

and Merchants Bank at Ada and Mr. Jones is president of the same. In addition to his extensive banking interests he also is the owner of some valuable land in Norman county and in South Dakota. Mr. Jones is a Republican and has ever given his earnest attention to local political affairs. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. When the village of Gary was organized he was elected treasurer of the same and served in that capacity until he left there. He also for some time served as president of the village council and was also for some time the president of the village school board.

In October, 1897, D. C. Jones was united in marriage to Clara Pfund, daughter of John Pfund and wife, and to this union three children have been born, Beatrice, Lawrence and Deveraux, the latter of whom died in childhood. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have a very peasant home at Ada and take a proper interest in the general social activities of the city, helpful in promoting all movements having to do with the advancement of the general welfare hereabout.

ARNT AND ANTON OPGRAND.

Arnt and Anton Opgrand, general merchants at Halstad, doing business there under the firm style of Opgrand Brothers, have been residents of Norman county since the days of their boyhood, having come here with their parents in pioneer days, and are active and energetic members of the business community in the flourishing village in which they are conducting their well-stocked mercantile establishment. They are the sons of M. A. Opgrand, one of the pioneers of Norman county, who settled in Halstad township back in the early eighties and is still living there, one of the substantial and well-to-do farmers of that part of the county.

M. A. Opgrand was born in Norway on April 8, 1847, and there spent his youth and young manhood, being about twenty years of age when he came to this country in 1867 and proceeded on out to Minnesota, locating in Houston county. There he married Joran Nelson, who was born in Norway on January 16, 1856, and who had come to Minnesota with her parents in the days of her girlhood. After his marriage Mr. Opgrand continued to make his home in Houston county until the early eighties, when he came up to this part of the state with his family and settled on an eighty-acre farm which he bought in Shelly township, Norman county, on the line adjoining Halstad township. In 1893 he bought a quarter of a section in

section 5 of Halstad township, adjoining his eighty in Shelly, sold the eighty and established his home in Halstad township. To the quarter section he bought at that time he later added an adjoining quarter and now owns a half section of well-improved land in Halstad township, where he still lives and where he and his family are very comfortably situated. He and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There are nine of these children, Arnt, Anton, Anna, Pedra, Clara, Pauline, Ole, Carl and James, all of whom are living.

Arnt Opgrand was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, over the line from Houston county, this state, August 24, 1874, and was eight or ten years of age when his parents moved from the latter county up into this part of the state and settled in Norman county. He received his elementary schooling in the district schools of Halstad township and supplemented the same by a course in Concordia College at Moorhead, after which he resumed his place on the home farm and there remained until 1900, when he began clerking in the hardware store of J. H. Nokken at Halstad and was thus engaged for two years, at the end of which time he transferred his services to the Halstad Mercantile Company and was engaged as a clerk for that concern for three years. He then worked a year in the general store of Iver Lien at Halstad and then he and his brother, Anton, went over into North Dakota and each homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in Adams county, that state. A year later they returned to Minnesota and Arnt Opgrand resumed his former position in the store of Iver Lien at Halstad, where he worked a year, at the end of which time he returned to the store of the Halstad Mercantile Company and was there engaged until in May, 1912, when he and his brother, Anton, started in the mercantile business on their own account at Halstad and have ever since been thus engaged, having a well-equipped and well-stocked general store, and have built up an extensive trade in the village and throughout the surrounding country. In addition to his mercantile interest, Arnt Opgrand is the owner of a potato warehouse, which he has operated for the past four years. He has served as a member of the village council and has for years taken an earnest interest in local civic affairs. Fraternaly, he is affiliated with the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America and is clerk of the same.

In 1904 Arnt Opgrand was united in marriage to Emma Larson, a daughter of Ole Larson, and to this union three children have been born, Judith, Evalyn and Milburn. Mr. and Mrs. Opgrand are members of the United Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church affairs.

Anton Opgrand was born in Houston county, this state, September 14,

1876, and was but a boy when his parents settled in Norman county. Upon completing the course in the district schools of Halstad township he entered the normal school at Minneapolis and later took a course in a business college in that city. In the spring of 1907 he and his brother each homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in Adams county, North Dakota, and a year later returned to this state. Anton Opgrand then went to Minneapolis, where for three years he was employed in the wholesale mercantile establishment of Wyman & Partridge. On May 15, 1912, he and his brother, Arnt, opened their mercantile establishment at Halstad, as above set out, and have since been very successfully engaged in business together. In addition to his mercantile interests, Anton Opgrand is the owner of a farm of eighty acres in Cass county, this state. He is a member of the local society of the Sons of Norway and takes a warm interest in the affairs of the same.

On January 1, 1915, Anton Opgrand was united in marriage to Olga Stordahl, a daughter of Carl Stordahl. Mr. and Mrs. Opgrand are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take an active interest in the affairs of the same. The Opgrand brothers are energetic and enterprising business men and are doing well their part in the promotion of the best interests of the community in which they live.

E. C. BETCHER.

E. C. Betcher, manager of the plant of the Farmers Elevator Company at Ada, member of the city council and a substantial landowner and retired farmer of Norman county, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of Minnesota since the days of his childhood and of Norman county since the days of his young manhood, having settled here with his parents in pioneer days. He was born on January 22, 1858, and was but four years of age when his parents, John and Ernestine (Tobranz) Betcher, also natives of that country and the former of whom was a weaver, left Germany many years ago and came to the United States in 1862 and settled in Goodhue county, this state, not far from the city of Red Wing.

Upon his arrival in Goodhue county John Betcher homesteaded an eighty-acre tract there and proceeded to develop the same, making his home there until 1880, when he disposed of his interests in that county to advantage and came up into this part of the state, pre-empting a quarter