

who died in infancy; Henry J., who passed away in childhood; a son, who died in infancy; Roman Powell, who was born April 24, 1907; and Gregor Charles, born in January, 1910.

Mr. Gehling gives his political allegiance to the democratic party and is a member of the Roman Catholic church, being also affiliated with the Roman Catholic Protective Association. Well known in Washington township and throughout Winneshiek county by reason of his long period of residence here, he is accounted one of the active workers and progressive farmers of the locality and has the unqualified confidence and esteem of the entire community.

#### R. K. ULEN.

An enterprising and progressive spirit and an unfaltering determination, guided and controlled by sound and practical business judgment, have formed the basis of the success of R. K. Ulen and have brought him to a position among the extensive landowners and prosperous farmers of Winneshiek county. He began life as a poor boy and has worked his own way steadily upward to prosperity, his present success crowning many years of earnest and unremitting labor. He was born in Hallingdal, Norway, on the 9th of August, 1849, and is a son of Knute and Rindy (Olson) Ulen, natives of that country, where the father engaged in farming until 1857. In that year they crossed the Atlantic to America and located near Spring Grove, Minnesota, the father purchasing land in Fillmore county. After improving this he disposed of his holdings and bought a farm in Clay county which he operated for the remainder of his life, passing away in 1893. He had long survived his wife, whose death occurred in 1866.

R. K. Ulen was about eight years of age when he was brought by his parents to America and he settled with them in Minnesota, where he acquired a very limited education, taking advantage when he could of such opportunities as the district afforded. He became a wage earner when he was nine years of age and from that time until he had attained his majority worked at farm labor in the employ of others, becoming during that period thoroughly familiar with the best agricultural methods. During the last nine seasons he drove four yoke of oxen, breaking new land, but when he was twenty-one he gave up this occupation and came to Winneshiek county, where he purchased forty acres on sections 17 and 18, Decorah township. After clearing and improving this he purchased more land and now owns three hundred and sixty-five acres adjoining the city of Decorah. This property he has since continued to operate and by constantly following the most progressive and practical methods in its cultivation has made it one of the finest and best improved farms in this section of the state. He owns in addition one hundred and sixty acres in North Dakota and for seventeen years operated an extensive dairy business, running milk routes in Decorah. His interests have always been carefully and capably conducted, for he is a resourceful, farsighted and discriminating business man and the success which he enjoys is well deserved and has always been worthily used.

On December 17, 1871, Mr. Ulen was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Qualley, a daughter of Gilbert Peterson and Bertha (Oleson) Qualley,