

deep interest in this organization and its allied societies. The cause of education has always been near his heart and his efforts along that line found recognition when he was chosen a member of the board of trustees of the Upper Iowa University at Fayette, in which connection he has done valuable work in the interests of that institution. The handsome family home of Mr. and Mrs. Baker is located on Ravine street, Decorah, and there both extend a warmhearted hospitality to their many friends. Ever watchful of his opportunities, Mr. Baker has never feared to venture where his honesty and integrity permitted him to take a further step, and the success which he has attained so far is attributable only to his own efforts, which are guided by industry, energy, ability and honesty.

JONAS J. AKRE.

Practical and progressive farming and stock-raising find a worthy representative in Jonas J. Akre, who since his birth on the 15th of September, 1877, has resided upon the farm which he now operates on section 14, Pleasant township. His parents were John J. and Martha (Servold) Akre, natives of Strandvick, Norway, the former born June 15, 1829, and the latter September 29, 1836. Their marriage occurred in America, they having crossed the Atlantic in 1862, and one month after their arrival they came to Iowa, buying from the United States government eighty acres of land on section 14, Pleasant township, upon which they spent the remainder of their lives. To his original holdings the father later added forty acres and with characteristic energy carried forward the work of improving and developing his property, becoming in time one of the substantial and able farmers in his section of the county. He died upon his holdings June 6, 1904, having survived his wife two years. Both were active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and people of exemplary moral character. To their union were born nine children. Inga is the wife of W. J. Cowan, of North Dakota. Martin Johann is the proprietor of the Highland Creamery in this county. Rev. Ole J. is pastor of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Yelva, North Dakota. He is a graduate of Luther College at Decorah and later graduated from the Lutheran Theological Seminary of Minnesota. He is today a prominent educator, being president of Northwestern College at Yelva, North Dakota. John is a mechanic and inventor at Spring Grove, Minnesota. Hattie is the wife of K. N. Ovre and for the past ten years has lived in the vicinity of Mercer, North Dakota, where her husband proved up a claim. Annie is a twin to Hattie and the wife of Peter J. Bidne, who has been the proprietor and butter maker of the Highland Creamery for the past twenty years. Jonas J. is the subject of this review. Ingeborg Mary is the wife of Martin Wasenburg, who for the past seven years has been developing a claim near Mercer, North Dakota. Christina, the youngest child in this family, passed away when she was seven years of age.

Jonas J. Akre was reared under the parental roof and when not engaged with his books aided his father with the work of the homestead, becoming early