

hundred and sixty acres of excellent land, well improved and profitably cultivated. In addition to this farm, Mr. Ferris is the owner of three-quarters of a section in the neighborhood of Kent, down in Wilkin county, and is regarded as being quite well circumstanced. He is a member of the local school board and is interested in the Northwestern Hospital at Moorhead.

In November, 1890, William H. Ferris was united in marriage to Nellie Nolan, daughter of William Nolan and wife, of Wilkin county, and to this union five children have been born, Thomas, May, William, Alfred and Cecelia. The Ferrises have a very pleasant home and have ever taken an interested part in the general social affairs of the community. They are members of the Catholic church at Sabin, Minnesota, and take a proper interest in the parish affairs.

DR. JAMES S. BURRILL.

Dr. James S. Burrill a progressive young dentist of Ulen, Clay county, was born in Keene township, Clay county, July 27, 1892, a son of H. R. and Harriet (McDonald) Burrill, the former of whom is now a well-known dealer in farming implements in Hawley, this county. H. R. Burrill was born on September 19, 1858, in Fitzwilliam, of the Granite state, a son of Jacob Burrill, who was born in 1818 and died in 1891. The father of James Burrill was educated in the common schools of Keene, his native state of New Hampshire, and in 1876 he began working in a store at Dana, Massachusetts. In the spring of 1878, he came to Hawley, Minnesota, and, soon after arriving in Clay county, took up a homestead in Keene township which he developed into a good farm. He and Lewis Smith were among the earliest pioneers in Keene township, breaking the first sod in this vicinity with ox-teams. He remained on the old homestead until 1897, when he sold the same and bought another farm in section 10, one and one-half miles west of the village of Hawley, where he lived until 1907. In that year, he moved to Hawley and formed a partnership with Hans Rushfeldt in the machine business. In 1912, his son, Robert, bought out the interest of Mr. Rushfeldt, and formed a partnership with his father. The new firm is located in a large and modernly-equipped implement store, where they handle an extensive stock of all kinds of farming machinery. On April 19, 1885, H. R. Burrill was married to Harriet McDonald, a daughter of John McDonald,

and to their union the following children have been born: Robert H., who is in business with his father; Dan W., who married Fannie Skinner and who died by accidental asphyxiation on April 28, 1916; Henry, Allen, Leola, an adopted child, and James S., the subject of this review.

James S. Burrill received his elementary education in the public schools of Hawley, graduating from the high school of that place in 1910. He then entered the University of Minnesota, where he spent one year, pursuing the agricultural course of study. In the years, 1911 and 1912, he was engaged in teaching at Velva, North Dakota, and in the fall of 1912, he returned to the state university and took a course in dentistry, which he completed, graduating in 1915. He then engaged in the practice of his profession at Hawley, remaining there until the spring of 1916, when he came to Ulen and opened an office as a dentist and has been here ever since.

Dr. Burrill was married in 1914 to Edna Rapp, daughter of Louis Rapp, of Minneapolis. They have one child, Herman Robert James. They are members of the Congregational church.

Dr. Burrill is a member of the Masonic Lodge and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Being very wide-awake and progressive in his profession, Dr. Burrill is a member of the Crookston District, the state and the National dental associations. He is also a member of the Psi Phi dental fraternity.

JOHN A. BACKMAN.

John A. Backman, a farmer of Eglon township, Clay county, was born, April 2, 1852, in Sweden. He is a son of Andrus and Kajsa (Swenson) Anderson, both natives of Sweden, where they grew up, married and established their home on a farm, and there the father died at the early age of thirty-three years, when his son John was only eight months old. The mother was married a second time, her last husband being Andrew Berg, who immigrated with her to America in 1881. They located in Highland Grove township, Clay county, on a farm in section 36, and there the death of Mr. Berg occurred in the summer of 1916, having survived his wife, the mother of the subject of this sketch, whose death occurred there in the autumn of 1914 at the advanced age of ninety-one years. She had only the one child, John A., by her first marriage, and four children by her second marriage, namely: Gust, who is farming in Highland Grove township; Mary, deceased; Hannah,