

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.

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### 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,

a widow, living in Detroit, Minnesota; and Sarah, the wife of the chief of police of Fargo, North Dakota.

James A. Backman spent his boyhood in Sweden where he attended the common schools. He immigrated to America, when a young man, and first worked two months on the Northern Pacific railroad in Minnesota, then three months on the Stillwater railroad, which extended from White Burr Lake to Stillwater, this state. After spending the winter of 1870-71 in St. Paul, he went to St. Cloud, where he took the stage for Crowing, and from there walked for three days to a place eighteen miles east of the present village of Perham, where he worked until April, 1871. At that time he came to Becker county, locating on a farm, but later settled on land in sections 6 and 1, Eglon township, Clay county, on his uncle's claim. Two of his uncles had come with him to America and had at once taken up claims in Minnesota. In 1876, Mr. Backman homesteaded eighty acres in section 2, Eglon township. He later bought forty acres more in section 11, Eglon township, and subsequently another forty in section 3, Eglon township. He now owns a well-improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He has continued to reside on the same claim that he took up over forty years ago, and has made all improvements, including a good home and numerous outbuildings, and is making a success as a general farmer and stock raiser.

On January 16, 1880, Mr. Burns was married to Mary Nelson, who was born in Sweden, January 24, 1861, and there she grew up and attended school. She came to America in 1873 with her parents. After her father had worked in the mines of the iron district of Michigan for some time, he came to Eglon township, Clay county, Minnesota, and established the family home on a farm in section 8, where his death occurred in 1899. His widow is still living in this township at the unusual age of ninety-seven years.

To John A. Backman and wife, nine children were born, namely: Minnie, who is married and lives in Vale, Minnesota; Ida, who works in Fargo, North Dakota; Fretiof, who works in Lake Park, Minnesota; Matilda, who lives at home and is a school teacher; Olga, living at Dilworth, Minnesota, in the employ of the Northern Pacific railroad; Kail, who operates the home farm; Hulda, Henry and August, all of whom are living on the home place in Eglon township and assisting their parents with the general work on the farm.

Politically, Mr. Backman is an Independent Democrat. He was a member of the township board of Eglon township for ten or eleven years, and was clerk of the school board for a twelve-year period. He was one of the organ-

izers of the Lake Parke Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He is a member, also formerly a trustee, of the Swedish Lutheran church, the plans for the church edifice of which he drafted, the same being accepted by the congregation.

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### GARFIELD H. RUSTAD.

Garfield H. Rustad, a well-known young attorney-at-law, with offices at Moorhead, city attorney there and former president of the Moorhead Commercial Club, was born in the neighboring state of North Dakota, but has lived in Moorhead since the days of his boyhood. He was born at Larimore, North Dakota, in 1887, son of August J. and Thea (Thorson) Rustad, who later became residents of Moorhead, where their last days were spent.

August J. Rustad was born in the kingdom of Norway and lived there until he was grown, when he came to this county and located in Larimore, North Dakota, where he presently became engaged in the clothing business, remaining there for some years, at the end of which time he moved to Grand Forks, in that same state, engaging there in the same line of business, afterward coming over into Minnesota and locating at Moorhead, where he engaged in business and where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. His wife's parents, Ole Thorson and wife, also spent their last days in Moorhead, at which place they had settled shortly after the laying out of the town, having located there straightway upon their arrival in this country from Norway, of which country they were natives. Ole Thorson was engaged in the flour-milling business at Moorhead and was one of the best-known and most active among the pioneer residents of that city. He died about fifteen years after locating there. August J. Rustad and wife were the parents of three sons, of whom the subject of this sketch was the last-born, the others being Oscar and Fred.

Garfield H. Rustad was but a child when his parents located at Moorhead and he finished his course in the common schools there. Upon graduating from the high school at that place in 1905 he entered the law department of the University of Minnesota and was graduated from that institution in 1908, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. For two years after his admission to the bar Mr. Rustad was engaged in the office of the county attorney at Moorhead, N. I. Johnson being county attorney at that time, and since then has been maintaining an office of his own and has acquired a fine practice. In 1911 Mr. Rustad was elected city attorney and has since been