

ter of Oliver and Lavina Kenyon, of whom further mention is made elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Richert have become the parents of two children, Elsie Lucinda and Robert Roy.

Mr. Richert is a member of the Lutheran church and fraternally is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. He gives his political allegiance to the democratic party and takes an intelligent interest in community affairs, although not an active politician. Hesper township numbers him among her most able and successful citizens and the prosperity which he enjoys is well deserved, having come as the result of well directed labor, untiring industry and sound business judgment.

JOHN J. SOUKUP.

A native of Austria, John J. Soukup was brought by his parents from that country to Winneshiek county, where they located in 1868, and here he has ever since made his home, attaining success along agricultural lines, now owning a valuable farm of one hundred and fifty-four acres on section it, Sumner township. He was born in the Austrian Empire, May 21, 1862, and is a son of Frank and Alary (Cheitk) Soukup, natives of Austria, who came to America in 1868, locating in Calmar township, near Spillville, where the father engaged in agricultural pursuits and where he passed the remainder of his life until his death, which occurred on November 1, 1896. The mother died about a decade later, on the 22d of February, 1906. To their union were born five children: Frank, who remains on the old homestead in Calmar township; John J., our subject; Joseph F., of Sumner township; Alartin, of Decorah; and Celia, the wife of William Berry, of Chicago.

John J. Soukup was reared under the parental roof and remained with his parents until twenty-three years of age, when he rented one hundred and twenty acres in Sumner township, farming there for about twelve years, or until 1897, when he bought his present farm, comprising one hundred and fifty-four acres on section it. He has ever turned his labor to good account, has undertaken a number of valuable improvements and has enhanced the value of his farm in various ways. He engages in general farming and stock-raising, deriving a gratifying income from both undertakings.

On November 23, 1885, Air. Soukup was united in marriage to Miss Josie Zoulek, a daughter of John and Alary (Knutz) Zoulek, natives of Austria, who came to Iowa in 1864. The father for many years followed farming but was a stone mason by trade. He died in July, 1893, but the mother is still living at the age of eighty-four and makes her home with her son. John J. Air. and Mrs. John Zoulek became the parents of ten children: Alary, the wife of Joseph Mekish, of Spillville; Joseph, who died in childhood; Annie, who married John Fisher, of Spillville; Rosie, deceased; Katie, the wife of Frank J. Soukup, of Calmar township; Josie, the wife of our subject; Tena, the wife of Clements Herold, of Sumner township; Frances, the widow of Joseph Swhle, of Spillville; John J., of Sumner township; and Lena, the widow of W. J. Shevik, of Spillville. Mr. and Mrs. John J. Soukup have six children: William F., born