

Novotny and continued to further develop and improve his farm until 1900, when he removed with his family to Howard county, settling in Protivin, where his remaining days were passed, his death occurring on the 11th of March, 1913. His second wife has also passed away.

Frank Kalishek was educated in the district schools and was reared to farm life, early becoming familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for the crops. On the 15th of January, 1884, he was married to Miss Josephine Novotny, a daughter of his stepmother. In the following spring he began farming on his own account in Winneshiek county on a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres, which he inherited from his father. In 1893 he removed to Protivin, Howard county, where he established a restaurant and pool room, conducting the business for three years, when he turned it over to his son and returned to the farm, whereon he resided for four years. He then retired from active business and has since lived in Protivin, enjoying a well earned rest. His has been an active and useful life in which labor has been crowned with success to the extent of enabling him now to rest from further business cares.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kalishek have been born four children, three of whom are yet living, William J., Adolf M. and Edward P. The last named has recently returned from active service with the American Expeditionary Force in France.

In politics Mr. Kalishek is a democrat and for many years served as a member of the school board and has also been a member of the town council of Protivin. He is keenly interested in all that pertains to the welfare and progress of the community and has heartily cooperated in plans and projects for the general good. He is a stockholder in the Bohemian Savings Bank, also a stockholder in the Protivin Electric Light Company and a stockholder in the Protivin Telephone Company. He has thus done much to encourage projects of public importance and at the same time has thereby promoted his individual interests. He and his family are members of the Catholic church and he has membership with the Catholic Order of Foresters. He is chief farringer of the lodge and he also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. Those who know him, and he has a wide acquaintance, recognize in him a man of progressive spirit whose labors have been widely and beneficially resultant.

#### ELLERT R. THOMPSON.

Ellert R. Thompson is engaged in the abstract and loan business in Cresco. He was born in Stod, near Stenkjar, Norway, on the 9th of August, 1854, a son of Rasmus and Johanna Gjerstad, who were likewise natives of that locality, where they were reared and married, after which the father devoted his attention to farming in order to provide for the support of his family. Both he and his wife died in the land of the midnight sun.

Ellert R. Thompson spent his boyhood in Norway to the age of eighteen years and in the spring of 1872, attracted by the favorable reports which he had heard concerning America and its opportunities he sailed for the United States. He at once made his way to Iowa, taking up his abode at Lansing, and later he went to Winneshiek county, where he stopped with Peter L. Winnes, on whose farm he was employed for two years, during summer season and he worked for his board and the opportunity of attending school in the winter. He was afterward employed at Decorah, Iowa, and also attended the Breckenridge school there and the Slack Business College, for he was most anxious to obtain a good education, recognizing how valuable it is as a factor in life's success. In 1876 he came to Cresco and was employed as bookkeeper in the general store of Thompson & Johnson. He was afterward with John Stradley in the abstract and real estate business for three years and thus received the initial training which qualified him for his present business. Later he was appointed to the position of deputy auditor and served in that office for two years. The succeeding two years were passed in the position