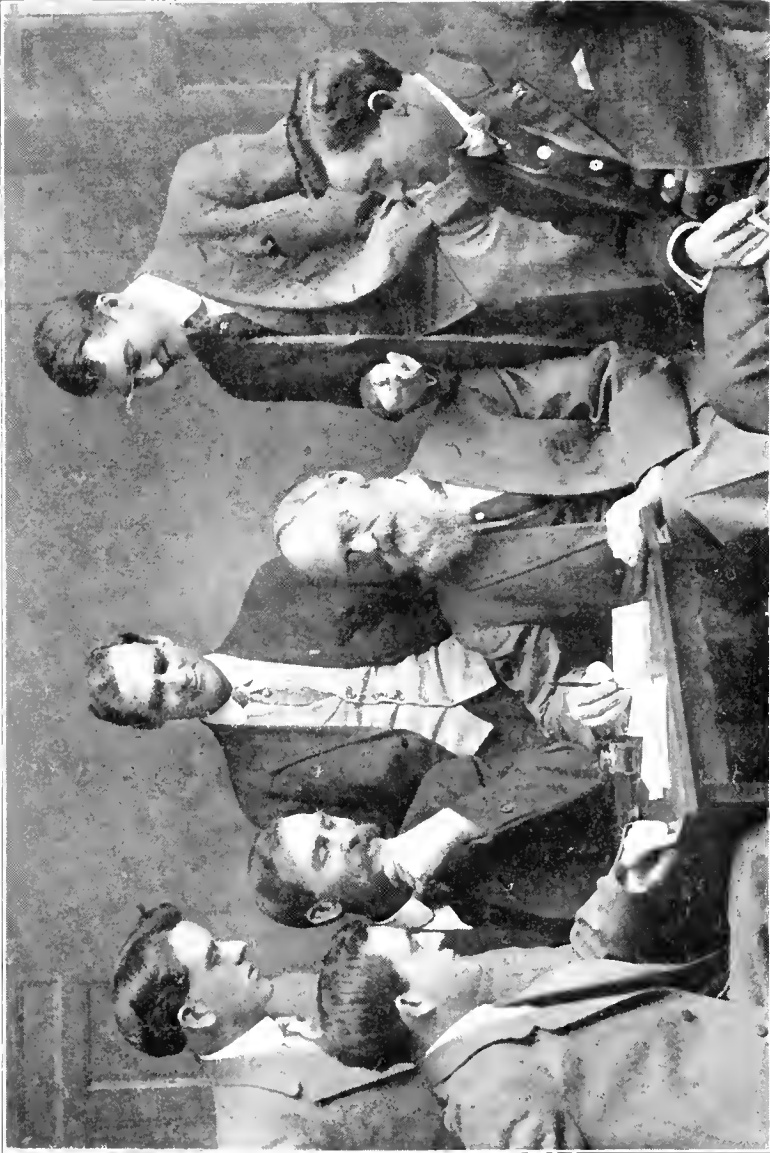
As the result of a strong determination and laudable ambition Mr. Merchant has crowned his life with successful achievement. He can look back over a long and useful career and a life well spent and he is widely recognized as a representative citizen of York.

JOHN B. ALLEN

In the passing of John B. Allen, a retired pioneer farmer, York county suffered a severe loss. For a number of years Mr. Allen had made his home in York and was widely recognized as one of the town's progressive and representative citizens.

John B. Allen was born in Lawrence county, Indiana, March 15, 1838, and died on the 14th of March, 1911, at the age of seventy-three years. He was a son of James and Margaret (Phillips) Allen. The father, who was the oldest of a family of seven sons and three daughters, came to Indiana with his father when but five years of age. After his marriage he removed to Iowa and there his death occurred in 1884. The mother passed away in 1869. Eight children were born to this union, of whom John B., the subject of this review, was the fifth in order of birth.

John B. Allen received his education in the schools of Indiana and Iowa, his parents having removed to the latter state when he was but fourteen years of age. After putting his textbooks aside he engaged in farming and remained in Iowa until 1871 when he came to Nebraska. He acquired a homestead in Leroy township, York county, and also purchased some railroad land. At the time of his death he was in possession of over one-half section of land. In the spring of 1872 Mr. Allen brought his family to the homestead, the trip being made in covered wagons wherein the family resided until a sod house was built. The land was in a wild, uncultivated state and Mr. Allen immediately set about to make it productive. He was very successful in this venture and after a period of two years erected a small frame house and later a fine residence on the farm. It was not long after Mr. Allen came to York county that he was widely recognized as an extensive farmer and stock raiser. In 1898 he determined to retire from active life and removed with his family to York, where he built a large modern home at 723 East Fourth street. For thirteen years Mr. Allen resided here, enjoying the fruits of a well spent life. Mrs. Allen makes her home here, financially independent, for her



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husband left her two hundred and forty acres of fine land in South Dakota in addition to the home place in York.

In 1862, in Kansas occurred the marriage of Mr. Allen to Miss Helen M. Howard, a daughter of Dr. Hiram and Isabelle (O'Harre) Howard. The father was a native of College Hill, Ohio, while the mother was born in Cincinnati. He received his medical education in Cincinnati where he practiced for some time before removing to Kansas in 1857. He also practiced at Cedar Grove for a while. On removing to Kansas he acquired a homestead and resumed his profession, practicing in the country around Topeka. He was a physician of much ability and stood high among the men of his profession in which he continued until his death in 1900. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Howard, five of whom are living. Mrs. Allen was the oldest member of the family. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Allen twelve children have been born, ten of whom are living, namely: Edward, who is a real estate dealer in San Diego, California; Laura, who is the wife of Julius Drake, a retired farmer residing in Kearney; Arthur, who is engaged in farming in York county; Ida, who is the wife of Winsel Smith, living retired at Curtis; Estella, who is the widow of Clay Love, and resides in York; Albert, who is engaged in the automobile business in York; Ernest, who graduated from the State University and is now an attorney in Chicago; Clark, who travels for a drug company and makes his residence in Norfolk; Roy, who is Chicago manager for the Ruben Manufacturing Company of Chicago; and Goldie, the wife of Claude Hudson who is engaged in the painting and paper-hanging business. Mr. and Mrs. Hudson make their home with Mrs. Allen. Two daughters, Ethel and Clara Kimball, are deceased.

Mr. Allen voted with the democratic party which found in him a stalwart advocate and he was always well informed on the important questions and issues of the day. Mr. and Mrs. Allen were both consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and she is still prominent in the affairs of that organization.

DANIEL GRAVES

Daniel Graves, who is an extensive farmer residing on section 11, Arborville township, York county, is a representative of one of the old families of the county. From an early period in the development of this section of the state the family has taken an active part in the work of general progress and improvement. Further reference to the family will be found in the sketch of Daniel Graves, father of our subject, which appears elsewhere in this work.

Daniel Graves was born July 26, 1883, on the farm where he now lives. He supplemented his public school education by taking a course in the Nebraska State Agricultural College, emerging from that institution fully equipped for the responsibilities which later devolved upon him. When his father had the misfortune to suffer a stroke of paralysis which unfitted him for further active work, Mr. Graves was equal to the task of taking charge of the home farm and applied himself with vigor to the superintendence of the place, his success being assured from the beginning. He has two hundred and eighty acres of land under his supervision and gives personal attention to the general farming and stock raising for which his

father had already established an excellent reputation. In addition to the cultivation of crops he is widely known as a breeder of Belgian horses and also breeds mules, Shorthorn cattle, and Poland China hogs, the latter being of registered grade. His present financial condition clearly indicates the progress he has made for actuated by laudable ambition he has worked his way steadily upward to a position among the most substantial agriculturists in the county.

In 1905 Mr. Graves was united in marriage to Miss Alice Henderson and they take an active and earnest part in the social and cultural movements of the community in which they reside and where they have hosts of friends. His attitude in politics is that of an independent voter.

CHARLES WAGONER

For a period of four years Charles Wagoner, for many years one of York county's most progressive and successful farmers, has lived retired in York. He was born in La Salle county, Illinois, in 1863, a son of Christian and Ellen (Brock) Wagoner, the former a native of Pennsylvania. The mother was also born in the east. Their marriage occurred in Illinois where they both came in their early life, the father walking from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to Ottawa, Illinois, carrying his clothes wrapped in a package. He had learned the tanner's trade in the east and on coming to Ottawa was employed in a large tannery for a number of years. Soon after his marriage he engaged in farming, however, and there spent the rest of his life. The land on which he resided for so many years he purchased from the government for the price of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. At the time of his death he had four hundred acres of finely improved land. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Wagoner, of whom five grew to maturity. Charles Wagoner, the subject of this review, is the only one now living. The death of Mr. Wagoner occurred when Charles was but fourteen years of age and the mother died in 1900 at the age of sixty-seven. Throughout his entire life the father was a staunch supporter of the republican party and held the position of school treasurer for a period of twenty years. The maternal grandfather, Solomon Brock, was the first settler in La Salle county, Illinois. He made the trip to this county from the east in a covered wagon.

In the acquirement of an education Charles Wagoner attended the district schools of Illinois and after putting his textbooks aside commenced to farm. In 1888 he removed to Nebraska and settled in Adams county where he lived on a rented farm for one year. While residing in this county he purchased one hundred and fifty acres of land in York county and the following year removed to this farm. He purchased the farm on credit but it was not long before he had paid off all of his debts and was steadily increasing his acreage. This farm is near Arborville and he now owns one hundred and ninety acres of land there. He engaged in general farming and in addition fed live stock. In 1916 he decided to retire from active life and so removed to York where he purchased a home at 1002 Nebraska avenue. He is now residing there enjoying the fruits of a life of diligence and labor.

While residing in Illinois Mr. Wagoner was united in marriage to Miss Fannie

Elizabeth Harris, on the 20th of December, 1887. Her parents were William and Elizabeth Harris and the father engaged in farming in Illinois. Both Mr. and Mrs. Harris are deceased. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Wagoner, one child, Earl William, has been born. He married Miss Bessie Crane and they are residing on his father's farm. One child, Bernice, has been born to Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Wagoner.

Mr. Wagoner votes for the republican party and is a staunch advocate of the principles for which it stands. In local affairs he has always taken an active interest, although he has neither sought nor desired public office. Fraternally he is a member of the Highlanders. Mr. Wagoner is highly esteemed throughout the county and he well deserves the proud American title of self-made man, for the success which he enjoys is attributable entirely to his own efforts and perseverance.

WILLIAM C. HAWLEY

Among the highly esteemed citizens of York county is William C. Hawley who is now living retired in Gresham after many years of activity in agricultural and business pursuits. He is a native of West Virginia, born October 18, 1837 a son of Barton and Jemina (Piles) Hawley, also natives of West Virginia, where they spent all their lives and passed away many years ago.

William C. Hawley was educated in the schools of his native state and lived with his parents during the years of his early manhood. When he was about thirty-one years of age he decided to see more of the country and removed to Iowa in the fall of 1868 and there engaged in farming, continuing in that line for several years, acquiring much valuable technical knowledge of all agricultural operations as carried on in that great farming state. It was in 1881 that Mr. Hawley came to York county and settled on a holding of one hundred and sixty acres in Stewart township, on which he put up a small frame house and shed barn, for which he hauled the lumber from Shelby. He broke the land, commenced the cultivation of crops effected improvements of a valuable nature in the form of new buildings, planted trees and set out an orchard, and as he succeeded in his operations he extended the scope of his general farming and stock raising. However, it was not all smooth sailing for in the dry seasons of 1893-94 he was unable to raise any crops and was compelled to burn cornstalks and corn for fuel. One of the sons would haul the cornstalks by the wagon-load and stoke the stove with the stalks while the mother cooked the meals. Eventually Mr. Hawley found himself in sound financial circumstances and bought a further tract of land on which he added improvements and finally retired from active farm life and moved to Gresham in 1909. His wife died July 13, 1912, being then in her seventy-first year and was interred at Blue Ridge cemetery. The following children were born to their marriage: Emery J., who died in 1898; Barton L., in the hardware business at Gresham; A. A., who lives with his father; P. S., a farmer living near Waco; Charles W., a farmer living near Alliance; Hosea M., deceased; and Estella, the wife of William Robertson of Gresham. Mr. Hawley has always voted the republican ticket and his religious affiliation is with the United Brethren church. He has passed the eighty-third milestone on life's journey but is still hale and

hearty and boasts an endurance in keeping with his years. The death of his wife who had accompanied him on so large a part of the journey was the occasion of deep regret not only to her family but to many friends, for she had earned the warm regard and friendship of many.

A. A. Hawley, with whom the father has been living since his retirement, entered the furniture and undertaking business in Gresham when the town was organized, served eighteen years and eight months as postmaster of Gresham, and is probably one of the best known men in the surrounding district. He was married in 1885 to Mary E. Hibbard and they became the parents of three children: Coila U., who died in infancy; Bruce P., a farmer in York county; and Hazel, who died in 1911. He married for his second wife Maynie Gilbert and to this union one child, Glenwood W., has been born. Mr. Hawley has been active in public affairs and has served as township treasurer and township assessor at various times. He is an active supporter of the republican party and he and the members of his family attend the services of the Methodist Episcopal church.

REV. OTTO BATZ

Since October 1, 1907, Rev. Otto Batz has been in charge of the Evangelical Lutheran Emmanuel church in York and has become widely known throughout the surrounding counties not only because of his successful ministry but because he founded the Evangelical Lutheran Hospital.

Mr. Batz is a native of Germany, born in that country on the 11th of August, 1876, the son of August and Julia Anna (Fahr) Batz also natives of Germany in which country they are now residing. For a period of forty-five years the father engaged in school-teaching there and is now retired on a pension. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Batz six children were born, five of whom are now living, namely: Arnold, who is residing in Germany and is a principal of schools; Richard, also residing in Germany where he follows the trade of a mechanic; Rev. Otto Batz, the subject of this review; Sidonie, residing in Germany; and Augusta who is residing in Germany. The family were all reared in the faith of the Lutheran church.

Rev. Otto Batz received his education in Marienburg, Germany, and for two years taught school in his native country. Having heard of the many wonderful opportunities to be found in America he came to the United States in 1900, alone. As it was necessary for him to learn the English language he entered an academy at Springfield, Illinois, where he studied diligently for three years. He had decided to enter the ministry of the Lutheran church and in 1904 was ordained to his chosen calling. His first charge was at Orleans where he remained for three years and then on the 1st of October, 1907, came to York to accept the pastorate of the Evangelical Lutheran Emmanuel church there. He is still in charge of the church which is steadily increasing in membership, and it is now one of the most flourishing churches in the county. In 1914 he founded the Evangelical Lutheran Hospital at York which is up to date in every particular and has an efficient corps of nurses and internes. A training school has been established in connection with the hospital and in addition to the fifteen or twenty graduate nurses there are a

number of student nurses. Mr. Batz has given unselfishly of his time to the hospital and as a result of its success has become widely recognized as a man of great ability in the county and state.

On the 19th of January, 1905, Mr. Batz was united in marriage to Miss Wilhelmina Heyer who was born in Chicago, Illinois, a daughter of Rudolph Heyer who is engaged in the merchandising business there. Four children were born to this union, namely: Gerhard, who is fifteen years of age; Gertrude, aged thirteen years; Adelaide, who is eleven years of age; and Hilda, eight years of age. The death of Mrs. Batz occurred on the 3rd of August, 1914. In 1915 Mr. Batz was again married, this time to Miss Bertha Behnke, who was born in Germany but removed to Chicago when a young girl. One child has been born to this union, Ruth, who is three years of age.

Until the election of 1920 Mr. Batz had given his allegiance to the democratic party, but in this year he gave his entire support to Harding. Mr. Batz has never had an occasion to regret his coming to the United States, and the opportunities which he heard were to be found here he quickly seized upon, and as a result of his labor and diligence has risen to his present position of beloved pastor and representative citizen.

WALTER Q. DIETRICK

Walter Q. Dietrick, identified with farming interests in the suburbs of York, was born in Baker township, York county, in 1881, a son of Joseph and Laura (Simpson) Dietrick. The father was a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of Iowa in which latter state they were married. Joseph Dietrick went to Iowa when a young man and for some time worked in the state insane asylum. In the early '70s he came to Nebraska, settling in York county in Baker township. For a number of years he actively and successfully engaged in farming, later removing to York where he retired. He sold his property to his son, Walter Q., in 1910. Both Mr. and Mrs. Dietrick died in York. Seven children were born to that union, four of whom are living: Mrs. William Towle, the wife of a farmer near Charleston; Paul S., who is editor of a county newspaper and lyceum and Chautauqua lecturer, living in Lincoln; Walter Q., the subject of this review; and Arthur J., who is residing in Phoenix, Arizona, where he is employed by an irrigation company. Mrs. Dietrick was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church and he was a member of the populist party. Mr. Dietrick is also remembered as having built the first frame house west of York in York county, hauling lumber from Nebraska City. The mule team method of transportation was used by Mr. Dietrick in coming from Iowa to Nebraska.

In the acquirement of an education Walter Q. Dietrick attended the common schools of his county and later went to York College. In due time he entered the Wesleyan University at Lincoln and was graduated with high standing in 1910. Following his graduation he taught school for one year and edited a newspaper at Johnstown. In 1910 he purchased the farm owned by his father and resided on that land until the spring of 1920 when he removed to his present farm of twenty acres of land near York. This land is located in Leroy township and in addition

to his own twenty acres he rents land which he also operates. In connection with his farming interests he does some dairying.

In 1906 Mr. Dietrick was united in marriage to Miss Florence Sturgeon, a native of York county, and a daughter of James Sturgeon who was one of the early pioneers of this county. Mrs. Dietrick's mother is still living and is making her home with her. Six children have been born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Dietrick, five of whom are living: Lincoln, eleven years of age; Winfield, aged nine years; Virginia, who is eight years of age; Lyman, aged five years; and Everett, a baby of five months. The Dietrick family are consistent members of the United Brethren church.

Politically Mr. Dietrick maintains an independent course, voting for the man rather than the party. In 1920 he ran for the Senate on the Independent ticket, being put up by the common people, but was defeated. He is a member of the non-partisan league and Farmers Union. He served the latter organization for some time as treasurer. He is secretary and treasurer of the Allied Union Co-operative Association. The interests of Mr. Dietrick's life are broad and well balanced, making him a forceful factor in the community welfare. He is interested in all that pertains to the educational, material and moral development of the community, and his worth as a citizen and capability as a farmer are widely recognized.

JEFFERSON B. FOSTER

For twenty-one years, Jefferson B. Foster, now deceased, was a prominent and progressive farmer in York county. He was born in the state of New York on the 27th of January, 1859, and died on the 22nd of February, 1919. He was in the grain business in York for some years before his death which came as a sad blow to the community. Jefferson B. Foster was the son of Joel H. and Rebecca (Barnet) Foster who removed to Illinois in 1869 and to Nebraska in 1893. The father bought land in York county, and also owns property in York where he resides. Joel H. Foster and wife are members of the Presbyterian church and he is a staunch supporter of the democratic party. Five children were born to this union, of whom the subject was the eldest. They are: Jefferson B.; Emmett J., who is residing on a ranch in York county; John H., a stockyard's commission man in Omaha; Grace, the wife of W. W. Feaster who is a real estate man in York; and Clara E., the wife of Grover C. May who owns a greenhouse in York.

Jefferson B. Foster received his education in the common schools of Illinois and after putting his textbooks aside engaged in farming in that state for a short time. In 1883 he came to York county where he purchased some land on credit, residing there for twenty-one years. During his residence on this land it was highly cultivated and as a result of his good crops he was soon able to pay in full for the ranch. In 1905 he removed to York and until the time of his death was engaged in the grain, livestock, and feed business, in which line of work he was also successful. In connection with the grain business he owned a large elevator.

On the 20th of March, 1884, Mr. Foster was united in marriage to Miss Rebecca Osborn, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of J. A. and Barbara (Barnet) Osborn, also natives of Pennsylvania. Her parents removed to Illinois

in 1865 where they resided for five years when they went to Iowa and in 1887 came to York county. Mr. Osborn is a veteran of the Civil war, having served in a Pennsylvania regiment for nearly three years. After coming to York he retired from active business. Mr. and Mrs. Osborn were the parents of seven children and in addition took another child to rear. Those living are: Rose A., the widow of Levi Sweet, who resides in Illinois; Francis Marion, a marshal at Leon, Iowa; Alfred, who is employed in Illinois; Mrs. Foster; Mack, who is a plasterer by trade and resides in York; and Mrs. J. W. Barnett who resides in North York. Mr. Barnett is now holding the position of county assessor and he is a member of the G. A. R. and a republican in politics. Both Mr. and Mrs. Osborn are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Foster two children have been born, namely: Harry Clyde, who is assistant manager of the National Refining Company of Omaha; and Clarence E., who is also connected with the National Refining Company of Omaha, looking after the repairing of trucks. Clarence E. enlisted during the World war and was in training at Lincoln preparatory to going abroad, when the armistice was signed. Mrs. Foster is residing in York in a nice home at 507 W. 6th street, and she is active in the interest of the Methodist Episcopal church of which she is a member.

During all the years of Mr. Foster's life he gave his allegiance to the democratic party and he was always well versed on the questions and issues of the day. He was also active in fraternal circles being a member of the Modern Woodmen and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. In the fourteen years of his residence in York he made many friends. He was known to have employed only the most honorable and fair methods in his business affairs and at his demise both town and county lost a progressive and representative citizen.

HENRY STAEHR

Among the prominent farmers of York county is Henry Staehr, who is a native of Beaver township, this county, his birth having occurred on the old homestead of his father, May 12, 1873. He is a son of Carsten Staehr, mention of whom is made elsewhere in this work.

The boyhood days of Henry Staehr were spent on the homestead and he well remembers the pioneer conditions that in this day of luxury and ease would seem hardships indeed. He worked with his father on the home place until he was twenty-three years of age at which time his father assisted him in purchasing a farm on which he still resides. There were only small buildings on the land when he came into possession of it but it is now considered one of the finest farms in the county and has first-class improvements. This one hundred and twenty acres is located on the west section, the home place, one hundred and fifty-nine acres, being the southwest quarter of section 35, Beaver township.

Mr Staehr has been twice married. His first wife was Miss Johanna Backhus, a native of York county. She died leaving four children: Kathrina, the wife of Carl Wellman; William; Hanna, who is the wife of Ed Noller; and Amanda. Mr. Staehr's second wife was Minnie Brackhan, a native of York county. Two children have been born to this union, namely: Mary and Alfred.

Mr. and Mrs. Staehr are consistent members of the Lutheran church in the activities of which organization they take a prominent part. The ability of Mr. Staehr is readily recognized throughout the community and he is happy in the esteem and respect of his fellow citizens.

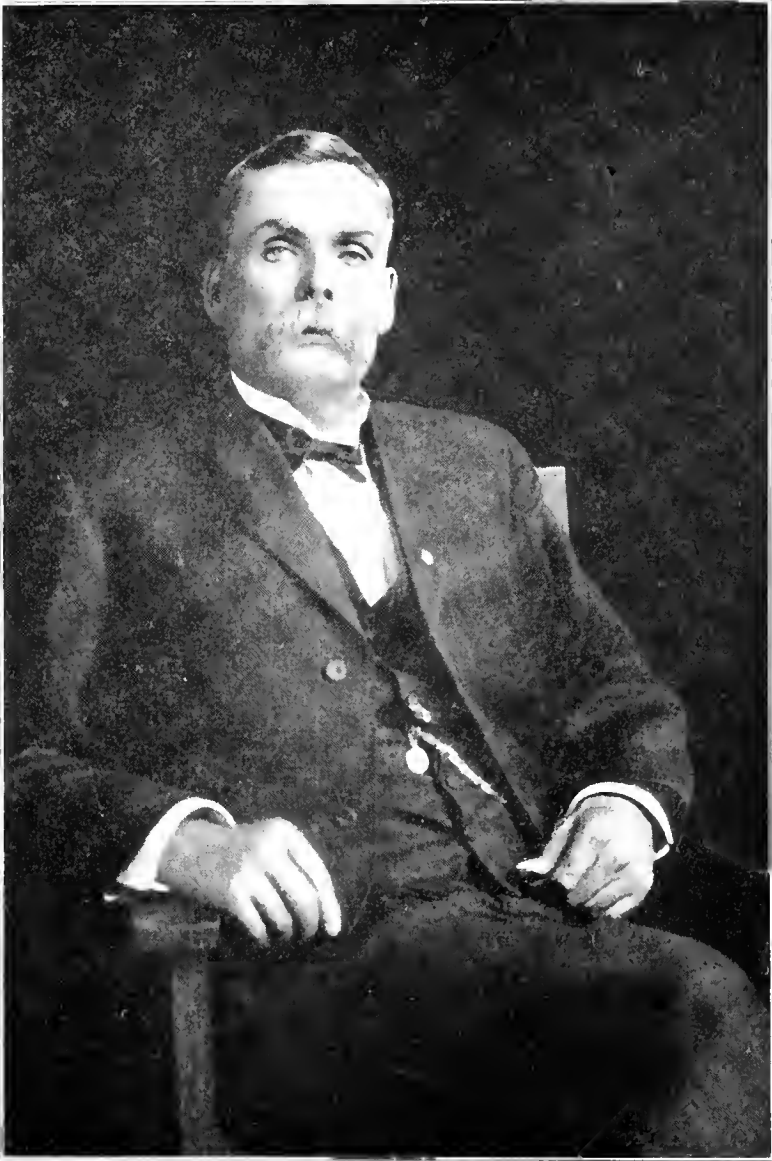
JAMES F. CONWAY

In pioneer days James F. Conway came to York county and experienced all of the hardships and privations of frontier life while engaged in the arduous task of developing a new farm. After years passed on, however, he was fortunate in his undertaking and became one of the prosperous agriculturists of his section of the state. He was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, February 29, 1852, and was therefore fifty-six years of age when he passed away in 1908. He was but a year old when his parents removed with their family to Allamakee county, Iowa. He completed his education in Prairie du Chien College of Wisconsin, and for a year was engaged in teaching in Iowa. In 1874, when twenty-two years of age, he removed to Nebraska and for a year taught in Seward county.

In 1878 in York county Mr. Conway was married to Miss Hattie E. Martin, who was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, a daughter of Noah and Hannah Jane (Prest) Martin. The mother was born in Monmouth county, New Jersey, in 1816 and died November 28, 1894. The father was born in the state of New Jersey in 1818, and passed away in 1877. They were married in New Jersey and in 1856 removed to Wisconsin, whence they came to York county in March, 1868. The father homesteaded near what is now McCool, where his death occurred. In the Martin family were twelve children but only four are living; John P., a miller now at Big Fork, Montana; Asa W., a contractor and builder of mills, in Nebraska, traveling all over the state in the performance of his work; Richard R., a farmer of Litchfield, and Mrs. Conway.

To Mr. and Mrs. Conway were born nine children: Rose J., the wife of O. E. Tilden, a farmer living near Thayer; Cora E., at home; John W., residing on a farm east of York; Thomas O., who occupies a farm in Madison county, Nebraska; Pearl H., at home; Delia M., the wife of George Bremer of Jerome, Idaho, who for one term was a member of the state senate, and is now overseer of the South Side Irrigation System; Effie B., the wife of Paul A. Steinberg, living on a farm near Bradshaw; James F., who for three years followed farming, but is now living at York; and Asa B., at home.

For three years after coming to York county Mr. Conway taught school. He had homesteaded prior to his marriage but traded that property and he and his wife lived on another farm, occupying a sod house for one year, at the end of which time they took up their abode in a frame house. Later they returned to the old homestead which they occupied for seven years, and on the expiration of the period removed to the village of Thayer, where they remained until 1900, and then went to York that their children might enjoy the opportunities accorded by the school system of this city. While at Thayer Mr. Conway engaged in merchandising and was also assessor and justice of the peace. He had but four hundred dollars when he came to Nebraska but as the years passed his financial resources increased



JAMES F. CONWAY

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and he became the owner of a large amount of land and was also interested in the Farmers Bank at York. He left an estate of nine hundred and twenty acres in York, and Mrs. Conway has since purchased six hundred and ten acres, also in York county. She also owns a beautiful residence which Mr. Conway had purchased in York. She has ably managed the estate, displaying excellent business ability in her care and improvement of the property. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and also of the Daughters of Rebekah. Mr. Conway belonged to the Modern Woodmen and was well known in the order and by many with whom business and social relations brought him into contact, while the sterling worth of his character gained for him the high regard of all who knew him. Therefore his death was the occasion of deep regret to many who had learned to value him as a most substantial citizen and true friend.

W. H. NEWCOMER

For thirty-three years W. H. Newcomer now deceased was a successful farmer in York county. He was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, on the 30th of July, 1846, a son of Daniel and Abigail (Leckrone) Newcomer. His parents were both natives of Pennsylvania where they spent their lives. Mr. Newcomer was a successful farmer and followed that occupation until his death in 1869. His widow survived him for several years. Seven children were born to this union, five sons and two daughters. W. H. Newcomer, the subject of this review, is the only member of the family residing in the west.

W. H. Newcomer was reared on a farm in his native county and received his education there. He continued to farm in this county until 1875, at which time he removed to Illinois and settled in Knox county. For two years he farmed there successfully, at the termination of which time he located in Henry county, that state. In 1879 he came to Nebraska and settled in York county. He purchased a farm in Thayer township and there made his home until 1900. The farm had no improvements and he made his home in a sod house for a number of years. He later built a fine residence and outbuildings. In the cultivation of the land, which had but eighty acres under cultivation at the time he purchased it, he was gratifyingly successful. In 1900 Mr. Newcomer removed to York and purchased a nice home at 813 Elmer avenue. Here he lived practically retired until his death but still maintained an interest in his land which consisted of six hundred and forty acres in York county and one hundred and sixty acres in Lincoln county, to which he would make frequent visits. For the twelve years that Mr. Newcomer resided in York he made many and fast friends and at his loss a feeling of widespread bereavement swept the community.

In 1868 in Pennsylvania occurred the marriage of Mr. Newcomer and Miss Catherine Henderson, a daughter of Stewart and Elizabeth A. Henderson, both natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Henderson later removed to Illinois where the father died. His widow survived him a number of years. Five children were born to that union, three of whom are living. Mrs. Newcomer was the second in order of birth. To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Newcomer eight children have been born, six of whom are living, namely: Mary, the wife of Fred Conant, a retired

farmer of York; Dora, who is the widow of William Myers, and resides in Lincoln; William H., who is residing on the old homestead in York county; Cora, the wife of George Werner, who resides in Laporte, Indiana; Carrie, who is the wife of Harry Johns, a farmer in York county; and Blanche, who is the wife of Wallace Lloyd who is engaged in farming in York county. The Newcomer family were reared in the faith of the Lutheran church and Mrs. Newcomer is still active in the affairs of that organization.

Throughout his entire life Mr. Newcomer gave his support to the republican party which found in him a stalwart advocate. Although he devoted the greater part of his time to his farming interests he was always well informed on the questions and issues of the day. Fraternally he was a Mason and an exemplary member of the order. Mrs. Newcomer is still living and is residing in the home at York, a highly respected citizen. She is now in possession of a half section of land from which she derives a substantial income.

HENRY W. BOLTON

Henry W. Bolton now occupies an attractive home in Benedict to which he retired in 1916, where he is surrounded with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. For many years he was prominently and actively identified with farming, taking up that work in York county in 1891, prior to which he had been similarly engaged in Iowa. He was born near Richmond, Virginia, December 25, 1859, a son of David and Martha (Fisher) Bolton, both natives of Virginia, where the father followed his trade of millwright.

David Bolton left Virginia in 1862 and went to Cedar county, Iowa, and there he built a frame house and resumed his occupation as a millwright. About that time he was called on to serve with the Federal army and participated in many of the engagements of the Civil war, finally being honorably discharged, when he returned to civil life and took up his ordinary occupation. He passed away in 1910, having lived to the advanced age of eighty-six, and left behind him a name for probity and manly worth to which all the actions of his long life entitled him. He was a faithful member of the Presbyterian church and a practical supporter of its teachings. In politics he gave his allegiance for a considerable time to the republican party but later supported democratic policies, the change in his party affiliations being the outcome of conviction. His wife survived until 1917 when she passed away amid the sorrow of all her friends, being then eighty-nine years old. They were the parents of the following children: Mary, widow of J. H. Bolton, of Council Bluffs, Iowa; Armetta, deceased; James, living at Council Bluffs; Tosh, of Milford, Nebraska; Anna, wife of A. H. Garrett, of Brush, Colorado; Sarah, wife of Lee Johnson, of Sargent, Nebraska; Henry W.; Edward; Charles, living in Iowa; and Lloyd, a retired farmer, of York county.

Henry W. Bolton was reared in his father's home in Iowa and was educated in the common schools of that state. Selecting the career of a farmer for his life work, he rented land in Iowa and continued to work along that line for several years. In 1888 he came to Nebraska, settled in Saunders county and rented a tract of land which he operated for about two years. He carefully husbanded his

resources and saved money with the object of buying a farm. In this he was successful and in 1891 he removed to York county, renting for a time and finally purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Morton township, later increasing his holdings to four hundred and eighty acres, in two farms, having two sets of buildings, the ownership of which he still retains. Apart from the general farming and stock raising he specialized in feeding cattle for the market and in this latter department of his agricultural activities he achieved a remarkable success. Before retiring in 1916 Mr. Bolton had brought his properties to a well improved condition, and he is now living in well earned comfort at Benedict. He continues to be interested in business affairs, is a stockholder in the York Milling Company, in the Farmers Elevator at Benedict and in Farmers Elevator at Mapp, from all of these investments deriving a nice income. He is a man of determined purpose and resolute will and whatever he undertakes he carries forward to successful completion.

In 1886 Mr. Bolton was joined in marriage to Sarah J. Wilkinson, a native of Mills county, Iowa, whom he met and married while living in that state. She accompanied him to York county in 1891 and in all the intervening years she has been a faithful wife and practical helpmeet, which no one is more ready to acknowledge than her husband. To their union eight children were born, six of whom are living: Ray, who operates his father's farm in York county; Edith, deceased, who became the wife of Miles Shaw; Ina, wife of Edgar Farley, of York county; Floyd, a farmer, of York county; Frank, residing in Miller, South Dakota; Lottie, deceased; and Carl and Cecil, living at home. Mrs. Bolton is a member of the Lutheran church and is prominent socially in the community where she resides. He supports the democratic party and is a member of the township board, to the work of which he gives diligent service. His many admirable qualities are generally recognized and there is no resident of the county more highly esteemed than he.

NELSON PETER RONNE

Nelson Peter Ronne, a retired farmer, now a resident of York, was born in Denmark, September 29, 1857, the son of Lorenzen Peter and Bergetta Malgaahr Ronne. His father was a jeweler and worked at his trade in the old country until he passed away. The mother also died in Germany.

Nelson Peter Ronne was reared in his native land, educated in the common schools there, and was apprenticed to the butcher trade which it required about four or five years to learn. Before he completed his apprenticeship, however, he came to America and found employment on a farm near Yorkville, Kendall county, Illinois, where he worked for one man for seven years, and then rented land for his own use. In 1883 he moved to Nebraska and bought eighty acres of unimproved land in Baker township, York county. These were days when there were many sod houses to be seen and the farmer had many difficulties to overcome, requiring more than ordinary courage and perseverance. His first home was a sixteen by twenty frame house which burned down and had to be rebuilt. Four years later he sold this land and bought one hundred and sixty acres in Henderson township, and during the following ten years he and his wife and sons tore down and rebuilt

all the farm buildings, thus advancing the value of the property. He now owns four hundred and eighty acres well improved with two complete sets of farm buildings, which shows that he has indeed been successful, as he had but one hundred dollars to pay on his land when he arrived in this country. His faithfulness to his first employer was rewarded, as that man became his friend and provided financial backing whenever Mr. Ronne needed it after coming to York county.

Mr. Ronne was married in Kendall county, Illinois, in 1881, to Mary Jane Kerr, a native of Belfast, Ireland. They are the parents of five boys; Lorenzo Peter, who is a dentist in Lincoln, Nebraska; Harry, who has been blind since he was twenty years old, now operates a telephone switchboard, at Lushton, Nebraska; John N., assistant chief clerk in the Frisco Railroad freight office, in Kansas City; Clyde, who operates a part of his father's farm; and Carey A., who also is engaged in farming. All of the sons are married, and there are eight grandchildren.

Mr. Ronne has always spelled his name the way it was spelled in the old country, although in English it should be spelled Runne. He has always been a credit to his name and his record is that of a pioneer farmer who has not only built up his own fortunes in a frontier community but has aided materially in developing the district. Mr. Ronne is a member of the Methodist church and in politics is a republican and has steadfastly supported the candidates and measures of that party although he is in no sense a politician, preferring to devote his whole time to the attention of his private affairs.

J. EDWIN SMITH

For about eighteen years J. Edwin Smith has been engaged in the undertaking business in York and as a result of his diligence and industry is enjoying a substantial amount of success. He is a native of Iowa, born in Washington county that state on the 23rd of December, 1866, a son of W. A. and Sarah (Singer) Smith. The father was born in Ohio in 1836, and the mother in New York state in 1844. Removing to Iowa with their parents in their early youth, they met and were married and spent the remainder of their lives there. Mr. Smith engaged in blacksmithing for a number of years and was very successful in this business. On the outbreak of the Civil war he was among the first to enlist, joining Company A of the Nineteenth Iowa Infantry, with which he served nearly four years. He participated in many of the most important battles of the war and was discharged with the rank of color-bearer. Mr. Smith died in 1919, his wife having passed away forty-four years ago. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Smith six children were born, three of whom are living, namely: J. Edwin, the subject of this review; T. E., overseer in a chair factory at Fort Madison, Iowa; and H. A., who is state agent for an insurance company. The family were reared in the Methodist Episcopal faith and Mr. Smith was a staunch republican and Mason. The paternal grandfather, John R. Smith, was a native of Ohio but in later life removed to Iowa where he engaged in farming until his death. He was very active in the work of the Methodist Episcopal church of which he was a member.

In the acquirement of his education J. Edwin Smith attended the schools of Mount Pleasant, Iowa, and in due time entered the Methodist College at York. In

1880 he came to York county with his uncle, T. N. Smith, and commenced work on a farm. Some time later his uncle removed to York and bought a grocery store and Mr. J. E. Smith gave up his farm work and came to work for him, continuing in this line of business for eight years. For the next eight years he clerked in a clothing store and then engaged in farming for a period of three years. In 1902 he determined to start in business on his own account and deciding to take up undertaking as his particular line, entered the Barnes School of Anatomy and Science of Embalming in 1903, becoming thoroughly familiar with all phases of the work.

In 1892 Mr. Smith was united in marriage to Miss Winnifred Ferguson, a native of Illinois and a daughter of Nelson E. Ferguson who came to York county at an early day, acquired a homestead and lived thereon until his death. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Smith five children have been born: Enid, the wife of J. B. Everhardt, advertising manager for the Dempster Manufacturing Company, and she having charge of the first aid department in the mill; Mildred, who is residing at home; and Raymond, Leland and Josephine, all in school. The family are all members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Smith gives his allegiance to the republican party and is an active worker in politics. For two terms he served the county of York as coroner, which position he filled to the best of his ability. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the A. F. & A. M. and is also a Royal Arch Mason. He is a past chancellor in the Knights of Pythias and a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Starting out in life with nothing but the grim determination to win out he has advanced step by step until he is now recognized as one of the leading undertakers of the county.

J. A. RUDDOCK

The press of a city or town is usually regarded as an index whereby may be gauged the material and social progress which a locality is making. This is exemplified in the life work of J. A. Ruddock, a well known printer and publisher of Gresham, who has spent all the active years of his life engaged in newspaper work and at present is the owner of the Gresham Gazette. He was born in Sergeant Bluff, Woodbury county, Iowa, September 20, 1880, a son of Thomas and Vira (Scovell) Ruddock, the former a railroad man who came to Gresham in February, 1892, as section foreman and remained here until 1896, when he returned to Iowa and had been in that state but four weeks when his death occurred at the age of sixty-two years. His widow is still living and is in her seventieth year.

J. A. Ruddock accompanied his parents to York county in 1892 and completed his education in the public schools of Gresham. On quitting school he learned the trade of a printer under the guidance of H. M. McGaffin of the Gresham Gazette and was employed on the paper for four years, during this period having acquired a practical knowledge of the business. On leaving the Gazette he went to Valparaiso and worked for a time on the Valparaiso Visitor, from which place he went to David City and there became foreman of the Butler County Press, remaining in that capacity for one year. In October, 1919, he entered into arrangements for the purchase of the Gresham Gazette, and immediately took it over as publisher and

owner. The Gazette is an independent weekly publication with a steadily growing circulation and is devoted to the task of upholding the progressive spirit which has brought Gresham and the surrounding district to their status. The paper is equipped with the most modern machinery and type and in conjunction therewith a job printing department is operated in which all classes of general printing are produced. The composing and publication room of a newspaper is sometimes alluded to as "the poor man's college," in view of the immense opportunities that are offered the novice for self-advancement. Mr. Ruddock was not slow to take advantage of his opportunities and this has been amply demonstrated in his career, but more especially since he became a publisher in his own right.

In 1905 Mr. Ruddock was united in marriage to Ruth Pogue, a native of Seward county and a daughter of J. W. Pogue, an early settler and well known resident. Mr. and Mrs. Ruddock are the parents of one son, Donald. Mrs. Ruddock is a member of the Presbyterian church and all movements for the moral and civic as well as for the material upbuilding of Gresham receive her hearty support. Mr. Ruddock favors the principles of the republican party and has been village clerk for some time. He is affiliated with the Royal Highlanders.

W. H. BROOKE

W. H. Brooke of York is one of the most prominent men in the agricultural line throughout the county. He not only owns land in York county but has an extensive farm in Holt county on which he has six hundred and fifty head of the finest breed cattle. He is residing in York, however, where he has made his home for four years, during which time he has taken an active interest in the development of the community and has made many friends who recognize his true worth.

W. H. Brooke was born in Ottumwa, Iowa, December 7, 1866, a son of Richard and Agnes (Dean) Brooke, both natives of Pennsylvania. The father had traveled extensively and was a well educated man. At the age of seventeen years he had left his home and crossed the plains to California, making this trip seven times. In early life he engaged in the cattle business and during the Civil war purchased a number of sheep which he took to Texas and sold. From this sale he realized a substantial amount of money and in 1874 came to York county as one of the pioneer settlers. He acquired a homestead in LeRoy township and for a number of years resided in a sod house on this land. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Brooke two children were born, namely: W. H., the subject of this review; and Richard E., a prominent farmer in York county, who is now making his home in York. The Brooke family were consistent members of the United Brethren church and the father was a staunch supporter of the republican party. Mr. Brooke's death occurred in 1916 and Mrs. Brooke is making her home with her son, W. H. The maternal grandfather was Levi Dean, and further mention of the Dean family is made in the sketch of Nathaniel A. Dean to be found elsewhere in this work.

In the acquirement of an education W. H. Brooke attended the schools of York county and after putting his textbooks aside engaged in farming, which occupation he has followed throughout his life. For a number of years he farmed on rented land in York county and then purchased some land which he cultivated for two

years. In 1917 he purchased a ranch in Holt county consisting of one thousand four hundred and eighty acres, a portion of which is put into hay. He has six hundred and fifty head of cattle on this ranch. For four years he has made his home in York where he is a representative citizen.

In 1887 occurred the marriage of Mr. Brooke to Miss Ida Heller, a native of York county and a daughter of Peter Heller. Her father was a pioneer homesteader of York. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Brooke three children have been born, namely: Carl, who is a traveling salesman; Clair, who is working with his father in the management of his land; and Florence, the wife of John Corcoran who is living in North Dakota.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Brooke the right of franchise he has given his allegiance to the republican party which has found in him a staunch advocate. For some time he served as town committee-man and he is always interested in the leading questions and issues of the day. He has never sought nor desired public office, preferring rather to devote his time to his ranching interests. Mrs. Brooke is an active member of the United Brethren church and he is fraternally affiliated with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. Throughout York county Mr. Brooke is widely recognized as a most progressive and successful farmer and his farm in that county is numbered among the finest. His buildings are large and modern and represent the ideal country home. Mr. Brooke is of a kindly and generous disposition, giving freely to various charitable organizations and assisting in the maintenance of York College.

E. W. RAIKES

E. W. Raikes, who for more than thirty-three years has been actively identified with the business life of Gresham where he is well known in the blacksmithing trade, is a native of Kentucky, born in Marion county, that state, September 17, 1845, a son of Benjamin and Martha (Murrell) Raikes, the former of whom spent his life engaged in agricultural operations in Kentucky. Both he and his wife passed away many years ago and are buried in Kentucky, that state being also their birthplace.

E. W. Raikes was reared on his father's farm in Kentucky and was educated in the schools of his native county. In his early youth he helped on the home farm and later learned the blacksmith trade, which at that time was in a flourishing condition in and around his home district. He followed his trade for some years in Kentucky and in 1872 moved to the state of Illinois and settled near Petersburg, there resuming his trade of blacksmith and also engaged in farming, carrying on these dual occupations for twelve years. He was successful from the start and became financially prosperous. About 1884 he crossed the country to Nebraska and settled in Seward county, there putting up a blacksmith shop in the country district where he followed his business for two years. In 1886 when Gresham was being organized Mr. Raikes saw the possibilities of the new town and moved there, building a blacksmith shop without delay and later established two more, and at the same time was a wood worker. He devotes all his time to his business interests and has country-wide reputation for prompt and excellent work. He was one of the

first settlers in Gresham and has actually grown up with the town where he has numerous friends and well-wishers.

While living in Illinois Mr. Raikes was married to Mary Casteel, a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1856 and who died in March, 1905. Three children were born to the union: Lizzie, deceased; Thomas, of Greeley county, Nebraska; and Emma, the wife of Swan Peterson of Polk county. Mr. Raikes attends the United Brethren church and is a staunch supporter of the republican party. He has been affiliated with the Royal Highlanders for many years. In matters pertaining to the welfare of Gresham he is practical and progressive and is a worthy citizen in every respect.

FRANK H. BALDWIN

Since about 1905 Frank H. Baldwin has been living retired in York in his modern home at 507 Thompson avenue. Mr. Baldwin was born in La Salle county, Illinois, on the 20th of December, 1857, a son of Franklin and Mary (Johnson) Baldwin. His parents were natives of New York state and were married there, soon after removing to Illinois where they settled on government land. The father purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land at one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre. For a number of years they resided on the land and then removed to a farm in La Salle county, later removing to De Kalb county and subsequently to the little village of Sandwich where they resided for eight years. The mother's death occurred while living on the farm. Sometime after his wife's death Franklin Baldwin married Mary J. Carpenter. In 1880 he removed to York county, where he purchased some land. His land speculations had been very successful and at the time of his death he was in possession of one thousand acres of land. Five children were born to the first marriage, two of whom are living: Frank H., the subject of this review; and Mary, the wife of W. W. Wykoff of York. Two of the children died in childhood and Granville R. died in York in 1915. The members of the Baldwin family were consistent members of the Congregational church. Franklin Baldwin was a staunch supporter of the republican party and held various township offices. He was a son of Seth Baldwin who was born in Durham, Connecticut, in 1775, removed to New York in 1801 and died there on the 22d of February, 1832. The Baldwin family for generations were prominent in the east, the ancestors having come to the United States from England in the early part of the fourteenth century. A brother of Franklin Baldwin, Dwight, graduated from Yale, later settled in New York state where he married, and removed with his family to the Sandwich Islands. This trip he made around Cape Horn and became a missionary on these islands. The children are still living on the island and are holding positions of prominence, having become millionaires.

In the acquirement of an education Frank H. Baldwin attended the public schools of Sandwich, Illinois, and the district schools of La Salle county, the same state. At the age of nineteen years he quit school and started farming on a part of his father's land in Illinois and later rented land, living with an elder brother. On the 16th of December, 1880, Mr. Baldwin left for York county, coming through with some stock in a freight car, the trip requiring seven days and on the 23d of



FRANKLIN BALDWIN

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December, 1880, he arrived in York. His father had purchased some land in this county and Mr. Baldwin moved onto it, "baching" it for a period of eighteen months. Besides farming Mr. Baldwin fed and raised live stock in which occupations he was very successful. About 1905 he decided to retire from active life and removed to York where he built a beautiful modern home at 507 Thompson avenue. He has rented all of his land, still retaining four hundred and eighty acres of it. Although Mr. Baldwin is practically retired he takes an interest in the financial circles of York, being a director in the City National Bank.

In 1888 Mr. Baldwin was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Graves. She was an orphan and had been reared to young womanhood by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Graves. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin four children have been born, three of whom are living, namely: Harry D., who is a fireman on the Union Pacific railroad and resides at North Platte; Bernice L., the wife of Frank A. Peterson, residing six miles northwest of York; and Florence Helen, who attended Monticello seminary at St. Louis, is at home. The third member of the family, Vernon G., died at the age of twenty-three years. Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin are consistent members of the Congregational church and prominent in the affairs of the organization.

Mr. Baldwin has always given his allegiance to the republican party and it has always found in him a staunch advocate. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias. At all points in his career he has been actuated by a laudable ambition and his activity and even-paced energy have carried him steadily forward.

HEINRICH G. EPP.

Heinrich G. Epp, actively identified with farming and stock raising in York county, his home being on section 4, Henderson township, belongs to an old and well known family of this section of the state that comes to Nebraska from southern Russia. It was there that Mr. Epp of this review was born June 5, 1863, his parents being Gerhard and Katherine (Dick) Epp, both of whom were natives of Russia, whence they came to the new world in 1875. They at once journeyed across the country to York county and took up their abode on section 3, Henderson township, where the father purchased railroad land and began the development of a farm. He resided thereon until his death, which occurred in 1893, while his widow survived for eleven years and was then called to her final rest. In their family were sixteen children, four of whom are living.

Heinrich G. Epp obtained his education in the schools of Russia but never had the opportunity of attending school in York county, as they settled in a frontier district and his labors were needed in the development of the home farm. He continued with his parents until he reached the age of twenty-eight years, his time and attention being given to the work of the fields from the time of early spring planting until crops were harvested in the late autumn. On leaving home he took up his abode on the farm which he now occupies. Here he owns two hundred and forty acres of rich and productive land, which he has brought under a high state of cultivation, so that he annually gathers good harvests. He also owns one hundred and sixty acres in Oklahoma. He has always carried on general farming and stock

raising and both branches of his business have proven profitable. He is now making a specialty of raising Duroc Jersey hogs.

In 1892 Mr. Epp was united in marriage to Miss Katherine Buller, a native of southern Russian, and to them have been born seventeen children: Sarah, the wife of Jacob Kreker; Gerhart, deceased; Katherine, Margaret, David, Dietrich, Isaac, Anna and Abraham H., all at home; Aaron and Benjamin, twins, both of whom have passed away; Agnes, at home; Eva, deceased; Jacob and Henry, twins, the former now deceased; Helen; and Peter.

Mr. and Mrs. Epp are members of the Bethesda church, in the work of which Mr. Epp takes an active and helpful part. He is interested in all that pertains to the moral progress as well as the material development of the community in which he lives. For more than forty-five years he has been a resident of York county and therefore has witnessed practically its entire development and upbuilding. Great indeed have been the changes which have occurred during this period and in all the work of advancement Mr. Epp has been deeply interested, lending his aid and cooperation to every plan and movement for the general good.

HORTON M. DETRICK

While Horton M. Detrick is living retired he was for many years actively identified with agricultural interests in Nebraska and contributed much to the agricultural development of the state. He is now enjoying a well earned rest, the fruits of his former toil supplying him with all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. He was born in Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, October 26, 1835, so that he has now passed the eighty-fifth milestone on life's journey. His parents were of German lineage. During his boyhood days Horton M. Detrick devoted his time to school work and to assisting his father who was a contractor and builder, his time being thus passed until 1856. He then went with his father to Iowa where the latter purchased a farm and Horton M. Detrick aided in the cultivation of the land in addition to following his trade. In September, 1861, he enlisted in the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, as a member of Company D, and in 1864 reenlisted at Vicksburg as a veteran of the same regiment, serving until the end of the war. He was wounded in the right shoulder at Columbus, Georgia, during the last battle in which his regiment participated. He made his home in Iowa until the spring of 1870 when he came to Nebraska and here homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 30, township 14, range 2, west, just outside the city limits of York.

With characteristic energy Mr. Detrick began the improvement and development of his place and resided thereon until 1890, when he took up his abode in the city and retired from active business. His house on the farm was located in a beautiful grove and there was an excellent orchard upon the place.

In Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, on the 25th of October, 1865, Mr. Detrick was married to Miss Jennie C. Andrews, a native of Vermont, and they have become parents of five children: Effie E., who is a graduate of Nebraska Wesleyan University; Jesse W., who was connected with the United States mail service for twenty-three years and is now deceased; Estella N., who was city librarian at York for nine

years and is now the wife of R. E. Lynds, their home being near Visalia, California; Hiram, who was engaged in the drug business in York and is now deceased; and Lulu, who was deputy county superintendent of schools and is now the wife of M. S. Hargraves, of Alliance, Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. Detrick have four grandchildren.

Mr. Detrick has always been interested in the cause of education and he served on the school board for a number of years, filling the office for fourteen consecutive years. He has labored untiringly for the welfare and upbuilding of this section of the state. In politics he is a republican and served for six consecutive years as a member of the York county board of supervisors, representing the city of York. He has also been a member of the city council and was postmaster of York from 1890 until 1895 through appointment of President Benjamin Harrison. In 1902 he was elected to the lower house of the state legislature from the thirty-eighth district and was reelected in 1904. During his first term he was chairman of the Soldiers' Home committee and was a member of the committee on public lands, judiciary and county organization. During the second session he served as chairman of the committee on claims and was a member of the Soldiers' Home committee. He took a most keen and active interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the state and gave the weight of his influence to every measure that he deemed of benefit to the commonwealth. He is a member of York Lodge, No. 35, I. O. O. F., and of Robert Anderson Post, No. 32, G. A. R., of York, thus maintaining pleasant relations with his old army comrades. His life has been a busy and useful one, gaining for him the respect, confidence and goodwill of all, and his are now "the blest accompaniments of age—honor, riches, troops of friends."

LEWIS W. TROUTMAN

Lewis W. Troutman, who is now living retired at Benedict after many years of successful farming, was born in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, December 10, 1853, a son of John and Rebecca (Hoyman) Troutman. His father was a farmer in the Keystone state for some years and died in 1854 at the very early age of twenty-five years, the subject of this sketch at that time being a mere infant. John Troutman was a member of the Lutheran church and in politics gave his support to democratic policies. Some time later his widow married for her second husband Nicholas Burket, also a native of Pennsylvania, and to this second union five children were born: Benjamin Franklin Burket, who died in Ohio; James P., deceased; Charles W., living in Kansas; Emma, wife of Lee Smith, and Anna, who married a Mr. Frantz, and lives in Maryland. The mother of these children passed away in 1865, in her thirty-seventh year. She was an earnest member of the Lutheran church, which she assisted by her moral and financial support.

• Lewis W. Troutman, deprived of his father in the first year of his life, was taken to Iowa and Illinois by his mother after her second marriage, and in the schools of these states he secured his education. When fourteen years old he commenced his farming career in Iowa and continued to work out on farms in Iowa and Illinois for about twelve years, later farming on his own account for twelve months. With the experience thus gained Mr. Troutman came to York county in the spring of

1879 and resumed working on farms by the month. Later he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land which he devoted to general farming and stock raising. His first house was a frame structure, fourteen by twenty feet, and he continued to occupy this for twelve years. His success in agriculture has been mainly through his own efforts and untiring energy. He retired in 1916 and went to reside in Benedict, where he built a fine residence in 1917.

On March 23, 1881, Mr. Troutman was married to Emma J. Troutman, who was born in Blackhawk county, Iowa. His political leanings are toward the republican party, but he frequently votes an independent ticket. His wife is a member of the Lutheran church.

WILLIAM M. OVERSTREET

Since 1910 William M. Overstreet has engaged in the automobile business in York, handling Buick and Cadillac cars and in addition conducting a general auto repair and accessory business. He was born in Galesburg, Illinois, February 11, 1868, a son of Robert and Charlotte (Bull) Overstreet, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Connecticut. Their marriage occurred in Galesburg where Robert Overstreet had come with his father, at the age of one year, the trip from Kentucky to Illinois being made by covered wagon and they settled in Galesburg. Robert Overstreet received his education in Galesburg and spent his early life there. In 1884 he removed to York county, bought some land, which is still retained in the family, and became a farmer and stock man. In 1905 he retired from active life and returned to Galesburg. His death occurred on the 1st of May, 1917, while visiting his son. The mother is still living at the advanced age of seventy-five years. Three children were born to this union, two of whom are living: William M., the subject of this review; and Luther M., who attended the State University and the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, and is now a captain in the navy, in which service he has been for twenty-seven years. The family were reared in the faith of the Congregational church and Mr. Overstreet was a staunch supporter of the republican party and a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He had one brother in the Civil war. The grandfather of the subject of this review, was Martin L. Overstreet, born in Kentucky but went to Galesburg early in life, becoming a farmer and stock feeder. The maternal grandfather, G. F. Bull, was a native of New Haven, Connecticut, but in 1855 removed to Illinois where he resided until his death. He was a broom manufacturer.

William M. Overstreet was reared on a farm and received his education in the schools of York county. After putting his textbooks aside he engaged in farming and stock raising until 1910 when he removed to York. In connection with his farming he had carried on an automobile business in Polk and was so successful in this line that he determined to enlarge his facilities. On removing to York he immediately entered into the business in partnership with L. M. Lincoln and his son, Leigh Lincoln, and they handle Buick and Cadillac cars. They are the distributors in this district which consists of seven counties. In connection with the agency for these cars he does a general auto and repair business. They own a

large brick garage, having one hundred and twenty feet square of floor space with room for one hundred cars. He takes a great interest in this business and devotes most of his time to it. However, he owns several farms in York county on which he raises Duroc hogs—about five hundred a year. This particular farm consists of three hundred and twenty acres. He obtained eighty acres of land from his father to begin with and has bought more land until he now owns six hundred and forty acres in York county. He recently refused an offer of one hundred thousand dollars for his home farm of three hundred and twenty acres.

In December, 1891, Mr. Overstreet was united in marriage to Miss Edith Grieves, a native of Burlington, Iowa, and to this union one daughter, Helen, has been born. She attended St. Mary's school in Illinois two years, attended the State University for one year, and also spent one year in Los Angeles, California. She is now in Chicago engaged in the settlement work of Northwestern University.

Mr. Overstreet gives his allegiance to the republican party in the interests of which he is very active. For four years he was a member of the city council, filling that position with ability. Fraternally he is allied with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Knights of Pythias, Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the Travelers Protective Association. In all of these orders he is an exemplary member. The Overstreet family are consistent members of the Congregational church and Mrs. Overstreet and daughter take an active interest in the various church activities. As a progressive business man Mr. Overstreet takes an interest in the betterment of all local conditions, and he is a member of the Rotary Club and one of the directors of the Commercial Club. Mr. and Mrs. Overstreet are prominent in the social circles of York and are members of the Country Club. There is no phase of the automobile business with which Mr. Overstreet is not familiar and the business success which he now enjoys is the result of his own diligence and industry.

LIMAN M. MILLER

Liman M. Miller, deceased, was for many years a prominent farmer in York county. He was born in Springfield, Ohio, in March, 1851, and died on the 8th of November, 1916, at York. The parents of Liman M. Miller were Amos and Sarah (Thompson) Miller, the former a native of Pennsylvania while the latter was born in Ohio. They removed to Iowa and thence to Nebraska in 1870, where he acquired a homestead and resided until his death. Four children were born to this union, all of whom are living with the exception of Liman M., the subject of this review. They were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he was a democrat in politics.

Liman M. Miller received his education in the common schools of Iowa and in 1870 removed to York county, two years later when he became of age, acquiring a homestead of eighty acres to which he later annexed an additional three hundred and twenty acres which he highly improved. He built a fine home on this land and many outbuildings and it was recognized as one of the finest farms in the county. For thirty-seven years he and his wife and family resided on this farm, at the termination of which time he removed to York but still retained possession of the

farm which is now owned by the widow and children. He built a fine residence at 521 E. 6th street, in 1908, and here the widow resides alone.

In 1873 Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Alice Babcock who was born near Madison, Wisconsin, in 1855, a daughter of John and Sarah (Martin) Babcock. Her parents were both born in the state of New York and at an early day settled in Wisconsin. From there they removed to Iowa where he engaged in farming for a time and in September, 1869, came to York county to live. Here they acquired a homestead where they spent the remainder of their lives. At the time the Babcocks settled in York county the settlement was very scattered and they suffered many inconveniences. In order to secure their mail it was necessary for them to go to the post office at McFadden, twelve miles away and their grain had to be taken to the mill at Milford. Lumber for the building of their houses and outbuildings had to be hauled from Lincoln. During the winter months Mr. Babcock went with his neighbors to hunt buffaloes which were very plentiful in that community. Only the hind quarters of the buffalo were used for food the remainder being left on the plains. Some of this meat was dried for use in the summer. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Miller three children were born: Clifford, who lives in Omaha; Bertha, who is the wife of Harvey Pickerell, a successful farmer of York county; and Dr. George R., who is a veterinary surgeon at York. Clifford Miller, the eldest son, is married and has two daughters, Gladys and Marjorie. Both daughters are graduates of the York high school, Gladys being twenty years of age and Marjorie nineteen. Marjorie is teaching the school once attended by her grandmother.

Mr. Miller was a staunch supporter of the democratic party and while he was always very active in politics he neither sought nor desired public office. He was, however, a member of the county board when the courthouse was built. Fraternally he was a Mason and an Elk and both he and his wife were members of the Order of the Eastern Star, of which she is past matron. During the years of his residence in York he made many friends and his death was a great blow to the community, for in his passing they lost a citizen of great diligence and progressiveness.

WALTER C. BAER

Walter C. Baer of the W. C. Baer & Company Furniture Store of York was born in Wisconsin on the 11th of February, 1879, the son of Charles and Anna (Hottiger) Baer, mention of whom is made on another page of this work. In the acquirement of his education Walter C. Baer attended the common schools of York and in due time entered Doan College where he remained for one year and in Kansas City two years. After putting his textbooks aside he engaged in the future business with his father under the firm name of Charles Baer & Sons. For a number of years the business was conducted under this name but in the fall of 1910 a new store was established, his father having sold out the old one. In this year the father retired and Walter C. Baer in connection with a Mr. Grewell conduct the new business under the name of W. C. Baer & Company. Under the guidance of Mr. Baer the store has been steadily enlarged and today is one of the finest in the county. Believing that satisfied patrons are the best advertisement Mr. Baer has

invested in stock of the highest quality which he sells to his customers for reasonable and fair prices. On the 9th of February, 1913, Mr. Baer suffered a loss by fire but his father immediately rebuilt, starting the work in November of that year.

On the 25th of June, 1907, Mr. Baer was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Lee, a native of Silver Creek, Nebraska, and a daughter of Cyrus H. Lee, an early settler in Merrick county. Mr. Lee engaged in the general merchandise business there for some time in connection with his grain business and was one of the progressive and prominent men of his community. He and his wife are now residing near Jacksonville, Florida. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Baer, one son, Charles Homer, has been born, his birth occurring on the 16th of September, 1914.

Mr. Baer has always followed an independent course in politics although he slightly favors the republican party. He has never sought nor desired public office but as a booster of York and York county there is none better. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias of which he is vice chancellor and also a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. He takes an active interest in the development and improvement of York and is a member of the Rotary Club and the Commercial and Country Clubs. In the social circles of York Mr. Baer and family are also prominent. Learning the business in his early youth he has advanced step by step until he is one of the most progressive business men and representative citizens of York county.

CHARLES BAER

Charles Baer who was for many years successfully engaged in the furniture business is now living retired in York, a highly respected citizen of that place. He was born in Switzerland in 1848, a son of Charles and Judith (Gatticker) Baer, also natives of Switzerland, the former coming to Wisconsin in 1890 where his death occurred and the latter's death occurred in Switzerland. They were the parents of fourteen children, nine of whom are living : Charles, the subject of this review; Alfred, who is living retired in Canyon, Minnesota; Henry, who is retired and residing in York; Sophia, the wife of Charles Kunzelman, a retired farmer at Baraboo, Wisconsin; Selina, who is the widow of Mr. Charles Horstman, and who resides in Minneapolis, Minnesota; Marie, the widow of Mr. Gollmar, resides in Baraboo, Wisconsin; Arnold, who is residing in California where he is employed as a mechanic in the ship building factories; Otto, a farmer in Wisconsin; and Emma, who is living in California.

In the acquirement of his education Charles Baer attended the schools of his native land and at the age of nineteen years decided to come to the United States. After arriving in this country he settled in Wisconsin and learning the trade of cabinet-making he engaged in this line of work. For some time he conducted a furniture business in connection with his trade and in 1879 came to Nebraska and in 1880 to York. He bought out the J. E. Phillips Furniture Store and in partnership with his brother conducted this business for a number of years under the name of Baer Brothers. Later Mr. Baer bought his brother's interest, running it alone for some time and then sold out, and took a vacation, visiting Switzerland. When he returned he and Mr. King bought out M. B. Atkins in 1892. Later he bought

Mr. King's interest. When the son was old enough he became a partner and the firm name then became Charles Baer & Son and subsequently Charles Baer & Sons. Mr. Baer retired from the business in 1910 and now his son conducts the store under the name of W. C. Baer & Company. In 1904 the father erected a handsome residence in York and here he is spending his last years. He also owns some business property.

In 1873 Mr. Baer was united in marriage to Miss Anna Hottiger, whose birth occurred in Switzerland on the 23rd of August, 1850, a daughter of Henry and Katharina (Zweifel) Hottiger. Her parents started for the United States to make this their new home, but the father died while on board ship and was buried at sea. The mother continued on her way with her two baby girls and on arriving in this country settled in Wisconsin. Here she reared her two daughters to womanhood and for twelve years preceding her death she made her home with Mr. and Mrs. Baer. The other daughter was Sarah, who is deceased. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Baer three children have been born: Emma, who received her education in the York high school, the York College, and took a commercial course in a business college; Henry, who is engaged in the real estate business in Loveland, Colorado; and Walter, who is engaged in the furniture business in York.

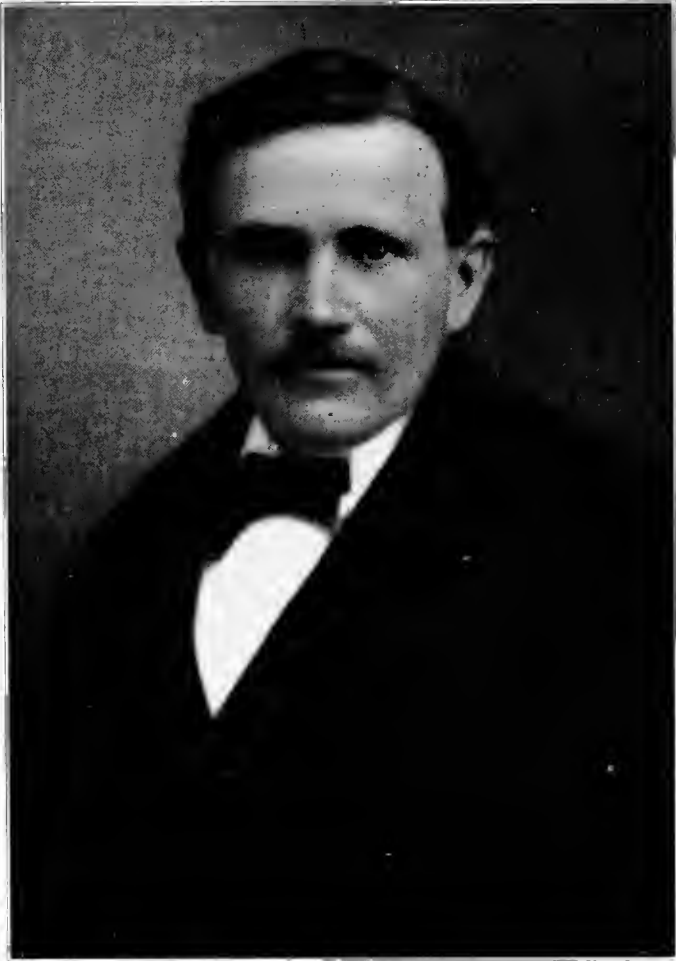
Mr. Baer has always followed an independent course in politics. Starting out in life at the age of nineteen years with the grim determination to succeed he has overcome every obstacle that presented itself and is now a well-to-do, successful man residing in his fine residence at 123 E. Fifth street, secure in the high regard and esteem of his fellow citizens.

HENRY MARQUARDT

For many years Henry Marquardt, deceased, was a prominent and successful farmer in York county. His death occurred in 1916 and came as a sad blow to his many friends in the community.

Henry Marquardt was a native of Germany, having been born in that country in 1856, a son of German parents who spent their lives in Germany and are now deceased. Henry Marquardt received his early education in Germany and at the age of sixteen years left his native land and in company with a brother came to the United States. They arrived in Wisconsin in the spring of 1872 and a year later came to York county where he homesteaded as soon as he became of age. He was a man of great diligence and industry and soon became one of the most progressive farmers in the vicinity. He became financially well-to-do and contributed liberally to the support of his parents in Germany. At first he engaged in general farming but later on he raised live stock. At the time of his death in 1916 Mr. Marquardt was in possession of eight hundred acres of land.

In 1879 Mr. Marquardt was united in marriage to Miss Henrietta Sacksekewsky, a native of Germany and a daughter of Carl Sacksekewsky who died in that country. The ancestry of Mrs. Marquardt is Polish. Twelve children were born to this union: Robert, who lives on a farm in New York township; Henry, at home; Olga, who is residing at home; John, a farmer residing in Wisconsin; Louie, a farmer in York county; Leo, who is engaged in farming in York county; Alma, who is resid-



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ing in Fremont; Fred, who is engaged in farming; Hattie, who is at home; Eric, who is employed in the American State Bank; William, at home; and Anna, who is attending high school. Louie served during the World war, enlisting on the 3rd of May, 1918. He was sent to Camp Fremont in California for training and was aboard ship all ready to sail when the armistice was signed. He was then returned to Camp Lee, Virginia, where he remained for three months. He received his discharge at Camp Dodge, Iowa.

Throughout his entire life Mr. Marquardt was a member of the democratic party which found in him a stalwart advocate. Although he devoted the greater part of his time to farming he held the position of township assessor for a period of four years. Mr. Marquardt was a consistent member of the Lutheran church and his widow is still active in the various societies of that organization. He was known to be a man of the most honorable business principles and was very well liked in the community in which resided. In the early part of 1920 Mrs. Marquardt removed to York where she bought a beautiful home at 1825 Lincoln avenue. Here she is now residing, a highly esteemed and respected citizen.

FREDERICK RICHTER

Frederick Richter is now living retired in Gresham, but for a long period was actively identified with the farming interests of this section of the state and through close application and unremitting energy won a substantial measure of success. He was born in New Haven, Connecticut, June 19, 1861, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Richter, the former a native of Saxony and the latter, whose maiden name was Wolberger, was born in Byer, Germany.

Edward Richter immigrated from Germany to America, making the ocean voyage on an old sailing vessel, the time occupied in the sea journey being about four weeks. After arriving in New York he went to New Haven, Connecticut, and there resumed his trade as a silk lace weaver, which he had learned in the old country. In 1861, following Lincoln's call for volunteers, he enlisted in the Sixth Connecticut Volunteer Infantry and served during the Civil war for about three years, at the end of that period receiving his honorable discharge. At the close of his military service Mr. Richter returned to Connecticut and resumed working at his trade, which he later had to abandon owing to failing eyesight. He then decided to try life on a farm and in the late 60's went to Blackhawk county, Iowa, and bought forty acres of land which he operated successfully for four or five years. In 1873 he came to Nebraska and took a homestead of eighty acres in Polk county and pre-empted another eighty acres in York county, later coming to Lincoln and buying the latter place out. His first abode was a dugout with dirt floor and roof, which was supplemented by a sod house and at the same time he put up a dugout barn. He broke the ground and planted crops, put out trees and an orchard but the latter died. His general farming was a pronounced success and all went well until this part of the state was invaded by a cloud of grasshoppers which destroyed all his crops, giving him a serious setback. Ultimately he got the farm into shape again and increased his improvements as circumstances permitted, and continued to operate his holding up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1887 when he was sixty-eight years old. His wife survived until 1901, when she passed away in

her eighty-fourth year. They were the parents of four children: Edward, who died in Connecticut; Sophia, who died in 1880; Amelia, widow of John Graff, of Greeley county, Nebraska, and Frederick. The parents were members of the Lutheran church and active in its good works.

Frederick Richter was educated in the common schools of Iowa and Nebraska, the school being built of sod with a dirt floor and with brush and sod for roof, while the school season did not last longer than three months in each year. He remained at home for a time and later worked out on farms in the vicinity at eight dollars a month and in 1876 received ten dollars a month for the same kind of work, but managed to save money and bought eighty acres of land which cost him four dollars an acre. He built a small frame house without plaster and otherwise improved the holding. Emboldened by success he bought another eighty acres for which he paid ten dollars per acre and is now the owner of a half section of splendid land with two sets of improvements, the whole being devoted to general farming, to which in latter years he added stock raising. He placed all modern farming accessories on the holdings and his practical industry and energy enabled him to derive substantial results from the fields, so that he was in a position to retire in 1919. In December of that year he bought a home in Gresham in which he is pleasantly and comfortably situated and is still vigorous and active.

In 1881 Mr. Richter was married to Mary Schroeder, who was born in Germany and a daughter of Herman Schroeder. To this union seven children were born: Herman E., a farmer of Polk county; Charlotte L., the wife of George Graff of Polk county; Fritz J., who lives in Gresham; Sophia, the wife of Henry Wolford of Polk county; George B., who farms the home place; Gertrude, the wife of William Wolford of Seward county; and Earl, who assists in the operation of the old farm. The family are members of the Lutheran church, to which they subscribe liberally. Mr. Richter has always given his political support to the republican party and is active in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Industry and perseverance, guided by keen intelligence, have been the basis of his success.

HERMAN WELLMANN

Herman Wellmann, who owns well improved land in Beaver township, York county, is employing the progressive and enterprising characteristics of the west in his farm work, and he has already gained a gratifying amount of prosperity.

Herman Wellmann was born in Hanover, Germany, March 7, 1862, a son of George Fromme and his wife, Louise Wellmann. In the Wellmann family there was no son to carry on the name and so when the daughter Louise was married she retained her surname and Mr. Fromme dropped his own, becoming George Wellmann. The father made three trips to America, finally making his home with his children. His death occurred in York county, and his wife's death occurred in Beaver township. They were aged eighty-two and eighty-one years respectively. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. George Wellmann the following children were born: Minnie, who is the widow of William Pieper of York county; Sophia, the wife of Julius Blume, residing in York county; Henry, who was an early homesteader in York county but now lives at Waco; Louise, who is still residing in Germany;

Herman, the subject of this review; Gezene, who is residing in Cincinnati, Ohio; and four other children who are deceased.

The subject of this review, Herman Wellmann, received his education in his native country and at the age of eighteen years came to the United States. He had an older brother who was engaged in farming in York county so he removed there and for some time worked out on farms. By thrift and hard work Mr. Wellmann managed to save a substantial amount and he bought eighty acres in section thirty-two, Beaver township, which he farmed but a few years when he sold it, realizing a fair profit. He then purchased eighty acres of land in section two, Beaver township, and on this farm has since resided. It is one of the finest improved farms in the county and ten thousand dollars would not now cover the cost of the many buildings on the place. The farm has its own Delco Electric lighting system and is up to date in every other way. He now owns five hundred acres.

In early life Mr. Wellmann was united in marriage to Miss Katrina Ticken, a daughter of Gerhard and Katrina Ticken, and ten children have been born to them, namely: Gerhard, who is married and owns one hundred and sixty acres in West Blue township which he farms; Henry, who is likewise married and owns a farm in Seward county; William, who owns a quarter section in Beaver township; Anna, who is the wife of Herman Staehr, who is engaged in farming near Chappell, Deuel county; Herman, who is residing on this father's farm in Waco township; Carl, who owns a farm in West Blue township; Clara, the wife of Carl Apat, who is engaged in farming in Beaver township; and Louise, Richard, and Dorothea, all at home.

Politically Mr. Wellmann follows an independent course, voting for the man rather than the party. He is a consistent member of the German Evangelical Lutheran church in Beaver township and for over a period of eighteen years has been elder in the local church. From the age of eighteen years he has been an active factor in the world's work, earning his own livelihood throughout the entire period. He is a man of upright character and sterling worth and has contributed much to the agricultural development of the county.

JACOB M. LLOYD

In the passing of Jacob Lloyd York county lost another of its pioneer farmers. Mr. Lloyd came to York county in 1876 and it was not long before he was recognized as one of the leading men in the community. For twelve years before his death, which occurred on the 30th of December, 1919, he had made his home in York where he was a highly respected citizen.

Jacob M. Lloyd was born near Springfield, Logan county, Illinois, September 30, 1849, a son of Belfield C. and Elizabeth (Meeker) Lloyd, the former a native of Virginia, while the latter was born in New York state. Their marriage occurred in Illinois where they had come as young people and they later removed to Iowa where they resided until they passed away.

In the acquirement of an education Jacob M. Lloyd attended the country schools of his native county and after putting his textbooks aside engaged in farming. In 1876 Mr. Lloyd and his wife came to Nebraska. He had been married in Iowa in 1869. The trip was made in covered wagons and they underwent many hardships.

Mr. Lloyd acquired a homestead and was employed at various kinds of work until his first crop was raised. Mrs. Lloyd cooperated with her husband in every way and a great measure of their later success is attributable to her. She was expert with the needle and assisted the different neighbors with their sewing, thereby giving her husband financial aid. The first year of their residence in York county was a failure, for in that year the grasshoppers came and the crop was ruined. They were not discouraged, however, and as the result of hard labor and determination succeeded in making their quarter section one of the finest in the county. Mr. Lloyd hauled lumber from Fairmont, a distance of twenty-five miles, and built a frame house. At Fairmont Mr. Lloyd found a ready market for his grain, the sale of which netted him substantial sums. From time to time he purchased more land and at the time of his death was in possession of four hundred acres. Becoming financially independent Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd decided to remove to York in 1907 and leave the management of the farm to their sons. In York they built a nice home at 629 East Ninth street and it was here that Mr. Lloyd's death occurred twelve years later. Mrs. Lloyd is still residing there, an esteemed and respected citizen.

In December, 1869, Mr. Lloyd was united in marriage to Miss Ruth Pool, a native of Ohio and a daughter of Levi and Sarah (Dodge) Pool. Her parents had moved to Ohio at an early day where they resided until 1874, when they came to Nebraska and settled in York county. Here they both died. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd six children were born: Mamie, the wife of George Devine, who is a retired farmer residing at Beaver City; Loretta, the wife of C. W. McWhinney who is engaged in the land and real estate business in Loveland, Colorado; Bessie, the wife of Bert Reed, a farmer residing seven miles northwest of York; Herman, who is residing in Omaha where he is employed by the Manhattan Oil Company; Ezra, who resides on the old homestead; and Wallace, who is farming in Lockridge township.

Politically Mr. Lloyd was a staunch supporter of the democratic party and was well versed on the questions and issues of the day. He always took an active part in the affairs of the community and held several township offices. Fraternally he was a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen for many years. Mr. Lloyd was in every sense of the word a self-made man and was very well educated for his day. In his passing York county lost one of its most successful pioneer citizens and a feeling of widespread bereavement swept the community.

HARRY S. LINDQUIST

A successful career has been that of Harry S. Lindquist who now follows farming on section 21, Stewart township, York county. He has been a resident of the county all his life and is concentrating his efforts and attention upon the development and improvement of a farm which he has been operating since 1911. He was born in York county, and is a son of John and Emma (Anderson) Lindquist, natives of Sweden, where the father was born in 1837 and immigrated to the United States in 1869, and of him further particulars are recorded elsewhere in this work.

Harry S. Lindquist was educated in the schools of York county and early

applied himself to the best methods of carrying on agricultural operations as demonstrated on his father's place. His father retired from active connection with farm work and spent his last years in Gresham. It was in 1911 that Harry S. Lindquist commenced farming on his own account and took over the management of the holding which his father originally purchased consisting of one hundred and thirty-eight acres of prime land and on this place he is carrying on general farming and stock raising with gratifying success. He also runs corn shellers and a threshing machine. The farm is divided into fields of convenient size by well kept fences, there are substantial buildings on the land and he utilizes the latest improved machinery in carrying on the work of the farm. He harvests good crops and is winning success as the years go by.

On December 28, 1915, Mr. Lindquist was united in marriage to Gladys McNeal and they are the parents of three children: Hollis W., Albert H. and Vera E., all living with the parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Lindquist are members of the Methodist church and in social circles they occupy a prominent position. Apart from his farming interests Mr. Lindquist is connected with the Farmers Elevator at Thayer and Gresham; in the Gresham State Bank; the Farmers Union Association; the Farmers Union State Exchange, and the Overland Tire & Rubber Company, his income from all these sources being considerable. He votes an independent ticket and has never sought public office, preferring to devote all his time to his agricultural affairs. He sees larger possibilities in the future and is shaping his movements to cope with opportunity when it offers.

JOSEPH G. ALDEN

Among the progressive and public spirited citizens of York is Joseph G. Alden, owner and editor of the York Republican. His birth occurred on the 5th of September, 1876, in Minneapolis, a son of William H. and Mary (Lightfoot) Alden. His parents were natives of New York state and were married in Tipton, Iowa, in 1873 where they resided for a few years. They then removed to Minneapolis where they lived a short time and in 1880 came to Nebraska settling in Aurora. For many years Mr. Alden conducted a store there in conjunction with his nephew, W. H. Fairchild, under the name of W. H. Fairchild & Company. He was not accepted for active service during the Civil war because of being physically unfit, but he assisted in raising several companies. William H. Alden was twice married, his second wife being Mary Lightfoot, and to this union six children were born, five of whom are living: Joseph G., the subject of this review; J. H., who is manager of a store at Wahoo; Mrs. Jessie Ronin, whose husband is Charles A. Ronin, a painter and decorator residing in Aurora; Chester C., manager of a mercantile establishment at Whitman; and Arthur A., who is engaged in the plumbing business at Aurora. To his first marriage two children were born, namely: William M., a retired merchant of Hyannis, Nebraska; and Kate E., who is the wife of W. A. Hathaway, insurance man of Portland, Oregon. Mr. and Mrs. Alden were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he was a thirty-second

degree Mason and a Knight Templar. Throughout his entire life he gave his allegiance to the republican party.

Joseph G. Alden received his education in the schools of Aurora, graduating from the high school there in 1892. As soon as he put his textbooks aside he began learning the printing business on the Aurora Republican. He was so successful in this venture that in 1899 he bought the paper which he ran until 1907. His paper became very popular and was known throughout the surrounding counties as a fair and honorable sheet. In 1902 he was appointed to the position of postmaster and served in this capacity for twelve years. For nine months Mr. Alden resided in Lincoln, but on the 1st of September, 1917, he came to York where he purchased the York Republican. This paper he is still successfully printing, being the editor as well as the owner of the sheet. In connection with the paper he has a large job printing business.

In 1899 Mr. Alden was united in marriage to Miss Eloise Shean, of Aurora, a daughter of John Shean. For a number of years her father engaged in farming and was later engaged in the grocery and the implement business. Two children have come to make their home with Mr. and Mrs. Alden, namely: Joseph Maurice, sixteen years of age; and Marjorie, who is twelve years of age. Mr. Shean is now making his home with the Aldens.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Alden the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party and active in its interests. During the campaign of Judge S. H. Sedgwick in 1916 for supreme judge Mr. Alden served as campaign director. The family are members of the Christian Science church and Mr. and Mrs. Alden are readers in the York society. As editor of a newspaper, one of the most important institutions of town or city, it is necessary for Mr. Alden to be familiar with all local activities and as a result he is a member of the Rotary Club of which he is president and a member of the board of directors of the Commercial Club. He is also active in the social affairs of York and is a member of the York Country Club, serving as a member of its board of directors. The York Republican is a newspaper of the highest type, believes in fair play and progressiveness, and is one of the foremost republican papers of the state.

GERHARD REMPEL

For many years Gerhard Rempel engaged in farming in York county and his death which occurred January 28, 1900, at the age of fifty-four, came as a severe shock to his many friends throughout the community. Mr. Rempel was a native of Russia, born May 25, 1847, in the southern part of that country, where he received a common school education. After putting his textbooks aside he engaged in farming for some time and then worked in a flour mill. When the news of the marvelous opportunities offered in the new world reached his ears he determined to come to the United States with the result that he arrived in Sutton July 3, 1877. He bought eighty acres of railroad land, on which he built a house, twenty-four by thirty-four feet, and also frame barns. The necessary provisions were hauled from York and Sutton. The success which he attained along this line soon enabled him to purchase an additional eighty acres of land. Throughout his

period of residence in this country he engaged in general farming and stock raising, to which pursuits he devoted his entire time and energy.

In Russia Mr. Rempel was married to Miss Katharina Epp, whose death occurred December 28, 1886, at the age of thirty-four. She was born February 16, 1853. To this union six children were born, namely: Gerhard G., Jr.; Cornelius, who is farming in Saskatchewan, Canada; Jacob, also farming in Canada; Katharina, now the wife of John B. Peters of Canada; Gertrude, the wife of John A. Peters of Quincy, Washington, where he is engaged in farming; and Sarah, who is a trained nurse in the Mennonite hospital at Beatrice. Mr. Rempel was married the second time to Miss Elizabeth Wieler and five children were born to this union: Peter, Henry, John who is deceased, Isbrand and Elizabeth.

Gerhard G., Jr., has succeeded his father in farming in York county where he has a well improved place of two hundred and eighty acres. He is engaged in general farming and is considered one of the most progressive agriculturists in the community in which he resides. He was married February 7, 1901, to Miss Maria Thiesen born in York county, and they have eight children: Maria, Gerhard, Elizabeth, Katharina, Sarah, Jacob, Anna and Lena.

The political allegiance of Mr. Rempel was given to the republican party and he had a firm belief in the principles of that party as factors in good government. He was a consistent member of the Mennonite church in which faith his family was reared. As an active man who maintained an interest in the development of his community he served the public as road overseer for some time and was also school treasurer of district 37. During his residence in York county Mr. Rempel won the confidence, respect and goodwill of all with whom he came in contact and his death caused a feeling of deep bereavement in the vicinity in which he had for many years made his home.

WALTER V. MACARTNEY

Walter V. Macartney, president of the York Milling and Grain Company, was born in Colorado, on the 27th of January, 1881, a son of George G. and Josephine (Van Horn) Macartney, the former was born in Missouri and the latter was born in the state of New York. After their marriage, which took place in New York state, they removed to Colorado in 1878, settling at Denver where Mr. Macartney engaged in the carriage manufacturing business. The mother passed away in 1910 but the father is still living and resides with his son in York. Mr. Macartney enjoyed a great amount of success in the carriage manufacturing business, which he later gave up and became associated with the Colorado Southern Railroad Company, having charge of a department for a number of years. In 1910 he retired from active business. Both Mr. and Mrs. Macartney were consistent members of the Episcopal church and he is still active in the interests of that organization. He has always been a staunch supporter of the republican party and is conversant on all of the leading questions of the day. Eight children were born to this union, three of whom are now living: Grace, the wife of F. W. Viele, a fruit farmer of Los Angeles, California; Walter V., the subject of this review; and George L., who is traffic manager for a large lumber concern in San Francisco.

Walter V. Macartney received his education in the schools of Denver but found it necessary to give up his studies and go to work. When the Spanish-American war broke out he was among the first to enlist and spent three years with General Funston in the Philippines. In 1902 he returned to Denver and accepted a position as cashier and assistant manager of the Postal Telegraph Company, where he remained for a period of five years. He then entered the milling business in the employ of Washburn Crosby of Minneapolis, serving as branch manager of this concern for five years. At the termination of this time he went to Omaha becoming an employe of the Wells, Abbott, Nieman Company and worked for them six years. This concern owned the York mill and in 1914 he was sent to York to take charge. Some time later a stock company was organized which took over the mill in 1919, with a capital of one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars. Mr. Macartney became president of the company, also serving as treasurer, L. S. Loomer, vice president, and O. J. Dudek, secretary. The mill has a capacity of four hundred barrels and runs twenty-four hours a day. What flour is not sold in Nebraska goes to West Virginia, Virginia, New York and Michigan.

In 1903 Mr. Macartney was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Jones of Denver and to them four children have been born, namely: Caroline; Fredric; Josephine; and Ella. The mother, who was a consistent member of the Episcopal church, died in 1911. In 1915 Mr. Macartney was again wed, this time to Mrs. Rosa (Cook) Carman of Chicago, a widow with one child, James Frederick. By his second marriage Mr. Macartney has two children: Mary Katherine and Jane Cook. The family are members of the Episcopal church.

Politically Mr. Macartney is a member of the republican party in which he takes an active interest. Fraternally he is a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Macartney is in every sense of the word a self-made man for only by dint of hard labor he has gradually risen to the position in which he is now so ably serving.

JOE MARK KILGORE, D. O.

Perhaps no man throughout the state of Nebraska has done more for the promotion of osteopathy than did Dr. Joe Mark Kilgore, deceased, who was for many years one of the most prominent members of that profession in York county. He was a native of Mexico, Missouri, born in that state on the 23rd of December, 1874. His death occurred in York, December 7, 1918, and at the news of his demise a widespread feeling of bereavement swept the community.

In the acquirement of his education Dr. Kilgore attended the schools in Mexico, Missouri, and in due time entered the military academy at that place, from which he was graduated in June, 1893. After putting his textbooks aside he taught school for five years, at the termination of which time he decided upon a professional career. Soon afterward he entered the American School of Osteopathy at Kirksville, Missouri, and he was graduated in this course in 1900. He then removed to Nebraska and settled in York, where he commenced his practice, his popularity ever increasing until he had one of the largest practices in the state. He was ever active in the promotion of this profession in Nebraska, which for some



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time was looked upon with suspicion, and he was also instrumental in getting a law passed in 1901 to enable the osteopaths to practice in this state. For a number of years he was a member of the state board of osteopaths and became well known in this connection. In addition to the prominence Dr. Kilgore enjoyed in professional circles he also took an active part in the business circles of York, being connected with a number of well known business enterprises. At the time of his death he owned stock in a large business block and was a director of the American State Bank. Believing land to be a safe investment Dr. Kilgore owned many acres in York county and also property in Oklahoma.

On the 18th of March, 1903, Dr. Kilgore was united in marriage to Miss Gertrude Mary George, a daughter of Daniel and Mary (Henderson) George, both of whom were natives of England. The father removed with his parents to Wisconsin at an early day and there he received his education. After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. George they came to Nebraska, settling in York county in 1866. Here they acquired a homestead and for the first summer made their home in a wagon. Some time later they built a log house which is still standing. Five children were born to this union, three of whom are living: Eve H., the widow of Mr. Hoisington, who is residing in Pendleton, Oregon; Mrs. Gene Wright, whose husband is retired, and they are living in York; and Mrs. Kilgore, the widow of the subject of this review. Members of the George family were reared in the faith of the Presbyterian church. The father passed away in 1904 at the age of sixty-nine years and Mrs. George died at the age of seventy-four years, in 1914. To the union of Dr. and Mrs. Kilgore four children have been born: William Sherwood, aged sixteen years, who is a junior in high school; Robert Nelson, fourteen years of age; Herbert Hale, aged nine years; and James who died an infant. The Kilgore family are members of the Christian church in the interests of which Mrs. Kilgore takes an active part. She is now residing in the home which her father and mother occupied at the time of their deaths, at 724 East Fifth street. She is financially independent, owning three farms in York county, one and one-half sections of land in Hays township and three hundred and twenty acres in Brown township.

Fraternally Dr. Kilgore was a member of the Masons, in which order he had obtained the thirty-second degree and was an active member of the Knights of Pythias. He was a consistent member of the Christian church and was prominent in the affairs of that organization. In the passing of Dr. Kilgore members of his profession suffered a severe loss as well as did York county in losing a representative citizen.

EDWARD W. BLENDER

Edward W. Blender is one of the younger group of York county farmers who is employing modern and progressive methods in the carrying out of his farming operations. He was born in York county, Nebraska, November 1, 1898, a son of Edward and Louise (Blessman) Blender, both natives of Germany. Elsewhere in this work will be found an extended account of the life and achievements of the father.

Edward W. Blender secured his education in the public schools of York, the first school which he attended being of frame construction the lumber for which he helped to haul from Lincoln. During his younger years he lived with his parents on the farm and sometime after his father's death began to apply himself to a study of agricultural operations with the object in view of becoming qualified to take charge of the home farm. At the age of twenty-two years he took over the responsibility of handling the details connected with the home farm and is now actively engaged in general farming and stock raising. He makes a specialty of pure-blooded Shorthorn cattle, a line of activity which was inaugurated by his father. He keeps the fields in the same high state of cultivation as did his father before him.

Mr. Blender is a member of the Lutheran church and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In political affairs he supports the republican party in its policies and principles. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator at Benedict, in the Benedict Lumber & Fuel Company, and in the Farmers State Bank. The record which he has made thus far is very creditable and is a clear indication of success in future activities.

ALBERT B. CHATTERTON

Albert B. Chatterton, city clerk of York, was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 4, 1857, a son of Henry and Bathsheba (Fouse) Chatterton, the former a native of England, while the latter was born in Philadelphia, in which city their marriage was celebrated. In 1865 Mr. Chatterton removed to York county where he homesteaded, becoming one of the first settlers of this section of the state. He occupied his homestead to the time of his death and his first dwelling was a log house, while later he erected a frame residence. In the early days the Indians were numerous and game of various kinds was plentiful. For a great while there was no church in the neighborhood, so the settlers would meet in the home of one of the residents and hold service. Mrs. Chatterton survived her husband and spent her last days in York. They were parents of three children, of whom two are living: Mrs. Lillian Hedgecock, who is living at College View, Washington; and Albert B. The father was a member of the Episcopal church and his wife of the Presbyterian church. His political support was given to the republican party and he was always loyal in matters of citizenship. Prior to and during the Civil war he was an engineer in the navy, thus serving for eleven years.

Albert B. Chatterton was educated in the public schools of York and attended the first district school of the county. He afterward spent two years as a student in the Adventist College at Battle Creek, Michigan, and then took up the occupation of farming. He was married in York county to Miss Anna E. Shamon and they have a daughter, Flossie, the wife of Harry C. Hessler, of Pawnee City, Nebraska, who is editor of the Republican there. After his marriage Mr. Chatterton went to Cheyenne, Wyoming, where he conducted a grocery store for two years and then returned to his farm, whereon he resided for a two-year period. In 1895 he took up his abode in York and was employed in a store for more than ten years. He was then elected city clerk and has since filled the office, making a most creditable

record by the prompt, capable and efficient manner in which he discharges his duties. He also bought and sold farm and city property in York county for several years and is now the owner of two nice business properties, from which he derives a good income. He also owns a large residence which is thoroughly modern. He is devoting his entire time to the business of the city and that he has made a most excellent record as city clerk is indicated by his long retention in the office. He has always been a republican in his political views, giving stalwart support to the party.

Mr. and Mrs. Chatterton are members of the Presbyterian church and they are held in high esteem by all who know them. Mr. Chatterton has ever been keenly interested in the welfare and progress of York county and today has the distinction of being the oldest living settler within its borders, having for fifty-five years made his home here, so that he has witnessed its entire growth and development as the wild prairie lands have been transformed into productive farms, dotted here and there with thriving towns and villages in which are to be obtained all of the advantages and opportunities of the older east.

C. BURR GAUNT

A representative citizen and business man is C. Burr Gaunt, who has an exclusive Ford agency in York. He is a native of Iowa having been born in Bayard, on the 18th of June, 1886, a son of George C. and Josephine (Manville) Gaunt, both natives of that state. The father was a barber by trade and a band teacher. He was a great lover of music and wrote several pieces. His death occurred in 1893 and his widow who is still living, resides at Bayard. Three children were born to their marriage, two of whom are living: C. Burr, the subject of this review; and Gladys, the wife of Roy Slack, an insurance man of Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. Gaunt was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mrs. Gaunt is a consistent member of the same. He was a republican in politics and fraternally belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and to the Modern Woodmen of America.

C. Burr Gaunt acquired his education in the common schools of Bayard and was graduated from the high school there in 1903. His first occupation on leaving school was that of telegraph operator in which capacity he served for the period of one year. He then went to Colorado where he worked at various occupations and in 1908 came to Nebraska, settling in Omaha. Here he accepted a position as bookkeeper with Paxton and Gallagher Company, wholesale grocers, and remained in that service four and one-half years. His next position was as cashier in the office of the Bradford-Kennedy Lumber Company at Omaha, and at the termination of six months spent in their employ he became chief clerk of the Ford Motor Company. For four years he remained with the Ford Company in Omaha and on the 1st of September, 1917, came to York where he established the Ford Agency. In this venture he has been very successful and has most of the Ford business in York county. The business is carried on in a large brick building having over seventy-two hundred feet of floor space. In connection with the agency he also has a shop for the repairing of Ford cars.

In 1911 occurred the marriage of Mr. Gaunt and Miss Maude C. Ellis, a native of Omaha and the daughter of Zack M. Ellis who is residing in that place and has

been a member of the municipal court. He has lived in Omaha for fifty years. Two children have been born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Gaunt, namely: Bernice, who is now attending school at the age of seven and one-half years; and Janis, twenty months old.

Fraternally Mr. Gaunt is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Mrs. Gaunt is a member of the Kountze Memorial Lutheran church of Omaha. As a prominent business man Mr. Gaunt takes an active interest in all local affairs and is a member of the Rotary Club and the Commercial Club. He is also a member of the Y. M. C. A. In the social circles of York Mr. and Mrs. Gaunt are also prominent and he is secretary of the York Country Club, also on the entertainment committee of the Elk's lodge. The success which Mr. Gaunt now enjoys is the result of his own labor and diligence for he began to help in the support of the family when but seven years old, following the death of his father. He worked on a farm during the summer months, earning enough money to buy his clothes for the following school year. He has learned his lessons in the bitter school of experience, and profiting by them has become a man that any community would be proud to have as citizen.

LEWIS C. IMM

Lewis C. Imm, for years identified with the farming and commercial life of York county, was born in Posen, Germany, January 22, 1845. He immigrated to America in 1863, the voyage occupying about six weeks. He first settled in Wisconsin and worked there in a sawmill and also rafted timber down the river to St. Louis. He came to Nebraska in 1871, making the journey by train to Columbus, going from that city to Seward county on foot. He found but one settler between his place and Columbus. Mr. Imm homesteaded eighty acres of land and put up a house composed of mud and straw, the walls being about eighteen inches thick with a dirt floor, while the barns were of sod with shingle roof. He had the help of an ox team in the breaking of the land and when that was completed he planted crops and in a short time had things going in good shape. Provisions had to be hauled from Lincoln and Columbus and fuel was obtained from the creek where timber was chopped for the purpose, at the same time corn and cornstalks were also used as fuel. As his farming prospered Mr. Imm added to his holding and at the time of his death in 1902 had a well improved place, the equal of any in the neighborhood. He passed away in his fifty-seventh year and his widow survived until 1919, when her death occurred at the age of seventy-four. They were the parents of six children: Robert C.; Otto E., of South Dakota; Louis, living in St. Joseph, Missouri; Albert, who resides on a farm in South Dakota; Martin, a carpenter, living in Ohio; and Clara, the wife of Fred Martin, a farmer living in Temple, Texas. The parents were members of the Evangelical church, to whose teachings they were loyal. His political endorsement was given to the democratic party and he served as a member of the local school board for twenty-five years, his interest in educational affairs having been always of the most pronounced character.

Robert C. Imm received his preliminary education in the country schools of Utica, Nebraska, and later attended the high schools of that place, thus securing

educational advantages beyond the opportunity of the average farm boy of the day. He worked for some years on his father's place and finally chose business life as a career and entered commercial pursuits at Gresham. Here he operated a general mercantile store under the style of Walford & Imm for twenty-four years, during that long period the business showing substantial advances, due in large measure to the keen business-like methods employed and to which Mr. Imm's talents generously contributed. Later Mr. Imm carried on the company as a private venture in his own name and when he finally ceased all connection with mercantile life he turned his attention to farming, moving to the holding in Stewart township, where he lived for some years and then sold out. He next bought the farm in Lockridge township on which he now lives and on which he carries on general farming and stock raising. His success in this line has been fully demonstrated and has been based upon the sure foundation of hard work and the most rigorous attention to the task in hand.

In 1892 Mr. Imm was united in marriage to Mina Heineke and they have become the parents of six children: Eva, the wife of C. F. Sherwood of Lincoln; Joseph, Ruth, Oscar and Charles, all at home; and Clara, who died when twenty-two years of age. Mr. Imm is a member of the Presbyterian church at York and is affiliated with the blue lodge of the Masonic order. While he is inclined to the principles of the democratic party he usually takes an independent attitude in political affairs. He has held practically all township offices and in the discharge of the duties of each position has earned a reputation for executive ability and efficiency. His many admirable qualities are generally recognized and there is no resident of the county more highly esteemed than he.

MRS. ELIZA JANE HITCHCOCK

Mrs. Eliza Jane Hitchcock, widow of the late Arnold Hitchcock, was born in Clay county, Indiana, a daughter of Thomas E. and Chloe (Adkins) Eads. Her parents were both natives of Kentucky and in their later life removed to Indiana, Iowa, and thence to Nebraska in 1871, where the father acquired a homestead on which he resided until his death. To this union thirteen children were born, three of whom are living: Mrs. Hitchcock, the subject of this review; William, who is a retired farmer of Dickinson county, Iowa; Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Dixon, a widow, residing in Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Eads were consistent members of the Baptist church and he was a staunch supporter of the democratic party.

In March, 1886, their daughter Eliza was united in marriage to William Kyle Atkison. Mr. Atkison was born in Ohio on the 2nd of December, 1840, a son of William Atkison also a native of Ohio. William K. Atkison received his education in the schools of Ohio, and spent all of his early life on a farm. In 1871 he came to York county and engaged in farming until 1893 when he removed to York where he retired. He was quite well-to-do, having made the greater part of his money in raising hogs. Politically Mr. Atkison was a staunch supporter of the democratic party and was fraternally affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His death occurred on the 24th of August, 1906, and in his passing York lost one of her representative citizens. On the 19th of October, 1909, his widow became

the wife of Arnold Hitchcock. Mr. Hitchcock was born in Ohio, March 23, 1850, and died March 3, 1915. His early life was spent on a farm and his education was obtained in Ohio and Indiana in the country schools. In the early eighties he removed to York county and purchased a farm whereon he resided for some time and then sold it, and engaged in the grocery business in Scotia, Nebraska. Throughout his life he gave his allegiance to the democratic party and although he neither sought nor desired public office, was always active in the interests of his party. The religion of Mr. Hitchcock was of the Methodist Episcopal church. He retired from active business a short time before his death. Both Mr. Atkison and Mr. Hitchcock were successful men and when they passed on York county suffered the loss of two prominent and progressive citizens.

Mrs. Hitchcock was the mother of four children by her first marriage, all of whom are deceased: Oscar, who died at the age of nine years; Cornelia, who was one year of age when her death occurred; Hattie, who was two years and four months old at the time of her death; and Bertha, who died at the age of thirteen years.

Mrs. Hitchcock suffered all the privation of early pioneer life, having come to York county with her husband at an early day. She is now residing in York in comfortable financial circumstances, at 715 Burlington avenue, and is most active in the affairs of the Methodist church of which she is a member.

LAWRENCE C. VAN ALLEN

A brief record of the life and activities of Lawrence C. Van Allen, who for years was identified with the agricultural development of York county, discloses a character worthy of esteem and emulation. He was born in Fulton county, New York, near Amsterdam, December 5, 1828, and his death occurred on April 26, 1899, when his passing was the occasion for very general and deep-felt regret, for he was a progressive business man, a loyal and patriotic citizen, a faithful friend and a devoted husband and father. He was a son of Cornelius Van Allen and wife, the former a native of New York state, where he was engaged in farming and there spent all his life.

Lawrence C. Van Allen graduated from the high school at Johnstown, New York, and at the age of twenty-one went to California, making the voyage around Cape Horn, and finished his education at Stockton, a well known educational center in the Golden state. Some time later he opened a book and stationery store at Stockton and also served as county superintendent of schools in that place. After the termination of his official connection with the schools Mr. Van Allen returned to New York and was married to Felicia Harris, a native of Philadelphia. The couple took up residence on his father's farm, where they lived for a time and where he assisted in carrying on the farming operations.

It was in 1870 that Mr. Van Allen came to York county and secured a homestead of eighty acres in Stewart township, upon which he erected a frame cabin which served as a home until better days ensued. To reach his homestead he made the journey from Lincoln by wagon. He broke the ground and commenced to put

up improvements, at the same time planting trees and setting out an orchard. He hauled lumber from Seward and built the first house erected in the immediate neighborhood, and gradually by persistent efforts he succeeded in his farming operations which were yielding satisfactory returns. Finding his financial condition to be sound he purchased a tract of railroad land in Polk county and on that place also carried on general farming and stock raising. At the time of his death he was the owner of two hundred and forty acres of excellent land on which he had put up two sets of improvements. During a prairie fire he lost a barn and was himself seriously injured, it being necessary to have one of his legs amputated above the knee.

To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Van Alen the following children were born: Clary K., deceased; Russell, who operates one of the old farms; Maude, the wife of Rev. J. W. Campbell, a minister now in California; Ardell, the wife of Gilbert Goudy, a York county farmer; Olive, who married Lincoln W. Pigeon, of Sumner, Nebraska; Eunice, a missionary, who served twelve years in Africa and is now among the Sioux Indians at Santee, Nebraska; and Ethel, now deceased, who married Rev. Herbert Course. Following the death of her husband Mrs. Van Alen moved into Gresham. They were members of the Presbyterian church, guiding their lives by its teachings and conforming their actions to its principles. He was a Mason and affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in both of which he took a deep interest. He was a staunch democrat and served as township treasurer, in this office giving faithful and efficient service. He was a man of sound judgment, unassuming disposition and of genuine worth, and his energy and unquestioned integrity gained for him the respect of his fellowmen.

JOHN ADAM BARTH

A life of intense and well directed activity brought John Adam Barth, now deceased, to a position among the successful farmers of York county. He was born in Newark, Ohio, March 14, 1858, and died in York county on the 6th of December, 1911. His parents were Michael and Mary Ann Barth, both natives of Württemberg, Germany. In 1849 the father went to California but was not successful there and subsequently removed to Ohio. He engaged in the milling business in that state but during one of the floods his mill was destroyed. He then removed to Illinois and here he and his wife resided until their deaths. For two years Michael Barth served in the Civil war.

In the acquirement of an education John Adam Barth attended the country schools of Illinois and after putting his textbooks aside engaged in farming. For some time he farmed in Illinois and in that state his marriage occurred. In 1892 he removed to Seward county where he purchased land which he later traded for a mill in Silver Creek. For five years he remained in the milling business and in 1901 removed to York county. Here he bought a farm consisting of one hundred and sixty acres in Leroy township, on which he resided until his death. Mrs. Barth is still in possession of the farm. In 1915 she removed to York and bought a piece of property at 314 College avenue, where she is now residing.

While farming in Illinois Mr. Barth was united in marriage to Miss Julia Schall,

a native of Germany and a daughter of Franz and Mary (Sekler) Schall, both of whom were born and died in Germany. The father was a successful merchant in the old country. Mrs. Barth came to the United States with a brother, Charles, who was for some time a professor of music in St. Louis. Mrs. Barth is one of a family of five children, three of whom are living. She was a twin, her twin brother Joe Schall having been a successful farmer of York county. The Schall family were reared in the faith of the Catholic church. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Barth six children were born: Emma, the wife of G. U. Evans, who is a farmer in Wyoming; Carl, residing on a farm in Waco township, York county; Louise, the wife of George Snyder, a farmer in York county; Harry, who is living on the old homestead; Bertha, the wife of Fred H. Meyer, who is engaged in the music business in York; and Albert, who is on a homestead in Wyoming.

Mr. Barth was an independent in politics, voting for the man rather than for the party. He held the office of township treasurer for some time and was likewise on the school board for a number of years. He was a consistent member of the German Lutheran church and was one of the organizers of that church in the county. Mrs. Barth is a prominent member of the church and active in the interests of that organization. The success which Mr. Barth won came as the reward of persistent, earnest labor, and his life illustrates what can be accomplished through individual effort combined with persistency of purpose.

ABNER E. WILCOX

A. E. Wilcox, for upwards of forty years identified with the agricultural life of York county, prior to which he had established a fine record for military service during the Civil war, is now living retired on his farm on section 4, Arborville township. He was born in Lenawee county, Michigan, February 17, 1846, a son of William C. and Mary Ann (Southard) Wilcox, the former a native of New York state and the latter born in Pennsylvania. The father for some years was an evangelist in Michigan and also worked at his trade of a millwright, while for a time he farmed and he also located several mills of Michigan. The parents passed away many years ago in Michigan.

Bereft of his parents when he was thirteen years old Abner E. Wilcox had but slight opportunities for securing an education. When he was eighteen years of age he enlisted in Company G, Eighth Michigan Cavalry, which later was consolidated with Company H, and his entire service covered a period of seventeen months. He served as a scout for a time and later was with General Sherman on the march to the sea. He lost his horse at Macon Ridge but obtained a remount in Kentucky and then became a member of the command led by General Thomas. He was one of two men left out of a company of sixty-three which went on a raiding expedition in Tennessee. This was in 1865 when raiding parties descended on almost every county seat in Tennessee. Toward the end of the war he worked with detectives attached to the Pinkerton service and at the close of hostilities was honorably discharged and returned to the more peaceful pursuits of Civil life.

After his military service Mr. Wilcox learned the trade of a blacksmith in Eaton Rapids, Michigan, and in 1871 went to Iowa and there resumed working at



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his trade as a millwright and for a time was employed in a sawmill close to the Missouri line. In the following year, 1872, he came to York county and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Arborville township. All freighting had to be done from Lincoln and Seward, these places being the nearest market towns. His first house on the homestead was of the dugout variety and he also put up a smithy constructed of sod. He worked at his trade as a blacksmith for some years and made his own first plow with which to turn the sod of his holding. Finally, in 1881, he abandoned his trade and from that date forward devoted all his energies to the work of the farm. He engaged in general farming and stock raising, at the same time feeding live stock for the markets, in this latter line meeting with much success. He gradually improved and developed his holding, put up good buildings and made the place the equal of any in the district. He is now the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land which is well improved and from which he derives splendid financial results. During the years of the grasshopper visitation he lost heavily, all his corn being destroyed. He has ever been possessed of sufficient courage to venture where favoring opportunity is presented and his judgment and even-paced energy have carried him forward to the goal of success. It was the exercise of these qualities that brought him through his early trials and difficulties.

In January, 1878, Mr. Wilcox was united in marriage to Nettie A. Coon, a native of Wisconsin, and to their union nine children have been born: William J., an engineer on a United States battleship, now in Spain; Grace, who lives in Exeter, Nebraska; Maude, a trained nurse, now in Colorado; Howard, who operates the old home farm; Walter, who runs a store in Idaho, also in service; Mary, a trained nurse in Omaha; Frank, who served in the United States army; Lemuel, a machine gunner, who was killed in Belleau Woods; and Edson, who lives in York county. Mr. Wilcox had five children in the United States service at one time. Mr. Wilcox is a member of the Congregational church and in fraternal affiliation has been actively identified with the Masonic order for more than forty-four years in the state of Nebraska. His political support has ever been given to the republican party. He attended the first election in Arborville township and has never missed one in all the intervening period. As a member of the Grand Army of the Republic he has always displayed a warm interest in the work of his encampment and is now one of the few surviving "boys in blue" in this part of the state. Nearly fifty years have passed since Mr. Wilcox arrived in York county and he can look back over that period without regret and to the future without fear, for his has ever been an honorable life.

CHARLES F. SMITH

Charles F. Smith, now deceased, was born in Germany July 10, 1856, the son of Adam and Frederica Smith, natives of Germany, who came to this country when their son Charles was four years old and settled in Carroll county, Illinois, where they engaged in agricultural pursuits until they passed away.

Charles F. Smith was one of eight children, and spent his youth on his father's farm. In 1882 he moved to Audubon county, Iowa, and purchased one

hundred and twenty acres of land which he cultivated until 1891 when he came to York county, Nebraska, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land and made his home here until he passed away November 23, 1897.

He was married in Carroll county, Illinois, to Dorothea Daehler, the daughter of Henry and Eliza Daehler, natives of Germany who came to Carroll county and settled on a farm. After the death of her husband Mrs. Smith continued the management of the farm until eight years ago when she moved to McCool Junction. She has managed the property carefully and has shown herself to be a shrewd business woman, for she now owns one hundred and sixty acres of land in West Blue township, in addition to the old home place. Their marriage was blessed with four children: Adam, who is married, is a farmer in West Blue township; Louis, who is a resident of California, is married; Louisa B., who is the wife of H. P. Smith of McCool Junction; and Clara, who is married to R. W. Young, who is farming the old home place in McFadden township.

Mr. Smith was a member of the English Lutheran church to which his widow and family belongs. In politics he was a democrat and was always ready to give his support to worthy projects undertaken in behalf of the public. Mr. Smith was assessor of McFadden township two terms, and was on the school board several years. He was also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at McCool Junction. All who knew him had the highest regard for him and esteemed him an honest and honorable man whose word was as good as his bond. His death was a great loss to his family, who lost in him a beloved husband and father who always held at heart the welfare of those dear to him.

ELIJAH JEFFERSON UNDERWOOD

Elijah Jefferson Underwood is one of the pioneer men of York county and makes his home in West Blue township, where he has a valuable and highly productive property that responds readily to the care and labor which he bestows upon it.

Mr. Underwood is a native of Appanoose county, Iowa, having been born in that state on the 15th of April, 1850, a son of Preston and Cassie Underwood. The father was born in Tennessee and when but a young man went to Missouri where he engaged in farming in Mercer county, and later in Harrison county, where his death occurred. The mother was killed by lightning when the subject of our review was but six weeks old. Mr. Underwood was then reared in the home of a family in Appanoose county, Iowa, and when eighteen years of age began working on farms in the neighborhood of his home. Mr. Underwood lived in Iowa until 1877 and then came to Nebraska, settling in York county. He bought a relinquishment of eighty acres on section 30, West Blue township, and this has been his home since. For four years he lived in a primitive sod house but today his farm, which now consists of six hundred acres, is one of the finest improved throughout the county. When Mr. Underwood first came to this county from Iowa he had a capital consisting of forty dollars and a team of mules. Throughout the intervening years he has transformed his land from a wilderness of sagebrush to fertile fields and his enterprise has enabled him to overcome all obstacles and difficulties.

Mr. Underwood was married in Iowa to Miss Mary Baldrige, a native of Appa-

noose county, that state, and a daughter of William Carrol and Harriet Jane (Miller) Baldrige. Her parents were natives of Tennessee and came to Iowa in 1849, where they were among the early settlers of Appanoose county. Her father died there. Mrs. Baldrige is still living at the advanced age of ninety-four years and resides with Mr. and Mrs. Underwood. Besides Mrs. Underwood, Mrs. Baldrige has another daughter living, Mrs. S. L. Smith, who also resides in the neighborhood and assists her sister in caring for and administering to the wants of their aged mother. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Underwood seven children have been born: Fred, who is engaged in farming in West Blue township; Ed, a farmer of McFadden township; George, who is residing on the home place; Frank, whose death occurred two years ago and who is survived by a widow and four children; Maude, who is the wife of Julian Peterson of West Blue township; and Annie, who is residing at home. One died in childhood.

Mr. Underwood gives his allegiance to the republican party which finds in him a staunch advocate. Mrs. Underwood is a consistent member of the Methodist church. It has been forty-three years since Mr. Underwood came to York county, and during all of these years he has proved to be a good neighbor and friend and throughout the community he is familiarly known as "Jeff." Pioneer hardships and privations drew men together in the old days and the nickname was an outward token of the deep affection these hardy men had for one another. Not only has Mr. Underwood seen York county grow from a wild country with only a few white inhabitants to a rich agricultural country containing thousands of good homes and acres of growing towns, inhabited by an industrious, prosperous, enlightened and progressive people, but he has participated in and assisted the slow, persistent work of development which was necessary to produce a change which is so complete that it has come to be popularly referred to as magical.

ROBERT G. GALE

Since 1916 Robert G. Gale has been in the photographic business in York and in this short time has acquired the reputation of being one of the finest photographers in the county. He is a native son of Nebraska, born in Beatrice, in November, 1891, a son of Charles F. and Aldula (Garrison) Gale, both natives of the state of Illinois. Their marriage took place near Adams, Nebraska. The father came to Gage county in the seventies with his parents and settled on a farm near Adams. For two or three years he engaged in school-teaching and then for a period of sixteen years served as editor of the Express, a newspaper at Beatrice. He was active in all of the affairs of the community and for sixteen years before his death was secretary of the State Building & Loan Association. He also served on the city council of Beatrice for a number of years and was one of the leading prohibitionists of that place. His death occurred in 1917. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Gale, five children were born: Clarence, who is in the photographic business in Beatrice; Laura, a school-teacher, who was principal of a school at Harvard, Nebraska, last year; Robert G., the subject of this review; Margaret Marie, a teacher of home economics in Tucson, Arizona; and Dorothy who works for her brother. The family were reared in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church and the father

was a Woodman, a Highlander, and a staunch supporter of the republican party. At the time of his death he was quite well-to-do. The grandfather of Robert G. Gale, George Gale, engaged in farming near Adams for many years until his death. The maternal grandfather, G. F. Garrison, was also a successful farmer and was one of the pioneer settlers of Gage county.

Robert G. Gale obtained his education in the schools of Beatrice and was graduated from the high school there in 1911. At an early age he took up the study of photography and for four years engaged in this line of business with his brother in Beatrice. He then decided to go into business on his own account with the result that in 1916 he came to York and opened a studio. It was not long before he had established a large patronage, his work being of such character as to attract favorable comment.

In 1912 Mr. Gale was united in marriage to Miss Pearl Monismith, a native of Glenville, Nebraska, and a daughter of William Monismith who was among the pioneer settlers of Adams county. Mr. and Mrs. Monismith are now residing on a farm in Clay county. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Gale, two children have been born: Evelyn, who is attending school; and Robert, aged three years.

Mr. and Mrs. Gale are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and fraternally he is affiliated with the Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, and the Highlanders. Although most of his time is devoted to his business he is always interested in any local activity or improvement, as is manifested by his membership in the Rotary Club and the Commercial Club. He is also a member of the Country Club and a devotee of golf, which is his favorite form of recreation.

HOLLAND R. WILDMAN, D. D. S.

Dr. Holland R. Wildman, a prominent dentist of York, was born on a farm four miles northwest of that place on the 1st of April, 1882, the son of M. M. and Martha A. (Valentine) Wildman, the former born in Piatt county, Illinois, while the later was born in Ohio. Further mention of Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Wildman is made elsewhere in this work.

Dr. Wildman received his early education in the schools of York and was graduated from the York high school in 1904. Then deciding on a professional career he entered the college of dentistry of the University of Nebraska, from which he was graduated in 1907. While in the university he was active in student affairs and was a member of the Glee Club, making several trips. Following his graduation he entered into practice with J. A. Dillenbacher, a pioneer dentist of York, and remained in this connection for two years. At the termination of this time he decided to enter into practice on his own account and has since practiced alone.

On the 10th of October, 1907, Dr. Wildman was united in marriage to Miss Myrta L. Worrell, a native of Kansas. She came to York at an early age with her parents, attended the schools of that place and graduated from the York high school. She taught school two years in York county country schools, two years at Waco, and two years in York. She is a member of the women's department of the Y. M. C. A. and active in Woman's club work. To the union of Dr. and Mrs. Wild-

man four children have been born, one girl and three boys, namely: Josephine LeNore; Leonard Roscoe; Edwin Worrell; and Harry Blaine.

The Wildman family are all consistent members of the Congregational church and for some time Dr. Wildman conducted the Glee Club and choir of that church. Fraternaly he belongs to A. F. & A. M., No. 56, the Royal Arch Masons, Knights Templars, No. 17, and Sesostriis Temple, of Lincoln. He is also a Knight of Pythias and a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. In each of these orders he is an exemplary member. Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise he has given his allegiance to the republican party, in the interests of which he has always taken an active part. As a prominent member of the dental profession he is a member of the Xi Psi Phi dental fraternity and of the Nebraska State Dental Society. He still devotes some of his time to a deeper study of his profession, taking post-graduate work under Dr. Arthur Smith of Chicago, Dr. D. D. Campbell of Kansas City, and Dr. H. H. Waite at the University of Nebraska. In the social circles of York Dr. and Mrs. Wildman also take an active part, being members of the Country Club and Mrs. Wildman takes a great interest in church affairs. She belongs to a number of church societies. For one term Dr. Wildman did lyceum work in York College in the Harmonic Male Quartet. Although Dr. Wildman engages in general practice for the most part he also specializes in surgery in which line he has been very successful. As a professional man, business man or citizen, there is no more progressive man in York than Dr. Wildman and he is highly respected throughout the community.

JOHN REETZ

John Reetz, now living retired in York county after many years devoted to agricultural pursuits, having come here with his parents in 1868, is a native of Minnesota, born June 24, 1861, a son of Martin Reetz, who was born in Germany where he spent his early manhood. In 1855 he immigrated to America and settled in Chicago, working in that city during the summer and in the winter in the lumber camps of Michigan and Wisconsin. Two years later Martin Reetz went to Minnesota and there his son John Reetz was born. He experienced all the vicissitudes of the pioneer immigrant and moved around the country a great deal, finally coming to Nebraska in 1868 and taking a homestead in York county. An extended reference to the life of Martin Reetz will be found under the name of Henry Reetz elsewhere in this work.

John Reetz accompanied his parents to York county in 1868 and was educated in the common schools of the county, the school conditions at that time being in a very primitive state, the period of tuition covering but three months and the schoolhouse itself being constructed of sod and minus desks for the use of the pupils. He lived with his parents and in early life started farming on his father's place, under his guidance soon developing into a skilled agriculturist. He is now the owner of eighty acres of excellent land and the entire place is in a fine state of improvement. A grove of cedar trees from the Platte river has been placed around the land and an orchard which his father set out is in a healthy condition. Mr. Reetz carried on general farming and stock raising for a number of years, but

feeling the need of a well earned rest he retired from active farm labor in 1918 though he still lives on the holding.

Apart from his eighty acre farm Mr. Reetz is the owner of considerable property in Thayer, in which city he also is identified with the Farmers Elevator. He was one of the organizers and is now a director of the Farmers State Bank of Thayer. He is a member of the Lutheran church and independent in politics. He relates that a party of Indians camped on his place some time ago as they were passing through the district and begged bread from him, which he readily supplied.

R. S. CARSCADDEN

One of the best known and most prominent bankers of York county is R. S. Carsecadden who was born in Wisconsin, March 15, 1877, a son of Richard and Clara (Sedgwick) Carsecadden. The father was born in Canada in 1840 and died in York in 1890, while the mother was born in Illinois in 1845 and passed away in 1918. Richard Carsecadden was a physician of much ability and was a graduate of the Rush Medical College and the Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago. After the marriage of Dr. and Mrs. Carsecadden, which took place in Illinois, they removed to Wisconsin and Dr. Carsecadden began his practice at Sharon. He later practiced in De Pere for some time and then in 1879 came to York where he practiced until his death. Four children were born to this union of whom three are living: Mrs. E. G. Felton, whose husband is a prominent druggist in York; Mrs. J. E. Wilson, of Los Angeles, California; and R. S., the subject of this review. The family were reared in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church and Dr. Carsecadden was a member of the Knights Templars. He was also a staunch prohibitionist. The grandfather of R. S. Carsecadden, the subject of this review, was Robert Carsecadden who was of Irish birth and later emigrated to Canada where he engaged in farming throughout his life.

When two years of age R. S. Carsecadden removed from Wisconsin to York with his parents and received his education in the common schools of that place, graduating from the York high school in 1892. For two years he attended the University of Nebraska, until he was forced because of financial reverses to leave school and start to work. He secured a position in a drug store at York and remained in that capacity for a period of two years, at the termination of which time he entered into the service of the First National Bank in 1898. For three years he resided in Waco where he had bought an interest in the bank and then returned to York, organizing the German American Bank of which he became first cashier. In 1918 he was made vice president of the bank, a position which he still holds, and in the same year the name of the bank was changed to the American State Bank. The bank has a capital of fifty thousand dollars, a surplus profit of twenty-five thousand dollars and an average deposit of eight hundred and fifty thousand dollars. In 1914 the stockholders erected a large stone building which is not included in the capital stock. Besides Mr. Carsecadden's interest in the bank as its vice president he also has interest in the American Trust Company and the American Bank Building Association.

In 1914 occurred the marriage of Mr. Carsecadden and Miss Elva Barber, a

native of York county and a daughter of Thomas Barber, a pioneer farmer of that county.

Mr. and Mrs. Carscadden are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and take an active part in the various affairs of that organization. Since age conferred upon Mr. Carscadden the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party in the interests of which he has always taken an active part. Fraternally he is a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. The success of Mr. Carscadden is the result of his own diligence and labor, for he has gradually advanced until he is now one of the best known bankers in York county.

CHARLES M. CARPENTER

Charles M. Carpenter, who has been a resident of York county for nearly thirty-nine years, is the owner of a fine farm on section 4, Morton township, this being the place on which he originally settled. He was born in Sandwich, DeKalb county, Illinois, May 13, 1856, a son of Myrlin and Fidelia (Bliss) Carpenter, the former a blacksmith who followed that occupation during all the active years of his life.

Charles M. Carpenter was reared in his father's home and was educated in the public schools of his native town, where his father conducted a blacksmith shop in which the subject of this sketch worked until he was seventeen years old. When he was about nineteen he started on his own account and became a clerk in a country store, which line of activity he followed for three years. He then turned his attention to farm life and rented a tract of land in DeKalb county, Illinois, and there was engaged in agricultural operations for a further period of three years. It was in 1882 that Mr. Carpenter came to York county and settled on the farm on which he has been residing ever since, purchasing one hundred and sixty-five acres for which he paid twenty-six hundred dollars. When he took over the holding there was but one small frame house on it and some sixty acres of the ground was broken. He made extensive improvements, fenced the farm and erected substantial buildings and has since given his undivided attention to the management of his farm. He passed through bad times and experienced the hardships of dry seasons; however, he weathered all obstacles to success and is now enjoying the fruits of his industry and skill.

While living in Illinois Mr. Carpenter was united in marriage to Miss Lucy C. Dickenson, the ceremony taking place September 12, 1877, and to their union two children were born: Harriet, who became the wife of Henry Nelson; and Myrlin, who married Annie Williamson, and they have three children; Lucy, Ellen and Corinne, now deceased. The Nelson family live with her parents and Myrlin Carpenter resides on a part of the old home place. Mr. Charles Carpenter gives his political allegiance to the republican party and is a consistent supporter of its policies and principles. For years he gave close attention to the development of educational facilities in his home district and for fifteen years served as a member of the school board, during that period much progress having been made for which he is justly entitled to claim much credit. His interest in good roads was no less marked and he served as road overseer for two years. He is a member of the Wood-

men and of the Degree of Honor, in the affairs of these organizations displaying much interest. The greater part of his life has been spent in this section of the state and he has become imbued with the spirit and enterprise that have led to the rapid and substantial upbuilding of this county and district.

ROBERT BROWN

Robert Brown is a prosperous resident farmer of York county, owning and cultivating four hundred acres of well improved land on sections 15 and 22 in Stewart township. He is a native of Ireland, born in County Tyrone, October 31, 1860, a son of Robert and Mary (Cousins) Brown, also natives of the same county, where the former was born in 1817 and died May 22, 1892. The mother died in 1872 at the age of forty-seven.

While living in Ireland the elder Robert Brown studied with the view to entering the Baptist ministry, but he was never ordained. In 1865 he immigrated to the United States, accompanied by his family, the voyage being made in a sailing vessel from Liverpool, the entire journey to New York occupying four weeks. His first location was in Connecticut and there he took up gardening, in which he had early training, as a means of livelihood, working at the time at Southport, Connecticut. After spending about two years in this line he went to Iowa in 1867 and settled in Cedar county, where he remained until 1871. In September, 1871, he made the overland trip from Iowa to Nebraska, came to York county and took a homestead of eighty acres in section 22, Stewart township, and on this he put up a sod house in which he resided for some time. His family did not come until the spring of 1873. All provisions and other goods had to be hauled from Columbus and Lincoln, and with roads in bad condition or in the entire absence of roads of any kind the hauling of goods was not exactly a pleasure. But the pioneer had to endure hardships of which the present generation has no conception and Mr. Brown went about the breaking of his ground and the cultivation of crops as if conditions were ideal. Some two years later when success was beginning to attend his industry, the grasshopper plague visited York county and took all of his corn; thus at one fell swoop the fruits of his labor were destroyed. This disaster led to renewed activity and he ultimately had the satisfaction of having his homestead in excellent shape, bringing forth profitable crops, while at the same time cattle and hogs were successfully raised on the holding. Mr. and Mrs. Brown were the parents of the following children: John A., who died twenty years ago in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Alexander, who died in Iowa in 1869; Charles, living in Clinton, Iowa; Thomas, who passed away in York county in 1883; Robert, the subject of this sketch; Margaret, who died in 1868 in Iowa; Catherine Patterson, who died in York county in 1880; and Mary, living in York. Mr. Brown supported the democratic party.

Robert Brown was but a lad of five years when his father came to America and he was educated in the common schools of Iowa. He accompanied the family across the country from Iowa to Nebraska, the journey being made in a covered wagon, or "prairie schooner," while he followed behind driving six head of cattle. The party crossed the Missouri river on a ferry boat, the crossing being effected near where



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the Douglas street bridge of Omaha now stands, and there for the first time he saw a group of Indians who were engaged in cooking a meal on the sand bar. When the family settled in York county Mr. Brown lived with his parents and helped in the work of the farm and after his father's death in 1892 he took over the operation of the place, applied himself vigorously to its development and carried on general farming and feeding of live stock, in which branches he is still actively engaged. He feeds between two and three carloads of cattle and about the same amount of hogs each year, the financial results being of the most substantial character. He now operates four hundred acres of land, all well improved, on which he has a fine home around which he has planted a range of cedar trees which present a handsome appearance and testify to his excellent taste. His agricultural life has been an unbroken success, he is rightly regarded as one of the foremost farmers and is one of the best citizens of the county. By his ballot he supports the men and measures of the democratic party but has never sought office for himself. He is a Shriner and a popular Mason and is a liberal contributor to all church work. During the World war he served on the local council of defense and assisted in other war activities.

FRED M. BOST

One of the most successful and enterprising business men of York, is Fred M. Bost, who for nine years has conducted the York Laundry at that place. He is a native of Ohio, born in Henry county, that state, in 1880, the son of Joseph and Ella (Brillhart) Bost, the former a native of Pennsylvania, while the latter was born in Virginia. Their marriage occurred in Ohio and Joseph Bost followed farming until his death in 1881. One child, Fred M., the subject of this review, was born to this union. Sometime after the death of her husband, Mrs. Bost was united in marriage to J. T. Turner. One daughter, Doris, has been born to this union. Mr. and Mrs. Bost were consistent members of the Christian church and throughout his life he gave his allegiance to the republican party. Joseph Bost, the paternal grandfather, was born in Virginia. He was among the first to volunteer his services on the outbreak of the Civil war and his death occurred during his imprisonment in Libby prison. The maternal grandfather was John Brillhart, a native of Pennsylvania, and one of the early pioneers of Ohio.

In the acquirement of an education Fred M. Bost attended the common schools of Ohio and in due time entered college for a period of one year, at Angola, Indiana. After putting his textbooks aside he engaged in farming for a short time and in 1905 came to Nebraska, settling in Lincoln. He secured a position as foreman in a laundry there and for the three years he remained in that capacity he learned every phase of the business with the result that he went to Galva, Illinois, where he purchased a laundry, running it for a year. At the termination of this time he returned to Lincoln, but in 1911 came to York, again entering the laundry business on his own account. At first he conducted his laundry on a small scale but this venture proved so successful that he gradually increased his facilities until he now occupies a building in the downtown district.

In 1906 Mr. Bost was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Wilson, who is a native

of Canada. Her parents are now residing in Michigan, where her father is engaged in carriage-making. One child, Wilson, aged ten years, has been born to this union. Mrs. Bost is prominent in the club circles of York and is a member of the Christian Science church.

Mr. Bost is an independent in politics and fraternally is a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of Pythias. Like other successful business men Mr. Bost takes an interest in the development and improvement of his community and to this end is an active member of the Rotary Club. Mr. Bost is in every sense of the word a self-made man, having started into the business world with nothing more than a grim determination to win out. No obstacle, however great, was allowed to remain in his path and he is now sole owner and operator of one of the representative business interests of York.

WILLIAM PIEPER

William Pieper, deceased, was for many years one of the leading farmers of York county, his home being on section 23, Beaver township. He was born in Prussia, November 10, 1840, and in 1874 came to America with his wife and their nine-months-old child. They came to York county, settling in Blue Vale, for Mrs. Pieper had an older brother who was already located in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Pieper had eighty dollars in cash when they came to York county and they purchased eighty acres of unimproved land on section 23, Beaver township. For one year they resided in the sod house belonging to Mrs. Pieper's brother but at the end of that time made a dugout on their own place. Sometime later they built a sod house and then the frame house which is still standing and in good condition although it was built thirty years ago. Both Mr. and Mrs. Pieper were hard workers. He would commence work in the fields as soon as dawn began to break and would quit only when darkness compelled him to do so. Mrs. Pieper took care of the house and did the chores around the farm so her husband could spend all of his time in the fields. He had purchased a cow and a yoke of steers and the first fall broke sixty acres of his land. He took his grain to the mill at Milford where he found a ready market. Mr. Pieper displayed good judgment in the cultivation of his land and his practical and progressive farm methods resulted in the harvesting of large crops annually. At the time of his death which took place on the 5th of March, 1901, he was in possession of a section of some of the finest land in the county. His death was a great shock to his family and friends, for it came as the result of injuries sustained when his team of horses ran away.

In 1872 in Prussia occurred the marriage of Mr. Pieper and Miss Wilhelmina Wellman, and they became the parents of ten children: Henry, who is residing on the old homestead; Fred, who is married and lives in Utica; Johanna, who is the wife of J. H. Harms, a merchant at Utica; William, who is married and resides in Colorado; Adolph, who is married and is farming in York county; Martin, who is married and is managing the home farm for his mother; and Edwin, who is married and is engaged in farming in Seward county. Three other children died in early life. Mrs. Pieper is residing on the old home place and is enjoying good health.

Mr. Pieper always gave his allegiance to the democratic party but neither sought nor desired public office. He was a consistent member of the Lutheran church. A life of intense and well directed energy brought to Mr. Pieper a substantial amount of success and as a man of upright character and sterling worth he contributed much to the agricultural development of the county.

ALFRED T. GIAUQUE

For forty years Alfred T. Giauque has been actively connected with farming and other interests of York county and is now residing practically retired at his home, 322 West 10th street, enjoying the fruits of a long life of diligence and labor.

Alfred T. Giauque was born April 3, 1842, at Berlin, Ohio, a son of Charles F. and Abigail (Anderson) Giauque. The father was born in Switzerland in 1813 and died in Birmingham, Iowa, on the 23rd of September, 1898, where he was buried. The mother was a native of Pennsylvania, born in that state February 17, 1821, and her death occurred on the 21st of July, 1909, at Birmingham, Iowa, where she is buried. Both parents came to Ohio at an early day and there met and were married, the marriage taking place in Berlin. In 1836 Charles F. Giauque came to America with his parents who settled in Buffalo, New York. Some time later Charles F. Giauque removed to Ohio where he engaged in carpentering and contracting. He was very proficient in his work and in 1853 removed to Birmingham, Iowa, where he continued in his trade, retiring at the advanced age of seventy-two years. Ten children were born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Giauque, five boys and five girls, five of whom are living: Alfred T., the subject of this review; Ulric F., who is residing retired at Tacoma, Washington; Alonzo G., who is residing at Detroit where he is freight agent on the Michigan Central; and Eula, a widow who is residing on a homestead in Colorado. James D., is now residing in Cleveland, Ohio, a retired railroad man. For many years he was a conductor on the Michigan Central and was also chief clerk for the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern, at Cleveland. Mr. and Mrs. Giauque were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and the father was a member of the democratic party until after the Civil war when he became an adherent of the republican party. The grandfather of Alfred T. Giauque, John David Giauque, brought his family from Switzerland to America and settled in Buffalo, New York, where he spent the remainder of his life. The maternal grandfather, Stoddard Anderson, was born in County Downe, Ireland, was a well educated man and a fine weaver by trade. Inspired by the stories which he heard concerning America and her opportunities he came to the new world when a young man. He was married in Pennsylvania and then removed to Ohio, where he engaged in his trade and resided until his death.

In the acquirement of an education Alfred T. Giauque attended the district schools of Iowa and the Birmingham Collegiate Institute where he remained until the outbreak of the Civil war. He immediately answered the call of his country and entered into the service of the Union on the 13th of September, 1861, joining Co. H, Fifth Iowa Infantry, with which he served for seven months. At the completion of this time his health became impaired from exposure and long marches

and he returned home receiving his honorable discharge on the 7th of April, 1862. He was an ardent believer in the preservation of the Union and deeply regretted that the condition of his health obliged him to resign ere the close of the war. Recovering his health Mr. Giaque taught school during the winter months and during the summer months engaged in farming. For seven years he taught school and then decided to devote his entire time to farming. On the 16th of March, 1880, he came to York county where he purchased a farm on which he resided for nine years. He had a mortgage on this farm to the amount of sixteen hundred dollars and as a result of repeated crop failures due to hail, he sold the farm in 1889 and removed to York. He remained in York for just one year when he again commenced farming, buying a farm located two miles out of the town. For one year he lived on this farm, at the termination of that time removing to Benedict where he rented a farm on which he remained for four years. He then farmed for one year at Thayer, and eight years on a farm in Polk county, both being rented land, and subsequently removed to a farm near York. By this time his sons were married and desired to go into business for themselves. This resulted in Mr. Giaque's again taking up residence in York. He had no idea of retiring from active life, however, and obtained a position as mail carrier on Route 6, out of York. He held this position from January 16, 1905, to August 20, 1920, at which time he was retired on a pension. During the years of his service in this capacity he won the confidence and respect of all with whom he came in contact and the people along his route miss his cheery greetings and timely conversations. In 1906 he purchased a nice home at 322 West 10th street and here he now resides.

Mr. Giaque has also been efficient in another line of work, in which he is still active. For many years he has been a correspondent for various papers, starting this work during his early teens. One of his first articles, written for the Keokuk, Iowa, paper, was highly commended. This article dealt with the formation of the republican party. He has been correspondent for the Keosauqua, Iowa, Republican; the Van Buren Democrat of Bonaparte, Iowa; the Birmingham Enterprise; the Orange Judd Farmer; the Clarks, Nebraska, Enterprise; the Osceola Record; the Stromsburg News; and the New Teller and Republican paper of York. For over thirteen and one-half years he has been connected with the Republican and for two years with the Teller. He wrote an article each week called the Rural Rattle and he now writes a letter each week. In addition to the newspaper correspondence in which he has been so successful he has been working for the government as volunteer or cooperative weather observer for over twenty years.

In 1864 occurred the marriage of Mr. Giaque to Miss Sallie Simmons, who was born near Mount Pleasant, Iowa, on the 7th of June, 1844. Her parents were Andrew F. and Maria E. (Graham) Simmons. The mother was born in Indiana, January 11, 1809, and her death occurred in Iowa. The father's birth occurred on the ocean when his parents were crossing from Ireland. His natal day was the 29th of March, 1804, and his death occurred at the home of his daughter in Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. Simmons settled in Iowa at an early day and there engaged in farming. Mr. Simmons had been a miner in California in the early days and he was a well informed man. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Giaque, seven children have been born, five of whom are living: Bertha, the wife of J. S. Pruett of York; Ada, the wife of John M. Johnson who conducts an art store in York; Charles E., who is engaged in farming at Fort Morgan, Colorado; James A.,

who is residing on his farm seven miles southwest of York; and Amy, the wife of N. R. Linburg, a farmer and bank president of Snyder, Colorado.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Giauque the right of franchise he has given his allegiance to the republican party and it has found in him a staunch advocate. He has always taken an active part in prohibition. In the activities of the Methodist Episcopal church Mr. and Mrs. Giauque take a prominent part, and he has been recording secretary of the official board in York for a period of nine years. Fraternally he is an exemplary member of the Modern Woodmen, and of the Grand Army of the Republic. His has been an upright and honorable life actuated by high purposes and fraught with good results, and the respect and high regard entertained for him are well merited.

MORELLE B. KING

Morelle B. King, who has been successfully engaged in the grocery business in York for a number of years, will soon leave for Omaha where he will take charge of the city salesmen for the firm known as the Mid State Wholesale Grocers. In the removal of Mr. King, York will lose one of its most progressive and representative citizens.

Morelle B. King was born in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, on the 4th of March, 1878, a son of Gilmore and Ida L. (Davis) King, the former a native of Pennsylvania, while the latter was born in New York state. Their marriage took place in Pennsylvania and in 1879 they removed to Nebraska settling at Fremont. Here the father engaged in the harness business until 1890 when he came to York, entering into the grocery, furniture and queensware business, in partnership with his brother, Bernard King. They later dissolved partnership and in 1904 Gilmore King and his wife removed to Omaha, where he was representative of a wholesale grocery company until his death which occurred in May, 1916. Five children were born to this union: Morelle B., the subject of this review; Bertha, the wife of George Swartz, foreman at the Medlar Printing Company of Omaha; Lora, wife of John King, a farmer in Wisconsin; Velma, kindergarten teacher in an Omaha school; and another child whose death occurred in infancy. Mr. King was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and a republican in politics. Some time after the death of her husband Mrs. King married a Mr. Mason and she is still living in Omaha.

In the acquirement of his education Morelle B. King attended the schools of Fremont and York. After putting his textbooks aside he engaged in the grocery business, clerking in his father's store until he was seventeen years of age, at which time he left home and two years later went to Kansas City. For some time he had charge of the dry goods department in the Bee Hive store at that place and then removed to Omaha where he engaged in the grocery business for one year. For nine months he resided in Lincoln and then returned to York, starting into business with his father. At the age of twenty-five years he failed in this line of business and subsequently engaged in dairying in which he remained for a period of nine successful years. He built the Keystone Creamery in York and built up a large and lucrative trade. Withdrawing from this business at the end of nine years

he again started in the grocery business and this time his venture proved more than successful. Starting on a small scale he has gradually increased his facilities until he is now occupying a large store. Within a short time, however, Mr. King contemplates removing to Omaha where he will be connected with a new firm known as the Mid State Wholesale Grocers in the capacity of head of the city salesmen. The experience which Mr. King has had in this line of work will make him a very valuable man to the concern. For three years Mr. King in addition to his other business owned a cafeteria at Hastings, having a man to manage it for him, and he now owns a business block in York.

On the 12th of January, 1900, Mr. King was united in marriage to Miss Julia Miller, a native of York and a daughter of Fred Miller who was a German Methodist minister. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. King one daughter, Esther, has been born and she is now attending the University of Nebraska. The King family are all consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Fraternally Mr. King is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in which he takes an active part and he is also a prominent member of the Commercial Club. Mr. King is quite well-to-do and has made his money since he was twenty-five years of age. One characteristic of Mr. King is hard work and his success today is attributable to his determination, perseverance and laudable ambition.

FRANK L. BEDIENT

Frank L. Bedient, a prosperous and progressive land owner of York county, residing on section 35, Bradshaw township, is accounted one of the foremost farmers and successful stock raisers in this part of the state. He was born in Lee county, Illinois, January 12, 1862, and received his education in the schools of his native county. From the age of sixteen onwards he has been engaged in farming operations, beginning his career by working out on farms by the month and saving his earnings with the ultimate object of acquiring land for himself. During the last year he worked in Illinois he raised corn for a farmer, the price paid him being ten cents a bushel, and in that year he made eight hundred dollars, which he put away as a nest egg for future use.

It was in 1884 that Mr. Bedient came to York county and settled in Arborville township, where he worked during one summer for Daniel Graves and in the following year rented land and continued as a renter for three years. He then decided on a more ambitious move and in partnership with his brother Charles bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Arborville township for which they paid twenty dollars per acre. There were no improvements on the holding and the brothers erected all necessary buildings and otherwise improved the place, on which they continued to reside until 1900. In that year they moved to Bradshaw and began to deal in live stock, this venture like their farming operations proving a financial success. In 1901 they purchased one hundred and sixty acres of choice land adjoining Bradshaw, the purchase price of which was forty dollars per acre, and which they proceeded to improve and develop, finally making it one of the best kept and most valuable farms in that part of the county.

In 1919 Mr. Bedient bought the one hundred and sixty acre tract in Bradshaw on which he now lives, paying the high figure of fifty-three thousand dollars for it—land which he could have purchased in 1901 for forty-five dollars an acre—the phenomenal increase in values in less than twenty years being thus shown. The brothers have been extensive dealers in live stock and also feeders for the market, the returns from this line yielding them large profits. Some few years ago Mr. Bedient bought out the interest of his brother Charles in their first purchase of one hundred and sixty acres and he is now the owner of two hundred and seventy-four acres in Bradshaw township and one hundred and sixty acres in Arborville township, the two holdings being among the most valuable land investments in the county. He has prospered as he deserves to prosper and his success is entirely attributable to his unremitting attention to his agricultural interests and to the business-like care and supervision which have marked his every movement since he commenced farm life.

On December 20, 1887, Mr. Bedient was united in marriage to Miss Emma Plessinger and to that union seven children have been born: Lucy, the wife of Van Stratton; Bertha, who married Arthur Starkey; Edith, the wife of J. Johnson; Orville, at home; Verna, the wife of Lloyd Gros; Charley, and Glenn. Mr. Bedient gives his unqualified support to the republican party, to whose policies he is a warm adherent, and he is a member of the Elks lodge at York. He has always preferred to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs and working steadily and persistently has gained a comfortable competence, being numbered among the leading and progressive agriculturists of York county.

ISAAC J. FRIESEN

Isaac J. Friesen is one of the prominent farmers of York county, owning and cultivating two hundred acres of splendid land in Brown township. He was born in this county September 24, 1882, a son of Jacob and Anna Friesen, both natives of Russia where they lived until 1874, in that year immigrating to America. The family came to York county, settled on section 30, Brown township, and there Peter Friesen erected a sod house in which they lived for several years. During his active life he was engaged in agricultural operations which he carried on with success, passing away in 1913, at an advanced age. The family consisted of ten children, seven of whom survive.

Isaac J. Friesen was educated in the schools of York county and was reared on his father's farm where he assisted in the agricultural operations and so continued until he reached his majority. He then began farming for himself and is now the owner of two hundred acres of excellent land, all of which is well improved, well fenced into suitable fields and has some substantial buildings erected on it. He utilizes the latest improved machinery and methods in carrying on his work, annually harvests good crops and is winning success as the years go by. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator at Henderson.

On December 5, 1905, Mr. Friesen was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Krocker, a daughter of Gerhard and Elizabeth Krocker, residents of York county. Mr. and Mrs. Friesen have become the parents of three children: Albert L., born

September 15, 1906; Herman, born May 15, 1909, and Mabel Anna, born August 21, 1915. The family are members of the Bethesda church at Henderson and in social circles occupy a prominent position. He votes with the democratic party and is now serving as a member of the local school board. He stands for progress and improvement in all public affairs and has ever displayed devotion to the county's welfare and upbuilding. His pronounced characteristics have gained for him a high position in the public esteem.

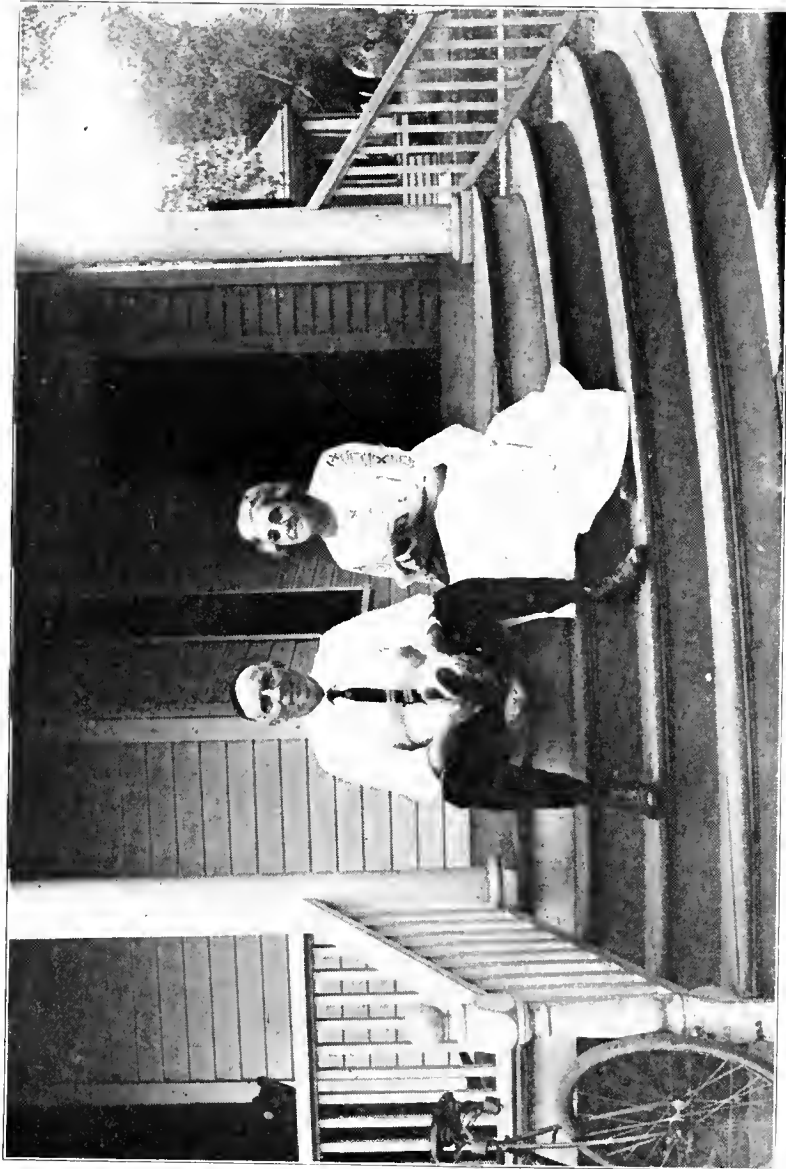
ELIJAH BRADWELL

Elijah Bradwell, deceased, was for a number of years prominent in the business circles of York. In 1902 he came to York, purchased the drug store of C. M. Cowan and conducted this business until his death. His son Charles is now managing the store.

Elijah Bradwell was a native of England, his birth having occurred at Bradwell on the 22nd of October, 1852. His death occurred in York, August 11, 1919, at the age of sixty-seven years. The parents of Mr. Bradwell were Charles and Ann (Wright) Bradwell, both natives of England in which country they died. The father engaged in lead mining and was overseer for his father. Seven children were born to this union, Elijah Bradwell, the subject of this review, being the only member of the family in the United States. Mr. and Mrs. Bradwell were consistent members of the Church of England.

In the acquirement of an education Elijah Bradwell attended the common schools of England and in 1881 came to the United States, settling in Winchester, Illinois, for some time working in a coal mine. When he arrived in Illinois he had but five dollars capital. Following his occupation as miner Mr. Bradwell clerked in a drug store for a while and then removed to Wyandotte, Kansas, where he bought property with the money he had managed to save. While in Illinois he was married and in 1886 they removed to Fairfield where he purchased a drug store. For a number of years he conducted this store, building up a large patronage. In fact, so successful was he in this venture that he determined to remove to a larger place, where he could conduct his store on a broader scale. As the result of this determination he removed to York in 1902, buying out the drug business of C. M. Cowan. It was not long before he had built up a large patronage here and soon became widely recognized as a business man of much ability and progressiveness. When his death occurred on the 11th of August, 1919, it was the occasion of deep regret to the community.

In 1886, in Illinois, Mr. Bradwell was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Martin, a daughter of George W. and Angeline (Conway) Martin. Previous to her marriage Mrs. Bradwell had taught school in Fairfield, Nebraska, since 1879. Her father had served in the Civil war, being Captain of Co. H, One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth Illinois Volunteer Regiment. He participated in two of the most important battles of that war but was soon afterwards honorably discharged because of disability. At the close of the war Mr. Martin returned to Winchester, Illinois, and was soon afterward elected to the position of county clerk. Subsequently he was elected sheriff. Mr. Martin was a staunch republican



MR. AND MRS. ELIJAH BRADWELL

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in a strong democratic county but his popularity was plainly manifested in his election to these offices. In 1886 Mr. and Mrs. Martin removed to Harvard, Nebraska, and in that same year the father was appointed to the office of postmaster in which he served one term. To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Bradwell two children were born: Pauline, who is a graduate of the York high school and York College, taught school for a number of years and is now employed in the drug store; and Charles, who received his education in the York schools and is now running the store for his mother. Charles Bradwell entered into service in the World war, on the 1st of December, 1917, and was in the medical department. He spent his entire time at Kelly Field, Texas, and received his discharge December 16, 1918.

Throughout his entire life Mr. Bradwell had been a staunch supporter of the republican party and he was always well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He was well read and spent much of his spare time in this manner. Only one vacation was indulged in by Mr. Bradwell and that was in 1910 when he and Mrs. Bradwell went to England for a visit, remaining there for a period of two months. As a representative of one of York's most important business interests he took a prominent part in county and civic affairs and was acknowledged a most progressive and representative citizen. In 1905 Mr. Bradwell purchased a home at 125 West Ninth street and here Mrs. Bradwell resides with her son and daughter. Mrs. Bradwell has always taken a prominent part in the development and improvement of York and for three years served on the board of education. She is very active in church affairs and has been superintendent of the Sunday school for the past fifteen years.

J. E. FINNEY

J. E. Finney, manager of the Farmers Cooperative Association of McCool Junction, was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, December 6, 1872. His father, Joseph Finney, a native of New York, married Mary J. Conry and came to Nebraska in 1873, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved Hayes township land and built one of the first frame houses in that locality. He was one of the first settlers in Hayes township and was a very successful farmer, owning two hundred and forty acres of valuable land. His death occurred April 29, 1919, at the home of his daughter in Chicago, where he was visiting. His wife was born August 19, 1845, and passed away October 17, 1895. Mr. Finney was a public spirited man and served as a member of the county board. His religion was that of the Catholic church and in politics he was a democrat. Mr. Finney was a good father and left to mourn his death eight children: Frank, residing at the old home place in Hayes township; J. E. Finney, manager of the Farmers Cooperative Association of McCool; Catherine, who died in childhood; Agnes, the wife of Myron J. Smith, of Crawford, Nebraska; Lawrence, who died in childhood; Mary, the wife of Stanley P. Driscoll, residing at Chicago, Illinois; twins, Hubert, of Lockridge township, York county, and Homer, who lives on a ranch in Cherry county, Nebraska.

J. E. Finney was reared on his father's farm and for a time was engaged in agricultural pursuits, later becoming a grain buyer for the T. W. Smith Grain

Company. At the time of the organization of the Farmers Cooperative Association four years ago he was chosen as its manager and has held that position since. The association handles grain, coal and farm implements and is one of the most flourishing enterprises in the county. Mr. Finney's career has always been straightforward, upright and honorable, winning for him the esteem and high regard of all with whom business and social relations have brought him in contact.

KIRKLAND J. CALKINS

In the history of agricultural development in York county the name of Kirkland J. Calkins must find a place, for through a long period he was an active representative of agricultural interests and became the owner of a large farm and extensively engaged in raising stock. He was born in Watertown, New York, October 27, 1840, and died February 14, 1920, when in the eightieth year of his age. His parents were Samuel and Malissa (Jaqua) Calkins, the former a native of New York and for some years a member of the state militia there. He had an uncle who was at one time governor of the Empire state. His family numbered four children of whom but one is living, De Wayne, who served in the Civil war as a member of the Thirty-fourth Illinois Infantry and now lives at Wymore, Nebraska, where he is filling the office of mayor.

Kirkland J. Calkins pursued his education in the schools of New York and was eighteen years of age when he removed with his parents to Illinois. In 1860 he became a resident of Iowa, making his home upon a farm in that state until he enlisted in defense of the Union on the 30th of July, 1862. He was at Camp Strong and became a member of Company K, Twenty-fourth Iowa Infantry, with which he served until the close of hostilities. His command was known as the "Fighting Regiment." On the 19th of October, 1862, the company marched to the Levee at Muscatine and there embarked on transports, proceeding to St. Louis and thence to Helena, Arkansas. The troops endured severe hardships and privations during the years 1863 and 1864 when near Helena. Mr. Calkins participated in the Coldwater and White River expeditions, also at Du Valls Bluff, and aided in cutting the Levee at Loon Lake. He participated in the battle of Magnolia Church, of Port Gibson, Willow Springs, Bolton and Raymond and was also at Champion Hill, at Bayou Teche and the Red River campaign. He was one day at Pleasant Hill and Sabine Cross Roads, and at the last place was taken prisoner but escaped that night and rejoined his regiment. He arrived at New Orleans on the 24th and was sent to Washington by steamer, after which he participated, under command of General Sheridan, in the battle of Winchester, Fisher Hill and Cedar Creek. The regiment was then sent to Moorhead City and marched to Goldsboro, North Carolina, and on to Raleigh, proceeding thence to Savannah, afterward returning to Raleigh, and later being mustered out at Savannah.

When the war was over Mr. Calkins settled in Wyoming, Iowa. Before he went to the front he was married September 27, 1862, to Lorilla V. Williams, who was born in Great Valley, New York, December 12, 1845, a daughter of Royal S. and Lucy Fidelia (Baker) Williams, who were natives of New York, whence they removed to Iowa. The father was born in Chesterfield, Massachusetts, October 1,

1824, and was married October 9, 1844, in Wyoming county, New York, to Lucy F. Baker, whose birth occurred October 8, 1825, and who was a daughter of Chauncey and Esther (Greenleaf) Baker, the latter a representative of the family in which belonged the New England poet, John Greenleaf Whittier. Mr. Williams was first lieutenant in the Twenty-fourth Iowa Infantry, having removed to Iowa about 1850. There he resided throughout his remaining days and was recognized as a leading business man of his locality, being owner of a lumber yard, a brick yard and a store, and he contributed much to the upbuilding of Wyoming.

To Mr. and Mrs. Calkins were born six children of whom five are living: Fred, a practicing physician of Fremont, Nebraska; Royal, who is engaged in the practice of medicine at Cortez, Colorado, who was elected to the State Legislature in the fall of 1920, and who was engaged in Indian work for the government for a number of years; Lucy M., the wife of J. M. Ravenscroft, a stone mason of York; Albert E., mentioned elsewhere in this work; and Charles A., a dentist of York, who is also the owner of a large farm in Colorado.

On coming to Nebraska in 1873 Mr. and Mrs. Calkins settled in Polk county where he homesteaded and there resided until about 1896 when they removed to York. Mr. Calkins was very successful in his business affairs, accumulating a large estate as the result of his extensive farming and stock raising operations. For a long period he was one of the leading farmers of Polk county and was also the owner of a large amount of land in North Dakota at the time of his death. His investments were most carefully and wisely made and his success was well merited. He was a democrat in his political views and belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic. He possessed many sterling traits of character that gained him high regard and made him a valued resident of York. Mrs. Calkins survives and occupies a beautiful home in York, where she has many friends.

VINCENT J. MORGAN, D. D. S.

A prominent young dentist in York is Dr. Vincent J. Morgan, who has engaged in the practice of his profession there for a period of two years. During this time he has demonstrated his ability and this, together with his strong personality, have won for him a large and lucrative practice.

Dr. Vincent J. Morgan was born in York county on the 17th of July, 1895, a son of John and Catherine (Long) Morgan, the former a native of Illinois and the latter of York county. The parents make their home on a farm west of York. At the age of sixteen years John Morgan came to York county with his parents and here has remained since. He has engaged in farming, being very successful in this line of occupation and now owns two hundred and eighty acres of the finest improved land in the county. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Morgan six children were born: William, a farmer in York county; Dr. Vincent J., the subject of this review; Frank, a student of medicine at the State University, and one of the best men on the football team; Earey, who is attending York College; Lloyd, in the convent school; and Ella, who is attending the convent. The family have all been reared in the faith of the Catholic church. Mr. Morgan has always given his allegiance to the democratic party and is now holding the position of county com-

missioner. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Columbus. The paternal grandfather of Dr. Vincent J. Morgan, William Morgan, was born in Ireland, later emigrating to the United States and settling first in Illinois. He finally removed to Nebraska and resided there until his death. Maternal Grandfather Long was of German descent but a native of Indiana and served in the Civil war. He is now residing in Los Angeles.

Dr. Vincent J. Morgan received his education in the country schools and later attended the convent and high school, graduating from the latter institution in 1915. He then entered Creighton College in Omaha and was graduated with the degree of D. D. S., in 1918. For one year he taught in the dental college and then in 1919 removed to York where he started the practice of his profession on his own account. During the short time of his practice in York he has built up a large practice and gives promise of becoming eminent in his profession.

Dr. Morgan has always been a great lover of outdoor sports and during his college days was captain of the football team. He is now also active in sports, being assistant football coach for the high school team. Fraternally he is a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and of the Knights of Columbus. He is also a member of the Delta Sigma Delta college fraternity. Dr. Morgan while a young man is one on whom the duties of citizenship do not lightly devolve and he is a man any community would be glad to have as a citizen.

HERMAN DIERS

Herman Diers, now living retired from the activities of business life with which he was prominently and successfully identified for thirty years in York county, is a native of Iowa, born in Clayton county, that state, November 22, 1860, a son of Fredrick and Caroline Diers, both natives of Germany. The parents immigrated to America in 1849, making the ocean voyage on an old sailing vessel, which took seven weeks to make the passage, and following their arrival in this country they went to Iowa, where they resided for some forty years. To their marriage the following children were born: John, a retired merchant living at Fullerton; Henry, living at Lincoln; Herman, subject of this sketch; Fred, living in Madison, Nebraska; Anna, the wife of Henry Tangeman of Gretna, Nebraska; Louis, a rancher in Montana; William, of Louisville, Nebraska; and Carrie, the wife of William Towner who runs a store in Lincoln. Fredrick Diers and his wife continued to reside in Iowa up to about 1890 and then moved to Nebraska and made their home with their children. They lived to good ages and it is only within the past six years that their deaths occurred.

Herman Diers secured his preliminary education in the country schools of Iowa and later took a business course at Decorah, that state. When he was twenty years old he went to Denver, Colorado, and there spent some time working, later returning to Ulysses, Nebraska, where he worked for a brother who conducted a general store, the results from which were very satisfactory. It was in 1890 that Mr. Diers and his brother William settled in Gresham and immediately became identified with the mercantile business. From the very beginning of his connection with the business life of Gresham Herman Diers gave every evidence of his com-

mercial sagacity and enterprise and so managed his large interests that after the lapse of ten years he was carrying on what was probably the largest mercantile business in York county and it is asserted that he was the largest taxpayer on stocks of general merchandise in the county for several years. He built a new store in 1900 and continued developing his trade along all legitimate lines. Finally he decided to take a rest from business cares and disposed of the store in November, 1919. For thirty years a resident of Gresham he made himself an enviable position in its business and social circles and those who know him speak of him in terms of high regard.

In 1885 Herman Diers was united in marriage to Mattie Barnes, a native of Indiana. Their union was blessed with four children: Harry, who was born in 1887, died in 1913. He graduated from Gresham and York high schools, 1905-07, and from the Northwestern University of Medicine, 1911. The second child is William H. Diers, born in 1890, a graduate of Gresham, 1907, and of York, 1909; he was in business with his father until 1919, when he became connected with the real estate business. He was married November 29, 1916, to Marjorie Berryhill, and they are the parents of one son, William, Jr. Mr. Diers' third child is H. K. Diers, born in 1896, a graduate of Gresham high school, 1914, and now employed in the Gresham State Bank. He was married in June, 1918, to Fay Bond and they are the parents of one son, Harry Stanton Diers. The fourth child is Margaret Diers, who was born in January, 1901. She graduated from the Gresham high school and is now in the State University at Lincoln. H. K. Diers was in the United States military service during the World war, but was not overseas. He was discharged in February, 1919, and returned to Gresham and resumed his activities in the bank.

Mr. Diers is a democrat and was elected in 1900 to the house of representatives and in 1910 was sent to the senate; he ran for office of lieutenant-governor on the same ticket with Governor Morehead. Since November, 1919, he has been making his home at Lincoln. He is active in the Masonic order and is a Shriner. He is a director of the Gresham State Bank. During his many years of residence in York county he has been a witness to and an energetic participant in its growth and development and his association with its commercial life has been one of the most noted events in the history of the county, being for nearly one-third of a century one of its most conspicuous figures.

CHARLES BROEHL

A prominent and representative citizen of York is Charles Broehl, who since 1911 has lived retired at 415 Blackburn avenue. The greater part of his life has been spent in farming and he is now enjoying the success which he acquired in that occupation.

Charles Broehl is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Logan county on the 26th of June, 1860. His parents were Gottlieb and Anna (Meischke) Broehl, both natives of Germany, who after their marriage emigrated to the United States, settling at Brownsville, Texas. Fifty-two days were spent in the crossing. For about one year they remained in Texas and then removed to Pekin, Illinois,

where the father worked as a day laborer. He soon saved enough money to buy a farm near Lincoln, Illinois, and here he resided until 1887 when he removed to York county, having purchased a fine farm near Bradshaw. The mother had died while residing in Illinois, and some time later Mr. Broehl married a second time. Five children were born to the first marriage, four of whom are living: Amelia, the widow of Ed. Duginer, who resides in Middletown, Illinois; Louis, a farmer at Elkhart, Illinois; Julius, a retired miner, residing at Pana, Illinois; and Charles, whose name heads this review. Three children were born to the second marriage, only one of whom is living: Herman, who is a farmer in North Dakota. The family were reared in the faith of the Lutheran church and Mr. Broehl was a staunch supporter of the republican party in the interests of which he took an active part.

Charles Broehl received his education in the schools of Lincoln, Illinois, and after putting his textbooks aside engaged in farming. In 1884 he came to York county where he rented a farm, raising good crops which were destroyed by hail in the latter part of the same year. He was not discouraged by this misfortune, however, and six years later bought eighty acres, which he traded for a quarter section near Bradshaw and which he still owns. In 1911 he removed to York and purchased a nice home at 415 Blackburn avenue in which he is now residing, retired. Mr. Broehl started farming as a renter in York county and it took four years of grim determination and perseverance to acquire enough money to buy his first land.

In 1886 Mr. Broehl was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Askew, a native of Jacksonville, Illinois, and a daughter of William and Sarah (Senior) Askew, the former a native of England, while the latter was born in Illinois. Her parents lived in Illinois for a number of years and then removed to Iowa where they both died. Three children have been born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Broehl, namely: Chester, born in 1888, who is now engaged in farming near Lushton; Mabel, the wife of Carl Ferree, a farmer near Bradshaw; and Myrtle Frances, who teaches school in Wood River.

Mr. Broehl gives his allegiance to the republican party and is well informed on all the questions and issues of the day. For four years he has held the position of county supervisor of the fourth ward. He is interested in the development and improvement of his community and as a result is a member of the Commercial Club, serving that organization as treasurer. Fraternally he is a member of the A. F. & A. M. Mr. Broehl is a man in whom the call of opportunity or of duty found ready response and his has been a well spent life fraught with usefulness and good work. He well deserves the proud American title of self-made man, for the success which he now enjoys is attributable entirely to his own efforts and perseverance.

S. L. SMITH

S. L. Smith, deceased, was numbered among the pioneers of York county, having come to this county in 1870. He was born in Tennessee and at an early age came to Nebraska. He acquired a homestead of eighty acres of wild uncultivated land on section 2, West Blue township, and his first home on this land was the primitive

dugout. He followed agricultural pursuits his entire life and when in December of the year 1901 he passed away his death was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, for his many traits of sterling character had endeared him to those with whom he had come in contact.

Mr. Smith married Miss Sarah Baldrige of Appanoose county, Iowa, and she is still living, residing on the old home place. Five children born of this union are living: Flora, who is the wife of Ward Norris of Ord; Hattie, the wife of Lando Larkin, who is engaged in farming at Beaver Crossing; Earl, who is living at Ord, Valley county; Arthur, who is residing on the old home place; and Maggie, the wife of Ed Kennedy who is engaged in farming.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith were among the earliest pioneers of York county and she is one of the few old settlers still living on the homestead. While Mr. Smith experienced many of the hardships and privations of pioneer life here he lived to prosper in his undertakings and to witness the marvelous growth and development of this great state.

NICK GUIDINGER

Nick Guidinger, who was for many years a prominent farmer in York county, is now living retired in York, enjoying the fruits of a life of diligence and industry.

Nick Guidinger was born in Ozaukee county, Wisconsin, on the 24th of March, 1854, a son of Perry and Annie (Neuers) Guidinger, the former a native of France while the latter was born in Luxemburg. The father came to the United States when but sixteen years of age but later returned to his native land where his marriage took place. For some time he resided in Dubuque, Iowa, where he worked for the Illinois Central, but after his marriage removed to Wisconsin, settling in the woods. Here he built a log house in which he and his wife resided until they passed away. Twelve children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Guidinger, eight of whom are living, the subject of this sketch, Nick Guidinger, being the third in order of birth. Mr. and Mrs. Guidinger were members of the Catholic church and the father was independent in politics. The paternal grandfather was John Guidinger who was born and died in France. For some time he was in the French army and was with Napoleon at the battle of Leipsic, in which engagement he received a wound. He was granted a pension of one hundred francs per month and served as a gendarme until his death.

In the acquirement of an education Nick Guidinger attended the schools of Wisconsin but his educational advantages were limited. He worked on the parental farm until he was sixteen years of age, at which time he began to work out. In 1877 he came to Nebraska and settled in Colfax county the following year. He bought a timber claim of eighty acres whereon he built a house and resided until 1902. In 1901 he purchased three hundred and twenty acres in Arborville township but did not move there until 1902, and in 1916 he removed to York, retiring from active life. He rents his farm to his son-in-law.

In 1878 at Schuyler occurred the marriage of Mr. Guidinger and Miss Mary Uobel and to them five children were born: Louis Litchfield, a retired farmer residing in Nebraska; Edgar, who is a rancher at Downey, Idaho; Benjamin, who

is engaged in farming at Coffee Creek, Montana; Gilbert, who is engaged in ranching in Majors, Canada; and Mrs. Schall of York. Mrs. Guidinger died in 1889 and in 1890 Mr. Guidinger was again wed, this time to Antonio Balata, a native of Austria and a daughter of Joseph and Katie (Moravitz) Balata. The father spent two years in the United States but returned to Austria where his death occurred. The mother also passed away in that country. Five children were born to the second marriage, four of whom are living: Lydia, who is the wife of Cyril Sterner, a farmer in York county; Harry, who is engaged in farming; George and Albert, both of whom are attending high school. Mrs. Guidinger is a consistent member of the Catholic church. The family home is at 915 York avenue.

Mr. Guidinger follows an independent course in politics, supporting the man rather than the party. He is in every sense of the word a self-made man and his life has been crowned with the successful achievement which comes from persistent and earnest labor.

WILLIAM V. POWELL

Honored and respected by all there is no man who occupies a more favorable position in public regard in York county than does William V. Powell, who for many years was a prominent agriculturist in the county and retired in 1906 to spend the evening of his life in repose. An added reason for the generous esteem in which he is held is to be found in the fact that he served with the Federal army in the dark days of the Civil war and had been through some of its severest engagements. Mr. Powell was born in Fayette county, Ohio, March 20, 1836, a son of John and Polly (Miller) Powell, well known and respected residents of that part of Ohio. The father taught school for a number of years and also was engaged in agricultural pursuits for practically the whole of his active life. Six children were born to these parents, all of whom have passed away, with the exception of William V., subject of this sketch. They were: Sarah, Mary, Elizabeth, Neoma and Christina. John Powell and his wife died many years ago in Ohio. The father married the second time, and two sons were born of this union: Thomas and Uriah, both of whom served in the Civil war.

William V. Powell received his education in the public schools of his native state and was reared in his father's home. At an early age he started working on a farm and also was engaged in running a stationary engine. Lincoln's call for an army found in him a ready response and he enlisted in Company A, Thirty-ninth Indiana Infantry, August 28, 1861. The company in which he served was later consolidated with the Eighth Indiana Cavalry. He participated in the battle of Shiloh and in the battle of Stone River, and following the latter engagement was honorably discharged. At the close of his military service Mr. Powell returned to farm work in Indiana, remaining in that state for some time, later moving to Jefferson county, Iowa, where he also engaged at farming, spending about nine years in that territory.

In 1872 Mr. Powell came to Nebraska, where opportunities for agricultural development were then numerous. He took a homestead on section 6, Thayer township, York county, and there began his farm life in real earnest, remaining



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM V. POWELL

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actively identified with farm work until 1906, when he retired. He erected the first house put up in the district in which he settled, and hauled provisions over bad country roads from Seward and Fairmont, thus experiencing all the disadvantages of pioneer life in that day. He carried many and valuable improvements on his holding and is still the owner of the land of one hundred and seventy acres which is now operated by his son James. In his active life Mr. Powell recognized the principle that industry wins, and he has lived to see the district in which he first located grow from comparative obscurity to a place of prominence and business status, and it is entirely to his credit that he gave of his time and ability to that end.

At Fairfield, Iowa, in September, 1864, Mr. Powell was united in marriage to Sarah Fansher, a native of Fayette county, Ohio, and to that union nine children were born: Edith, wife of Edward Radley, of British Columbia; Mary E., wife of G. W. Young, of Lincoln; Charles, a farmer, living in Idaho; Jennie, wife of A. N. Hurd, a retired farmer of Stronsburg; Fred W., of York county; W. F., a farmer, living in South Dakota; Stella, wife of Marion Fellows who lives in Colorado; James, now managing the old homestead; and Maggie, wife of John Turner, of Colorado. A stepdaughter also was reared as one of the family. Mrs. Powell is affiliated with the Presbyterian church and is a consistent attendant on its services. Mr. Powell is a strenuous adherent of the republican party and always active in support of its principles and policies. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, which he joined while living in Iowa in 1867 and is probably one of the oldest members of that popular order in this part of the country. Ever ready to extend a helping hand where aid is needed, his character and work have been such as to shed around him much of life's sunshine. He is a member of York Post, G. A. R.

AMI D. SPERRY

Ami D. Sperry, now living retired at Gresham, is another of the farmers who persevered in spite of early hardships and is now reaping the reward of his faith and untiring industry. He was born in Plattville, Grant county, Wisconsin, November 15, 1846, a son of Alfred W. and Sophrona A. (Palmer) Sperry, the former a native of the state of New York and the latter of Pennsylvania. Some time after their marriage the parents went to the state of Ohio and there engaged in farming, going to Wisconsin in 1843, making the journey by boat. He settled on the edge of the timber country and there acquired a tract of land which he began to clear and set out to cultivation, making some improvements as he went along, among other things putting up a log house, using greased paper as a substitute for glass in the windows. He continued to reside there for several years, during the greater part of the time laboring under serious disabilities. Isolation was one of the great hardships with which he had to contend, but he settled down to existing conditions and his efforts were rewarded in time by a substantial measure of success. In 1871 he came to Nebraska and settled on a homestead in Seward county, where he spent the remainder of his life, passing away in 1872, aged fifty-six. He was twice married. To his first marriage four children were born, all of whom are dead. To his second marriage the following children were born: George, Orley N., Frank,

Enoch, all deceased; A. D., a miner, living in Washington; Evelyn, the wife of Robert Knouse, of Gresham; Lorene, the widow of Henry Lawer of Gresham; Ami D., the subject of this sketch, and Gilina, the wife of Christopher Walick, of Lincoln; Ambrose died in Missouri. Alfred W. Sperry was a man of many sterling traits of character, genial and affable, and enjoyed the high esteem of those with whom he associated. He was a member of the Methodist church and in politics gave his undivided support to the republican party.

Ami D. Sperry was educated in a log schoolhouse in Wisconsin and helped his father in the work of the farm for some years. When he was seventeen years old, in 1863, he enlisted with the Federal forces for service in the Civil war and was mustered in at Darlington, Wisconsin, as a member of Company I, Second Wisconsin Volunteer Cavalry. He saw considerable service and was in several engagements during the war, including the battles of Champion Hill and of King Creek, Mississippi, where he received a gunshot wound in the left arm which disabled him for the time being. On November 15, 1865, he received his honorable discharge at Austin, Texas, after serving more than two years in the army and returned to Wisconsin, where he resumed working out on farms. His ambition being to secure a tract of land for himself he made every effort to accumulate as much money as would enable him to accomplish his laudable desire, and he continued to work on farms in the neighborhood of his father's place for about two years after his discharge from the army. He started auctioneering at the age of twenty years and was successful at it for forty years.

In 1867 Mr. Sperry was married to Louisa Knouse and shortly after they came to Lincoln, Nebraska, by train and from Lincoln the journey was completed in a lumber wagon to a homestead in Seward county, the trip from Lincoln costing him thirty-five dollars. The homestead, which consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, was located on the southeast quarter of section 4, township 12, range 1, east, Seward county, and there he put up a sod house in which the family lived for five years. His barns were constructed in the same manner. About this time he was practically penniless, having but two dollars in money. He had a family of three children and was without credit, without friends and without work, except as shucking corn at fifty cents a day could be termed work. However, he had a stout heart and the neighbors helped by loaning him a team to work the farm and from that time forward things began to take an upward turn. In the third year of his residence on the homestead he bought a yoke of oxen and hauled his first wheat to Lincoln, that city being the nearest market. In common with others he suffered from the effects of the grasshopper siege, during the ravages of which all growing crops were destroyed and as a substitute for fuel he had to burn cornstalks and buffalo chips. He was fortunate, however, in having his cattle housed during the big blizzard, the damage from which was felt all over the entire district. Gradually Mr. Sperry surmounted all obstacles and his general farming and stock raising was placed on a firm footing as the result of his perseverance and practical industry. He added to his land holdings as circumstances permitted and at one time was the owner of ten hundred and forty acres of prime land, all of which he brought to a state of splendid improvement and some of which at a later time he divided among his children, and is still the owner of six hundred and forty acres. In 1913 he retired from active life on the farm and moved to Gresham where he is very comfortably circumstanced.

By his marriage to Louisa Knouse the following children were born: Robert, living in Gresham; Wade, a farmer in Butler county; Benjamin, now living retired in Gresham; Scott, Essie, Sophrona and John, all of whom are deceased; Arthur, who farms the old home place; two children who died unnamed in infancy; Mary, deceased; Rhoda, the wife of Joe Phillips of Seward; and Sabra, the wife of Harry Stephenson of Seward county. Mrs. Sperry passed away April 12, 1914, being then in her sixty-third year. Some time later Mr. Sperry married for his second wife Mrs. Sanders. He has always been a staunch advocate of the principles of the republican party and served as supervisor of Seward county for two terms. He is a stockholder and director of the First National Bank of Gresham, and is an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic, in the affairs of which he takes an active interest. In Masonic circles he is prominently known, and to all movements designed for the welfare of the community he gives practical support and advice. He is now entering his seventy-fifth year and is in the enjoyment of excellent health.

JOHN W. BALLENGER

John W. Ballenger is one of the self-made men of York, his success in life being due entirely to his own unaided efforts. He is connected with the theatre interests in York, owning and running the Sun Theatre and having charge of the opera house.

John W. Ballenger is a native of Iowa, born in Mahaska county, that state, on the 2nd of January, 1856, a son of Samuel W. and Harriett (Stewart) Ballenger, both natives of Illinois. His parents came to Iowa with their parents at an early day and were married in that state. The father engaged in farming and the mother died when John W. Ballenger was but six days old, and he was then taken into the home of his maternal grandparents. The grandfather, John Stewart, was born in the north of Ireland. He and John W. Ballenger farmed two hundred and twenty acres of land in Polk county, Nebraska, in 1880. The grandfather was then eighty years of age and was unusually active for his age. When John Stewart came to Polk county, Nebraska, he had about fifteen hundred dollars. He purchased railroad land which he was fortunate in cultivating and became very prosperous, and he resided on this land until his death. John W. Ballenger was one of two children born to his parents and the only one living. The father, Samuel Ballenger, went to Pike's Peak during the gold rush, coming back as far as Douglas county where he acquired a homestead and resided until his death. He had married a second time becoming the father of six children. Both Samuel Ballenger and John Stewart were staunch supporters of the democratic party.

In the acquirement of an education John W. Ballenger attended the country schools of Iowa, and after putting his textbooks aside engaged with his grandfather in farming. They purchased land in Polk county and Mr. Ballenger said that when he first came to Nebraska the grasshoppers were so thick he could not see the sun. From 1874 until 1893 he farmed in this county and then selling the land removed to Shelby where he engaged in the hardware business. He conducted this business until 1898 when he traded it for some land in Polk county and subsequently engaged in the confectionery business. While a resident of Shelby he was

appointed to the position of postmaster by President McKinley and served in this capacity to the satisfaction of the community for over four years. In 1912 he sold out the confectionery business and in November of that year came to York where he purchased the Dean Theatre. For about five years he ran the Dean Theatre at the termination of which time he established the Sun Theatre. This business venture has proved to be more than successful and he has a large and steadily increasing patronage. Since 1915 Mr. Ballenger has also had charge of the opera house. His business connections indicate the keenness of his sagacity and the soundness of his business opinions and his investments which have been wisely and judiciously made are bringing to him a substantial financial return. Besides his home property and another piece of town property occupied by his son he owns considerable land in Colorado.

On the 12th of October, 1879, Mr. Ballenger was united in marriage to Miss Sarah E. Bull, who was born near Meaford, Ontario, Canada, and a daughter of Stephen Bull. Her father came to Polk county in 1871 and secured a homestead on which he resided until his death. Mr. and Mrs. Ballenger have become the parents of one son, Albert W., who is thirty-two years of age. In 1912 he was united in marriage to Miss Rita Runyon and to them two children have been born: Dean W. and Bettie Claire. Albert W. is associated with his father in the theatre business and is secretary of the Commercial Club of York.

Mr. Ballenger has always given his allegiance to the republican party in the interests of which he takes an active part. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen and is likewise an active member of the Rotary Club. Mr. Ballenger well deserves the proud American title of self-made man, for his present enviable position as a representative and prosperous business man has been won by untiring industry, indefatigable energy and careful management.

NATHANIEL A. DEAN

A prominent and representative citizen of York, is Nathaniel A. Dean, who since pioneer days has taken an active part in the development and improvement of the county. He was born in Allegany county, Maryland, in 1850, and when two years of age removed with his parents to Somerset county, Pennsylvania. He received his education in that county, attending the schools until 1866, the close of the Civil war. The following year in company with his brother-in-law, R. Brooke, he made a trip over the greater part of Kansas, stopping for the winter at Maryville, Nodaway county, Missouri. Here Mr. Brooke purchased a farm on which he made his home. In 1868 Nathaniel A. Dean, then but eighteen years of age, started out for the great American desert. He rode his pony and carried his lariat. On the 2nd day of October, 1868, he crossed the line into York county and his first stop was at John Anderson's. Mr. Anderson was the first homesteader in York county. Mr. Dean wintered with Elias Gilmore on the "Blue." During his residence here a petition was gotten up for the permanent organization of York county to be presented to Governor Butler and the name of Mr. Dean headed the list of signers. In 1870 the first election was held, there being three precincts in the county, one on the "Blue," one where York now stands, and one in the north

part of the county. The election was to decide the location of the county seat and it was decided in favor of York. The first two years of Mr. Dean's life in this new county were full of excitement. He hunted buffaloes, elk and antelopes and part of the time he was brought into association with the Indians who for the most part proved of friendly disposition. The fall of '79 he passed at old Fort Kearney and there spent a great deal of his time poring over the adventures of Buffalo Bill, Kit Carson and Calamity Jane. In 1871 Mr. Dean was married and he and his wife acquired a homestead, successfully passing through all of the pioneer hardships, including the destructive grasshopper storms in 1873 and 1888. The homestead was located on Beaver Creek nine miles east of York. In 1886 Mr. Dean decided to retire from active farm life and as a result removed to York where he engaged in several different kinds of business, being successful in all of them. In 1889 Mr. Dean and a number of other people in the community banded together for the organization of the United Brethren church and in 1890 he was also instrumental in the organization of York College. He was elected treasurer of the college in that year and has held the position since. He assisted in the building of the First National Bank, which organization he served as director from 1893 until 1913, at which time he resigned. He has been active in the interests of the Chautauqua since its organization in the county and has been director for a period of seventeen years. For the last few years he has also been manager of the grounds. He is the owner of considerable real estate in York. He is likewise a member of the cemetery board and was superintendent of the cemetery for seventeen years.

In 1870 Mr. Dean was united in marriage to the daughter of Peter Heller, also a pioneer of this country, and to them eight children have been born: William H., who is manager of the Bell Telephone Company at Grand Island; Ida May, the wife of Harry Shilling, who is engaged in the telephone business at Lincoln; Lula A., the wife of Albert Jess, a merchant of York; Elmer, whose death occurred in 1909 at the age of thirty-one; Rachael Annie, who is conducting a store in York with another member of the family; Richard J., who is manager of the Ellar Auto concern at Lincoln; Earl J., who is manager of a store in York; and Doris R., the wife of Harold Myers, who is engaged in the shoe business at York. At the time of his marriage Mr. Dean was in possession of but five dollars, and two dollars and fifty cents of that amount went to the minister. He was, however, blessed with perseverance of purpose and strong determination and no obstacle, however great, was allowed to obstruct his path. Those who know him esteem him highly and his worth as a business man and citizen is widely acknowledged as well as his success as a pioneer farmer. He is well deserving of the proud American title of self-made man.

FRED SCHARFENBERG

The story of the life of Fred Scharfenberg will convince the reader that he is a self-made man and that he had good material with which to work. Mr. Scharfenberg is a retired farmer and one of the prosperous citizens of York, Nebraska. He was born in Saxony, Germany, July 6, 1842, the son of William and Clara (Ropsem) Scharfenberg, both natives of Germany. His father was a weaver and worked at his trade in the old country until he passed away.

Fred Scharfenberg was reared and educated in his native land, attending the public schools until he was fourteen years of age, when he was drafted to serve in the army, in 1863. He was drilled as a soldier preparatory for war with Denmark, and in 1866 when the war between Germany and Austria came on, was considered an old soldier and was called upon to fight. Army life did not appeal to him, however, and having heard of America he borrowed one hundred dollars from a friend and determined to seek his fortune in a new country. With the help of a kindly hotel-keeper and a conductor on the railroad from Bremen to Bremerhaven he succeeded in getting aboard a vessel bound for the United States. All this was unknown to his parents and the officers in the army and when he was one day out at sea he learned that the officers were looking for him. While on the train he had another startling experience when some officers became curious at seeing the young man and inquired of the conductor as to his name and destination. The friendly conductor replied that the young man was going to port to see the ship, and that he, the conductor, would see that he returned. After riding the waves and braving the tempests for forty-two days the sailing vessel landed in New York where Fred Scharfenberg viewed the "land of promise" for the first time. After obtaining help from relatives in Wisconsin he went there and secured his first work on a farm. Later he located in Mitchell county, Iowa, where he rented land and engaged in farming. There was much to overcome as the price of land was high and there were many things for him to learn concerning his new country. In 1878 he came to Nebraska and bought one hundred and sixty acres in Baker township for seven and one half dollars per acre with ten years time in which to pay for it. His first home was a dugout consisting of a bedroom, dining-room and parlor all in one, with no floor, and here Mr. Scharfenberg lived while he improved his land, which was one of the few farms in the township upon which there has never been a mortgage. He prospered and it was not long before he owned a half section of the township. He did not retain all this property, however, disposing of all but the old original one-fourth section.

In 1872 he was married to Ernestine Reum, a native of Germany who came to the United States when a young woman. They never had any children of their own, but adopted William and Roy Watkins, two New York orphans who were just old enough to go to school, and reared them to successful manhood. Both young men are married now and owe their happy childhood, good education and careful training to the generosity of their benefactor. Mr. Scharfenberg, who understood how difficult it is for a lonely lad to make his way unaided. His large-heartedness was further demonstrated when he took the three children of his deceased brother into his home and reared them as his own. The boy now occupies the old farm where he lives with his wife and family. A few years ago Mr. Scharfenberg paid a visit to Germany and brought back with him his sister's son, a young man of twenty years whom he placed on a farm in North Dakota. Mr. Scharfenberg took great interest in young people and was always anxious and willing to be a help to them. He paid a visit to his wife's niece who lived in Omaha and found the young lady and her husband paying rent for their home. He advised them to buy a home and gave them one thousand dollars with which to make the first payment. They gladly accepted his generosity and are now on their way to prosperity because of it. Mr. Scharfenberg is a member of the Lutheran church and has been a liberal giver to three churches and many other

projects for the good of the community. He is now seventy-eight years old, is in splendid physical condition, and enjoys his comfortable home at 603 West 8th street, York, Nebraska.

ERNEST BRANZ

Ernest Branz, who follows farming on section 24, Stewart township, York county, is a representative business man whose wise use of his time and opportunities has gained for him a place among the prosperous agriculturists of this part of the state. He had but little assistance at the outset of his career and whatever he has achieved and enjoyed is the direct result of his own labors. He was born in Tazewell county, Illinois, October 21, 1867, a son of Henry and Annie (Mahl) Branz, both natives of Germany, where the former was born in May, 1834. These parents were married in Germany and he immigrated to America in 1863, making the ocean voyage on a sailing vessel which occupied eight weeks coming across the Atlantic, and he was practically without means on reaching this country. Henry Branz worked out and got enough money together to send for his wife and one child, and after her arrival they worked out on farms, continuing this line of work for a considerable time. At the end of a few years he decided to try farming on his own account and rented a tract of land, buying a team of horses to help in working the land. His efforts were successful and making good use of his money he was enabled to purchase a holding on payments. It was in 1882 that Mr. Branz came to Nebraska and settled in York county, securing a quarter section of land in Stewart township and on this place his widow still resides. He made payments to the extent of two thousand dollars on the farm, going into debt for the balance of the purchase money. There was a small log house on the holding when he took over the place and he later built a small frame house, continuing to reside in the latter until his death, March 5, 1920. For many years before his death he had been blind and in consequence of this affliction was unable to give active attention to the demands of his farming interests. However, in spite of his disability at the time of his death the family were the owners of nearly two thousand acres. Mr. Branz and his wife became the parents of six children: Catherine, the widow of Fred Minike and she now lives in Colorado; John, who lives in San Antonio, Texas; Ernest; Henry, who lives in Stewart township; Fred, deceased; and Bertha, the wife of Ferdinand Fisher, of Waco township. He and his wife were earnest members of the Lutheran church.

Ernest Branz was reared in the home of his parents and was educated in the common schools of his native county, in his boyhood days helping his father in the work of the farm. He was fifteen years old when his parents came to York county and here also his youth and young manhood were spent in agricultural pursuits. He became a skilled farmer and is now engaged in general farming and stock raising. His methods are progressive, his business affairs are systematically handled and in all things he displays sound judgment as well as unfaltering enterprise. He is the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of excellent land and is thoroughly acquainted with what can be done in the way of crop production here.

On March 31, 1915, Mr. Branz was united in marriage to Mrs. Josephine Hot-

tinger, the widow of Fred Hottinger, who had two children by her first marriage: Mabel Hottinger and Alfred Hottinger. Before her first marriage Mrs. Branz was Josephine Shields, a native of San Antonio, Texas. They have a wide circle of friends throughout the locality and are extensively recognized as people of genuine personal worth, their efforts always being directed to the betterment of the community in which they reside.

JOHN LETT

For many years John Lett has resided in York county. He came here at an early day and has been a prominent factor in its development, watching it grow from a wild uncultivated state into a prosperous and progressive community.

John Lett was born in Richland county, Ohio, February 28, 1811, and when but four months old removed with his parents to Cedar county, Iowa, settling in the town of Tipton. The father, Abraham Lett, purchased eighty acres of good land adjoining the town. When John Lett the subject of this review was but eight months old the mother died, leaving the father with five children. Some time later Mr. Lett again married and was fortunate in choosing a wife who devoted her life to the rearing of his little ones.

John Lett received what educational advantages his home place offered and when twenty years of age, on the outbreak of the Civil war, enlisted in Company E, Eleventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry for a period of three years. At the expiration of this time he reenlisted and served throughout the war. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Iuka, Vicksburg, and Kenesaw Mountain. He was also with Sherman during the Atlanta campaign and on the march to the sea. He was in all of the engagements from Savannah to the battle of Bentonville, North Carolina, and at the close of the war participated in the grand review at Washington. In 1865 he returned home, where he was married and for some time resided on his father's farm. In 1871 he removed to Nebraska and here acquired a quarter section of land on which he homesteaded. This land was located in York county in what is now Morton township. Mr. Lett was forced to occupy a sod house belonging to R. M. Lytle until he built a house of his own and he had a capital of but three dollars, two horses and two cows to start the winter on. That winter was one of hardships but Mr. Lett and his family were of sturdy pioneer stock and every discouragement encountered only spurred them to greater effort. It was not long before Mr. Lett became well known throughout this county for his geniality and progressiveness won him many friends and he was a member of the first grand jury held in this county. In 1872 he lost a horse and traded for a yoke of oxen which he used on the farm and to drive the family to church. In 1875 Mr. Lett removed to York and engaged in the farm machinery business in which venture he was quite successful, but in 1880 returned to the homestead, and subsequently removed to Benedict, then a new town. The Lett family was one of the first to settle in that place and Mr. Lett built and conducted the first hotel there. For six years he served as justice of the peace and after Cleveland's term was appointed to the position of postmaster, holding this office for over twenty years, or until 1913 when Woodrow Wilson was elected to the presidency. The



JOHN LETT

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following year he removed to Lincoln where he remained for four years, at the termination of which time he came to York.

On the 25th of November, 1865, Mr. Lett was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Draucher, a sister of Arthur and David Draucher, who were both residents of York county for a number of years. Mrs. Lett was born in Clearfield, Pennsylvania, on the 13th of June, 1844, and she passed away August 1, 1912. Eight children were born to this union, five of whom are living: Edith, who is residing at Kearney; Walter E., who is engaged in the life insurance business at Kearney; Harry C., who is a life insurance man at Lincoln; Bessie, who is the widow of Fred Tipton, and is now residing in Kansas City; and John A., who is a baker in Lincoln. On the 26th of August, 1916, Mr. Lett was again married, this time to Rosa (Crowl) Linch, a native of Fulton county, Illinois, and a daughter of John Crowl. She had previously been married and had one son, Charles McDonough, who is residing in York.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Lett the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen and both he and his wife are consistent members of the Congregational church. He is likewise a member of the Commercial Club in the interests of which he takes an active part. Through the efforts of Mr. Lett the Sons of Veterans was organized in York and the camp was named in honor of him. He was appointed pension attorney and now devotes his time to securing pensions for widows and soldiers. He has served as commander of the Grand Army Post, was recently re-elected for the fifth year, and in 1905 was elected department commander of the Nebraska Grand Army of the Republic. At the reunion of the old veterans held in Denver, Colorado, Mr. Lett had the honor of leading in parade twenty thousand of his former comrades of the battle field. The success which Mr. Lett has won has come to him as the reward of persistent, earnest labor, and his life illustrates what can be accomplished through individual effort combined with persistency of purpose.

JACOB F. BITTINGER

Jacob F. Bittinger, deceased, was for many years a prominent farmer in York county. He was born in Clinton county, Iowa, in 1859 and died in York on the 14th of August, 1908. His demise caused a feeling of widespread bereavement throughout the community, for during his residence in York Mr. Bittinger had made many friends.

Jacob F. Bittinger was a son of John and Rebecca Bittinger, both natives of Pennsylvania, who removed to Ohio, later to Iowa, and thence to York county in 1872. This trip they made overland with teams, bringing with them a number of milch cows. They acquired a homestead which they improved and successfully cultivated, residing here until their deaths. Nine children were born to this union, Jacob F. Bittinger being the youngest of the family. Mr. and Mrs. Bittinger were consistent members of the Lutheran church and the father was a staunch supporter of the republican party and the principles for which it stands.

In the acquirement of his education Jacob F. Bittinger attended the country

schools, living all of the time upon a farm. After putting his textbooks aside he engaged for two years as fireman on the Union Pacific Railroad, saving enough money from his earnings to buy a quarter section of land. He paid eight dollars an acre for this land, which is still in the possession of Mrs. Bittinger, and she recently refused an offer of two hundred dollars an acre for it. Mr. Bittinger was successful in the cultivation of his land and with the assistance of his wife purchased more land until he had four hundred and four acres. In 1898 they removed to York where Mr. Bittinger retired from active life and resided until his death which occurred August 14, 1908.

On February 22nd, 1887, Mr. Bittinger was united in marriage to Nettie Bates, a native of Darke county, Ohio, and a daughter of Eli and Penninah (Hart) Bates. Her parents were born in Ohio and in 1874 came to Lincoln. For a number of years the father engaged in farming and stock buying and became quite well-to-do. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Bates, all of whom are living, namely: Louisa, the wife of T. C. Rutter of Charleston, Tennessee; Martin, engaged in the grocery business at Benton Harbor, Michigan; Henry, who is engaged in mining in California; Emma, the wife of John O'Connell, a retired farmer of Lincoln; Mrs. Bittinger, the widow of the subject of this review; Eva, the wife of W. W. Cook, a retired farmer residing at College View; and Will E., who is engaged in gardening at Vashon Island, Puget Sound. Mr. Bates had considerable land at one time. The Bates family were reared in the faith of the Christian church and the father was a staunch supporter of the republican party. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Bittinger two children have been born: Kenneth H.; and Wendell M. Kenneth H. is married to Gay Tucker and they have become the parents of three children: Evelyn Louise; Dorotha Jane, and Bettie Rose. They reside on a farm in York county. Wendell M. has been in Denver, Colorado, where he was a conductor for the Tramway Company, but now is at home with his mother. He was in the navy for eight months during the World war but had the flu and as a result did not get across.

Politically Mr. Bittinger gave his allegiance to no particular party but followed an independent course. Mr. Bittinger was a man of great industry and ambition and the success he enjoyed before his death was but a fair reward for his life of diligence and labor. Mrs. Bittinger is a member of the Christian church in the activities of which organization she takes a prominent part and she resides alone at her home, 1824 Lincoln avenue, a highly respected citizen of the community.

CHARLES F. KUNS

Charles F. Kuns actively engaged in farming in York county, Nebraska, was born in Cerro Gordo, Illinois, August 29, 1876, the son of David Kuns, mention of whom is found elsewhere in this review. He was eighteen months old when the family came to Nebraska, and his youth was spent on the farm. He was educated in the York city schools and when he reached the age of twenty-one years he decided to become a farmer.

Mr. Kuns went to Illinois where he followed agricultural pursuits for three years, then returned to York county and became interested in farming here.

He was married to Maude Bowen, a native of Cerro Gordo, Illinois, and this union has been blessed by three children: Dorothea, Willard and Mary. The Kuns home is a picturesque bungalow situated in a beautiful location on a knoll, with pine trees leading from the road to the dooryard. His father who formerly owned this land had planned to build a beautiful mansion on this site, but he moved to California and his plans were never carried out. Mr. Kuns is owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land equipped with two complete sets of buildings as fine as any in the county, and he has brought his land under a high state of cultivation. Mr. Kuns has earned the reputation of successful, high principled business man and a public spirited citizen, always ready to give his service and means to promote the development and growth of his community.

MARTIN L. DIEHL

Martin L. Diehl, a retired farmer and representative citizen of York, was born in Pennsylvania, in 1846, a son of Daniel and Mary (Cohler) Diehl. His parents were both born in Pennsylvania, the father in 1807. Their marriage occurred in that state and there the mother died. Some time after his wife's death he again married and removed to Illinois, arriving in that state in April, 1852. The trip was made overland with teams but before reaching the destination it was necessary to substitute oxen for the horses. Daniel Diehl settled in Peoria county on first arriving in Illinois, but in the fall of the year 1852 removed to Marshall county. For some time he rented this land which he successfully cultivated and finally purchased. His home consisted of a log cabin and here he resided with his family of ten children for many years. His death occurred in that county in 1867. To the first marriage ten children were born, three of whom are living, the subject of this review being the youngest of all: Mary, the widow of Adolph Forney, of Daykin; Irena, who married Ichabod McKinney of Sterling, Illinois, a soldier in the Civil war who is now deceased; and Martin L. Six children were born to the latter union, none of whom are residing in Nebraska. The Diehl family were reared in the faith of the Lutheran church, and the father gave his allegiance to the republican party, in the interests of which he was very active.

Martin L. Diehl was reared on a farm in Marshall county, Illinois, and received his education in the country schools of this county. After putting his textbooks aside he engaged in farming in Marshall county and also served as county tax collector. In 1883 he came to Nebraska and bought eighty acres of land, borrowing three hundred dollars from his brother-in-law to make the first payment. This venture proving financially successful he soon purchased one hundred and sixty acres. In ten years' time he sold the quarter section for forty thousand dollars and purchased two hundred and forty acres which he still owns. In 1905 Mr. Diehl and his wife removed to York, bought a nice home and have resided here ever since. Mr. Diehl sometimes goes out on the farm and assists in the management but for the most part he lives a life of retirement.

In 1873, in Illinois, Mr. Diehl was united in marriage to Miss Louise Fleming, a native of West Virginia, and a daughter of Rev. James and Catherine (Parks) Fleming. Her father was born in Pennsylvania and her mother in Ohio, their

marriage occurring in the latter state. Mr. and Mrs. Fleming removed to West Virginia and the father preached in West Union for seventeen years. He was a Presbyterian minister. In 1869 they removed to Illinois and Mr. Fleming retired from the ministry a few years before his death. Ten children were born to them, Mrs. Diehl being the sixth member of the family, five of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Diehl have become parents of two children; Arlo L.; and Paul. Arlo is married and is engaged in farming three miles west of York. He has become the father of twin boys, Stanley and Stanford. Paul is also married and has a farm two and one-half miles west of York. Two children have been born to him; Marlyn, aged fourteen years; and Charline, nine years of age. The Diehl family are consistent members of the Presbyterian church.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Diehl the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party and the principles for which it stands. He served as assessor in Arborville township for some years, was elected county supervisor in 1912 and is now serving his eighth term. The Diehl family have never been found lacking in patriotism, giving unselfishly of their time and money in the World war. Mr. Diehl had one brother, Alfred, who was wounded three times in the Civil war, and Mrs. Diehl had two brothers in the Civil war, Brainard and James Fleming, both of whom served throughout the entire war without receiving a wound. Mr. Diehl's land is of the best improved in the county and he has had great success in raising hogs. He is recognized as one of York county's progressive and representative citizens.

HENRY YANTZ

An extensive landowner and representative citizen of York is Henry Yantz who is living retired in York. He is a native of Erie county, New York, his birth having occurred there on April 16, 1854, a son of Peter and Elizabeth (Mantz) Yantz. His parents were born in Germany and came to Erie county when children, moving to Hancock county, Illinois, in 1865. There the father purchased land on which they resided until 1878, when they removed to Jefferson county, Nebraska, in which they passed their last days. Nine children were born to this union, eight of whom are living. One son, David, was killed at the battle of Gettysburg during the Civil war. Mr. and Mrs. Yantz were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and the father was a staunch supporter of the republican party. Mr. Yantz was a self-made man, his success having been won by his own diligence and labor.

Henry Yantz was reared on a farm and received his education in the schools of New York and Illinois. After putting his textbooks aside he engaged in farming and purchased his first farm in Jefferson county, in 1883. He commenced with eighty acres but steadily increased his farm until he had three quarter sections of good land. This land was well improved and he raised cattle and hogs extensively. He is now in possession of a half section in Fillmore county and a quarter section in Hamilton county. On the 27th of January, 1910, he and his family removed to York and he built a fine home at 927 Blackburn avenue.

On the 28th of October, 1884, Mr. Yantz was united in marriage to Miss Pauline Gutzmer, a native of Saline county and a daughter of William and Mary

Gutzmer, both natives of Germany. They came to Saline county at an early day, homesteaded and died there. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Yantz: Leta, the wife of Carl G. Swanson who is connected with the Fidelity National Bank at Aurora; Erma, the wife of Edgar Gorham who is engaged in farming south of Aurora; Vaughan, who is connected with the Telephone Company; and Hazel, the wife of Clarence Otto, who is engaged in dairying and the farming business in Aurora. Vaughan, the only son in the family served in the World war, receiving his training at Lincoln. He is also a highly educated young man and was graduated from the University of Nebraska in the electrical engineering course in 1919.

Mr. Yantz has always given his allegiance to the republican party and he and his wife are both consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church. During his residence in Jefferson county he was very active in church work, serving as superintendent of the Sunday school for over seven years. He is now retired, enjoying the fruits of a life of diligence and industry and he is widely recognized as a successful farmer and representative citizen of York county.

C. B. COUCH

A representative citizen of York is C. B. Couch, a retired farmer and minister who was born in Tazewell county, Illinois, on the 10th of November, 1810, a son of Homer and Clarissa (Brooke) Couch. The father was a native of New Hampshire, while the mother was born in Plymouth county, Massachusetts. At an early age they came to Tazewell county, Illinois, and there they were married. Mr. Couch was a carpenter and contractor by trade and removed to Peoria in company with an older brother, building the First Congregational church there. He was very successful in his line of work and built up a large patronage in Peoria, where he resided until his death in 1859 at the age of forty-one years. The mother passed away in Oklahoma at the age of eighty-four years. Ten children were born to this union of whom the subject was the oldest. Five of them are living. Mr. and Mrs. Couch were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church in the interests of which they took an active part and the father was a whig and later a staunch supporter of the republican party.

C. B. Couch was reared on a farm and received his education in the schools of Peoria. At the age of twenty years he became interested in church work and at the age of twenty-one years began preaching, first at the poorhouse in Illinois. He held several charges in Peoria and received the small amount of ninety-five dollars and board for his first year's services. For sixty-seven years he has been a member of the church and for twenty-four years preached in the Central Illinois conference, receiving for one year's service the sum of seven hundred dollars, the largest amount he ever earned in that profession. After retiring from the ministry he engaged in farming and in 1882 came to Nebraska, locating in York county. Here he bought a homestead right, located in New York township and lived on this land for a period of twenty-six years, having one hundred and sixty acres which he still owns. In 1908 he removed to York and built a house at 944 East 5th street where he is now residing. Mr. Couch made considerable money in trading and as

a result of his own diligence and labor he owns some of the finest land in York county. When Mr. Couch first came to York the membership in the Methodist Episcopal church was small but it has steadily increased and he assisted in the building of three Methodist churches.

Mr. Couch was united in marriage to Miss Martha K. Zoll, a native of Fulton county, Illinois, and to them two children were born: W. A. and Frank Herbert. W. A. Couch is residing on a farm five miles east of York and is married. He has become the father of two children: William Warren, and Robert. Frank Herbert Couch resides at Erie, Pennsylvania, where he has charge of the electric power station on the suburban railway. He is married and the father of two sons: Ralph Edward, who is in the United States Navy; and Herbert Frank, attending high school. The Couch family are all members of the Methodist Episcopal church. The death of Mrs. Couch occurred on the 5th of May, 1918, which was the occasion of much grief to her devoted family and friends.

Mr. Couch votes with the republican party and held the position of county assessor for a period of three years. He has always been a staunch advocate of education and to that end served as a member of the school board for a period of over twenty-two years. Fraternally he is a member of the A. F. & A. M., and he has served as grand commander of the Grand Army of the Republic post. Mr. Couch is indeed a self-made man and has learned his lessons in the hard school of experience. When but nineteen years of age his father died, leaving a debt of over five hundred dollars to be paid and Mr. Couch set out to clear this debt. As a result of his strong determination, diligence and industry he has gradually advanced until today he is one of the most prosperous and highly respected men in the county. As a lad in his early twenties he entered the Civil war, joining Co. H, Eleventh Illinois Cavalry Regiment, and he was in the army for seven months. He was at the battle of Shiloh and the siege of Corinth, but was discharged at the end of his seven months of active service because of sickness. He held the rank of corporal.

WILLIAM MORGAN

William Morgan, who has been a lifelong farmer, makes his home on his farm located in section 34, West Blue township. He was born in Bloomington, McLean county, Illinois, January 28, 1876, a son of William Morgan who was born in County Meath, Ireland, in 1832. At the age of nineteen years the father came to the United States with his parents and first settled in Albany, New York. From there he removed to Bloomington and was for many years a member of the police force of that city. Because of an injury to one hand resulting in the loss of a finger he was not accepted for active service during the Civil war but entered the secret service. He had two brothers, however, who were in active service. In 1875 he came to Nebraska and lived for one year in Saline county at the termination of which time he came to York county and bought a relinquishment of one hundred and sixty acres on section 34, West Blue township. Here he engaged in farming until his death in 1891. In Illinois he was married to Miss Rosa Smith who was a native of County Meath, Ireland, having been born in the same year as her husband. She died on the homestead in 1886. Eleven children were born to this union, eight

of whom are living: Three of the children are residing in York county besides William Morgan, the subject of this review, namely: Mrs. Sullivan, who is living in West Blue township; John Morgan, whose home is in Baker township; and Mrs. Bert De Boer of Bradshaw. The Morgan family were reared in the faith of the Catholic church and Mr. Morgan was a staunch supporter of the democratic party.

William Morgan was a boy of six years when his parents came to York county and he well remembers the sod house which was their first home. He resided on the home place working with his father until his death, after which he became possessor of the one hundred and sixty acres to which he has since added an eighty acre tract of highly cultivated land. Here Mr. Morgan is now residing, engaging in general farming.

Mr. Morgan married Miss Eva Tous, a native of Bohemia, and a daughter of John and Mary Tous, early settlers of Nebraska who are now residing in Exeter. Eight children have been born to the union of Mr. Morgan, namely: John, Frank, William, Rose, James, Mary, Annie, and Katherine, all of whom are residing at home.

The political endorsement of Mr. Morgan is given to the democratic party but he has never been ambitious to hold office, preferring always to give his undivided attention to his agricultural pursuits. The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church. In all of his business affairs opportunity has ever been a call to action with Mr. Morgan and his determined energy and intelligent direction of his labors have brought to him very gratifying success.

H. J. ROGERS

From the period of pioneer development to the present H. J. Rogers has been interested in York county and its upbuilding and is now living retired in York. His birth occurred in 1844 in Ireland, a son of John and Agnes (Neill) Rogers, the father being of Scotch birth, while the mother was a native of Ireland. His parents never removed to the United States but died and are buried in Ireland. H. J. Rogers was one of six children born to this union, four of whom are living, namely: the subject; Thomas, who resides in Texas where he is engaged in the sawmill business; Jane Ann, the wife of a Mr. Jeffers who is now retired and residing in New Jersey; and Martha, who is the wife of a Mr. Ackerman and lives in New York. One daughter, Emma, married a Mr. Simpson. She is deceased. The father engaged in landscape gardening in which he was very successful.

H. J. Rogers obtained his education in the schools of Ireland, but in 1869, tales having reached him of the wonderful opportunities offered in the United States, he sailed for this country and first settled in Amsterdam, New York. Here he engaged in contracting for a year, at the termination of which time he removed to Coldwater, Michigan, where he continued his contracting work and in addition engaged in carpentering. These trades he had learned in his early youth in his native country. For one year he remained in Coldwater and in 1873 came to York county where he secured a homestead. He immediately took an interest in the community which he had selected for his home and assisted in the building of several houses throughout the county. The first store in Utica was built by Mr.

Rogers as was also the first store in Waco. The first house on his land was of sod, but in 1881 he put up a frame building sixteen feet by twenty four feet and subsequently erected a modern home on his farm.

In 1874 Mr. Rogers was united in marriage to Miss Agnes Stephens, a native of Ireland, and to them eight sons have been born, all of whom are living: William, who is farming in one of the Dakotas; Charles, who is residing on his father's farm; Walter, engaged in the lumber business at Ainsworth; Wallace, who has a lumber yard at Robinson; Harry, in the shoe business in York; Roy, in the shoe business at Fremont; Victor, who is engaged in the shoe business in York; and Russell, who is in the shoe business in connection with his brothers at York.

Mr. Rogers has always given his allegiance to the republican party in the interests of which he still takes an active part. He served on the school board at Waco for a period of thirty years, and gave one acre of his farm on which the schoolhouse was built. He is an exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity and was a charter member of the Utica Lodge, Utica, Nebraska. Both Mr. and Mrs. Rogers are active members of the Presbyterian church. In December, 1909, they removed to York and he built a nice home at 1630 Lincoln avenue. For eleven years Mr. Rogers has been retired, enjoying the fruits of his own diligence and industry. He still owns his old homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Waco township, York county, and one of his sons is now managing it for him. His life he has devoted to his family and has given all of his sons a start in the business world. They are all following in the footsteps of their father and are prominent and representative citizens of their respective communities. Mr. Rogers left his native land, coming to the United States because he was convinced of its unusual opportunities and he has found that conditions justified his expectations.

W. H. WISWELL

Among those whom death has called and who were contributing factors to the agricultural development and improvement of York county was W. H. Wiswell, who while still active in the world's work made his home on section 7, Stewart township. He was born in Boston, August 5, 1858, a son of Charles and Mary B. (Thyng) Wiswell, natives of New Hampshire, where the father followed his trade of cabinet-maker during his active life. Members of the Wiswell family have been closely identified with the farming interests of York county for fifty years. In 1871 a grandfather and two uncles, Charles and Frank Wiswell, came to Lincoln by train and then made the journey to this county by team. Each of these men took a homestead of eighty acres in Stewart township and commenced their settlement by building small frame and sod houses. With the aid of ox teams they broke the land and tilled it diligently, improved the holdings, set out trees and orchards and in due season brought their places to a satisfactory condition of cultivation and improvement considering the time and the opportunities. The grandfather divided his labors between carpenter work at Lincoln and the care of the homestead, walking from the farm to Lincoln every two weeks. All necessary supplies had to be hauled from Lincoln and the grain had to be hauled to that city and to Columbus for marketing. During the grasshopper scare very little was

produced, but, notwithstanding all the discouragements of the early years, they did very well and made a good living. They deserve to be ranked among the men who made living conditions in this part of the state a possibility.

W. H. Wiswell was but thirteen years old when he was brought to York county, in the district schools of which he received an education. His youthful experiences were those of the farm bred boy who divides his time between the schoolroom and the work of the fields. No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of life for him in that period. When he had passed the preliminary training in agricultural operations he purchased eighty acres of railroad land, for which he paid seven and one-half dollars an acre. By close application to work he gradually improved his holding by fencing and the erection of good buildings. He spent his active life in general farming and stock raising and in the feeding of live stock for the markets, this latter branch having proved highly profitable as a result of his care and attention. As the years went on he prospered in his undertakings and at the time of his death, which occurred February 26, 1916, he was in comfortable circumstances, a just reward for his industry and integrity. He and his wife were the parents of five children, namely: Mary, who teaches in York county schools; Charles T., who farms the old place; Francis E., physical director in the University Place schools; Wilbur, who works with Charles T. on the home farm; and Mercy L., who attends York College. Mr. Wiswell was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He was a staunch republican and a member of the Masonic blue lodge. In all the relations of life he acted the part of a good citizen and an honest man.

Charles T. Wiswell, who now manages the home farm, was educated in the York county schools and later entered the Nebraska School of Agriculture, from which he emerged fully qualified to take over the responsibilities which have since devolved upon him. His mother who is now living in York, and his uncle Charles and his wife were among the first school teachers in the county, and it is evident that he could have no better preceptors. Mr. Wiswell is now engaged in the management of over a half section of land and is wisely superintending the general farming, stock raising and feeding for the markets which his place demands. Apart from these activities he finds time to attend to a tract of land which he rents. He was married February 20, 1918, to Eleanor E. Fifer and he and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal church and also give freely of their time and abilities to the furtherance of all good movements concerned with the welfare of the community in which they live. He supports the republican party and his fraternal affiliation is with the Masonic order.

FRED STAEHR

Following in the footsteps of his father, Fred Staehr, a son of Carsten Staehr of whom further mention is made on another page of this work, is engaged in farming on section four, Beaver township, and is meeting with excellent success in his chosen occupation. He was born in a sod house on the farm where he now resides, September 5, 1881, and early in life engaged in agricultural pursuits. At the age of twenty-eight years he took charge of the old Staehr homestead consisting of one

hundred and sixty acres and has since made the farm his home. His wife owns eighty acres in Waco township which she inherited from her father, an early homesteader in York county. Mr. Staehr has brought his land to a high state of development and he follows progressive methods in all his farm work, his land being devoted to the cultivation of the cereals best adapted to the soil and climate.

Mr. Staehr was united in marriage in early life to Miss Martha Stuhr, who was born on an adjoining farm, and a daughter of Henry Stuhr, a homesteader who is now deceased. Three children have been born to this union: Alvin, Paul and Paule.

The political allegiance of Mr. Staehr has always been given to the republican party and it is well known that he is a stalwart advocate of any cause which it espouses. The religious faith of the family is the Lutheran church. Mr. Staehr is well known in the county in which he has spent his entire life and the circle of his friends is almost coextensive with the circle of his acquaintances.

CLARENCE H. WARNER

For seventeen years Clarence H. Warner has resided in York and in that short time has won many friends who recognize his value and true worth. He was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, September 25, 1857, a son of William and Hannah (Miley) Warner, both natives of Pennsylvania. The father was born in Burks county, July 21, 1818, and his death occurred in 1902. The mother was born in Franklin county on the 17th of January, 1818, and died in 1896. Mr. and Mrs. Warner were married in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and removed to Carroll county, Illinois, in the spring of 1864. The father served in the Civil war, having entered service October 16, 1862, in Company J, One Hundred and Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania Regiment, and he received his discharge on the 12th of August, 1863, at Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. For nine years he engaged in farming in Illinois and in 1873 removed to Nebraska, settling in Richardson county where he remained for two years. At the termination of that time he settled in Polk county where he acquired a homestead near Stromsburg, and there resided until his death. Seven sons were born to this union, four of whom are living, namely: M. L., who is residing at 1631 Iowa avenue, York, a retired farmer; George Upton, a farmer in the southern part of Polk county; Curtis G., a retired farmer of Hollister, California; and Clarence H., the subject of this review. The Warner family were reared in the faith of the Evangelical Lutheran church and the father always gave his vote to the democratic party, being well informed on the questions and issues of the day. The paternal grandfather, Isaac Newton Warner, was born and died in Pennsylvania, and his father was also a native of that state. The Warner family came to America from Germany before the Revolutionary war and the Miley family also emigrated to this country at an early day, settling in Pennsylvania where the maternal grandfather, William Miley, was born.

In the acquirement of an education Clarence H. Warner attended the schools of Illinois and Nebraska and after putting his textbooks aside engaged in farming. For some time he also engaged in the teaching of school during the early 70's, but

soon turned from that profession to devote all of his time to his farming interests. He purchased land in Polk county on which he lived from 1875 to 1903, and then came to York, placing his children in school. He returned to his farm which he sold in 1916 and then purchased two hundred and forty acres of land in LeRoy township, York county. In 1903 he removed to York where he has retired and built a fine home at 915 Iowa avenue.

On the 25th of February, 1885, occurred the marriage of Mr. Warner to Miss Mary Gornley, a native of Virginia, Illinois, and a daughter of James and Mariah Gornley. They came to Polk county in 1872 and there the father secured a homestead and spent the remainder of his life. He was born in southern Ireland and the mother in northern Ireland. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Warner four children have been born: Ethel May, the wife of William R. Robson, who is engaged in farming in Kimball county; Kate, at home; Earl, who is an osteopath physician at Caldwell, Idaho; and Ruth, who is residing at home. Mrs. Warner passed away in 1915, her death coming as a severe loss to her devoted family and friends. She was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the interests of which she always took an active part.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Warner the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party and is well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He is a member of the York city council from the first ward and was assessor of the Stromsburg precinct while residing in Polk county. Fraternaly he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Warner started out in life with no capital but a strong determination, the ability to work hard and laudable ambition, and as a result of these characteristics has won for himself a high position in the community in which he resides.

W. EDGAR THOMPSON

One of the most progressive men of York county is W. Edgar Thompson, who is the owner of a large ranch in the sand-hills of Cherry county on which he raises full blooded stock. He was born in Clark county, Ohio, January 3, 1881, a son of Elwood and Sarah (Wilmar) Thompson extended mention of whom is made in the sketch of another son, Arthur W. Thompson, to be found elsewhere in this work.

In the acquirement of an education W. Edgar Thompson attended the schools of York where he had come in 1883 when but three years of age. On putting his textbooks aside he engaged in farming which occupation he has followed the greater part of his life. He is now the possessor of a large ranch in the sand-hills of Cherry county on which he raises a number of full blooded cattle and last spring he made some very successful sales. Mr. Thompson also has an interest in the West Side Meat Market in York and is recognized as one of the leading business men of that place.

On the 5th of October, 1904, Mr. Thompson was united in marriage to Miss Elsie Weir, a native of Illinois, and a daughter of William and Mary Weir. Her parents came to York county in 1898 and the father engaged in farming until his death. Mrs. Weir is now residing at the home of her daughter. To the union

of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson three children have been born, two of whom are living, namely: Howard, fourteen years of age; and Glenn. Laurence died at the age of one and one-half years. The Thompson family are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church in the various activities of which Mrs. Thompson takes a prominent part.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Thompson the right of franchise he has given his allegiance to the republican party which has found in him a stalwart advocate. For four years he was a member of the city council and when residing on his farm served as township treasurer. Fraternally he belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen and Woodmen. In 1918 he built a beautiful home in York at 720 Hutchinson avenue and here he resides. The greater part of Mr. Thompson's time is devoted to his farming and stock raising and his life work has been crowned with successful achievement, making him today one of the most prosperous residents of his section of the state.

DAVID KUNS

David Kuns, a pioneer farmer of York county, Nebraska, now residing in California, was born in Clinton county, Indiana, November 23, 1850, the son of Henry and Caroline (Spidle) Kuns, who were born near Dayton, Ohio. Henry Kuns moved to Indiana when he was a young man, locating on a farm near Delphi. He was one of the pioneer farmers of that region and after cultivating and clearing a woodland farm sold it and moved to Clinton county, Indiana, and later to Piatt county, Illinois. He became a prosperous agriculturalist in that state and in 1890 removed to California where he passed away in 1892. His wife's demise occurred two years previous.

David Kuns was reared on the farm in Indiana and later in Illinois, and was educated in the common schools there. When he reached manhood he was put in charge of one of his father's farms where he was very successful. In 1877 he came to York county, Nebraska, and bought a section of railroad land in McFadden township, where he established his home the following year. Interested in new and better methods of farming and alert to suggestions that might lead to the improvement of agricultural pursuits, he was a very successful farmer and stockman, when he retired about ten years ago having to his credit eight hundred acres of good land in York county, and a ranch of twenty-five hundred acres in Greeley county, Nebraska. Mr. Kuns is now a resident of California.

He was married in 1875 to Miss Catherine Klinzman, a native of Pennsylvania, who was brought by her parents to Livingston county, Illinois, when a child. She is the daughter of Christian and Minnie (Kratz) Klinzman, natives of Germany who came to the United States in 1853 and after moving to Iowa, located in Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Kuns are the parents of ten children: C. F., a farmer who resides in York county, Nebraska; Harvey A., who is engaged in the insurance business in Iowa; Jesse, who passed away; John, who resides in Iowa; Dorothy, who lives with her parents in California; Ray, who is superintendent of schools in Superior, Nebraska; Esther, the wife of Peter Dayton, who resides in California; Roy, who is engaged in farming in Imperial Valley, California; Nellie, who lives

with her parents; and Eva, who is the wife of Don Diebert, of San Diego, California.

Mr. Kuns exercises his right of franchise in support of men and measures of the republican party, believing firmly in its principles. He is a man who stands for progressiveness in public affairs of the community wherein he is a resident, and gives his aid and influence to all measures and projects which he believes to be of public worth.

JOSEPH WALKER

A retired farmer and representative citizen of York is Joseph Walker, who forty-nine years ago came to this country acquiring a homestead. His success may be attributed to his persistent effort, and determination and energy have enabled him to overcome obstacles and difficulties in his path. Those who know him and have watched his course in every relation of life entertain for him warm respect and high regard.

Joseph Walker was born in Pennsylvania August 18, 1849, a son of John and Jane (Miller) Walker, both natives of the same state in which they were also married. The father entered the Civil war, joining Company F, Fifty-third Illinois Regiment, having removed to Illinois from Ohio, where he had lived for a number of years, preceding the outbreak of the war. For four years he served in the Union army and was neither captured nor wounded. His death occurred during the war in a hospital at Quincy, Illinois. Nine children were born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Walker, five of whom are living: Phoebe is the widow of Isaac T. Smith and she is at present residing in Kansas; Sarah E. is the widow of John H. Haney and resides in York. Her husband's death occurred some years ago in York. He had seen active service during the Civil war and received the commission of lieutenant; Joseph is another son; John is a retired farmer living in York; and Rebecca Ann is the wife of George Foltz, an old soldier, and they reside in York. The four children who are deceased are Mary Ann, who died in Ohio at the age of eighteen; James, whose death occurred as the result of wounds received at Pittsburgh Landing; Christ, who died when nineteen years of age in Illinois; and David, whose death occurred in 1915. He had served three years in the Civil war. David and Phoebe were twins. The Walker family were brought up in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church.

In the acquirement of an education Joseph Walker attended the district schools of Illinois and after putting his textbooks aside engaged in farming. This occupation he has followed throughout his life. In 1871 he came to York county and acquired a homestead. He immediately set about to improve his land, allowing no obstacles, however great, to obstruct his path. His first house was built of sod but some time later he erected a frame house and later built a larger and more modern residence. He devoted a measure of his time to raising full blooded hogs and other live stock and in this line was particularly successful. He is now the owner of five hundred and sixty acres of land in York county and considered one of the most progressive farmers of the vicinity.

Mr. Walker was united in marriage to Elizabeth Klone on the old homestead of her father. She was born in New York state, a daughter of Albert and Annie

E. Klone, both natives of Germany. They removed to York county in 1871, where the father acquired a homestead on which they resided until their deaths. Mrs. Walker was the fifth in order of birth of a family of seven children born to this union. Mr. and Mrs. Walker have become parents of five children, four of whom are living: William, who is managing one of his father's farms in York county; Ida, the wife of James Bergin who owns a farm in York county; Ambrose, a real estate dealer in Denver, Colorado; and Edward, who resides on his father's homestead. Brunson, the third member of the family, died at the age of twenty-nine years.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Walker the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party and the principles for which it stands. Mr. and Mrs. Walker are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and prominent in the affairs of that organization. In 1913 Mr. Walker purchased a nice home in York and here he is now residing retired. He is in every sense of the word a self-made man.

JOHN LINDQUIST

After a useful and well spent life John Lindquist, who for many years had been identified with agricultural and public affairs of York county, passed away in 1916, honored and respected by all who knew him. He was born in Sweden, February 26, 1837, and in that country acquired a knowledge of farming operations. When he was thirty-two years old, in 1869, he immigrated to America and landed in New York, going thence to Princeton, Illinois, where he worked on farms for a time. Later he rented a tract of land and worked it on his own account for about nine years, in the meantime saving his money with a view to purchasing a holding for himself.

It was in 1880 when York county was being slowly developed that John Lindquist came here and bought one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land. For a brief period after taking over the holding he lived in the homes of neighbors and later built himself a small frame house. He broke the land and divided it into fields of convenient size by well kept fences, put up substantial buildings as he prospered and utilized the best improved machinery in carrying on the work of the farm. He planted trees and set out orchards, but most of the latter died out. He burned corn and cornstalks for fuel and chopped wood on the creek for the same purpose. His general farming and stock raising gave him satisfactory results, and these results were secured only by his unremitting attention to the work. His success in York county induced him to purchase one hundred and sixty acres in South Dakota, and this in time proved a sound investment. He also owned city property in Gresham. After many years on the home farm he retired to Gresham and there passed away July 6, 1916, leaving behind him a good name and a character worthy of emulation. While his business interests were extensive and important he always found time to co-operate in plans and measures intended to advance the public good.

While living in Princeton, Illinois, he was married in 1887 to Emma Anderson, a native of Sweden, and that union resulted in the birth of the following children:

Anna J., the wife of Clarence Thompson, a York county farmer; Ida C., who married John Brittell of Woodbine, Iowa; Harry, who farms the old home place; John E., a farmer of York county who was in the United States service during the World war, belonging to Company H, S. A. T. C.; Frank A., who lives in Gresham, and was in United States service, Company G, S. A. T. C., at University Farm, Lincoln, Nebraska; and Jennie, who lives with her mother.

Mr. Lindquist adhered to the teachings of the Methodist Episcopal church in the faith of which he was brought up. He gave his political allegiance to the republican party and served as treasurer of school district No. 35 for nine years, the cause of education having always found in him a stalwart champion. He was one of the influential men of his community, his opinions carrying weight regarding public affairs. His life record should serve to inspire and encourage others.

CHRISTIAN H. KOLLING, SR.

Christian H. Kolling is a retired farmer of York, who in the course of an active life acquired a very substantial competence that now enables him to rest from further labors in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. He was born in Mayenfeld, Hanover, Germany, October 7, 1841, a son of Frederick and Dorothy (Bosman) Kolling, who were natives of Germany. The father was a well-to-do farmer who died in his native land about 1870. The mother followed her son to America in 1881 and spent her last days in his home in this country, where her death occurred when she had reached the advanced age of ninety-three years. They were the parents of four children of whom only two are living, the elder being Mrs. Sophia Seegers, who was still living in Germany when word was last received from her. The religious faith of the family was that of the Lutheran church.

Christian H. Kolling obtained a liberal education in the schools of his native country. On coming to York county November 8, 1880, he purchased two hundred and forty acres of land in Lockridge township and afterward purchased another one hundred and sixty acre tract. On this farm he reared his family and for many years carried on the work of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. His labors greatly promoted the productiveness of the land. He also engaged in raising hogs, cattle and other live stock, raising and feeding from one hundred and fifty to two hundred head of hogs annually, and from fifty to one hundred head of cattle. He sold his land in York county a few years ago but still owns a half section in Kansas. In 1894 he purchased a nice home at 524 Thompson avenue and in 1895 he retired from the farm, removing to York. Mr. Kolling was more fortunate than most of the pioneer farmers of the county for he had made a splendid start when he came to Nebraska. Through hard work and close application he has constantly increased his fortunes and has become one of the prosperous citizens of this section of the country. Before leaving his native country Mr. Kolling served for five years in the German army and participated in the Franco-Prussian war of 1870.

On the 26th of July, 1867, at Hoist, Germany, Mr. Kolling was married to Sophia Dorothe Marie Bremer, a daughter of Henry Christian and Catherine

Elizabeth (Miller) Bremer. She was born October 17, 1844, and died in York county.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kolling have been born four children of whom three are living: Henry Frederick Christian, born April 26, 1868, has for thirty years been cashier of the City National Bank of York. He is married and has two children, Henry and Delia; Dorothea Wilhelmena Louisa Catherine Sophie, the second of the family, is the wife of Sherman Bensen of York, who is engaged in the real estate business, and they have two children, Howard and Olive; Christian Conrad Frederick died in infancy; Doras Dorothea Sophia Frieda, twin of Christian, is at home and acts as housekeeper for her father. She is a graduate of the York high school. Mr. Kolling was originally a Lutheran but is now a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. For many years the family has resided in Nebraska, and here Mr. Kolling has enjoyed excellent business opportunities which he has improved, thus advancing step by step toward the goal of success until he is now numbered among the more substantial retired farmers of York county.

HERMAN ZIEMKE

Herman Ziemke is practically a self-made man who has gained a creditable position among the representative and prosperous farmers of York county. He arrived in this section of the state almost empty-handed but saw the opportunities here offered and has utilized them to good advantage. He is now the owner of a valuable farm property of four hundred and forty acres on section 33, Stewart township. He was born in Germany, January 27, 1870, a son of John and Wilhelmina (Stroschin) Ziemke, also natives of Germany and in that country both passed their last days.

It was in 1894 that Herman Ziemke came to Baltimore, Maryland, and in April of the same year he reached York county. During the droughts of that year he worked on a thrasher and stacked straw for seventy-five cents per day. In the next year he worked for sixty-five cents a day and in 1896 shucked corn at a dollar a day, from these meager earnings managing to save something with which to realize his ambition to acquire a farm of his own. He started farming on his own account by renting land and carried on general farming and stock raising, in these two branches of agricultural activity meeting with considerable success. He continued renting until 1899 when he purchased eighty acres located in New York township, the place at that time having but a small frame house on it and here he and his family lived for about eight years and then sold out to advantage. In 1907 Mr. Ziemke bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Stewart township, the holding at the time he acquired it having but small improvements. Upon that place he has since resided and has made many valuable improvements, its splendid appearance being indicative of the care and labor which he has bestowed upon it. His entire property consists of four hundred and forty acres and on this, in addition to the successful cultivation of general crops, he raises a good grade of live stock and feeds large numbers of cattle and hogs for the markets. He is now one of the substantial farmers of this section of the state and the result achieved is due to his industry, his perseverance and his determination.

Before leaving Germany in 1894 Mr. Ziemke was united in marriage to Sophia Wiese, also a native of Germany, and to their union five children have been born: John, Ida, Otto and Helen, all at home with their parents, and Fred, who died when two years old. In addition to his farming interests Mr. Ziemke is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator at Thayer. The family are members of the Lutheran church, to the upkeep of which they are liberal subscribers. He votes an independent ticket in political affairs and in matters of local import lends his aid and influence to such movements as are calculated to improve the moral and material welfare of the community in which he and his wife have large numbers of sincere friends.

ORSENUM M. DOTY

A long life of usefulness and service was brought to an end on the 19th of July, 1918, when Orsenus M. Doty, a veteran of the Civil war, died at his home in York. His death was the occasion of widespread grief in the community, for during his residence in York he had made many friends.

Orsenus M. Doty was born in Lenawee county, Michigan, February 19, 1841, a son of Isaac and Lueretia (Bruce) Doty, both natives of Massachusetts. At an early day they removed to Michigan where the father engaged in farming. He was a dyer in the textile mills in Massachusetts. The ancestry of the family is one to be proud of for the line is traceable to Edward Doty, who came to this country on the Mayflower.

In the acquirement of his education O. M. Doty attended the schools of Michigan and when in early manhood the Civil war threw its shadow over the land Mr. Doty was among the first to enlist in the service of the Union. He joined the old Fourth Michigan Infantry and served until after the battle of Gettysburg. In this battle he was severely wounded in the hip and shoulder which caused him to be a cripple for the remainder of his life. At the close of the war he returned to his home in Michigan. He was a decorator and painter by trade and at times was able to do a little of this kind of work. In 1870 he removed to Illinois where he was married and in 1882 he and his wife came to York county, where they continued to live until his death. Mr. Doty owned eighty acres of land in New York township, the income from which, together with a large pension, enabled him to be financially independent in his last years. He bought a house on Lincoln avenue where they lived for thirty-five years, and where Mrs. Doty still resides and she is still in possession of the land. For a number of years Mr. Doty was paralyzed, being unable to feed himself, but throughout all of his suffering he remained cheerful and on his demise a keen loss was felt by all of his friends and acquaintances in the community.

On March 10, 1870, soon after coming to Illinois, Mr. Doty was united in marriage to Miss Nellie A. Gibler who was born in Stephenson county, Illinois, in 1849. Her parents were John and Elizabeth (Wagner) Gibler, the former a native of Maryland. They were married in Pennsylvania and removed to Ohio where they resided for some time, coming to Illinois in 1844 where they remained the rest of their lives. Ten children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Gibler, of whom Mrs. Doty was the seventh in order of birth. The death of Mr. Gibler occurred in 1872

at the age of sixty-nine years and his wife died in the same year at the age of fifty-nine. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Doty two children were born, namely: Mark, who for twenty years traveled for the Broadhead Woolen Mills, is now traveling for a large silk company in New York city, and who now makes his home in Jamestown, New York; and Jennie, who is the wife of Ora Tucker who is in the stockyards at Omaha, Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. Tucker are the parents of four girls: Jessie, twenty years of age; Louise, aged nineteen years; Mary, who is three years of age; and Jacquelin, one year old.

Throughout his life Mr. Doty gave his allegiance to the republican party and was well informed on the questions and issues of the day, and he was a member of the Masonic order. He was badly disabled by the wounds received in the Civil war and which unfitted him for work, but he was a man of strong character, of firm purpose and of high ideals and he lived to see his life crowned with successful achievement. Mrs. Doty, for many years his staunch and devoted helpmeet, is a highly esteemed citizen of the community.

G. C. NORQUEST

G. C. Norquest, who is actively engaged in farming in McFadden township, York county, is a native of Sweden, coming to this country at the age of seven with his parents. His father was John Norquest, who was born in Sweden, coming to America in 1869 where he worked on the railroad in Iowa and Nebraska, later taking up a homestead in 1871 on the southwest quarter of section thirty-two, in what is now LeRoy township. His first home was the primitive dugout which was rather more of a hole in the ground than a house. Later this property was traded to his cousin for a farm of eighty acres where he made his home the rest of his life, passing away at the age of sixty-eight. His wife, who is now eighty-two years of age, still lives on the old homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Norquest are the parents of seven children, five of whom were born in Sweden, and two born in America. They are: John, who is employed at the Moline Plow Company, and resides in Moline, Illinois; Peter, who lives in Kansas; C. C., who is engaged in farming in York county; Emma, the wife of Oscar Swanson, who lives in Bradshaw, York county; Ingrid, the wife of Nels Nelson, of York county; Gas G., who died, leaving a widow and family; and a daughter who passed away in 1898.

When his father came to York county C. C. Norquest was ten years old. He remembers very well the trip from Sweden, when they went from their native town to Malma, Sweden, thence to Copenhagen, to Hull, England, overland to Liverpool where they boarded a vessel bound for the United States, landing at Castle Garden, where they took a train for Lincoln, and went from there to Fairmont. Here it was that a man named Ellis took them to their new home in a wagon, with a little hay in the bottom of the box. The conveyance was not very comfortable and it was midnight when they arrived at the little hut that was to be their new home. York was but a small village at that time, having two stores and a blacksmith shop, and Mr. Norquest remembers roaming over the prairies as a barefoot boy and seeing oxen and horses hitched to the same plow. During the day the farmer unyoked the oxen and let them feed on the prairies grass which was

abundant. Antelopes and coyotes were numerous in those days and the black flies were a pestilence that disturbed the oxen and horses. Mr. Norquest recalls an amusing incident that occurred when a yoke of oxen belonging to an old settler named Peter Feeny, ran away while on a journey to York. Mr. Norquest's mother was in the wagon with a basket of eggs which she was taking to market, and she and the contents of her basket were spilled along the road, much to the amusement of Mr. Feeny who was an Irishman with a generous sense of humor, for he stood on the road and laughed at the result of the accident with what seemed to be uncalled for mirth.

In 1898 Mr. Norquest began farming with eighty acres and today he owns two hundred and forty acres of well improved land, which is the reward of his zeal and untiring efforts. For fourteen years he managed a threshing machine outfit in the county. He was married to Miss Ida Pierson, a native of Sweden whose parents passed away when she was a child. To this union have been born eleven children, nine of whom are living at home, two having died in childhood: Ellen who passed away; Era, Paul, Albert, June, Frank, Charles, Rodna, Elkins and Wilbur. The Norquest family are members of the Lutheran church at McCool Junction. In politics Mr. Norquest is independent, preferring to give his support to the movements he deems most worthy and to the men best fitted to fill the offices. For several years he has been a member of the school board, and stands for the things which are of vital worth to the community, the commonwealth and the country, and his aid and influence are always given on the side of right, progress and improvement.

ROBERT V. GREWELL

For twenty-seven years Robert V. Grewell has been a resident of York county and is widely recognized as a prominent and successful farmer. He is now living retired in York where he is an active and representative citizen.

Robert V. Grewell was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, on the 14th of January, 1847, a son of Thomas D. and Nancy (Wilson) Grewell. His parents were both Ohioans and the father was a successful carpenter. For some years they resided in Iowa and in 1870 removed to Nebraska, settling in Saline county where they acquired a homestead. During the Civil war the father drove mules for the government. He had two sons in the war also, John W. and H. C. At the age of ninety-two years Thomas D. Grewell passed away and the mother died at the advanced age of ninety-five years. Nine children were born to them of whom eight are living. Robert V. Grewell was the fourth in order of birth and is the only member of the family residing in York county. The parents were both consistent members of the United Brethren church and he was a staunch supporter of the republican party. The grandfather of the subject of this review was John Grewell who was a native of Ohio and a prominent man in his community. The maternal grandfather was Robert Wilson, a native of Ireland. He came to this country at an early age and his death occurred in Ohio at the age of one hundred and three years.

In the acquirement of an education Robert V. Grewell attended the schools in Iowa. After putting his textbooks aside he worked out on a farm, driving oxen

and breaking the ground. In 1866 he made a trip from Nebraska City to Denver with an ox team and he assisted in the building of the Union Pacific railway, being present when the golden spike was driven. In the spring of 1870 he settled in Saline county and there he homesteaded and married. He sold his farm in this county in 1893 and removed to York county where he purchased a farm consisting of three hundred and twenty acres in Baker township. This farm has been well cultivated and improved and is considered one of the finest in the county. He has never resided on his farm, however, preferring to make his home in York. He is now retired and living at 722 East avenue.

In April of the year 1871 Mr. Grewell was united in marriage to Miss Lizzie Dawson, a daughter of Isaac and Berthena Dawson. Her father was a native of Kentucky and they were both pioneer settlers in Saline county, coming to that county in 1869. Both of them are now deceased, having died at their home there. Mr. and Mrs. Grewell have become parents of three children, namely: Thomas, who is engaged in the furniture business in York; Mertle, who is deceased; and Willie, also deceased.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Grewell the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party and is always well informed on the questions and issues of the day. Both he and his wife are consistent members of the United Brethren church and take an active part in the affairs of that organization. Mr. Grewell is recognized as a man of much business ability and is one of York's most representative citizens.

M. L. WARNER

Since 1909 M. L. Warner, who was for many years a farmer in Polk county, Nebraska, has resided retired in York. He was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, near Mercersburg, January 25, 1847, a son of William and Hannah (Miley) Warner, further mention of whom is made in the sketch of Clarence H. Warner, to be found elsewhere in this work.

M. L. Warner received his education in the country schools of Pennsylvania and for some time engaged in farming after putting his textbooks aside. He learned the harness maker's trade, however, and followed this line of work for a period of eleven years in Illinois and Iowa. In 1873 he came to Nebraska and settled in Richardson county but spent the following year working at his trade in Fremont and various places in Omaha. In 1875 he removed to Polk county, bought land and farmed it for over thirty-five years. In 1909 he came to York, deciding to retire from active life and built a nice home at 1631 Iowa avenue. He sold the land in Polk county before coming to York and is now the owner of a quarter section of fine land in York county, in McFadden township.

On the 5th of December, 1905, Mr. Warner was united in marriage to Miss Jane Haulman, a native of Mercersburg, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Herman and Malinda (Warner) Haulman. Her father was a blacksmith and spent his entire life in Pennsylvania.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Warner the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party, in the interests of which he has always

taken an active part but has neither sought nor desired public office. Mr. Warner was thrown upon his own resources early in life and the success which he now enjoys is attributable to his own diligence and labor. He is one of York's representative and progressive citizens.

MRS. LILLIE MAY GILMORE HUNT

There is no tribute too great to be paid to the pioneer mothers of this and other states who endured years of hardship that we might live in a land of peace and plenty. Their lives were for the most part uneventful, filled with the labor of love for their husbands and children. There were few hardships of those early pioneer days with which Mrs. Lillie May Gilmore Hunt was not familiar. She was born on the 3rd of June, 1866, at Bluevale, York county, and was the first white child born in that county. Nebraska at that time was still a territory. Her parents, Jacob Rush and Catherine (Barrows) Gilmore, had come to York county after the Civil war, her father having acquired a homestead on the southeast quarter of section 7, township 9, range 1. He came to Nebraska in the fall of 1865 and in April of the following year her mother and her sister who is now Mrs. Ella Gilmore Dutton, came to Nebraska by way of steamboat down the Illinois river to Cairo, then down the Mississippi to St. Louis, across the Missouri river to St. Joseph and from there up the Missouri river to Nebraska City. There Jacob R. Gilmore met them with an ox team and wagon, and they were several days in driving from there to the home in York county, a distance of over a hundred miles. The farm on which Mrs. Hunt was born June 3, 1866, is still owned by her uncle S. Gilmore, who came to York county in the fall of that year from his home at Wenona, Marshall county, Illinois. Further mention of Jacob Rush Gilmore is made elsewhere in this work.

Mrs. Hunt received her education in the common schools of York county and on the 27th of December, 1885, was united in marriage in the Christian church at Bluevale to John Edward Hunt of Fairmont, the Rev. W. H. Pardee, a well known Christian minister of the early days in York and Fillmore counties, performing the ceremony. For several years following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hunt resided in Fairmont, thence removing to Alliance where they lived for a period of eight years, subsequently removing to Bayard. For twenty-three years Mrs. Hunt has resided in this town where she is much respected and beloved by her many friends. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Bayard several children were born, all of them now prominent citizens of their various communities: Susy Bell Hunt is the wife of Arthur Jones of Grand Island, Nebraska; John Edward Hunt enlisted for service in the World war and left Bayard September 21, 1917, for Camp Funston, Kansas. He was later ordered overseas with the Eighty-ninth Division and was wounded in action at the battle of Chateau Thierry, July 21, 1918. After some time in a hospital behind the lines he was again sent to the front and was gassed on the 3rd of October, 1918. After being released from the hospital the second time he was sent with the army of occupation to Germany where he remained until August, 1919, when he returned to the states, receiving his discharge and returning home September 11, 1919. He is now married to Miss

Ethel Dorothy Lewellen of Lincoln who for several years was stenographer for the Territorial Pioneer Association and also for the Mississippi Valley Historical Association. They are making their home in Bayard. Another member of the family to serve in the World war was C. Everette Hunt who went to Camp Funston, September 21, 1917, where he remained for eleven months when he was discharged on account of ill health. He returned to his home on the 20th of August, 1918. He is now in the employ of J. L. Mullen of Lincoln, operating a dray line in the drainage district at Gordon, Nebraska. Nellie Hattie is now Mrs. Leslie Allen and resides with her mother on the home farm two miles east of Bayard. Two more children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hunt, both of whom died in infancy. The death of Mr. Hunt occurred on May 2, 1916, and was a severe blow to the community where he was recognized as a representative citizen.

Other members of the Gilmore family living besides Mrs. Hunt are the father, who is residing in Corning, California; a sister, Mrs. Ella Dutton of Davis Creek, California; another sister, Mrs. Adelle Underwood, is residing in Grand Valley, Colorado; a brother, Otis E. Gilmore, is living in Geneva; and Mrs. Susy Fouse makes her home in Duchesne, Utah. The greater part of Mrs. Hunt's life has been spent on a farm, and she was a most important factor in contributing to the success of her husband. Manifold duties made a great demand upon her time but she was never too busy to take a little time to read and keep up with the trend of the times. She is active in the interests of the community in which she makes her home and in which she has many friends who recognize her true personal worth and sterling traits of character.

HENRY BRANZ, JR.

Henry Branz, Jr., long identified with agricultural interests in York county, is the owner of one of the well improved farms of the county, his place being on section 24, Stewart township, where he has two hundred and eighty acres of rich and valuable land. He was born near Peoria, Illinois, March 25, 1871, a son of Henry and Annie (Mahl) Branz, both natives of Germany, where the former was born in May, 1834. The marriage of these parents took place in Germany and they came to America in 1863, living in the state of Illinois for many years and coming to York county in 1882. A more extended account of Henry Branz, Sr., will be found elsewhere in this work in the review of Ernest Branz.

Henry Branz, Jr., accompanied his parents to York county from Illinois and completed his education in the public schools of the county. He was reared in his father's home in Stewart township and assisted for many years in carrying on the work of the home farm, there becoming thoroughly grounded in all the important features of agricultural life. In 1905 he moved to the farm on which he now resides and ever since has kept in close touch with the trend of modern progress along agricultural lines and his valuable farm property of two hundred and eighty acres indicates his careful supervision and progressive methods. He has carried out many excellent improvements on his place and devotes a large portion of his time to the raising of grain and the feeding of live stock, in both

these lines having met a substantial measure of success, the same applying to the cultivation of crops in general.

Mr. Branz is recognized as one of the prominent citizens of the county who has gained a gratifying measure of success, owing to his close application and untiring energy. His efforts have been a contributing factor in bringing about the splendid results that have been achieved in making this part of Nebraska a notable agricultural belt and well adapted to grain raising.

JOHN W. MILLER

John W. Miller, for many years a farmer in York county, was born in Columbia county, Pennsylvania, March 16, 1868, a son of William and Barbara (Traub) Miller. The father was born in Pennsylvania in 1837 and died in 1899 at the age of sixty-two years and the mother who was born in the same state in 1844, is now residing in California. For a number of years Mr. and Mrs. Miller lived on a farm in Pennsylvania and in the spring of 1872 came west to York county. Here they lived for some time and then moved to Benedict, in which village the father's death occurred. At the time of Mr. Miller's death he had in his possession but eighty acres of his original one hundred and sixty homestead acres. He was recognized throughout the community in which he resided as a prominent and successful farmer and he held various township offices which he filled with ability. During the Civil war he served in a Pennsylvania regiment and was twice wounded in the leg. He also had two fingers shot off of one hand. During his early residence in York county he was postmaster at Cressell. In the passing of Mr. Miller York county lost one of its pioneer and progressive citizens.

In the acquirement of an education John W. Miller attended the district schools of York. He did not have the chance to obtain much education, however, for as the oldest of a family of children he was called upon to assist in the support of the family. Therefore at an early age he began to work out by the month on various farms and for eight years continued this work, at the termination of which time he purchased eighty acres of land and engaged in farming on his own account. The experience which he had gained in working for others stood him in good stead and he was so successful in this venture that he gradually increased his land possessions until he is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres of valuable land located east of Benedict. In 1893 he was married and he and his wife resided on the farm until the spring of 1920 when they purchased a home at 709 East avenue, York, and Mr. Miller retired from active business life.

In the spring of 1893 Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Derner, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of Joseph and Emma Willard (Blair) Derner. Her parents were also natives of Pennsylvania, and came to York county in 1879. The father had a quarter section of land which he later sold and removed to York where he engaged in the carpenter business for some time. Mr. and Mrs. Derner are now living retired. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Miller three children have been born, namely: Evan Edgar; Roy Williams; and Ora Pauline. Evan Edgar graduated from the Benedict schools and then took a course in a commercial college in York. He later married Vera Robertson and they are now

residing on the father's home place. Roy Williams graduated from the high school at Lincoln, Nebraska, and he is now employed in a storage station. Ora Pauline is in her last year at York high school.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Miller the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party and is always well versed on all of the important questions and issues of the day. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in which order he has filled all of the chairs; the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks; and the Modern Woodmen. Both Mr. and Mrs. Miller are members of the Rebekahs. They are likewise consistent members of the Lutheran church. The success which Mr. Miller now enjoys is the result of his own diligence and labor and though he has been a resident of York but a short time he is regarded as one of its most progressive and representative citizens.

JACOB RUSH GILMORE

One of the earliest pioneers of York county, Nebraska, was Jacob Rush Gilmore, who is now residing in Corning, California, enjoying the reward of a life wisely and usefully spent. He was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, August 12, 1834, a son of Elias and Huldah (Rush) Gilmore, both natives of Pennsylvania in which state the birth of the former occurred on the 12th of March, 1812, while the latter was born November 1, 1816. Mrs. Gilmore was a descendant of Benjamin Rush, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The Gilmore family came from their Pennsylvania home to Illinois shortly before the outbreak of the Civil war, after the close of which conflict they removed to Nebraska, settling in York county in 1866. They were one of the early pioneer families of that state.

The education of Jacob Rush Gilmore was obtained in the common schools of Fayette county, Pennsylvania, and in early manhood he removed to Illinois with his parents, from which state he enlisted for service in the Civil war. On the 18th of April, 1861, he joined Company C, Twentieth Illinois Infantry, at Pontiac, for three months' service, at the end of which time he reenlisted at Joliet, Illinois, for three years' active service. He reenlisted for the second time at Blackriver, Mississippi, on the 4th of January, 1864, and on the 9th of April, 1865, was discharged at Goldsboro, North Carolina, on account of wounds. He was with Sherman on his march from Atlanta to the sea and participated in the following battles and skirmishes: Frederickstown, Forts Henry and Donaldson, Shiloh, Burton's Lane, Thompson's Hill, Raymond, Clinton, Jackson, Champion Hill, invasion of Vicksburg, and was wounded in charge at Ft. Hill in the battle of Kenesaw Mountain and Atlanta. After the war he removed to York county and established the first postoffice at Bluevale in 1866. This was the first office in this county and he held the position of postmaster for a period of about nine years. In 1899 he went to Colorado, his wife having died, and soon after his arrival in Perkins county, that state, he was again wed. For several years he made his home in Colorado and then removed to California where he still resides, leading a quiet life after the many years of his adventurous life as soldier and pioneer.

On the 17th of April, 1860, in Marshall county, Illinois, Mr. Gilmore was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Elizabeth Barrows, a daughter of P. A. and

Mary Ann Barrows. To this union the following children were born: Ella, who is the wife of S. J. Dutton; Lillie May, who is now Mrs. Hunt; Adelle, who is the wife of J. L. Underwood; Susy, the wife of Probus Fouse; and O. E. Gilmore who married Miss Hanna Uphouse. The death of Mrs. Gilmore occurred in York county in 1883. Mr. Gilmore's second marriage was in Perkins county, Colorado, when he wedded Miss Elizabeth Bivens. To this marriage five children were born: Raymond, Myrtle, Orville, James, and Percy.

Mr. Gilmore has always given his support to the republican party, having firm belief in the principles of this party as factors in good government. He has been a consistent member of the Christian church. At the advanced age of eighty-three years Mr. Gilmore is residing in Corning, California, an honored and respected citizen.

GEORGE RAGAN

For thirteen years George Ragan has been a resident of York and he is now residing in his home at 1823 Grant avenue, enjoying the fruits of a life of diligence and industry.

George Ragan was born in Sangamon county, Illinois, January 20, 1846, a son of John and Sarah (Curtis) Ragan, the former a native of Pennsylvania while the latter was born in Ohio. Their marriage took place in Ohio and at an early date they removed to Illinois where their deaths occurred, he passing away in 1870 and she in 1849. Six children were born to them of whom only the subject of this review, George Ragan, is living. On the outbreak of the Civil war John Ragan volunteered and was in active service for some time. Politically he was a member of the republican party and was well informed on all the questions and issues of the day.

George Ragan received his education in the schools of Dewitt county, Illinois, and in 1864 entered into the Civil war, serving until its close. At the termination of the war he returned to Illinois and engaged in farming. In 1883 he came to York county where he bought land in Lockridge township and still owns this land consisting of one hundred and twenty acres. His wife is also owner of forty acres. When he took possession of the farm there was a small frame house on it and he immediately erected a barn and other outbuildings. Mr. Ragan and his family resided on this farm until January, 1907, when they removed to York where he had purchased a nice home at 1823 Grant avenue. Here Mr. Ragan has since resided, enjoying the fruits of a life of diligence and many hardships.

In 1880 Mr. Ragan was united in marriage to Miss Sophie Miller, who was born near St. Louis, Missouri, a daughter of Joseph and Mary (Burri) Miller. Her parents were born in Germany, coming to this country in their early life and settling in St. Louis where they were married. For a number of years they resided in Missouri and then removed to Sangamon county and subsequently to Tazewell county, Illinois. In 1884 they removed to York county where the father bought land. Mrs. Miller's death occurred on the home place, while Mr. Miller are living, namely: Mrs. Ragan, the wife of the subject of this review; Frank, who is a bridge contractor residing in Springfield, Illinois; William, engaged in passed away in York. Seven children were born to that union of whom only five

the real estate business in York; Henry, who is farming in York county; and Edwin, who is a well known dentist in York. Mr. and Mrs. Ragan have no children.

Mr. Ragan gives his allegiance to the republican party, in the interests of which he takes an active part. He is a prominent member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Both Mr. and Mrs. Ragan are members of the United Brethren church and she is a member of various church societies of that organization. When Mr. Ragan started out into the business world he had nothing to rely upon except his ability to work hard and a strong determination to succeed. He went through all the pioneer hardships of the early days, overcoming obstacles that would have crushed many a man. It was not long until he had his farm out of debt and then forged steadily ahead until today he is financially independent. During the years of his residence in York Mr. Ragan has made many and fast friends and he is recognized throughout the community as one of York's most representative citizens.

MARTIN PIEPER

Martin Pieper, who follows farming on section 23, Beaver township, was born in the house which is now his home on the 18th of August, 1899, a son of William and Wilhelmina (Wellmann) Pieper, extended mention of whom is made elsewhere in this work.

Martin Pieper received his education in the schools of his native county (York) and early in life engaged in farming. He has always remained on the homestead of one hundred and sixty acres and is now managing it for his mother. He owns eighty acres of fine land in Seward county.

On the 11th of February, 1911, Mr. Pieper was united in marriage to Miss Gertrude Brackhan, a daughter of Christ and Wilhelmina (Nowack) Brackhan, early settlers of this county who are still residing on a farm in Beaver township. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Pieper one child has been born: Clarence. The religious faith of the family is that of the Lutheran church and Mr. Pieper votes with the republican party, but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him. Mr. Pieper is employing the progressive and enterprising characteristics of the west to his farm work and has already gained a gratifying amount of prosperity.

FRED NEHSER

Fred Nehser, a prosperous and well known farmer for many years identified with agricultural operations in York county, as well as having commercial interests in Gresham, is a native of Iowa, born in Clayton county, February 27, 1860, a son of Lewis and Mary (Myer) Nehser, both natives of Germany. The parents came to America in 1855, making the voyage on an old sailing vessel, the passage occupying thirty-one days. Lewis Nehser was one of a party of five hundred comprised of all kinds of trades-men, who located at Communia, Iowa, and there they became a colony settlement, pursuing their usual avocations and also engaging

in agricultural operations. He proceeded to clear a tract of land, removing all the timber and subsequently succeeded in getting one hundred and twenty-five acres into condition for the raising of crops. He used oxen and was the first in the district to buy a horse team for working the land. His efforts in the cultivation of his fields were uniformly successful and he had the satisfaction of seeing the prairie soil yield to the plow and harrow and produce in abundance. His personal part in bringing about these results will stand to his credit for many generations. He died on the farm at the age of seventy years and his wife passed away in 1890.

Fred Nehser was educated in the common schools of his native county and was reared on his father's place, assisting in the labors of the farm. His early youth and young manhood were uneventful amid the surroundings of the farm home and he continued to work along steadily until his thirty-third year. It was in 1893 that Mr. Nehser came to York county and settled in Gresham. He bought one hundred and twenty acres of land on which a small frame house stood and successfully operated this place, doing general farming and stock raising, being for three years engaged in the buying and shipping of live stock which yielded financial results of a substantial character. He made some valuable improvements on his land and employed the most modern machinery in the work of the farm. Aside from his land interests he established and directed the Nehser Creamery, at the end of two years selling out to a firm at Aurora. Later in connection with his farming activities he commenced the breeding of Poland China hogs and shorthorn cattle and in this line, as in his other enterprises, his labors were adequately rewarded. The call of opportunity has ever been to him a call to action and one to which he has readily responded, herein lying the secret of his success.

In 1897 Mr. Nehser was united in marriage to Hattie Wolford and to that union three children have been born: Raymond, who died at the age of one year and ten days; James, who served in the Students Army Training Corps, at Hastings, Nebraska; and Lillian, who is attending high school. Mr. Nehser votes an independent ticket and is much interested in everything that pertains to the public welfare and cooperates heartily in those measures and movements which are a matter of civic virtue and civic pride.

SILAS M. SARVER

Since 1915, Silas M. Sarver has been engaged in the coal business in York, and is recognized as one of the prominent citizens of that community. He was born in Morgan county, Ohio, February 21, 1857, his parents being Jacob and Rosa (Able) Sarver, the former born in Butte county, Pennsylvania, while the latter was a native of Germany. Their marriage was celebrated in Pennsylvania and in the early fifties they emigrated to Ohio where he engaged in farming. In March, 1864, they removed to Kansas where he had purchased some land and resided there until 1886, and for some time he was superintendent of the county farm. Mr. Sarver had been successful in his farming ventures and in 1886 they removed to York, spending their last days in retirement. He was a staunch supporter of the republican party and belonged to the United Brethren church, while

his wife was a member of the Congregational church. During the Civil war Mr. Sarver answered his country's call to arms and was a participant in many of the important battles of the war and in Morgan's raid. His death occurred in York and Mrs. Sarver passed away in April, 1920, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. Two children were born to this union: Silas M., the subject of this review; and Rosa Brott, who is the wife of H. W. Brott, of York. Jacob Sarver, the grandfather, was born in Pennsylvania, lived and died there, and was one of the prominent men of his community.

The education received by Silas M. Sarver was very limited and as he was reared on a farm he followed that occupation, going to western Kansas where he homesteaded. In 1882 he sold his home and the following year came to York county where he lived on rented land for two years. In the spring of 1886 he removed to the City of York and worked in a lumber-yard there seventeen years for one employer and ten years for another. In 1915 he went into the coal business on his own account, selling all kinds of coal. He also owns two farms in western Nebraska in which he takes not a little interest. The success which Mr. Sarver is now enjoying is the result of his invincible courage and diligence. When he and his wife first settled in York they had practically nothing. He had made no money on the farms, for his crops had been ruined by hail and it was only by the hardest of work and the most careful saving that they finally got ahead. Some men would have broken under the immense strain suffered by Mr. Sarver, but he was determined to win out and today he is reaping his reward.

In the fall of 1882 Mr. Sarver was united in marriage to Miss Emma Walters, a native of Mount Pleasant, Iowa. Her parents came to Nebraska from Iowa and her father, William Walters, is still residing in York. The mother passed away some years ago. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Sarver, one child, Elmer Roy, has been born. He is now residing in Denver, Colorado, where he conducts a drug store. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Sarver gives his allegiance to the republican party but has neither sought nor desired public office. Diligence and persistency of purpose are numbered among his stalwart characteristics and his life record, which is an open book that all may read, has brought him high standing and popularity.

JOHN ITTNER

For forty-two years John Ittner engaged in the brick business in York, in which line of work he was so successful that he is now residing retired at 410 East Sixth street, financially independent.

John Ittner was born on a farm owned by a former president—William Henry Harrison—in Miami county, Ohio, on the 21st of January, 1842. His parents were John and Mary (Friday) Ittner, the former was born in Germany in 1806 and died in 1852, while the latter was born on the Canary islands in 1818 and died in 1912. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Ittner took place in Cincinnati, Ohio, where they had both removed at an early day and in 1841 they removed to St. Louis where the father followed the trade of a baker for a number of years. They then removed to St. Paul and there the father conducted a bakery until his

death. Nine children were born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Ittner, four of whom are living, namely: Anthony, who has a brickyard near Belleville, Illinois; John, the subject of this review; Nicholas, who lives retired in Apopka, Florida; and George, who has an orange grove at St. Petersburg, Florida. One son, Benjamin, served through the Civil war as a member of Co. J, Eighth Missouri Regiment. The grandfather of John Ittner was born in Germany and the maternal grandfather Friday, while crossing from Germany to the United States, was shipwrecked and remained on the Canary islands for a period of six months. He then secured passage to the United States and his first employment in this country was for the Longworth family in Cincinnati, Ohio.

John Ittner was reared in St. Louis and there received his education. On the 20th of August, 1861, he entered the service of the Union army, joining Company B, Fremont's Body Guard. He served for the most part in Missouri but was captured and taken prisoner in November, 1861. Some time later he was paroled but did not reenter the service. He then learned the trade of brick-making and brick-laying and followed it successfully until his retirement. In the spring of 1878 he came to York and started the first brick-making establishment there. Until 1904 he engaged in brick-making after which time he turned his attention to brick-laying. For sixteen years he continued in that line of work, becoming well known throughout the community, but in the spring of 1920 he decided to retire and is now living in his home which he erected in 1907, at 410 East Sixth street, enjoying the success derived from a life of diligence and industry.

On the 1st of March, 1869, Mr. Ittner was united in marriage to Miss Augusta Debro Hoyt, who was born in Milan, Erie county, Ohio, November 1, 1842, and died on the 1st of October, 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Ittner were the parents of five children, two of whom are living, namely: Augusta; and Edna. Augusta graduated from the grade and high school of York and is now living at home with her father. For five years she has been serving on the library board. Edna graduated from the York high school and the State University and she is now assistant principal of the York high school. Mrs. Ittner was reared in the faith of the Universalist church but was not a member of that church.

Politically Mr. Ittner has followed an independent course ever since the election of Cleveland. Although he has devoted the greater part of his time to his business he served as councilman of the second ward for some time, having been appointed to this position by Mayor A. D. Wyckoff. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic post, and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In the development of his business interests Mr. Ittner employed only the fairest and most honorable of methods and York is fortunate indeed in having him for a citizen.

ROBERT A. CLARK

Robert A. Clark, who since 1913 has been living retired in Bradshaw, York county, after many years of successful farming, is a native of Virginia, born in Berkeley county, October 24, 1841. When he was seven years of age his parents moved to Ohio and settled in Champaign county, where they lived until 1857, in that year going to Marshall county, Illinois, and in that state Robert A. Clark

grew to manhood, having early started to earn his own living. On August 6, 1862, Mr. Clark enlisted in Company B, 86th Illinois Infantry, and served as a member of that company in the Civil war, his service covering about three years. During that period he was in some thirteen engagements and battles, notably those of Atlanta, Chickamauga and Stone River and was slightly wounded on three different occasions. His regiment was a unit of the Fourteenth Army Corps and he was with General Sherman on the famous march to the sea. He participated in the grand review at Washington, D. C., and was finally mustered out, receiving his honorable discharge. Following the close of his military service he returned to Illinois and took up farming, so continuing for about twenty-five years, during that period acquiring a sound knowledge of agricultural operations and his labors bringing satisfactory results.

It was in 1890 that Mr. Clark came to York county and settled in Arborville township where he purchased two hundred acres of land for which he paid twenty-five dollars per acre. There were not many improvements on the place when he took it and he immediately proceeded to improve and develop the holding, erecting substantial buildings and otherwise increasing its value until he finally brought it to a condition the equal of any in the township. He met with considerable success, the outcome largely of his business-like methods, the soil yielding him results proportionate to the energy and skill which he brought to bear on the undertaking. At length, feeling that he had earned a rest, he retired in 1913 and now leaves to others the active work of the fields. In that year he moved to Bradshaw, where he has a comfortable home, spending the evening of a busy life in domestic peace, surrounded by numerous friends who have naught but good to say of him.

On March 7, 1869, Mr. Clark was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Bramble, a native of Meggs county, Ohio, and to their union four children were born: William R., living in Custer county, is the father of seven children; Edwin J., the father of three children; Pearl, the third of Mr. Clark's children; and Harry B., the fourth, who is the father of two children. Mr. and Mrs. Clark have five great-grandchildren. Mr. Clark is a member of the Grand Army post at Bradshaw, being deeply interested in that patriotic organization. He has always voted the republican ticket, but has never been a seeker after public office. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren church and in community affairs the weight of their influence has been given to those movements designed to advance the moral and material welfare of the people.

WILBUR W. FEASTER

Wilbur W. Feaster has been prominent in the business circles of York county for over twenty years. He has engaged in farming and stock raising, the carpenter business and since February, 1920, has been active in insurance and real estate circles.

Wilbur W. Feaster was born July 23, 1875, in Rock Island county, Illinois, a son of John H. and Nancy J. (Walker) Feaster. The father was born in Maryland in 1844 and his death occurred in 1890, while the mother was born in 1848

in Rock Island county, Illinois, and is still living. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Feaster took place in Illinois and there the father engaged in farming for some time before removing to Saline county, Nebraska, in 1881. He purchased a farm in this county on which he resided until two years before his death when he retired and removed to Friend. Mr. Feaster was a veteran of the Civil war, serving over four years. He was a member of Company G, Seventy-fifth Illinois Regiment, and while in active service with his company received a wound in his shoulder which later in life caused paralysis and resulted in his death. Two children were born to this union: Frederick K. and Wilbur W., the subject of this review. Frederick K. is now residing in the state of Washington. He has engaged in the hotel business, has managed a store, and has farmed. Mr. and Mrs. Feaster were consistent members of the United Brethren church and Mrs. Feaster still takes an active interest in the organization. The father was a member of the democratic party which found in him a staunch advocate. Mr. Feaster came to Nebraska with practically no financial backing. His possessions consisted of three horses and it was necessary for him to go into debt for his land. However, by hard labor and careful saving he managed to get a start and from then on steadily progressed until at the time of his death he was financially independent. The grandfather of Wilbur W. Feaster, who was Jonathan Feaster, was born in Maryland and came to Nebraska with his son John. His death occurred in 1882 in Saline county at the age of eighty-seven years. The maternal grandfather, Hiram Walker, was a native of Kentucky and came to Illinois at an early day. He engaged in farming in that state, was very successful and there his death occurred.

In the acquirement of an education Wilbur H. Feaster attended the high school in Friend for three years and York College for a period of two years. He began life as a farmer and purchased a farm in Saline county. He sold this farm some time later for a substantial sum and in 1900 removed to York county. For four years he engaged in the live stock business in York at the termination of which time he engaged in carpentering. While engaged in this line of work he was elected to the office of county recorder by a large majority and he held this position for a period of five years. At the expiration of his term of office he again resumed the carpentering business but in February, 1920, became interested in real estate and insurance. In this line of work he is proving his ability and his business is steadily growing.

On Christmas day of the year 1900 Mr. Feaster was united in marriage to Miss E. Grace Foster, a native of Illinois and a daughter of Joel H. and Rebecca Foster. Her parents removed from New York state to Illinois and in 1893 came to Nebraska, settling in York county, where they died. Mr. and Mrs. Feaster have become parents of five children: Dorothy, who is attending York College; Donald, attending school; Reatha and Wallace Rex, who are in school; and Burton, who is four years of age.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Feaster the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the democratic party. Although the greater part of his time has been devoted to his business he served York as postmaster during nine months of the year 1913 and at present is serving on the city council. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Woodmen; Highlanders; Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, and in each order he is an exemplary member. Both he and Mrs. Feaster are

members of the Presbyterian church and active in the various affairs of that organization. Mr. Feaster is widely recognized as one of York county's representative citizens and business men.

WILLIAM REETZ

For almost four decades William Reetz has been a resident of York county and during that long period has made valuable contributions to the work of development and progress in this part of the state and has won a substantial measure of business success being now the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of valuable land. He was born in Germany, March 16, 1864, a son of Carl and Henrietta Reetz, also natives of Germany, who in 1882 immigrated with their family to this country. Following his arrival at the port of New York Carl Reetz started for Nebraska and settled in York county, buying a farm of eighty acres located in Stewart township for which he paid the sum of eight hundred dollars. It was wild land, without improvements of any description, and there he lived with his family in a dugout of two rooms for three years, tilling the soil and developing the place.

William Reetz was educated in the schools of Germany where he remained until he was eighteen years old, when he accompanied his parents to York county. He worked on his father's place until he was twenty-four years old, at that time his father giving him a team, harness and wagon to enable him to start work on his own account. He began by renting land and worked steadily for many years in this way, saving his money and later was in a position to purchase eighty acres in Thayer township, paying fourteen hundred dollars for the land on which he continued to reside for three years. He then bought one hundred and sixty acres on which he and his family lived for ten years, after which he moved to Saline county and purchased one hundred and sixty acres, residing in that county for one year. He returned to Stewart township and bought a quarter section of land which he operated for five years with considerable success. He next bought a quarter section in Thayer township but never took up residence on that holding and later moved to the holding on which he now resides, consisting of one hundred and sixty-two and one-half acres, located on section 31, Stewart township. Here he is actively engaged in general farming and the feeding of stock for market and has met with a substantial measure of success. He is now the owner of over four hundred acres of excellent land laid out in three separate holdings, a quarter section being in Bradshaw township, a quarter section in Thayer township and the home farm on which he is residing, with splendid buildings on all three farms. His farming operations have been conducted along modern lines and with good farming machinery and everything about his place indicates his careful supervision and his practical and progressive methods.

Mr. Reetz was united in marriage to Augusta Hoffman and to that union eight children were born: Fred, Lizzie, Otto, William, Rena, Emma, Louise and Varner. The family attends the services of the Lutheran church, in the faith of which the parents were reared. Mr. Reetz exercises independent action in political affairs and at all times has been actuated by a desire to promote the public welfare along sane

and sound lines. He is a self-made man, whose success in life is due to his own unaided efforts and he is now regarded as one of the enterprising farmers of York county.

OSCAR FROID

Oscar Froid, deceased, was for many years identified with the shoe business in York. He was born in Sweden, October 7, 1853, and died in York on the 2nd of December, 1899. His father lived and died in Sweden where he followed the occupations of farmer and soldier. The mother, however, after her husband's death came to the United States with her little family and her death occurred in Boulder, Colorado, where she had made her home for a number of years. Six children had been born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Froid, of whom Oscar the subject of this review was the third in order of birth. Five children came to this country to make their home. The Froid family were reared in the faith of the Lutheran church.

Oscar Froid obtained his early education in his native land and at the age of fourteen years came to this country with his mother, brothers and sisters and settled in Jefferson county, Iowa. Later they removed to Boulder, Colorado, and in 1881 Oscar Froid came to York county. Here he engaged in the grocery business for a number of years but later sold out and launched into the shoe business, in which he was engaged at the time of his death. He had learned the trade of shoe-making in his native country at the age of seven years and he proved so adept at this line of work that his business soon grew to large proportions. He was a man of strong character, of firm purpose and of high ideals and his life work was crowned with successful achievement.

In 1877 Mr. Froid was united in marriage to Miss Tillie Sandall, a native of Jefferson county, Iowa, and a daughter of Fred Olsen, but was reared by John Sandall, her mother being a Sandall and these were her grandparents. Her father was a pioneer of York county and prominent throughout that county. Eight children were born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Froid, namely: Clarence M.; Viola; Ivan; Windell; Paul; Elon; Irene; and Waldo. Clarence M. is a physician and surgeon of prominence in Denver, Colorado. He received his medical education at the Northwestern University, Chicago, and in Denver. Dr. Froid has one child, a daughter Carroll, who is ten years of age; Viola is the wife of Bert Miller who is engaged in farming near McCool. She has become the mother of four children, namely: George, Clarence, Irene Marie and Raymond; Ivan is living at home with his mother and is employed in the post office; Windell is also living at home. He is manager of the Rystrom Implement Company, at York; Paul has rented his mother's farm near McCool and here resides. He married Miss Lillie Donivan; Elon resides in York where he is a mail carrier. His wife was Miss Bessie Roberts and they are the parents of three children: Clarice, Elaine, and Robert Oscar; Irene is a stenographer residing in Laurel; Waldo, the last member of the family, is living at home with his mother.

When age conferred upon Mr. Froid the right of franchise he supported the democratic party which found in him a stalwart advocate. Fraternally he belonged

to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; the Ancient Order of United Workmen; the Woodmen; and the Knights of Pythias. He was likewise a consistent member of the Congregational church. Following the death of her husband Mrs. Froid purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres near McCool on which one of her sons resides. The farm is well cultivated and improved and is one of the finest in the county. Mrs. Froid is prominent in the activities of her community and is residing with her children at her home, 2120 Nebraska avenue.

JOHN McFADDEN

Business enterprise at York finds a worthy representative in John McFadden who for over twenty years has been agent for the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad there. He was born in Ireland on the 6th of June, 1865, a son of John and Margaret B. (Conroy) McFadden, also natives of that country. The father's birth occurred in 1834 and he died at the age of fifty-five years, while the mother who was born in 1836 passed away at the age of sixty-two years. They spent their entire lives in Ireland where the father was a blacksmith, making their home at Athlone on the river Shannon. Mr. McFadden was very successful in his line of work and he and his wife were respected citizens of the community in which they resided. They were both consistent members of the Catholic church.

John McFadden received his education in Ireland and in his early youth learned telegraphy. Tales reaching him of the wonderful opportunities offered in the new world he decided to try his fortune in this country with the result that in 1881 he arrived in York county. His previous experience as a telegraph operator had been in connection with his duties in the postoffice as clerk in Ireland and it was his desire to continue the former line of work in this country. He made inquiries into the situation and found that the code was entirely different from the one he had learned and it was therefore necessary for him to master the new one before he could successfully handle a like position in this country. He set to work, soon mastered the new code, and accepted a position with the Burlington Railroad, working at various places. Some time later he entered into the service of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad and was agent at David City for a number of years. In 1900 he came to York where he became agent for the Northwestern and has since held that position. Coming to this country with nothing but the knowledge of telegraphy, a strong determination and a laudable ambition, he has gradually advanced until he is now widely recognized throughout the county as a capable and successful man.

Mr. McFadden has been twice married. In 1893 he was united in marriage to Miss Ora Winters and to them one daughter, Theresa, was born. She is now the wife of Lowell G. Crownover, a civil engineer, and they reside in Bridgeport, Nebraska. Mr. Crownover is employed by the state. In 1895 Mrs. McFadden died and in 1918 Mr. McFadden was again wed, this time to Miss Geraldine Grippen, a native of Illinois. Mrs. McFadden is a member of the Congregational church, in the activities of which she takes a prominent part.

Since age conferred upon Mr. McFadden the right of franchise he has given his allegiance to the republican party which has found in him a staunch advocate.

He has never aspired to political office, however, but has devoted his whole attention to his business interests. Fraternally he is a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having passed through all of the chairs of both orders. He is likewise a prominent and active member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Modern Woodmen of America. He has by reason of his own diligence become financially independent and he owns a half section of some of the finest land in Kimball county. Mr. McFadden is known to be a booster of York and his aid may be counted upon in any movement for the further improvement and development of his community.

CLARENCE F. GEARHART

Clarence F. Gearhart, deceased, was for a number of years prominent in the rural life of York county. He was born in Pennsylvania, a son of Mayberry and Catherine Gearhart, both natives of that state where they spent their entire lives, and there his death occurred.

In the acquirement of an education Clarence F. Gearhart attended the common schools of his native state and after putting his textbooks aside engaged in farming on his father's land. He remained on this farm for several years but when reaching young manhood came to York county and purchased a farm on which he remained for one year, at the end of which time he returned to Pennsylvania. About 1880 he again settled in York county and lived on his farm with his family for three years. This land he purchased at a low price and after cultivation and improvement it was considered one of the finest farms in the county. He raised some full-blooded stock and soon became financially independent. He remained on his farm in York county for three years, at the termination of which time he again returned to Pennsylvania where his death occurred a short time afterward.

Mr. Gearhart was united in marriage to Miss Lessie Bird, a native of Montour county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of William and Jane (Vastine) Bird. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania and lived there until they died. The father was a farmer in that state and a prominent man in his community. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Bird, three of whom are living: Mrs. Gearhart, the widow of the subject of this review; Rufus, a retired farmer residing at Riverside, Pennsylvania; and Howard, who is engaged in the insurance and real estate business in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The Bird family were reared in the faith of the Baptist church and the father was a democrat in politics. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Gearhart two children were born: Minnie, the wife of Elting Mead, a coal man of York; and Magdalene, the wife of G. E. Peterson, a designer for Cusack. After the death of her husband Mrs. Gearhart removed to the home of her daughter in York and remained there for some time. She then bought a nice home at 921 Lincoln avenue and here she now resides. She owns two hundred and seventy-six acres of land and has managed successfully her husband's various business affairs. She has rented the two farms to a Mr. Norman for a year. Mrs. Gearhart has proved to be a woman of much business ability and she is a highly respected citizen in the community. She is a consistent member of the Christian

church and takes an active part in the different church societies. She is likewise a member of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Throughout his entire life Mr. Gearhart was a member of the republican party which found in him a stalwart advocate. His success was the result of his own unaided effort and determination to let no obstacle, however great, obstruct his path.

JAMES M. HYDE

During the years in which James M. Hyde resided in York county he made for himself many friends who recognized his true personal worth, sterling traits of character, industry and integrity. He was a native son of Ireland, his birth having occurred there in 1843 and his death took place in 1887 on his homestead in York county. He was a son of Joe and Margaret (Steven) Hyde, both natives of Ireland where they spent their entire lives.

James M. Hyde received his education in his native country and in 1873 determined to come to the United States with the result that he landed in New York in the latter part of the same year. For some time he was employed in a brewery but in 1880 came to York county where he purchased eighty acres of railroad land in Waco township, later buying an additional eighty acres. His first home on this land was of sod and consisted of one room with board floor and dirt roof. His barn was built of straw. This land he immediately set about to cultivate, breaking it with a horse team, and he also set out a large orchard most of which was later destroyed. There were few of the pioneer hardships of those early days with which he was not familiar. Mr. Hyde had paid the sum of thirteen hundred dollars for one eighty acre tract and seven hundred and eighty dollars for the other and at the time of his death was heavily in debt. This burden then devolved upon the shoulders of his widow who with seven children, the oldest of whom was but seven years old, survived. Mrs. Hyde with grim courage and determination set about to pay off these debts and she offered her services to the neighbors whom she helped shuck corn. Few women are gifted with the resourcefulness of Mrs. Hyde and this in addition to her industry and close application soon enabled her to clear the land of all debts. She is still in possession of the one hundred and sixty acres which is regarded as some of the finest land in the county.

In January, 1876, Mr. Hyde was married in Ireland to Miss Mary McClure and to them seven children were born: Anna, the wife of William Stewart of Waco township; Maggie, who is the wife of James McClure, engaged in dairy farming; Mamy, deceased; James M., who is farming the old home place; John W., who is farming in Cheyenne county; Alexander and Samuel, deceased.

The political allegiance of Mr. Hyde was given to the republican party, in the interests of which he took an active part. Both he and his wife were members of the Presbyterian church of Utica, in which organization Mrs. Hyde still takes a prominent part. Mr. Hyde never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the new world and as a pioneer he contributed toward material upbuilding along agricultural lines. He was known to be a progressive and industrious citizen and ever loyal to American ideals and standards.

E. E. FRANZ

Characterized by a spirit of commercial activity, E. E. Franz has won a place among the substantial and progressive business men of Lushton, York county, where he has operated a store for more than eight years. He was born in Hall county, Nebraska, October 23, 1887, a son of Fred and Rose (George) Franz.

E. E. Franz was reared in York county and received his education in the public schools of the county and lived with his parents until he had attained his majority. He then turned his attention to business pursuits and became engaged as a clerk in a general store at Lushton remaining thus occupied for several years, during this period becoming thoroughly informed in the details of mercantile affairs as transacted in the store from day to day. He accumulated sufficient money to justify him in embarking in business for himself and he purchased as a growing concern the store in which he had been employed and for the past eight years has owned and operated the place with satisfactory financial results, due to his business methods and progressive spirit. Mr. Franz has an up-to-date general store, the business under his direction has been carefully operated, and he has ever recognized the fact that that business is most worthy of support which most carefully safeguards the interests of its customers. He is now fully established in the mercantile life of Lushton.

Mr. Franz was united in marriage in 1909 to Miss May Smith and they have become the parents of two children: Cecil E. and Constantine I. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he has served on the town board for some years, his efforts for civic betterment being actuated by a broad breadth of view intended to secure the greatest good to the greatest number. He and his wife are highly esteemed in the part of the county where they reside and have a circle of friends almost coextensive with their circle of acquaintances. The future career of Mr. Franz bids fair to be one of continued and expanding achievement.

CHARLES HILL

Charles Hill, a retired farmer and landowner of York, was born in York county, England, June 4, 1840, a son of Charles and Mary (Train) Hill, also natives of that county. His father engaged in farming in the old country and there his mother died. In 1851 the father determined to come to the United States, with the result that he sailed from his native land in the same year and on reaching this country settled in Clinton county, Iowa. He purchased land whereon he farmed until 1876 when his death occurred at the age of seventy-six years. Two children had been born to this union of whom Charles Hill, the subject of this review, is the only one living. Mr. Hill gave his allegiance to the republican party and he held various township offices. The paternal grandfather of the subject of this review was Charles Hill and the maternal grandfather Christopher Train.

The early life of Charles Hill was spent in York county, England, where he obtained a part of his education. At the age of eleven years he came to the United States with his father and resided on a farm in Iowa for a number of years. On the outbreak of the Civil war Mr. Hill was among the first to volunteer his services and in August of the year 1861 he joined Company A, Eighth Iowa Infantry. For some months he served with his company when he was discharged because of disability. About six months later, however, on regaining his health he joined Company D, Twenty-sixth Iowa Infantry. He served throughout the remainder of the war in this company and received his final discharge at Washington. Mr. Hill is a veteran of many of the important battles of that war, among them the second battle of Wilson Creek, Pea Ridge, Shiloh, Vicksburg, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, being wounded in this last engagement. For some time he was in a hospital but after his wounds healed sufficiently he again joined his company and participated in the battles of Big Shanty, Atlanta, Marietta, and was with Sherman on his march to the sea. Following the close of the war he removed to York county in the spring of 1870 and acquired a homestead. His first home on this land was indeed primitive for it was nothing more than a dugout. It was some time before he occupied a sod house and his first frame house was not erected until 1878. While in Iowa Mr. Hill's marriage had taken place and in 1875 he and his wife went to Oregon and on the return trip drove from Portland to Nebraska in a wagon which was drawn by two horses and two mules. This trip was made during the Sioux Indian trouble. His homestead in York county he successfully cultivated and improved and suffered but little loss from the droughts and the grasshoppers. Mr. Hill steadily increased his acreage until he now has over two hundred and forty acres of well improved land throughout the county. In 1917 Mr. Hill removed to York and purchased a nice home at 1803 Nebraska avenue where he is now residing having retired from active life. The greater part of his life since coming to the United States has been spent in Nebraska but for nine years he resided at Del Orta, Colorado, where he owned a farm and some town property.

In 1867 in Iowa occurred the marriage of Mr. Hill and Miss Rosanna Echelbarker, a native of Ohio, born in Richland county in 1850. She was a daughter of Jacob and Keziah (Slagel) Echelbarker, the former a native of Ohio while the latter was born in Indiana. They removed to Illinois in 1853 and to Iowa in 1863 where the father followed his trade as carpenter and also engaged in farming. Eleven children have been born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hill, namely: Nellie, the wife of John Anthony, who was formerly a farmer and is now a drayman at Brown's Valley, Missouri; L. D., residing in York county was the first white child born in Lockridge township, York county; C. Wayne, who is engaged in farming near Polk; Melville, who is farming near Polk; O. B., who is farming on his father's farm; Lavina, the wife of George C. Grovesner, who is engaged in stock raising at Aurora; Orlin V., who is living on his father's farm near York; Merlin, farming in York county; May Belle, who is the wife of Floyd Masters, a farmer in Merrick county; Zeta, who is employed in the telephone office at York; and Ava, who resides in Onnaha and is employed in the Union Pacific Telegraph office there. Merlin entered into service in the World war in June, 1917, and went to France with the Rainbow division. He received his training at Camp Lewis

and Camp Kearney and participated in some of the most important battles of the war. He received his discharge in April, 1918.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Hill the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the democratic party in the interests of which he takes an active part and he is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He has always been a staunch advocate of education and good roads and to those ends served as school director and road overseer. Mr. Hill had no financial assistance on starting out in life for himself and has won whatever success he has achieved at the price of earnest, self-denying effort, his record proving what may be accomplished through close application, persistent energy and indefatigable industry.

REV. ANDREW EDWARDS

A life devoted to the welfare and service of his fellowmen has made the memory of Rev. Andrew Edwards revered and honored wherever he was known.

He was born in England October 10, 1828, and died April 7, 1915. His parents passed away in England, in which country the son was reared and educated. On crossing the Atlantic he first settled in Rochester, New York, where he remained for three months and then went to Canada. He attended Victoria College at Coburg, Canada, and was ordained to the ministry of the Wesleyan Methodist church in 1853 and served the church of his choice for thirty-five years. He was liberally educated and had excellent command of the English language, was a brilliant talker, clear thinker and logical reasoner and his utterances never failed to impress those who heard him.

Rev. Andrew Edwards came to York in 1887 and for a number of years was a supply preacher of the Methodist Episcopal church of Nebraska but had practically retired when he came west. On August 1st, 1876, Mr. Edwards was married to Miss Mary Ann McRoberts of Lucan, Canada, a daughter of Charles and Margaret (McLinden) McRoberts, the former born in County Down, Ireland, of Scotch parentage. Mr. and Mrs. McRoberts went to Canada in an early day and he was a successful farmer there. He also was engaged in business as a grain merchant and was a successful live stock dealer. Both he and his wife died in Canada. Of their family of seven children but three are living: Mrs. Edwards; Mrs. W. N. Shaver of St. Johns, North Dakota; and Charles A. McRoberts of Woodstock, Canada. The parents were members of the Canadian Methodist church. By a former marriage to Miss Eleanor Hadwin of Teeswater, Canada, on June 2, 1857, three sons were born to Rev. and Mrs. Edwards, namely: Wesley H. and Case, of the Edwards and Rierdan Company; and Thornton A., of the Salts Textile Manufacturing Company. All three reside in New York.

To the second union were born six children: John C., who is engaged in the millinery business in Portland, Oregon; Hadwin P., who died in infancy; Marion, who is manager of the store of The C. C. Cobb Co. of York, Nebraska; George H., who is interested in the Pacific Hat Company of San Francisco, California; Ethelda, wife of Mansfield Hervey, window decorator and salesman in The Cobb

Co.'s store in York; and James W., who is sales manager of the C. C. Cobb Co. James W. Edwards joined the U. S. Marines in the fall of 1917 and remained in the service for two years, one year's service overseas with the American Expeditionary Force in France.

He went "over the top" and participated in the drive of the Argonne Forest and after the armistice was signed, Nov. 11, 1918, he made the march to the Rhine with the American Forces and served six months with the army of occupation in Germany, returning to the U. S. A. in August, being honorably discharged Aug. 13, 1919.

Rev. and Mrs. Edwards were members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Edwards devoted practically his entire life to the work of the ministry. His political allegiance was given the republican party. He had attained the age of eighty-seven years when "the weary wheels of life at length stood still," but his memory remains as a blessed benediction to many who knew him. Mrs. Edwards now occupies a home at 815 Lincoln avenue, York, Nebraska, where she has resided for many years.

GEORGE ANTHONY BECK

The life record of George Anthony Beck was such as endeared him to all with whom he came in contact and his memory remains as a blessed benediction to those who knew him because of the sterling worth of his character and the high ideals which he ever followed. Christianity was to him a matter of everyday living. His beliefs were exemplified in his life, finding expression in kindness and sympathy toward others, in the fairness of his judgment and in his straightforward dealings in all business transactions. Mr. Beck was born near Ottawa, Illinois, November 11, 1838, and was the second son in a family of six sons and one daughter whose parents were Benjamin J. and Mary Ann (Walrath) Beck, of St. Johnsville, New York. In the year 1837 the parents came to Illinois and were among the earliest settlers in La Salle county. Soon after the birth of their son George they removed to a farm four miles from Plano, in Kendall county, Illinois, and there he was reared to manhood. He was always eager to obtain an education, but the only opportunity accorded him in that direction was in the little country school, which he was able to attend during the winter months when farm work was impossible. He laid a good foundation during these brief school days and with much natural talent developed into a business man of marked ability. From childhood he lived a strictly moral life, and at the age of nineteen he decided to live a religious life. He joined the Methodist church and during his remaining days was untiring in his devotion to his church and to the welfare of his fellowmen, doing everything in his power for their uplift. From young manhood he served his church in different official capacities, acting as superintendent of the Sunday school, as member of the official board and as church treasurer. His home was always open for the entertainment of ministers of the gospel and his great love for the cause of Christ led to his untiring devotion to the work and interests of the church.

Patriotism was also one of the marked characteristics of Mr. Beck, who in October, 1861, responded to the country's call for troops to preserve the Union,

enlisting as a sergeant of Company H, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry, for service in the Civil war. During the first year he was detailed to carry mail in the Ozark mountains of Missouri and on one occasion was thrown from his horse, sustaining a serious injury from which he suffered the remainder of his life. This caused his discharge from the service in September, 1862. He always remained a loyal supporter of the republican party, which was the defense of the Union during the dark days of the Civil war and which he always believed to be the party of reform and progress.

On the 31st of December, 1863, near Plano, Illinois, Mr. Beck was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Elizabeth Tenney, who was born on a farm near Plano, Kendall county, Illinois, February 11, 1842. On her father's side she was descended from Thomas Tenney, a member of Rev. Ezekiel Rogers' company, who came from Yorkshire, England, arriving in Salem, Massachusetts, in December, 1638, and settling at Rowley, Massachusetts, in April, 1639. Her great-grandfather was a member of the Ipswich company of minute men who marched at the memorable alarm of April 19, 1775. Her parents migrated to Illinois from New Hampshire in 1837 by private conveyances—two wagons—the journey requiring three months. The parents of Mrs. Beck were Amos and Hannah (Cass) Tenney. Her mother was a gentlewoman of Scotch descent who reared a family of eleven children, of whom Caroline was the tenth and was the last survivor. She acquired her education in a country school near Plano and in the Jennings Seminary at Aurora, Illinois, and on the 31st of December, 1863, she became the wife of George A. Beck at Plano. She was sixteen years of age when she joined the Congregational church and a few years later she united with the Methodist church, of which she continued a member throughout her remaining days. She possessed a clear soprano voice and in the early days of her residence in York led the singing at many prayer meetings and revivals. She possessed a bright, sunny disposition and a rare charm of personality. She had a genius for home making and was deeply devoted to her family and friends. She was also given to hospitality, and in the pioneer times before trained nurses were available she gave her services freely to nursing the sick of the community. The temperance cause was also a matter of deep interest to Mrs. Beck and her influence was ever on the side of right. From young womanhood she also took an active part in the work of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and gave liberally of her time and means to promote the cause. To Mr. and Mrs. Beck were born six children: Annie H., born February 5, 1865, at Plano, Illinois, was graduated from the York Methodist College in 1886 and afterward assisted her father in the grocery business. In 1889 she secured employment in the county clerk's office, was assistant fifteen years, deputy for ten years and in 1914 was elected to the position of county clerk on the republican ticket, being reelected in 1916. She also served as clerk of the local board during the World war and at the present time is proprietor of the Needlecraft & Music Shop at York; William A. Beck, the second of the family, born September 6, 1869, near Plano, Illinois, was graduated from the York Methodist College in 1886. He married Mertie E. Dale on the 23d of June, 1890, and in November of that year they removed to Denver, Colorado, where he is engaged in the wholesale cigar business. They have two sons: Claude George, a chiropractor of Denver; and Harold Lester, who is associated with his father in business; Julia M., born

December 2, 1873, near Plano, Illinois, also was educated in the York public schools and the York Methodist College. On the 11th of June, 1896, she became the wife of Seymour W. Bissell and in January, 1909, removed to Hastings, Nebraska, where she has since resided with the exception of one year spent in Denver, Colorado; Benjamin J. Beck, the fourth of the family, born January 2, 1875, near York, Nebraska, was graduated from the York high school in 1894 and in 1899 attended the Chicago Art Institute, specializing in designing. He became an instructor in the Chicago Academy of Fine Arts and at present is manager of the designing department of the Charles Everett Johnson Art Service Company of Chicago. On the 26th of December, 1901, he married Magdalene Jones and they had two children: Gazelle Janice, who died in infancy; and George Anthony, his grandfather's namesake; Dwight H. Beck, born August 7, 1877, near York, was graduated from the York high school in 1897. He is now a merchant tailor of Omaha, Nebraska, and is a thirty-second degree Mason. He was married March 18, 1915, to Hazel Wilburn and their two children are Frederick Werne and Dwight Harvey, Jr.; Elsie M. Beck, born November 28, 1878, near York, Nebraska, was graduated from the York high school in 1896, attended the Nebraska Wesleyan University and was a teacher in the public schools of York and University Place. She was later secretary of the Nebraska Industrial Home at Milford, Nebraska, and bookkeeper at the Nebraska Hospital for the Insane at Lincoln. She studied voice under Madame Wave Whitecomb and at the present time is associated with the W. C. Baer Furniture Company.

It was in October, 1873, that Mr. Beck, on account of failing health, sought a new location. He came to York county, which impressed him so favorably that he bought a tract of land and then returned to Illinois. Having decided to make the change, on the 20th of February, 1874, with his wife and three children, he arrived in Fairmont, Nebraska, which was the nearest railroad station to York. The family was detained in Fairmont for several days by a real Nebraska blizzard and on the 24th of February the pioneers came to the little village of York. In the spring a small house was erected on the eighty-acre farm which adjoins York on the west. The change of climate proved so beneficial that Mr. Beck regained his health and for many years successfully followed farming, although in the early days, with other pioneers, he endured crop failures, grasshopper raids, droughts and floods, but as time passed on, the hardships and trials of pioneer life were overcome and he became one of the substantial agriculturists of this section of the state.

While denied the education he so much desired for himself, Mr. Beck was anxious that his children should have better school facilities. He was deeply interested in the founding of the Nebraska Conference Seminary, later the York Methodist College, at York in 1880. He was a trustee of this school from the beginning and gave liberally of his time and money to the enterprise. He believed that the Nebraska Wesleyan University should be at York, but when it was located elsewhere and the York Methodist College closed its doors, his disappointment was so keen that he never recovered from it.

In the later years of his life ill health compelled Mr. Beck to give up active farm work and he engaged in the grocery business, his store being located first where the Y. M. C. A. now stands, while later he removed to the location known as the Wildman building. He established a large grocery trade and his success

enabled him to perform many of the acts of generosity and kindness that characterized his life. He was liberal to a fault and no one was ever turned away from his store empty-handed. He had implicit faith in humanity and never wearied in well doing. In 1888 ill health caused him to retire from active life. His great desire was to live for his family. He made a brave struggle and did not despair of recovery until the day of his death, which occurred October 26, 1889, lacking but a few days of being fifty-one years of age. He battled with disease all his life, but never lost hope. He was a man of faith, full of courage and ambition. The trials incident to pioneer life never vanquished him. He was strong in character, a man of pure speech and clean life, and at his going the unanimous verdict of the community was that if ever a man lived and died a consistent Christian and good citizen, that man was George A. Beck and that he would ever live in memory as an example worthy to be followed. Mrs. Beck survived her husband until February 12, 1920, passing away at her home in York. She and her husband were a staunch influence for good in the early days, when society and opinions here were in the making. They always stood for righteousness, for clean living and the highest ideals and are entitled to a large share of the credit and gratitude due to those who made and kept York clean and temperate.

CHARLES F. MULIG

Charles F. Mulig, now deceased, who for many years was a respected and valued resident of York county, Nebraska, was born in Nova Scotia, October 13, 1840, the son of Charles Mulig, a native of Nova Scotia. The parents afterward came to this country and they passed away in Wisconsin, where their son Charles spent his childhood.

Charles F. Mulig served for three years in the Union army during the Civil war. He received a gunshot wound and though he spent some time in the hospital as a result of it he was not disabled permanently. After he was discharged from the service of his country he moved to Minnesota, where he remained three years and in 1870 came to York county, Nebraska, and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, an allotment which was allowed to Civil war soldiers. His first home was a dugout on the northeast quarter of section 20 of what is now Beaver township. He was a good farmer and constantly made improvements, erecting a fine set of farm buildings which are still standing on the old farm where the widow and son now reside.

He was married in Wisconsin to Miss Josephine Clarke of Maysville, Wisconsin, and to them were born ten children, nine of whom are living. They are: Myrtle, the wife of John Gaylord who resides in New Mexico; Emma, the wife of A. A. Bristol of Omro, Wisconsin; Florence, who is married to Charles J. Zweig of York county; Charles, who is married and lives in York county, Nebraska, and is engaged in the produce business; L. C., who is married and is a resident of Waco, Nebraska; Fred A., who lives in Utica, Nebraska; G. W., who since the death of his father has managed the home farm; Elmer, who is married and resides in De Ridder, Louisiana; and Edna, the wife of Fred J. Strinz who resides in Utica, Nebraska.

G. W. Mulig, who lives with his mother and operates the home place, is a

successful farmer and a man active in public affairs. He is serving his first term as a member of the county board of supervisors.

Charles F. Mulig passed away in September, 1913, leaving to mourn his demise his devoted wife and children and a host of friends and neighbors throughout the community. As one of the earliest of the pioneers of the west he contributed in a marked measure to the development of the district in which he lived and he left the impress of his individuality upon the work of advancement and improvement.

MELVIN O. McLAUGHLIN

Melvin O. McLaughlin, member of congress from the York district since 1918 and prominently known in educational circles throughout the state, was born in Osceola, Iowa, August 8, 1876, his parents being William D. and Risby J. (Creger) McLaughlin, the former a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1848, while the latter was born in Iowa in 1851. They were married in Iowa and lived there for a number of years but are now residents of Oswego, Kansas. In 1884 they removed to Rawlins county, Kansas, where the father purchased a relinquishment and concentrated his efforts and attention upon farming. In early manhood he had followed the profession of school teaching and was county superintendent of schools in Madison county, Iowa. He was a forceful, earnest and eloquent speaker who for many years was very active in politics, engaging extensively in campaign work, but in later years he has concentrated his efforts and attention upon farming. In early manhood he was a soldier of the Civil war, serving in the Thirty-third Wisconsin Regiment for a period of three years, and was with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea. In politics he has always been a republican and in days of peace has been as true and loyal to his country as when he followed the nation's starry banner on the battle fields of the south. He is a representative of one of the old families of Pennsylvania, being a son of Henry McLaughlin, a native of the Keystone state who removed to St. Charles, Iowa, where he followed farming to the time of his death. The maternal grandfather of Melvin O. McLaughlin was John Creger, who was born in Ohio, and he, too, became a farmer of Iowa, in which state he also engaged in preaching as minister of the Christian church.

Melvin O. McLaughlin was the third in order of birth in a family of seven children of whom six are living, but he is the only one residing in York county. He pursued his education in College View high school at Lincoln, Nebraska, in the Lincoln Normal University and at different periods studied in Peru, Nebraska, in Osceola, Iowa, and in the Union Biblical Seminary of Ohio. He was in school much of the time till thirty-two years of age, constantly broadening his knowledge along various lines. He studied law under Hugh Myers of Omaha and for five years in early manhood he taught school through the winter months, while in the summer seasons he continued his own education. He left the parental roof in 1892 and started out in life without capital, employing various means of obtaining a livelihood and educating himself. After teaching for five years he entered the ministry of the United Brethren church and was the organizer of a church of that denomination at Omaha, Nebraska, in the spring of 1907, remaining there as minister for six years. In 1913 he came to York and accepted the presidency of York

College, remaining at the head of this institution until elected to congress in 1918. He served during his last two years' connection with York College without pay, for the war was then in progress and he made this contribution to the educational development of the community.

On the 4th of August, 1897, Mr. McLaughlin was married to Miss Elma Pierson, who was born in Illinois, a daughter of Justin and Elizabeth (Bedell) Pierson, who removed to Lancaster county in early life and there now make their home. The father is a farmer, having always given his attention to the tilling of the soil. To Mr. and Mrs. McLaughlin have been born four children: Esther, who is attending the Colonial School for Girls in Washington, D. C.; Ruth, also in school in Washington; John Hale, five years of age; and Paul P., a little lad of two summers.

Both Mr. and Mrs. McLaughlin are members of the United Brethren church and he is a Knights Templar Mason and member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. He devotes his entire time at the present to his congressional duties and in the fall of 1920 was reelected by a majority of fourteen thousand. He has always been active in politics but never sought office until a candidate for congress and during his first term made a splendid record, being a most forcible, earnest and convincing speaker and actuated at all times by patriotic devotion to duty.

MARION KING

Another man of York county who may lay claim to the proud American title of self-made man is Marion King who since 1914 has been superintendent of the poor farm. He is a native son of Iowa, born in Clarke county on the 17th of September, 1869, a son of T. J. and Mary F. (Majors) King. Both parents were born in Kentucky and were married in Illinois to which state they had come with their parents in early youth. The father engaged in farming and in 1888 removed to Nebraska and farmed in Saline county for some time. He has a farm in Kansas but for the most part lives with his son in York county. The mother passed away in October, 1909. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. King five children were born, four of whom are living: J. W., who resides in Louisiana and is engaged in the horse and mule business; Oliver, who works for the Burlington railroad and lives in Iowa; Marion, the subject of this review; and Malinda, the wife of Otis Derry, a farmer in Kansas. The King family were reared in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. King gives his allegiance to the democratic party.

In the acquirement of his education Marion King attended the country schools of his native county and in due time was graduated from the Osceola high school. After putting his textbooks aside he engaged in farming, which occupation he has followed for the greater part of his life. In 1909 he came to York county and engaged in the grain business at Houston and Thayer, continuing in this successful venture for a period of eight years. In 1914 he was made superintendent of the poor farm and to this work he devotes his entire time. He has considerable land in Texas and Louisiana and is financially independent.

In the fall of 1895 Mr. King was united in marriage to Miss Mary Farquhar-

sen, a native of Canada and a daughter of Henry Farquharsen. Her father was born in Scotland, emigrated to this country in an early day and was one of the pioneer farmers of Saline county. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. King two children have been born: Lena, the wife of Robert McDonald who is in the restaurant business in York; and Georgia, a stenographer in York. The King family are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mrs. King and the youngest daughter are prominent in the affairs of that organization.

Since age conferred upon Mr. King the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the democratic party and is well versed on all of the questions and issues of the day. Fraternally he is junior warden of the A. F. & A. M. and he has passed through all the chairs in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is likewise a Modern Woodman. Mr. King's life has been an active, busy, and useful one and he enjoys to the fullest extent the confidence and good will of those with whom he comes in contact.

JAMES E. HART

James E. Hart of Lincoln, who is secretary of the department of trade and commerce and chief of the bureau of banking of the state, received his appointment from Gov. McKelvey, and in 1919 resigned his position as president of the City National Bank of York to take up this work. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1864, a son of John D. and Nancy (Lowery) Hart, both natives of that state. The father engaged in farming, and lived and died on the farm where his birth occurred. He was born in 1818 and died at the advanced age of seventy-five years. Mrs. Hart was born in 1823 and passed away in 1907. They were members of the United Presbyterian church and always took an active part in the affairs of that organization. Seven children were born to this union, four of whom are living. James E., the subject of this sketch being the only one of the family residing in Nebraska. John D. Hart was a staunch supporter of the republican party, although he neither sought nor desired public office. He was a member of the state militia and during Lee's raid in Pennsylvania was called into active service. His father, or the grandfather of James E. Hart, came with his parents to the United States from Scotland and settled in Pennsylvania at an early day. He engaged in business there on reaching manhood and spent the balance of his life in Pennsylvania, becoming a prominent resident of the community in which he lived.

James E. Hart attended the public schools of Pennsylvania and in due time entered the State Normal School where he completed his education. For the three years following he taught school in Pennsylvania and in 1884 removed to Gage county, Nebraska, where he continued to teach for one term. He then discontinued teaching and accepted a clerkship in a store for a period of two years. At the termination of this time he removed to Gove, Kansas, and entered into the employ of the bank there as cashier. For three years he remained in that capacity, or until 1890, when he came to York county, hoping to improve his health which had been impaired by the close confinement of teaching. His experience as cashier in the Kansas bank stood him in good stead and as he was also a bookkeeper he soon obtained a like position at Gresham, where he located. He was one of the organ-

izers of the bank originally known as the Farmers and Merchants Bank which was later merged into the First National Bank. For twenty-six years he was cashier of this bank, conducting his affairs to the entire satisfaction of the bank and its patrons. In 1916 he removed to York where he accepted the position of cashier in the City National Bank and on the death of Mr. Childs, who was president of this institution, succeeded to his position. He resigned, however, in June, 1919, to become secretary of the department of trade and commerce and chief of the bureau of banking, to which he had been appointed by Gov. McKelvey. Mr. Hart has forty people working under him in this state office and also has supervision over the bank department of the state, administration of the blue sky law and hail insurance. He is also custodian of about seven hundred thousands dollars in securities.

In 1891 Mr. Hart was united in marriage to Miss Louise Hoth, who was born near Gresham and whose father had acquired a homestead in York county. Two children have been born to this union, namely: Ellis B., who is employed at the Stock Yards National Bank in Denver; and Esther L., who is an employe of the First National Trust Company at Lincoln.

Mr. Hart is a member of the republican party and has never been very active in politics. His present position is the only public position to which he has ever been appointed, but he was elected to the State legislature from York county in 1907, serving one term. He is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and a past master of the order. He is also a member of the Odd Fellows, has been through all the chairs of the order and has represented both orders in the Grand Lodge. Mr. Hart is a member of the Presbyterian church and his wife is a member of the Christian Science church. Mr. Hart is recognized as a man of sterling character and his activity has made him a leading citizen of Lincoln where the intelligent direction of his labors has wrought good results in both the attainment of individual success and the advancement of public welfare.

REV. THOMAS CULLEN

For thirty years Rev. Thomas Cullen has with zeal and earnestness devoted himself to the work of upbuilding St. Joseph's church at York. He assumed his present pastorate on the 5th of November, 1890, and through the intervening period has worked most zealously, endearing himself to the people and accomplishing great good among his parishioners. A native of Ireland he was born in Camderry, Glenfarm, in Connty Leitrim, Ireland, on the 9th of August, 1855, his parents being Michael and Katherine (McDermott) Cullen, both of whom were natives of the same county and there remained until called to their final rest. The father, who was a successful farmer, passed away in 1892 while the mother survived until 1915. They were married in 1852 and became the parents of five children, three of whom are living: Rev. Thomas Cullen, of this review; Mrs. John Gallaher, who resides in Ireland; and Mrs. Sarah Ann McGowan, who makes her home at Manor Hamilton in Ireland.

In the acquirement of his education Father Cullen attended the St. Patrick College at Cavan, Ireland, and in 1884, having qualified for the priesthood, was

ordained at Quebec, Canada. His first charge was at Fremont, Nebraska, and from there he went to O'Neill where he remained for seven months. The first mission of which he had charge was at McCook, his labors there continuing for five years and eight months. On the 5th of November, 1890, Father Cullen came to York, having been assigned to the pastorate of St. Joseph's church, in which he has since continued. Under his guidance and leadership the church has steadily grown and its membership now numbers one hundred and fifty families. The convent and school are continually progressing under his supervision and he has reason to be proud of their high standing in the community. Rev. Mr. Cullen is also the chaplain of the Knights of Columbus council in the work of which he takes active part.

While maintaining an independent attitude in politics, he is perhaps more in sympathy with republican principles and he regards it as the duty of a public-spirited citizen to keep well informed on the questions and issues of the day and to support his convictions at the polls. With singleness of purpose he has devoted his life to the service of the church and he is a man of resolute will who never falls short of the accomplishment of any task to which he sets himself. Those who know Father Cullen—and he has a wide acquaintance—entertain for him the highest regard and his fellow townsmen are proud to be numbered among his friends. A testimonial of the regard of his parishioners was tendered him on the 5th of November, 1920, at the close of a pastorate of thirty years, when a banquet was held in his honor and he was presented with a fine gold-headed cane in token of the esteem entertained for him. One of the local papers on that occasion said: "When Father Cullen came to this pastorate the new church was just begun. Under his fostering care the membership has increased in number until now it is one of the best parishes in the Lincoln diocese. Father Cullen by his gentle demeanor, his unostentatious adherence to the faith, and his example in right thought and living, has won the love and confidence of his flock and the sincere respect of the entire community." In the addresses made on that occasion many words of praise and of hearty appreciation were spoken by young men and old, some of whom he had baptized into the church and who had grown to manhood under his spiritual guidance. Throughout his connection with the church at York Father Cullen has taken but one real vacation and that when he spent a few months at his old home in Ireland with his loved mother, who has since passed away. Returning, he resumed his duties and the York Catholic church has certainly prospered under his guidance. An attractive meal, beautiful music and rare flowers added to the joy of the occasion at the banquet held in his honor and never to be forgotten were the words of sincere and heartfelt appreciation of his life and labors spoken by those with whom he has been so closely associated in spiritual work through long years.

JOSEPH A. JACOBS

Joseph A. Jacobs, real estate and insurance man of York, was born in Nemaha county, Kansas, on the 8th of September, 1873. His parents were Henry and Mariah (Kerns) Jacobs, the former born near St. Louis, Missouri, and the latter also a native of Missouri. Their marriage took place in Jefferson county, that

state. When the Civil war broke out Mr. Jacobs enlisted in the Eighth Missouri Regiment with which he served for one hundred days, at the termination of which time he re-enlisted in a Kansas regiment and served until the end of the war. He participated in several of the hard fought battles of the war but was never wounded. As a result of his exposure, however, he suffered from varicose veins and eventually this caused his death. For many years he followed the occupation of farmer but in 1897 sold his land in Kansas and removed to York where his death occurred in 1907. His widow survived him for twelve years, her death taking place on the 19th of December, 1919. Mr. Jacobs had been reared in the Lutheran faith and was a member of the United Brethren church of York, as was his wife, although she was formerly a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church. They were the parents of five children: B. Frank, who is an attorney in Tacoma, Washington; Mrs. D. M. Edgerton who resides on a farm in Rulo; L. H., who is a farmer and dairyman of Kamilche, Washington; Joseph A., the subject of this sketch; and G. M., who is superintendent of agencies of the Northern Life Insurance Company at Seattle, Washington.

In the acquirement of an education Joseph A. Jacobs attended the Campbell University at Holton, Kansas, from which he was graduated in 1894. He then taught school in Kansas for some time and in 1900 came to York to accept a position as teacher in the college. Subsequently he and his brother started a business college which they ran for one year, at the end of which time Joseph A. Jacobs sold out to his brother. He completed a law course at Pawnee City, Kansas, under Storey & Storey in 1908, but never applied for admission to the bar and has never practiced. His knowledge of law, however, is a big factor in the real estate business in which he has been engaged since October, 1905, and he is known throughout the county as being always fair and honest in his dealings. In addition to his real estate business he handles some fire insurance.

In March of the year 1896 Mr. Jacobs was united in marriage to Miss Sadie Rogers, who was a native of Pawnee county. Politically Mr. Jacobs has been a staunch supporter of the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise and fraternally he is a Knight Templar, Thirty-second degree Mason and Shriner. He is also a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and both he and his wife are members of the Order of the Eastern Star. He was master of York Lodge in 1911. Although most of his time is devoted to the conduct of his business he is not unmindful of the social amenities of life and to that end is an active member of the York Country Club. The life of Mr. Jacobs has been commendable in every relation and he enjoys an enviable reputation in both the business and the social circles of his community.

J. E. PREST

J. E. Prest was a native of the Empire state, and was born at Andover, Allegany county, New York, February 19, 1849, a son of Richard and Harriet (Kemp) Prest, also natives of New York, who moved to Dodge county, Wisconsin, when their son was sixteen years old. Twenty-one years later they became residents of

Martin county, Minnesota, and in 1884 came to York county where they spent the remainder of their days.

J. E. Prest was reared in New York, Wisconsin and Minnesota where he was always associated with his father, being a very devoted son. After he married he and his wife made their home with his father, and the father and son purchased one hundred sixty acres of land in McFadden township which they improved and cultivated.

December 23, 1869, in Martin county, Minnesota, Mr. Prest was married to Miss Clara B. Smith, the daughter of Jeremiah and Susannah (Seamen) Smith. The mother of Mrs. Prest died when the daughter was a child. The father went to Martin county, Minnesota, where he became a homesteader and where he spent nine years of his life, then returned to Pennsylvania.

Mr. and Mrs. Prest became the parents of the following children: Ruth, the wife of Alva Valentine, of Buffalo county, Nebraska; Harriet S., married Rev. M. E. Bollen, and resides in Walla Walla, Washington; J. E., a physician of Lushton, Nebraska; Edith, at home; Clara B., the wife of C. R. Davis, of Lincoln, Nebraska; Lura, assistant principal of schools at Ekalaka, Montana; James R., married and farming the home place; and Percy J., at home.

Mr. Prest was a member of the Methodist church, having been converted and joined church at the age of eighteen. In politics he was a republican and served as a member of the school board of his district. His death occurred January 23, 1904, leaving to mourn his loss a devoted wife, his sorrowing children and many friends throughout the community.

GEORGE I. MYERS

George I. Myers, a resident farmer of York county who is engaged in farming and stock raising, is a native son of the county, born July 17, 1882, a son of Riley and Melissa (Darling) Myers, the former a native of Indiana while the latter was born in Illinois. George Myers, grandfather of our subject, was the first of the family to settle in the county. He came here in 1871 accompanied by his son, Riley, and took a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres to which he had acquired a right through service in the Civil war, from which he was veteranized. The first house in which they lived was built of sod and they contrived to be satisfied with that accommodation until better times arrived. At the period when George Myers settled in the county there was no house nor business place in York and all goods and household requirements had to be hauled from Seward and Central City. When making the journey into Nebraska he came overland with a team of horses and oxen, the other members of the family also using that method of transportation. During the grasshopper plague he lost everything and was compelled to make a fresh start, which he did with characteristic energy and in addition to the planting of crops set out large groves of trees and planted an orchard. He lived to see his efforts and ambitions brought to fruition and died honored and respected throughout the district, at the date of his passing being seventy-two years old.

Riley Myers, father of the subject of this sketch, was educated in the common

schools of York county, the schoolhouses in those days being built of sod and without any of the equipment of the present day for the instruction of pupils. After helping his father for a time he purchased a tract of land for his own cultivation and for several years carried on general farming and stock raising. He worked hard and met with a good measure of success in his agricultural operations. He reached prosperity through his own efforts and finally found himself in a position to retire, when he moved to Aurora where he died in 1916, being then in his sixty-eighth year. He was a member of the United Brethren church at Harmony and was one of the prime movers in having the church building erected. His wife is still living in Aurora, now aged sixty-seven years. They were the parents of the following children: James, of Arcadia, a farmer; John, of Bradshaw, foreman at the elevator; Verne, living in Waterloo, engaged in insurance; George L., on the old home farm; David, residing in Aurora; Earl, living in Hastings; Walter, a farmer, of York county; Joseph, living in Broken Bow; Charles, residing near Aurora; Nettie, wife of C. M. Kelly of Scottsbluff, Nebraska; Sadie, wife of Harry Cox of Burwell; and Virginia, wife of Ralph Tivis of Aurora, Nebraska. Riley Myers gave his political support to the democratic party and in all community matters he took a practical interest.

George L. Myers was reared in his father's home and received his education in the public schools of York. He helped his father in the operations of the home farm and at the age of twenty-three started on his own account by renting land which he worked until 1917 when he bought his grandfather's old homestead farm. He now resides in a home erected on the site of the first house put up by his grandfather. He is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising and feeding cattle for the market, in the latter line his produce finding a ready market and good prices. In all his business career he has shown ready adaptability and resourcefulness combined with energy and enterprise and whatever he has undertaken he has carried forward to successful completion, being regarded in his district as a worthy successor to his father and grandfather.

In 1904 Mr. Myers was united in marriage to Minnie Bowers, born in York county, a daughter of George Bowers, a well known resident of the county. They are members of the United Brethren church and are liberal contributors to its upkeep. They are ever ready to endorse those plans and measures which tend to uplift the individual or uphold the betterment of the community at large. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and in politics votes an independent ticket. In addition to his activities on the farm he is also interested in the Farmers Elevator at Bradshaw and in the Farmers Co-operative Association at Bradshaw, in the business affairs of which he takes a deep interest.

ISAAC N. VAN ALEN

After a useful and well spent life Isaac N. Van Alen passed away on June 24, 1919, honored and respected by all who knew him. He was a native of the great Empire state, born in Buffalo, March 13, 1854, a son of Peter I. and Wilhelmina (Vandenburg) Van Alen, the former born in New York state and the latter a native of Holland, both of whom passed away many years ago.

Isaac N. Van Alen was educated in the schools of Buffalo and lived with his parents for some years thereafter. Later he removed to Michigan and there found employment as a shipping clerk with a railroad company, remaining in that line for two years. In 1882 he went to South Dakota and took a homestead near Oneida and on that holding proved up and farmed for some years. While living in South Dakota in 1886 he met and married Fannie L. Tagg, a native of Portland, Wisconsin, whose parents had moved to South Dakota some years before. Mr. Van Alen in addition to the demands of his own farm also superintended the work of the Tagg place for a time and continued thus engaged until 1889, when he and his family moved to York county and located in Waco. In the latter town he became connected with the elevator then operated by W. G. King with whom he remained for a time, next working in a grocery store and then going into the implement business with T. C. Tagg.

Having a desire to return to farm life Mr. Van Alen bought eighty acres of land near Waco and resumed farming, but the dry seasons of the early 90's proved so disastrous to farmers in that neighborhood that he was compelled to relinquish the place. Later he rented land, finally giving up residence in the Waco district and moving to Gresham in 1909 where he bought twenty acres of land. On this holding he built a fine house, brought the place to a condition of excellent improvement and farmed for a while, raising a large quantity of alfalfa and engaging in the dairy business. He did not, however, live long to enjoy his new environment, as death called him on June 24, 1919. His character was of a kind that contributed in marked measure to the substantial and moral development of the community. He was an earnest member of the Presbyterian church and was liberal in his contributions to its upkeep. He gave his political support to the republican party but had never been a seeker after public office. Mr. Van Alen and his wife became the parents of two children: Ethel, who married W. W. Davidson, of Gresham; and Hazel, the wife of A. J. Wray, of Sioux City, Iowa, engaged in the implement business.

W. W. Davidson, deceased, was a son of William Davidson, was born in York county in 1889 and educated in the public schools of the county, after which he became a farmer. He was married at Gresham in 1913 to Ethel Van Alen and died on April 7, 1919. He spent his active life at general farming and gave special attention to the breeding of Polled Durham cattle. Two children were born to their union: Lloyd Van Alen and Willard Stanley, both living with their widowed mother at Gresham. Mr. Davidson voted the democratic ticket and was a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Royal Highlanders. He was a man of much promise who had made many and ardent friends by his uncompromising integrity and sincerity of purpose in all the relations of life.

ROBERT R. COPSEY

Robert R. Copsey has been a prominent figure in financial circles in York for a number of years and his capability in recognizing and utilizing opportunities has been a strong feature in his growing success. He is one of York county's native sons, having been born here on the 20th of September, 1872, the son of Edward D.

and Jennie (Henderson) Copsey, mention of whom is made on another page of this work.

In the acquirement of his education Mr. Copsey attended the country schools of the county and having been duly prepared entered the Fremont Normal College from which he was graduated. With the exception of the years in which he attended school he lived on a farm until he was nineteen years of age, at which time he started out into the world on his own account. He removed to York and for three years worked in the City National Bank, resigning that position to become county treasurer. He served in that capacity from 1906 to 1910 and then engaged in the real estate business for a short time. In 1911 he again entered the employ of a bank, becoming connected with the First National Bank. He made steady advances in this connection and soon became vice president of the bank, a position which he now holds. He is also secretary of the First National Bank and is vice president and secretary of the First Trust Company. The financial interests of Mr. Copsey are not confined to York for he is vice president and director of the banks at Lushton and Thayer and is director of the First National Bank of Bradshaw and the Blue River Bank at McCool. The prominence of Mr. Copsey in financial circles is made manifest by his connection with these various banks and the success which he now enjoys is the result of his own unaided effort.

On the 1st of October, 1895, Mr. Copsey was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Wangerien, a native of Cleveland, Ohio. Her father, A. Wangerien, removed from Ohio to Vining, Kansas, where he still resides, a well-to-do grain dealer and miller. Mr. and Mrs. Copsey have become the parents of two children: Ruth, who is a graduate of the York high school and is now a sophomore in the University of Nebraska; and Marion, who has attended York high school, St. Mary's school near Galesburg, Illinois, and the Forrest Grove school in Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Copsey and daughters are consistent members of the Congregational church and are active in its interests.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Copsey the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party in the interests of which he has been very active. He has taken a deep interest in all civic questions and has served as a member of the city council. Fraternally he is a Mason, a Knight of Pythias, and a Knight Templar. The life of Mr. Copsey has been characterized by an orderly progression that has resulted from untiring efforts, indefatigable energy and close application. In all of his business affairs he seems readily to discriminate between the essential and the non-essential and discarding the latter so utilizes the former that he seems to accomplish at any point in his career the utmost possibilities for successful accomplishment at that point.

CHARLES E. SANDALL

Among the prominent lawyers of York county is Charles E. Sandall whose ability stands the practical test of the work of the courts and whose enviable reputation is based upon what he has actually accomplished. He is senior partner of the firm of Sandall & Wray and they have one of the largest and most lucrative practices in the county.

Charles E. Sandall was born on his father's homestead three miles west of York county on the 13th of January, 1876, a son of Andrew L. and Matilda (Kaliff) Sandall, both natives of Sweden, the former coming to York county in 1871 and the latter coming with her parents in 1873. It was here that they met and were married, settling on the homestead acquired by Mr. Sandall which consisted of a section of well improved land. In 1912 they removed to York and the following year Mr. Sandall retired from active business life. Three years after coming to York he suffered the loss of his wife whose death occurred in 1915. Mr. Sandall is now retired and living in York where one of his daughters keeps house for him. He is a devout member of the Lutheran church and a republican in politics. He has served in the state legislature for two sessions and has also held different local and township offices. The father of Andrew L. Sandall was John Z. Sandall who was a farmer in Iowa and later removed to York county where his death occurred. The maternal grandfather of Charles E. Sandall, John Kaliff, settled in York county in the early days and homesteaded a farm of eighty acres on which he resided until his death. Charles E. Sandall is the second in a family of twelve children, all of whom are living but one: Eldora, the oldest member of the family, is the wife of Charles C. Moline, a farmer of York county; Charles E., the subject of this review; Ida, the wife of E. A. Peterson, a merchant of Olds, Iowa; Mabel, the wife of Osear Olson, who is a merchant of Olds, Iowa; Maggie, who married J. E. Peterson, a farmer of York county; Robert F., a lawyer in Seattle, Washington; Martin H., who resides on the old homestead; Selma, wife of L. P. Reger, district agent for the Ancient Order of the United Workmen of Iowa; Adelia, the wife of F. A. Johnson, a farmer of York county; Enda, married L. Morgan, a farmer and stock raiser of Olds, Iowa; Helen, at home with the father. John Chester Sandall, the youngest, entered the service of the United States in the World war in 1917 at Montgomery, Alabama, joining the Thirty-seventh division. He went overseas as the private secretary of General C. S. Farnsworth and died as results of the influenza on the 28th of October, 1918, at Bourbourg, France.

In the acquirement of an education Charles E. Sandall attended the country schools of York county and in due time attended the York College where he completed a four years' course. He decided on law as his chosen profession and attended the law department of the University of Michigan from which he was graduated in 1904. He began practice in York and has so continued. In the conducting of his profession Mr. Sandall has formed three partnerships, the first being with C. N. White, the second with J. W. Purinton, and the third with A. G. Wray. This last partnership was formed in 1914 with Mr. Sandall as the senior partner and has continued. They are both lawyers of ability and have built up a large and steady patronage due to their fair and honorable methods in the conduct of their cases.

Mr. Sandall was married in 1905 to Miss Marie Romsdal, a native of York county and the daughter of John Romsdal, a pioneer farmer of that county who is now retired and living in California. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Sandall six children have been born: Mildred Marie, a junior in high school; Ruth Bine, a junior in high school; Esther Del, in school; Marion Elizabeth; Charles E. Jr.; and John Chester. The family are members of the Presbyterian church.

Since age conferred upon Mr. Sandall the right of franchise he has been a staunch supporter of the republican party, in the interests of which he has been

very active. He has held several public offices, the first being the office of county attorney which he held for three terms. He then served as state senator for two terms and was appointed by the supreme court as a member of the preliminary survey committee for the state constitutional convention. He was a delegate-at-large to the last republican convention, and though he has spent a great deal of his time in the interests of his party he has devoted the most of it to his chosen profession. He is the owner of a fine farm in York county and is a member of the Country Club. Mr. Sandall is admitted to practice in all courts, in the state, supreme and the federal courts, and as a result the firm of Sandall & Wray has one of the largest clientages in the county.

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