

home place, which comprises one hundred and fifty-eight acres of land that is rich and productive, responding readily to the care and labor that he bestows upon it. He works diligently and persistently in the further development of his place and is now meeting with substantial success. He is also a stockholder in the Maple Leaf Creamery Company.

In 1888 Mr. Sock was united in marriage to Miss Wincina Soback, who was born in Bohemia and came to the United States with her parents in girlhood days. They now have seven children, as follows; William, who follows farming in Paris township, Howard county; John, Joseph, Frank and James, all at home; Anna, the wife of Charles Marek of Cedar Rapids; and Mary, the wife of Louis Ounderk, of Wilder, Montana.

In his political views Mr. Sock is a democrat and in religious faith he and his family are Catholics. He came to the United States a poor boy and has made steady advancement in the business world. He has never had occasion to regret his determination to try his fortune on this side of the Atlantic, for he here found opportunities which are always open to the industrious and ambitious. His industry has been the basic element of his success and has brought him prominently to the front as a representative farmer of Howard county.

FRANK A. PECHOTA.

The student of history cannot carry his investigations far into the records of Chickasaw county without learning the fact that the Pechota family has long been actively identified with the agricultural development of northern Iowa. In pioneer times the family home was established in this section of the state and it was upon the old homestead farm that Frank A. Pechota was born on the 26th of October, 1880, in Utica township, his parents being Frank and Mary Pechota, more extended mention of whom is made in connection with the sketch of their son, W. A. Pechota, on another page of this work.

Frank A. Pechota now resides on section 1, Utica township, and throughout his entire life since reaching adult age he has been identified with farming interests. In his youth he was a pupil in the district school near his father's home, dividing his time between the duties of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the fields. His early training well qualified him to engage in farming on his own account and following his marriage he settled at his present place of residence—a farm of one hundred and thirty-five acres, of which his father deeded to him one hundred acres. Five years later the son purchased a thirty-five acre tract adjoining and he is now busily employed in the further development of this property, to which he has added many modern improvements. His place is well equipped with good buildings, is divided into fields of convenient size by well kept fences and the latest improved machinery facilitates his labor.

In September, 1905, Mr. Pechota was united in marriage to Miss Anna Landa, a daughter of Frank Landa, who became one of the pioneer residents of Winneshiek county and is still living upon the farm which he secured at an early day. To Mr. and Mrs. Pechota have been born six children, five of whom survive, namely: William F., Celia, Philomene, Blanche and Marguerite.

In the exercise of his right of franchise Mr. Pechota supports the men and measures of the democratic party, in the principles of which he is a firm believer. He served for two terms as a member of the board of township trustees but otherwise has not been active in office. He and his family are members of the Catholic church and their interest in everything that pertains to the welfare and progress of the community is manifest by active and helpful cooperation in many plans for the public good. Mr. Pechota is a stockholder in the Protivin Cooperative Creamery Company and there is no phase of progressive agriculture with which he is not familiar. He closely studies the best methods of tilling the soil and producing his crops and that his efforts are ever guided by sound judgment is indicated in the substantial results which reward his labors.