

business. He entered the employ of his brother, with whom he remained for two years, and then went to Elma, where he conducted a shop for his brother for a period of two years. In 1894 he came to Fredericksburg and in company with his brother Adolph opened a meat market, the business being conducted under the firm name of Mikes Brothers. In 1901 Charles Mikes purchased the interest of his brother Adolph in the business, which has since been continued under the old firm style. John Mikes has been identified with the business interests of Fredericksburg for a period of a quarter of a century and the firm of Mikes Brothers is said to be one of the most successful of the town. They carry a large line of fine meats and their honorable business methods, their thorough reliability, their enterprise and their straightforward dealing have gained for them a very liberal and gratifying patronage.

In 1901 Mr. Mikes was united in marriage to Miss Rosa H. Ruska, of Elma, Howard county, and they have become the parents of eight children, namely: Frank J., John P., Rosa A., Victor E., Edwin M., Isabelle A., James R. and Anna V.

In his political views Mr. Mikes maintains an independent course, voting for men and measures rather than party. He served for four years as a member of the town council and is interested in all that has to do with public progress and improvement. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. He deserves much credit for what he has accomplished in a business way and may truly be called a self-made man, for he started out in life empty-handed. In fact he had no capital when he came to the new world and from that point in his career he has steadily worked his way upward, utilizing the opportunities and advantages which have come to him. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to establish a home on this side of the Atlantic, for through the intervening years he has advanced steadily step by step and is now one of the prosperous citizens of Fredericksburg.

CHARLES HENRY LEONARD.

Charles Henry Leonard, who has made the Lawler Dispatch, of which he is editor and publisher, one of the dynamic forces in the development and upbuilding of his section of Chickasaw county, was born March 2, 1872, in the town which he still makes his home. His parents were Phillip Henry and Maggie Isabelle Leonard. The father was born in Minnesota in 1847 and was active in the development of the west along various lines. He superintended the men who built the railroad in 1869 and eventually he took up the business of grain dealing in the new town of Lawler. Previously he had served as a Union soldier in the Civil war. He married Maggie Isabelle O'Hanlon in the year in which he established his home at Lawler and for thirty-five years he continued a resident of this city. His wife passed away at Lawler, August 15, 1901, and Mr. Leonard now resides at Minneapolis.

Charles Henry Leonard was educated in the public schools of Lawler and in the Mount Carmel parochial school of Lawler, from which he was graduated with the class of June, 1897. He followed farming until he reached the age of twenty-three years and then became manager of a restaurant, which he conducted for three years. He afterward secured a clerkship in Landon's drug store, occupying that position for nine years, and for three years he managed a store for Mr. Landon at Jerico, Iowa. On the 1st of July, 1912, he purchased the Lawler Dispatch and has since been its owner and publisher, making it one of the most alive newspapers of the county. It is his purpose to keep in closest touch with the news of the day and to make the journal of keen interest to the public. The business has been attended with success. The paper, which was a five-column sheet when he took hold of it, has been enlarged to six columns, a linotype machine has been installed and the Dispatch has become the official paper of the county.

On the 31st of October, 1900, at Afton, Iowa, Mr. Leonard was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Daly, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Daly, of Thayer,