

handsome competence he retired from active business life and is now living in Protivin, enjoying all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

Joseph J. Prochaska was educated in the district schools and his training made him thoroughly familiar with the best methods of tilling the soil and cultivating the crops during his boyhood days. Arrived at years of maturity, he was married on the 18th of November, 1907, to Miss Mamie Fisher, of Winneshiek county, a daughter of John Fisher, who was one of the early settlers of that county. To Mr. and Mrs. Prochaska have been born four children, namely: Clarence J., Alice M., Joseph R. and May A.

In the spring following his marriage Mr. Prochaska began farming on his own account and settled upon his present home place, which he rented from his father for three years. In 1911, however, having carefully saved his earnings, he purchased the farm and has since been the owner of this valuable property, which is known as the Plain View Stock Farm. In 1910 he began the breeding of thoroughbred Poland China hogs and in 1918 began the breeding of thoroughbred polled Angus cattle. In 1919 he took up the breeding of pure blooded Percheron horses and he is well known as one of the leading stock breeders and raisers of this section of the state. His reputation as a breeder of hogs is particularly wide, for he ships his products as far as New York and New Jersey. He shipped thirty head of hogs in the month of June, 1919, to Nebraska and Minnesota. He likewise raises fine poultry and his business affairs are being most wisely and successfully conducted.

Since age conferred upon him the right of franchise Mr. Prochaska has voted with the democratic party and is a firm believer in its principles but has never sought nor desired office. He and his family are members of the Catholic church and he belongs also to the Catholic Workmen. His attention, however, centers in his business, which has been wisely managed, his efforts being put forth along lines leading to continued success, and today he is one of the widely known and prosperous stock breeders of his native state.

#### M. W. MURRAY.

M. W. Murray is numbered among those men whose activities make them a dynamic force in business circles. Lawler numbers him among her foremost citizens and he is well known in that section of the county as a dealer in live stock. He was born in Chickasaw county, August 19, 1883, a son of Andrew and Margaret (Rourke) Murray, both of whom were natives of Wisconsin. They came to Chickasaw county with their respective parents in childhood and were here married. They began their domestic life upon a farm a mile north and a half mile east of Lawler, the father becoming the owner of three hundred and twenty acres. He bought and sold various farm properties during the course of an active business life and was long and prominently identified with the agricultural development of this section of the state. He passed away in 1906 at the age of fifty-eight years and is still survived by his widow, who resides with her son, Roy Murray, in Utica township, Chickasaw county.

M. W. Murray, after attending the common schools and assisting in the further development and improvement of the home farm until twenty years of age, then began farming on his own account. It is said that he made a hand in the fields at the age of nine years and handled three horses at the plow and on the drag. His life has ever been one of marked industry, intelligently directed, and the results which he has achieved have been most gratifying. Following his marriage in 1907 he continued to engage in farming until 1911, when he removed to Lawler and concentrated his efforts and attention upon the live stock business. However, he still owns one hundred and twenty acres of the old homestead and from this property derives a substantial annual income. He is an excellent judge of live stock and his purchases and sales are therefore judiciously and profitably made.

In November, 1907, Mr. Murray was married to Miss Genevieve Burns, a daughter