

with thoroughness and energy everything that he undertook and never stopped short or the successful accomplishment of his purpose. In religion he was a strict Catholic and was an active worker in the church. The Republican party found in him a most stalwart advocate and his natural powers of oratory enabled him to sway his hearers, while the force of his logic carried conviction home to the minds of those who listened to him. For eight years he filled the office of National Bank Examiner for the state of Iowa.

Orvine J. McHugh, whose name introduces this record, spent his youthful days in Cresco, to which city he had removed with his parents in 1878. He there attended the parochial schools and afterward had the benefit of further instruction in Notre Dame University at Notre Dame, Indiana. Later he went to Chicago, Illinois, where he was employed as head bookkeeper by the Northern Trust Company and remained in that position for four years. In 1899 he returned to Cresco and entered into business relations with his father-in-law, D. A. Lyons, in the conduct of an implement establishment. That association was maintained for eleven years and in 1910 Mr. McHugh was joined by Theodore Lusson in the implement business, which they are still conducting under the firm style of McHugh & Lusson. They have the largest implement business in Cresco and their sales are annually increasing. The firm are also engaged in the garage business, having the Ford agency, and they do most excellent work in automobile repairing. Theirs is one of the most complete and thoroughly up-to-date garages in this part of the state and the business which they have built up in that connection adds materially to their income. That Mr. McHugh is a very prominent factor in business circles in Iowa is indicated in the fact that he has been honored with the presidency of the Implement Dealers' Association of Iowa and in that connection has put forth many valuable ideas whereby the trade has greatly benefited.

In 1899 Mr. McHugh was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Lyons, a daughter of D. A. and Catharine (Fitzgerald) Lyons and a native of Decorah, Winneshiek county, Iowa. Her father was for some time a well known implement dealer and leading business man of Cresco and enjoyed the respect and good will of all who knew him. To Mr. and Mrs. McHugh have been born two children: Katherine, whose birth occurred in 1904; and Margaret, who was born in 1906. Mr. McHugh and his family are communicants of the Catholic church and he holds membership with the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Order of Foresters. He has been president of the Opera House Company of Cresco and is now president of the Cresco Commercial Club. He stands staunchly in support of all those practical movements which have to do with the upbuilding and development of his city along material lines and supports all those interests which are a matter of civic virtue and of civic pride.

MATHIAS RIES.

Mathias Ries, busily engaged in general farming on section 29, Washington township, Chickasaw county, has always lived in the township which is still his home. Here his birth occurred September 12, 1870, his parents being Michael and Margaret (E)enz) Ries, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father came to the United States in 1852, when nineteen years of age and later brought his parents to this country. The lady whom he afterward made his wife also came to America with her parents and they became acquainted in Dubuque county, Iowa, where they were married. Subsequently they removed to Chickasaw county, settling in Washington township, where Michael Ries continued to engage in farming for many years. He won substantial success in his undertakings, accumulating considerable wealth. Year by year he carefully tilled the soil and cared for his crops, the sale of his products adding materially to his financial resources until 1894, when he retired from active farm life and removed to New Hampton, where both he and his wife resided until called by death.

Mathias Ries was reared on the old homestead farm and his youthful days were passed in the usual manner of the farm-bred boy who divides his time between the duties of the schoolroom, the pleasures of the playground and the work of the fields.