

Brown have been born five children but they lost their eldest, Nellie, at the age of eighteen years. The others are: Mike, who is a dealer in hogs and wool; Louis, who was stationed at Camp Dodge with the Field Artillery for ten months; Peter A., who is now serving a four years' term in the United States navy; and Mary M.

The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church and they belong to the parish at Elma. In politics Mr. Brown is a democrat, having given staunch support to the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He served as school director for three or four years and is regarded as one of the substantial and valued citizens of the community in which he has made his home for more than forty-four years. He has therefore witnessed much of the development and progress of this section of the state and has contributed in no small measure to the advancement of the county along agricultural lines.

M. H. JONES.

An outstanding figure in Lime Springs is M. H. Jones, who is now filling the office of mayor and who is actively connected with its commercial interests as a dealer in agricultural implements and hardware. Business enterprise and progressiveness in citizenship have brought him to the front and at all times his labors have been of a valuable character to the community. Mr. Jones was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, on the 6th of January, 1868, and is a son of Hugh T. and Elizabeth (Pritchard) Jones, both of whom were natives of Anglesey, North Wales, where they were reared and married. Immediately thereafter they came to the new world, seeking the opportunities offered on this side of the Atlantic. They arrived in America just after the close of the Civil war and for two years were residents of Wisconsin. In April, 1868, they removed to Howard county, Iowa, and for several years the father cultivated rented land, during which time he carefully saved his earnings until the sum was sufficient to enable him to purchase a farm. He became owner of what is known as "the old Cook homestead," two miles west of Lime Springs, and year after year he carefully cultivated his fields and by his progressive methods enhanced the productiveness of the place. His wife passed away there about 1896, but the father continued to reside upon the farm until 1912, when he retired from active business life and removed to Lime Springs. In 1914 he started on a visit to his native land and was on the ocean when the European war broke out. He remained in Wales for a year and then returned by way of Canada to escape trouble, but the ship was chased by a German gunboat. However, it managed to elude its pursuer and Mr. Jones in time reached home in safety. However, he passed away six weeks later, being then seventy-three years of age.

M. H. Jones is indebted to the public schools of Lime Springs for the educational advantages he enjoyed in his youth. He had a sister who died at the age of eighteen years, and as he has never married, he has not a relative in the world that he has ever seen. As a young man he assisted largely in the work of clearing the old home farm and grubbing up the stumps and on reaching his majority he took charge of the farm work. He made a specialty of raising thoroughbred shorthorn cattle for many years and developed one of the finest herds in the county. Year after year he carefully and profitably cultivated his fields and conducted his live stock interests until 1912, when he removed to Lime Springs with his father. Three years prior to the establishment of their home in the town he had engaged in the implement and hardware business at Lime Springs, purchasing the store of J. F. Moore, who had conducted business here for twenty-eight years. During the three years in which he remained upon the farm Mr. Jones drove back and forth each day to his business. After his removal to the town he continued to operate the farm until 1915, when he sold the property. The same year he admitted W. O. Davis to a partnership in his mercantile business, under the firm style of Jones & Davis, and they began the erection of a modern business block which is today one of the best commercial houses in Lime Springs.