

passed away in 1885 and on the 1st of February, 1892, Mr. Konst was married to Mrs. Anna W. Rechner, of Howard county, Iowa, who by her former marriage had two children: George Rechner, now living at home with Mr. and Mrs. Konst; and Lilly, the widow of Richard Tietjen, of Alta Vista.

Mr. Konst is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters. His religious faith is that of the Catholic church, while his wife holds membership with the Lutheran church. In politics he is a democrat but cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln. It is characteristic of him that he does not hesitate to support any cause or project which he believes to be for the best interests of the community, and the substantial traits of character which he has displayed have made him one of Alta Vista's esteemed citizens.

O. B. TAYLOR.

O. B. Taylor is filling the position of mayor at Lawler and is well known in grain circles as grain buyer and manager of the Lawler elevator for Gilchrist & Company. He was born in Lawler on the 15th of October, 1881, a son of Oliver A. and Ellen (Noon) Taylor, the former a native of Wisconsin, while the latter was born in Illinois. The father came to Lawler when a young man of twenty-two years and was here married, his wife having been brought to Lawler during her infancy, her parents locating upon a farm near this place. An extended mention of this worthy couple is found elsewhere in this volume.

O. B. Taylor was educated in the schools of Lawler and Ionia and during his youthful days worked in the grain elevator with his father, who is manager of the Gilchrist & Company interests at Ionia. In 1903 the son was placed in charge of the elevator of Way, Johnson & Lee at Ionia and the following year this firm was succeeded by Loomis, Johnson & Lee, with whom Mr. Taylor remained for a year. In 1906 he came to Lawler as manager for Gilchrist & Company, taking charge of the elevator at this point, and through the intervening period of thirteen years he has controlled the grain trade at Lawler in the interests of the corporation which he represents.

On the 26th of June, 1906, Mr. Taylor was united in marriage to Miss Rose Rink, of Ionia, by whom he has five children: Basil C., George W., Helen C., Mary J. and Arthur R. In his political connection Mr. Taylor is a democrat and is now serving for the third term as mayor of Lawler, his reelections coming to him in recognition of the capability and progressiveness which he has displayed in the discharge of his duties. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Catholic Order of Foresters, also to the Knights of Columbus, the Homesteaders and the Royal Neighbors. Both he and his wife are members of the Catholic church. They are highly esteemed as valued residents of this section of the state and they enjoy the warmest regard of all with whom they have been associated. Mr. Taylor has made not only an excellent record in business but also as a public official—one who subordinates self-aggrandizement to the general good and partisanship to the public welfare.

J. A. YARGER.

J. A. Yarger, mayor of Nashua and a member of the Chickasaw county bar, was born in Green county, Wisconsin, January 11, 1868, a son of Joseph and Mary (Harding) Yarger, both natives of Pennsylvania, in which state they were reared and married. Soon after the close of the Civil war they removed to Wisconsin, establishing their home in Green county. The father was a wheelwright by trade and for many years he conducted a wagon shop in that county. In 1876, however, he removed with his family to Iowa and purchased a farm in Webster county, but on the trip contracted a severe cold which caused his death shortly after his return to his family in Wisconsin. Following his demise the mother removed with her family of six children to the