

of whom are yet living, namely: Mike, Sylvester, John, Charles, Roger, Mrs. Gua Fox, Mary, Mrs. Cornelius Mulcahy and Mrs. Leo Mitchell. All of the members of the Whalen family are identified with the Reilly Ridge Catholic church and loyally follow its teachings.

In his political views J. H. Whalen has ever been a stalwart democrat, giving unfaltering allegiance to the party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He has served as constable and justice of the peace in Jacksonville township and, like his father, has made a most creditable record in public office. He prefers, however, to concentrate his efforts and attention upon his business affairs and now owns and cultivates the old home place of one hundred and twenty acres, constituting one of the well developed farm properties of Chickasaw county.

FRANK A. ZAK.

Frank A. Zak, who carries on general farming on section 11, Howard township, has spent the greater part of his life in Howard county, although born at Calmar, Iowa, in September, 1883. His parents were Frank and Catherine (Horkey) Zak, both of whom were natives of Bohemia, whence they came to the new world in young manhood and womanhood. They became acquainted and were married in Winneshiek county, Iowa, and settled on a farm near Calmar, Mr. Zak there renting land until about 1893 or 1894, when he purchased the farm in Howard county upon which his son, Frank A., now resides, acquiring title to one hundred and twenty acres of land. His attention was then given to the further development and improvement of this property up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1912. His wife had passed away two years after their removal to Howard county.

Frank A. Zak began his education at the usual age, attending the district schools and the parochial school at Spillville, Winneshiek county. Through vacation periods he aided in the work of the home farm and after reaching his majority he remained upon the old homestead and assisted his father in the further cultivation and development of the place. About four years prior to his father's death he took over the operation and management of the farm as a renter and about a year prior to his father's demise bought the home place, which he still owns and cultivates. He has worked diligently and persistently as the years have passed on and his success is the direct result of earnest labor. He is also a stockholder in the Maple Leaf Creamery Company.

In 1911 Mr. Zak was united in marriage to Miss Nettie Maravetz, a daughter of Joseph Maravetz, who is now living retired in Cresco. They have become the parents of three children: Ralph F., Jerome J. and Richard A.

In politics Mr. Zak is a democrat, but has never been an office seeker, preferring to concentrate, his efforts and attention upon his farming interests. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church and in the community where they reside they have become widely and favorably known. At an early age Mr. Zak realized that industry is the basis of all honorable success and throughout his entire life he has been a most industrious man, his labors bringing about the careful cultivation of his fields, resulting in the gathering of golden harvests.

RASMUS R. OSWOLD.

On the list of Howard county's substantial farmers appears the name of Rasmus R. Oswald, who is living on section 18 in Forest City township, where he is operating the Grant Jones farm, an excellent tract of land of three hundred and twenty acres which is now under a high state of cultivation. Mr. Oswald is a native of Norway, his birth having occurred in the land of the midnight sun October 13, 1877. His parents were Rasmus and Carrie (Mallen) Oswald, who came to the United States in the spring of 1892, establishing their home in Chester township, Howard county.