

Agricultural pursuits for a year, when he sold his farm and established his home in Klinger, Iowa. There he entered the machine business, in which he engaged until 1882, when he disposed of his interests there and established his home in Elma, where he conducted a general store and machine shop until 1912. He then sold his interests, having established a garage in 1908. He has since conducted the garage and after selling his store has concentrated his entire attention upon the garage business.

Mr. Diekmann was married to Miss Christina Matthias, a daughter of William Matthias, a native of Germany, whence he came to the new world, settling in Bremer county, Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Diekmann have been born eight children: Louis, William, Mary, Lydia, Edward, Herman, Walter and Clara. The son Edward served with the Three Hundred and Twenty-first Company, Battalion R, Company 3, of the Marines during the great European war.

The parents are members of the German Lutheran church at Elma and in politics Mr. Diekmann maintains an independent course. He has served as a member of the town council at Elma and his interest in public affairs is manifest by the aid and cooperation which he gives to plans and projects for the general good. Starting out in life on his own account when a youth of fifteen years, he has steadily worked his way upward in a business way and whatever success he has achieved or enjoyed is attributable entirely to his industry, perseverance and enterprise.

FRANK W. URBAN.

Frank W. Urban, actively engaged in general farming on section 6, Paris township, Howard county, was born in Wisconsin, March 31, 1879, a son of Wencel and Mary Urban. The family is of Bohemian descent and the paternal grandfather died in Bohemia. Later Wencel Urban came to the new world with his mother, who in the meantime had married again, her second husband being also of the party that crossed the Atlantic.

Frank W. Urban of this review is indebted to the district school system for the educational advantages which he enjoyed. He was reared as a farm boy and in January, 1905, was united in marriage to Miss Nellie Belek, a native of Howard county and a daughter of Frank Belek, who was one of the early settlers of the county but is now deceased.

Four years prior to his marriage Mr. Urban began farming on the eighty acre tract of land which he now owns and which he purchased from his father. He also cultivates an eighty acre tract belonging to his brother Joe and adjoining the home place. He is a progressive agriculturist, working diligently and persistently in the care of his farm, which he has converted into rich and productive fields which annually return to him a substantial income.

To Mr and Mrs. Urban has been born a daughter, Mary H. The family are members of the Catholic church, and Mr. Urban gives his political support to the democratic party. He has spent almost his entire life in Howard county and the community knows him as a representative citizen, loyal to the best interests of the community and active and successful in the conduct of business affairs.

JOHN NOHALE.

Among the determined and forceful men of Paris township who are maintaining its high standards in agriculture is numbered John Nohale, whose home is on section 22, where he owns and cultivates two hundred acres of good land. Like many of his fellow citizens of Howard county, he is of Bohemian birth. His natal day was September 13, 1869, and he spent the first sixteen years of his life in Bohemia, after which he came to the new world with his mother and sister, his father having previously died