

medium. Mr. Yager follows the most up-to-date methods, giving his readers valuable news service, comprising not only items of local interest but also detailed accounts of the happenings in the state, nation and world. As he has built up a circulation his advertising space has increased, making his paper one of the valuable properties in the county. His editorials are lucid and to the point and are often employed to further the public spirit of his locality and the promotion of public improvements of importance. In 1884 Mr. Yager, in partnership with his brother Franklin, established a jewelry store in Calmar, which they have successfully conducted since, it being the oldest enterprise of the kind in the city. This establishment is conducted under the name of Yager Brothers, while his newspaper interests carries the name of Calmar Courier, S. R. Yager, editor and proprietor. The success Mr. Yager has made is the more creditable as he started out in life without means or influence, having but five dollars in his pocket when arriving in Calmar. He owns the building which is occupied by the jewelry store and printing establishment, the year of its erection being 1895. As prosperity has come to him he has made other judicious investments, owning valuable farm lands in other states and city property in Calmar besides his handsome residence.

On April 27, 1888, Mr. Yager married Miss Emma Desmond, a daughter of James and Susan (Heberling) Desmond, natives of Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Yager have three children: Harry, aged twenty-four, who assists his father; Walter, twenty-one years of age, who is employed in the same manner; and Florence, aged fourteen, still attending school.

In politics Mr. Yager is independent, following his own judgment in supporting candidates. He attends the Methodist church. Fraternally he belongs to the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias. A man strongly marked by character, he has come to be recognized as a forceful element in the community, whose activities have strongly affected the commercial and public life of the city. His sterling traits of character have won him the high regard and confidence of all who know him, and while he has attained individual success has been a serviceable factor in the upbuilding of Calmar and the development of Winneshiek county.

HENRY BRUENING.

Through well directed business activity and enterprise Henry Bruening has gained recognition as one of the prosperous farmers of Winneshiek county. He owns a highly improved tract of land in Washington township and since his birth has lived in this community, his labors in his active years contributing not only to his own prosperity but proving also effective forces in advancing general development. He was born in Washington township, Winneshiek county, March 3, 1872, and is a son of John and Christina (Wellert) Bruening, natives of Germany, who came to Iowa about 1863. The father purchased land in Winneshiek county and continued to reside thereon until his death, which occurred in 1882, he having survived his wife since 1879. They became the parents of eight children: Mary, deceased; Herman and Mary, who have also passed away;