

locating in Winneshiek county, of which he became an early settler. Here he purchased land and successfully followed agricultural pursuits until about twenty years ago, when he retired from active work and removed to Cresco, which city he made his home until his demise. His wife is still living in Cresco, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Christen have the following children: Josie, a bookkeeper in the Winneshiek County State Bank of Decorah; Lottie, a clerk in a dry-goods store of this city; Myrtle, at home; and Lloyd, deputy county treasurer of Winneshiek county.

Mr. Christen gives his support to the republican party, the platform and principles of which appeal to him as conducive to the best form of government. He has held various township offices, having discharged his duties in an able and efficient manner, and at present is one of the inheritance tax appraisers. Mr. Christen is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Decorah while his wife and family are members of the Congregational church. His only fraternal connection is with Decorah Lodge, No. 443, B. P. O. E. Although there are no spectacular phases in his life record it stands as evidence of what can be accomplished when industry and energy lead the way. Beginning with no particular advantages, he has attained a substantial position in his city and is considered one of the moving forces in bringing Decorah to the front and promoting its importance as one of the thriving cities of the state.

C. L. TOPLIFF, D. D. S.

Dr. C. L. Topliff, who has been successfully engaged in the practice of dentistry at Decorah for the past twenty-three years, has built up and enjoys an extensive and well deserved patronage in this connection. His birth occurred at Waukon, Allamakee county, Iowa, on the 28th of December, 1862, his parents being John and Rachel (Reed) Topliff, who are natives of New Jersey and Ohio respectively. The father took up his abode in this part of the state when it was an Indian reservation, settling in Allamakee county in 1854. Eventually he purchased and improved a farm lying in Winneshiek and Allamakee counties and continued its operation successfully until 1891, when he disposed of the property and took up his abode in Decorah, where he is now living retired. His wife is also living and they make their home on Washington street, Decorah. John Topliff has been a resident of this part of the state for almost six decades and has witnessed the growth and development of the region from pioneer times down to the present.

C. L. Topliff obtained his early education in the district schools of Winneshiek county and subsequently attended the high school at Postville, Allamakee county. After putting aside his text-books he assisted his father in the work of the home farm until he had attained his majority and then came to Decorah, here beginning the study of dentistry in the office of Dr. Kellogg. At the end of a year he entered the Philadelphia Dental College, being graduated from that institution in the spring of 1888. Returning to his native state, he began the practice of dentistry at Postville but after two years came back to Decorah, which city has since remained the scene of his professional labors. During the entire