

He had reached man's estate when on the 2d of May, 1905, he wedded Miss Nellie Kurash, a daughter of Albert Kurash, of Fort Atkinson, Winneshiek county, and they have become the parents of three children, two of whom survive, Adeline and Adnes.

Following his marriage Mr. Novotny settled on his present home farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which he purchased from his father, and through the intervening period he has concentrated his efforts and attention upon the further development of the land. He has brought his fields under a high state of cultivation and annually gathers rich crops as the reward of his care and labor. There are excellent modern improvements upon the farm and thoroughly up-to-date machinery enables him to develop his fields.

In his political views Mr. Novotny is a democrat, voting with the party since he attained his majority. He and his family are members of the Catholic church. They are well known people of this community, enjoying the warm regard and friendship of many with whom they have been brought in contact.

JOHN MISHAK.

John Mishak, who follows farming on section 2, Deerfield township, Chickasaw county, was born in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, June 9, 1867, a son of Felix and Mary (Andreaska) Mishak both of whom were natives of Germany, where they were reared and married. In 1864 they left that country and came to the United States, establishing their home at Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, where the father, who was a wagon maker by trade, established a shop which he conducted for eight or ten years. He then removed to Iowa, taking up his abode in North Washington, Chickasaw county, where he also was proprietor of a wagon shop for several years. Subsequently he engaged in farming and remained a resident of North Washington to the time of his death, which occurred in 1914.

John Mishak was educated in the district schools and in 1889 began farming on his own account, at which time he purchased his present home place of one hundred and sixty acres. For two years he devoted his time and energies to the development of the farm and kept bachelor's hall during that period. In 1891, however, he was united in marriage to Miss Helen Marion, of Deerfield township, a daughter of Max Marion, one of the pioneer settlers of this part of the county, who is now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Mishak have been born seven children: Evelyn, Loretta, Viola, Mildred, Verna, Ralph and Ray. All are still under the parental roof.

In his political views Mr. Mishak has always been a democrat since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. He has served for a number of years as a member of the board of township trustees and is the present clerk of the board. He stands loyally for all that he believes to be for the best interests of the community and he and his family are identified with its moral progress as members of the Catholic church. In his business career he has made steady advance and his diligence and enterprise have been the foundation of the success which is now his.

PETER HANSEN.

Peter Hansen, who has been actively identified with farming interests in Howard county for the past forty-four years, resides on section 22, Vernon Springs township, where he owns one hundred and sixty acres of rich and productive land, while his holdings also embrace a tract of one hundred and twenty acres in Howard Center township. His birth occurred in Denmark on the 9th of May, 1853, his parents being Lars and Cecilia (Petersen) Hansen, who spent their entire lives in that country.

Peter Hansen acquired his education in the district schools of his native land and there remained until he had attained his majority. His father owned but a small farm of ten acres and the country offered comparatively meager opportunities to a young