

the result of his successful operations in those lines. During the greater part of his residence in Clay county, Mr. Allen has been engaged in handling real estate and now chiefly follows that occupation, at the same time being engaged in the sale of automobiles, and in all his various undertakings he has met with marked success, his knowledge of land values being well established throughout Clay county and outside it.

On October 3, 1893, John W. Allen was united in marriage to Mary V. Miller, a daughter of Johnson Miller and wife. To Mr. and Mrs. Allen six children have been born as follow: Claude, Harley, Gladys, Donald, William and Delores. The Allen family are earnest members of the Methodist church and are warmly interested in its good works and in all community good works, ever helping every worthy cause in the township and county.

Mr. Allen is a Democrat in politics, but has never been a seeker after public office, preferring to devote his time to his real-estate interests. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and in the affairs of that fraternal order he takes a lively interest.

EUGENE ASKEGAARD.

One of the enterprising young business men of Clay county is Eugene Askegaard, cashier of the Comstock State Bank, and a man who is doing much toward the development of his home town in a general way. He was born on the home farm in Pleasant township, Cass county, North Dakota, just across the Red river of the North, on February 1, 1884. He is a son of David and Minnie (Dunhom) Askegaard, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this volume. Suffice it to say here that the father is one of the leading business men of Comstock and an old and influential citizen of Clay county.

Eugene Askegaard grew up on the home farm in Holy Cross township, Clay county, his father moving from Cass county, North Dakota, to a farm, the present site of the village of Comstock, in 1886, when Eugene was two years old. Here the son assisted with the general work on the farm, and in the winter time he attended the public schools at Comstock, later the State Normal school at Moorhead, from which he was graduated in 1904. After leaving school he taught for three winters in the district schools of Clay county and during the summer months he worked in his

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.

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