

young man of twenty-two years. He arrived in Cresco, Iowa, with, fifty cents as his sole capital and began work on a farm, being employed through that summer at a wage of twenty dollars per month. During the winter months he worked for ten dollars per month and for five years remained in the employ of others. He was desirous, however, of engaging in business on his own account and utilized every means possible to promote that end, carefully saving his earnings until he felt justified in starting out independently. In 1875 he began farming as a renter and continued to cultivate leased land for eleven years. He practiced strict economy during that period and at the end of that time purchased eighty acres of his present farm, which now comprises one hundred and ninety acres of rich and arable land. His progress is the direct result of hard and unremitting toil. He has worked persistently as the years have passed, making good use of his time and opportunities, and he certainly deserves much credit for the success to which he has attained.

In 1875 Mr. Larson was united in marriage to Miss Anna Louisa Johnson, a native of Sweden, by whom he has three children, namely: Rosalie, the wife of Frank Inward, of Ottertail county, Minnesota; Orvilla, who is the wife of Fred Inward, of Riceville, Iowa; and Elmer, who married Rosabelle Inward and is operating the home farm. Two other children of the family have passed away.

In politics Mr. Larson is a republican and has served for several years as road boss. He and his family are of the Lutheran faith and guide their lives by the teachings of the church. Mr. Larson is a man of many splendid traits of character. He has not only been progressive but also thoroughly reliable in his business affairs and his life record should serve to inspire and encourage others, showing what may be accomplished through individual effort and determination.

F. J. CONLEY.

For seven years F. J. Conley has been engaged in the practice of law at New Hampton and previous to that time was identified with educational interests in this state. He is a native son of Chickasaw county, his birth having occurred in Chickasaw township, January 17, 1879, his parents being Michael and Margery (McGettigan) Conley, the former a native of Vermont, while the latter was born in Chickasaw county, representing one of its old pioneer families. In his boyhood days the father came with his parents to Iowa, settling in the county where he still lives. He yet occupies the old family homestead in Chickasaw township which for many years has been his place of abode.

F. J. Conley completed his public school education by graduation from the high school of Ionia with the class of 1887. He afterward attended the Iowa State Teachers College and then took up the profession of teaching, with which he was identified for seven years. He made steady progress in that field and was superintendent of the schools of Lawler for two years, while for five years he served as county superintendent of schools of Chickasaw county. It was his desire, however, to become a member of the bar and he entered the St. Paul College of Law, from which institution he received his degree of LL. B. in the class of 1912. He was then admitted to practice at the Iowa State bar in October of that year and opened a law office in New Hampton, where he has since built up an extensive practice, in the conduct of which he is very successful. The thoroughness with which he studies, investigates and prepares his cases, combined with his clear and concise presentation of his cause, has constituted a most potent element in the attainment of his success. In 1914 he was a candidate for the office of county attorney and again in 1918 but was defeated by a small majority on both occasions.

On the 17th of October, 1904, Mr. Conley was married to Miss Jensena Rose Larson, of Lawler, Iowa, and to them have been born six children, of whom four are living: Eileen Agnes, Mary Gertrude, Margaret and Frances.

Mr. and Mrs. Conley are members of the Catholic church and he is identified also with the Knights of Columbus. His time and energies are chiefly devoted to his pro-