

with his parents, who settled in Winneshiek county, Iowa, the Zahasky family being among the earliest of the pioneers in that section of the state. Following his marriage Frank Zahasky settled on a farm in Winneshiek county, where he continued to reside until about 1879, when he removed to the farm upon which his son Adolf now lives. He was quite successful in the conduct of his business affairs, was recognized as a good manager and a progressive, enterprising and industrious agriculturist, and as the years passed he acquired four hundred acres of land, thus leaving his family in comfortable financial circumstances when, on the 2d of May, 1905, .at the age of fifty-eight years, he passed away. His widow is still living and resides at her own. home in Utica township.

Adolf Zahasky was educated in the district schools and in the Bohemian school of Protivin. In October, 1908, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Klimesh. a daughter of Frank J. Klimesh, an implement dealer and one of the leading business men of Protivin, who is mentioned at length on another page of this work.

In the spring of 1909 Mr. Zahasky began farming on his own account on the old homestead, having inherited one hundred and sixty acres of this land after his father's death. He also owns twenty acres on section 3, Utica township, and he has the reputation of being one of the best farmers in the township. His methods are at once practical and progressive. He rotates his crops, keeps his land in excellent condition and studies the nature of the soil. He is careful not to exhaust his fields through over-cultivation and by reason of his sound judgment in business matters is meeting with well-deserved success. An important feature of his business is stock raising and he makes a specialty of the breeding of Poland China hogs and thoroughbred black polled cattle, which are eligible to registry.

To Mr. and Mrs. Zahasky have been born four children, namely: Beatrix, Edwin, Majella and Emil. The family are communicants of the Catholic church. In politics Mr. Zahasky is a democrat and for two years he served as a member of the school board but otherwise has not sought nor filled public office. His time and attention are concentrated upon his farm work and in the management of his property he displays his sound judgment and progressive spirit.

J. J. Irvin

J. J. Irvin is the owner of an excellent farm property situated on section 2, Afton township, Howard county. His place comprises one hundred and sixty acres of land, which is divided into fields of convenient size that produce substantial harvests annually. It was upon this farm that J. J. Irvin was born on the 30th of May, 1888, his parents being Joseph and Diana Irvin, who came from Pennsylvania, having previously lived in the vicinity of Erie. On removing to Iowa they settled in Afton township, Howard county, and took up their abode fifty years ago upon what has since been known as the Irvin homestead. They were among the earliest of the pioneers of the township and met all of the hardships and privations incident to the settlement of the frontier. With characteristic energy the father bent his efforts to the cultivation and improvement of the land, which was a wild tract when it came into his possession. For a long period he continued to till the soil but about twenty-three years ago left the farm and rented the property for ten or twelve years. The father passed away November 20, 1918, and in his death the community lost one of the representative citizens and pioneer men of Howard county. He was a republican in politics and at one time was the republican nominee for the position of representative in the general assembly but lost the election by a small vote. In public affairs he was keenly and deeply interested and gave his hearty aid and cooperation to all plans and projects for the general good. For only a brief period he survived his wife, her death occurring on the 18th of November, 1917.

J. J. Irvin of this review spent his youthful days under the parental roof and obtained a public school education. In the summer months he worked in the fields and thus early became well qualified to take up farming on his own account. In the spring