

period of the recent great war made large investment in Liberty bonds and also contributed generously to the Red Cross and to the Young Men's Christian Association. He and his family attend the Lutheran church and the hospitality of the best homes of the locality is cordially extended them. Mr. Thies has lived in this part of the state for the past half century and has therefore been a witness of its progress and development from pioneer times to the present, while he has also borne his full share in the work of advancement and upbuilding. .

ANTON KOUDELKA.

Anton Koudelka, busily engaged in general farming on section 23, Utica township, Chickasaw county, was born in the neighboring county of Winneshiek on the 13th of June, 1881, his parents being John and Catherine (Fenc1) Koudelka, both of whom are natives of Bohemia. The father came to the United States with his parents when about eighteen years of age and the mother made the trip to the new world with her parents when about sixteen years of age. Both families settled in Winneshiek county, where John Koudelka and Catherine Fenc1 were afterward married. They established their home within the borders of that county and there continued to reside until 1918, when they left the farm and took up their abode at Little Turkey, where they are now living, the father having retired from active business cares. For many years he was an enterprising and successful farmer, who as the years passed and his financial resources increased kept adding to his holdings until he had seven hundred acres of land in Chickasaw county, which he has since divided among his children, enabling them to gain a good start in life.

Anton Koudelka was a pupil in the district schools during his boyhood days and when not busy with his textbooks assisted in the development and improvement of the home farm, aiding his father until he reached his twenty-seventh year. He was united in marriage in 1908 to Miss Anna Infeld, a daughter of John Infeld, who in pioneer times became a resident of Winneshiek county and has now passed away. To Mr. and Mrs. Koudelka has been born one child, James A.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Koudelka received from his father a deed to his present home farm of one hundred and fifty-nine acres, on which he and his bride took up their abode. Through the intervening period he has concentrated his efforts and attention upon the cultivation of his land and today has a highly improved farm property. He has been very successful in the management of his business affairs and Utica township numbers him among her representative citizens. His political views are in accord with the teachings of the democratic party and his religious faith is that of the Catholic church. He is interested in all that pertains to public progress or has to do with the benefit of the community, but his time and energies are chiefly concentrated upon his farming interests and his success is well merited.

WILLIAM OWENS:

William Owens, a substantial and representative agriculturist of Forest City township, Howard county, has successfully cultivated the John Tipton farm on section 8 since the spring of 1913. His birth occurred in Wales on the 2d of May, 1866, his parents being Owen and Margaret (Williams) Owens, who still reside in that country.

William Owens obtained his education in the district schools of his native land and there spent the first eighteen years of his life. In 1885, prior to his nineteenth birthday, he crossed the Atlantic to the United States and for two years thereafter worked as a farm hand in Oneida county, New York. He then made his way westward to Wisconsin, working in different parts of that state through the succeeding thirteen years. On the expiration of that period, or in 1900, he came to Iowa, locating in Forest City township, Howard county, where he was employed at farm work and as a day laborer for