

In June, 1890, Mr. Hovey was united in marriage to Miss Gena Hovey, a native of Fillmore county, Minnesota, whose father was a native of Norway, while her mother was born in Minnesota but of Norwegian parentage. To Mr. and Mrs. Hovey were born ten children, namely: Lena, the wife of Toleff Bergen, a resident of Howard county; Carrie, who married Harry Owens, of Lime Springs, Howard county; Ole, who follows farming in Howard county; Bertha, who acts as housekeeper for her brother, Ole; Emma, the wife of Clinton Lewis, a resident of Fillmore county, Minnesota; and Ger-tie, Clarence, Edward, Oliver and Goldie, all yet at home.

The wife and mother passed away in 1912, in the faith of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which Mr. Hovey is also a member. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and while he is not an office seeker he is interested in everything pertaining to the welfare, development and progress of the district in which he has so long resided. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to the new world, for here he found the business opportunities which he sought. Centuries ago a Greek philosopher said: "Earn thy reward; the gods give naught to sloth." Mr. Hovey early realized that industry is the basis of advancement and week after week, month after month and year after year he has diligently toiled and has most creditably won his present enviable position among the capable and prosperous farmers of Forest City township.

HENRY J. BIWER.

Henry J. Biwer, engaged in general farming in Howard township, Howard county, was born upon the old Biwer home farm in the same township, September 29, 1887, a son of John and Margaret (Clear) Biwer, mentioned in connection with the sketch of J. F. Biwer on another page of this work.

Henry J. Biwer spent his youthful days in the usual manner of the farmbred boy. He began his education in the district schools and in vacation periods as he advanced in years he was busily employed in the work of the farm. In 1910 he began farming on his own account on a tract of land of eighty acres in Howard township which he then owned. In 1915 he sold that property and bought a farm of one hundred and twenty-seven and a half acres, which he cultivated for two years. He sold that farm in 1917 and has since been renting land.

On the 4th of February, 1913, Mr. Biwer was united in marriage to Miss Cecelia Ragan, who resided near Riceville, Mitchell county, Iowa. Both are members of the Catholic church, and in politics Mr. Biwer is a republican. He manifests a commendable interest in community affairs and supports all well defined plans for the upbuilding and progress of the district in which he has always lived.

EDWARD H. MULLER.

Edward H. Muller has devoted much of his time to farming but is now living retired in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. He was born in Prussia in the year 1848 and came to the United States in 1861, the family home being established at Manistee, Michigan. Edward H. Muller was at that time a youth of thirteen years. He early began to provide for his own support, working in the sawmills of Manistee, where he was busily employed until 1873. He came to this country with his parents, his father also working in the sawmills of Manistee for a number of years.

When twenty-five years of age Edward H. Muller, whose names introduces this review, left Michigan and made his way westward to Albion township, Howard county, Iowa, accompanying his parents on the westward trip. Here he and his father purchased eighty acres of land and became identified with the farming interests of the community. In the year 1874 Edward H. Muller married Elvina Greenwald and they began their domestic life upon the farm. In 1876 he sold his eighty acre tract to his