

also in South Dakota. He made an excellent record as an educator, imparting clearly and readily to others the knowledge that he had acquired, and later he was elected county superintendent of schools in Day county, South Dakota. He abandoned the profession of teaching in 1895, however, and took up the study of law, having two brothers who were members of the bar, practicing in Cresco. He entered their office and subsequently became a student in the law department of Drake University at Des Moines, there pursuing his studies until admitted to the bar in 1899. He returned to Cresco, where he began active practice, and in the intervening twenty years has built up a large clientage in Howard county.

In 1885 Mr. Barker was married to Miss Ada Galloway, of Day county, South Dakota, who had been a schoolmate of his in the Cresco high school. She, too, was identified for several years with educational work and was teaching in Day county, South Dakota, at the time of their marriage. They have become the parents of three children: Irene, the wife of Cloyd Lybarker of Lake Helen, Florida; Mattie C., overseer of the bookkeeping department of the St. Paul Gas & Electric Light Company; and McKinley, living in Cresco.

In politics Mr. Barker is a republican and is deeply interested in the vital questions and issues of the day. He has several times been called to public office and is now a member of the county board on insanity and is serving for the third term as mayor of his city, to which he is giving a most businesslike and progressive administration that has resulted in bringing about various needed reforms and improvements. He earnestly seeks the welfare of the community and his efforts are far-reaching and resultant. Fraternally he is connected with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and both within and without the organization he has many warm friends.

TOLLEF C. BRATRUD.

While, thirteen years have been added to the cycle of the centuries since Tollef C. Bratrud passed away, he is yet remembered by many of the citizens of Chester and of Howard county and his memory is cherished by those who knew him because of the prominent place which he occupied in the community, because of his kindly spirit and his loyalty to every interest which he espoused. He was born near Pilot Mound, Fillmore county, Minnesota, on the 28th of August, 1861, and in the acquirement of his education attended St. Olaf College at Northfield, Minnesota. He afterward became a student in a business college at La Crosse, Wisconsin, and was thus well qualified for life's practical and responsible duties. For several years he worked with S. C. Lobdill at Spring Valley and there learned the tinner's trade. Following his marriage he removed to Preston, Minnesota, where he established a hardware store that he conducted successfully until 1890, in which year he became a resident of Chester, Iowa. Here he opened a hardware store and lumberyard. The town was then a little village and his business activity and enterprise contributed to its steady and substantial growth. In all business affairs he was thoroughly reliable, honesty and industry being among his marked characteristics. He never was afraid of hard work and his diligence also contributed to his success.

It was on the 6th of December, 1886, that Mr. Bratrud was united in marriage to Miss Betsey Thorson and they became the parents of a daughter, Alma, who is a cultured and accomplished young lady. She was educated at the Minnesota State Normal School at Winona, Minnesota, and in the Northwestern Conservatory of Music and Art at Minneapolis, from which institution she received her degree in public school drawing and art work. On May 1, 1919, she was married to Dr. G. I. Badeaux of Brainerd, Minnesota, who has commenced practice at Crosby, Minnesota.

Mr. Bratrud was always keenly interested in everything that had to do with the progress and welfare of his adopted city and state and lent hearty aid and cooperation to any movement for the public good. He was a faithful and exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the order at Preston, Minnesota. He was likewise a member of Chester Lodge, No. 444, I. O. O. F., and of the Modern Woodmen of America,