

father's store or on the home farm. Upon the organization of the Comstock State Bank in 1909 he became cashier, the duties of which responsible position he has since discharged in a manner that has reflected much credit upon himself and to the satisfaction of the stockholders and patrons of the bank. He has been a close observer and student of modern banking methods and is an alert, courteous and painstaking man, who believes in system as well as fair dealing.

In January, 1910, he was appointed assistant secretary of the Comstock and Holy Cross Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and in 1916 he was elected director and secretary of the same. The pronounced and rapidly-growing success of this company has been due very largely to his influence, as he has done practically all the work in promoting and carrying on the work of the same since it was first started.

Mr. Askegaard married Harriet Charlotte Rustad on June 4, 1914. She is a native of North Dakota and grew to womanhood in Rustad, Minnesota. She received good educational advantages, graduating from the Moorhead State Normal. She is a daughter of Samuel and Valborg Rustad, a native of Rustad, Minnesota. To Mr. and Mrs. Askegaard two children have been born, Dorothy Margaret and Rachael Helen.

Politically, Mr. Askegaard is a Republican and he has been more or less active in public affairs for some years. He served as village clerk of Comstock for three years and is now serving his second year as treasurer of the village. He is at present clerk of the school board. He is a member of the Masonic order and the Norwegian Lutheran church.

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#### EDWARD O. WARDEBERG.

One of the enterprising young business men of Barnesville, Clay county, Minnesota, is Edward O. Wardeberg, who was born on a farm in Wilkin county, this state, the son of Ole E. and Agnetta (Jenson) Wardeberg, both of whom were natives of Norway.

Ole E. Wardeberg came to America as a young man, and located in Wilkin county, Minnesota, where he made his home up to the time of his death, September, 1909. He was the owner of a fine farm of four hundred and sixty acres located in Prairie View township, his farm lying along the county line between Clay and Wilkin counties. He and his wife were the parents of four children, Edward O., Anton, George and Bertha. The family are

earnest members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and are among the substantial citizens of their home community.

Edward O. Wardeberg received his early education in the public schools of his native county, and later attended the Agricultural College at Fargo, North Dakota. During his summer vacations he assisted with the work on the home farm until 1914, in which year he came to Barnesville, and in partnership with O. P. Landsom, engaged in the general merchandise business, in which line he has met with a very commendable degree of success. Besides dealing in all kinds of general merchandise, they buy and ship many car-loads of potatoes. Mr. Wardeburg is well known, prominent and popular in the social activities of the younger residents of Barnesville, and also has an active interest in the affairs of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which he is a member. Mr. Wardeberg on July 9, 1917, married Clara Linn, of Maidenrock, Wisconsin.

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#### BYRON GRAHAM LA GRANGE.

Byron Graham La Grange, proprietor of a fine farm of four hundred acres in Elkton township, Clay county, and one of the most progressive farmers of that neighborhood, is a native of the neighboring state of Wisconsin, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was six years of age. He was born on a pioneer farm in Winnebago county, Wisconsin, in 1858, son of Alonzo Graham and Anna M. (Hillman) La Grange, the former a native of the state of New York and the latter of Germany, she having come to this country with her widowed mother when she was but a child. In the fall of 1864 Alonzo G. La Grange came with his family from Wisconsin to Minnesota, driving through, and locating at Garden City, in Blue Earth county, arriving there on October 13 of that year. At Garden City he established a hotel and later a butcher shop and made his home there until 1868, when he moved to Worthington, county seat of Nobles county, opened a hotel there and continued in the hotel business in that city until his retirement. He is still living at Worthington, now nearly ninety years of age. His wife died in 1912. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, as was his wife, and their children were reared in that faith. There are three of these children, the subject of this sketch, the first-born, having two sisters, Grace and Leonice.

As noted above, Byron G. La Grange was but a child when he came