

been most judiciously placed. His real estate interests include one of the finest homes in New Hampton.

Mr. Donovan is a member of St. Joseph's Catholic church, is a member of the assembly of the Knights of Columbus and of the council of that organization. He likewise belongs to Charles City Lodge, B. P. O. E. He has always been a stalwart advocate of democratic principles and in 1895 was chosen a delegate to the democratic national convention in Chicago and was again elected a delegate to the democratic national convention in St. Louis in 1917. He served on the democratic state central committee for the fourth Iowa district for twelve years, and was a member of the city council of New Hampton for ten years, exercising his official prerogatives in support of many well defined plans and measures for the general good. He is now the president of the New Hampton library board and there is no phase of the city's welfare in which he is not vitally interested. He is a charitable man and yet his philanthropy is of a most unostentatious character. He is always courteous, kindly and affable and those who know him personally have for him a warm regard. A man of natural ability, his success in business from the beginning of his connection with banking has been uniform and rapid. As has been truly remarked, after all that may be done for a man in the way of giving him early opportunities for obtaining the requirements which are sought in the schools and in books, he must essentially formulate, determine and give shape to his own character and this is what Mr. Donovan has done. He has persevered in the pursuit of a persistent purpose and gained a most satisfactory reward. His life is exemplary in all respects and he has ever supported those interests which are calculated to uplift humanity, while his own high moral worth is deserving of the highest commendation.

JOHN A. DOSTAL.

John A. Costal, cashier of the Bohemian Savings Bank of Protivin, Howard county, was born in Spillville, Winneshiek county, Iowa, on the 15th of July, 1871, a son of John and Mary (Rihe) Dostal, both of whom were also of Bohemian birth. The father came to the United States in his boyhood days—a lad of twelve years—in company with his parents, the voyage across the Atlantic being made in 1854. The family home was established in Davenport, Iowa, but after two years a removal was made to Spillville, Winneshiek county, where John Dostal learned the wagon making trade. He developed considerable efficiency in this connection and for many years conducted a wagon shop in Spillville. He still survives and now resides with a daughter in Minneapolis, Minnesota. His wife came to the United States in young womanhood, her parents remaining in Bohemia. Mrs. Dostal has passed away, her death occurring in February, 1917.

John A. Dostal whose name introduces this review was reared under the parental roof and is indebted to the schools of Spillville for his educational opportunities. He passed through consecutive grades until he became a student in the high school and when nineteen years of age entered upon an apprenticeship to the creamery business and thoroughly learned the art of butter making, serving as apprentice in Manly, Worth county, where he remained for a period of four years. He next became connected with the Spillville Creamery, where he was employed as butter maker for six years, and in 1899 he removed to Protivin and for ten years was butter maker in the creamery at this place. In 1910 he became one of the active factors in the organization of the Bohemian Savings Bank of Protivin and was made secretary on its organization. The company owns a modern bank building, in which the doors were opened for business on the 19th of September, 1910. Mr. Dostal was made cashier of the institution and in that important position has since most efficiently served. He has thoroughly acquainted himself with every phase of the banking business and the institution of which he is now an active official has had a remarkably successful growth, its deposits at the present time amounting to two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. He is most systematic, careful and reliable in the conduct of the business of the bank and is a popular official by reason of his courtesy and obliging disposition.