

who is married and resides at Parkston, South Dakota; Dorothea, who married Emil Unbreiner, of the same city; Aloys, of this review; Laura, deceased; Julius, who has also passed away; Clemence, of Carroll, Iowa; and Christina, a Sister in a convent at La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Aloys Holthaus was reared upon his father's farm in Washington township and in his childhood divided his time between his studies at the district school and work in the cultivation of the homestead. In 1885, when the estate was divided, he received his share, which was one hundred and twenty-six acres, and with characteristic energy he turned his attention to its improvement and cultivation. Persistently and energetically he has continued the work year after year until he has now a well improved property, classed with the model farms of this vicinity. Upon it he has erected a fine home, barns and outbuildings and has installed modern machinery to facilitate the work of the fields. In addition to general farming he raises stock, keeping a fine herd of thoroughbred shorthorn cattle. His interests are carefully managed and capably conducted and he is justly accounted one of the most active farmers and progressive business men of this section of Iowa.

On the 13th of October, 1891, Mr. Holthaus was united in marriage to Miss Josephine Funke, a daughter of Clemens and Gertrude Funke, of whom further mention is made elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Holthaus have become the parents of nine children, Rosie, Julius, Florian, Regina, Hildegard, Bertie, Aloys, Elenora and Victor.

Mr. Holthaus is a member of the Roman Catholic church, and gives his political allegiance to the democratic party. He has rendered his township excellent service as trustee, an office which he filled with credit and distinction for two terms. In an analysis of his life it will be seen that persistent and earnest work has constituted the foundation upon which he has built his prosperity and his record is a credit to the community where his entire life has been passed.

#### EDMUND E. BERG.

Edmund E. Berg is one of the prominent bankers of Decorah and has done much by his quick rise and rapid success to justify the prestige in which he is held. Connected with the Decorah State Bank since 1907, he was soon afterward elected assistant cashier of the institution and since 1912 has held the office of cashier, discharging his duties with ability, and his judgment upon matters pertaining to his business is seldom at fault. Born in Freeborn county, Minnesota, April 26, 1880, he is a son of Elmer J. and Gunhild (Alvig) Berg, natives of Norway. The father was trained along mercantile and agricultural lines and for years was employed in the big stores of Christiania, Norway's beautiful capital. Coming to the United States he located in Freeborn county, Minnesota, where for a time he engaged in the mercantile business but later took up farming. He still lives on the farm but his wife died there in 1882.

Edmund E. Berg attended the public schools in the neighborhood of his father's farm and subsequently entered Luther Academy at Albert Lea, Minnesota, from which he was graduated in 1902. He then taught for three years in