

settling on a homestead farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 8 of Elkton township, Clay county. To this second union seven children were born, Elizabeth, Fred, Mabel, Ronald and three who died young. As one of the pioneers of Clay county Mr. Lamb has a remarkable fund of reminiscences relating to the early days of the settlement of this region and his stories of pioneer days are interesting and informative. He has been a witness to and a participant in the development of Elkton township and of the Baker neighborhood since the days of the very beginning of a social order thereabout and has done well his part in that development.

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### O. N. IVERSON.

O. N. Iverson, the present postmaster at Baker, where he is an enterprising merchant, is well known in the southern part of Clay county, although he is but a young man. He was born in Tansem township, this county, January 9, 1887, a son of S. O. and Anna (Herbranson) Iverson, the father a native of Dakota county, Minnesota, and the mother, of Wisconsin. About 1880, the father came to Clay county, Minnesota, and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Tansem township. He developed the raw land into a good farm and there he has since resided. He put all the buildings and improvements on the place, and, prospering through hard work and good management, has added to his original holdings until he now owns three hundred and twenty acres of excellent land, and is one of the leading general farmers and stock raisers of his township. To S. O. Iverson and wife eight children have been born, as follow: O. N., of this sketch; Theodore, Emma, Cora, George, Nettie, Melvin and Alexander. S. O. Iverson and wife belong to the Norwegian Lutheran church. He has been active in local public affairs for many years, serving on the board for Tansem township for about fifteen years, and as a member of the school board ten or twelve years.

O. N. Iverson grew to manhood on the home farm, and he received his education in the rural schools of Tansem township. When seventeen years old, he began clerking for Thompson Felde & Company of Barnesville, this county, remaining in that capacity about four years, giving satisfaction in every respect, for he was alert, courteous and faithful. He then spent two years in Adams county, North Dakota, on a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres. He left there in the spring of 1910 and came

to Baker, Clay county, Minnesota, where he worked for Possehl Brothers in their store for two years, giving them excellent service, for he had formerly mastered the various phases of the mercantile business. In 1912, he launched out in business for himself, starting a general grocery store at Baker, where he has built up a large trade and carries an extensive stock of staple and fancy groceries. In 1917 he and his brother, Theodore, who is unmarried, bought the implement business of H. C. Possehl and N. C. Noice and this they are operating with gratifying results, their trade with the surrounding country for many miles being on the upward trend.

On December 8, 1914, O. N. Iverson was appointed postmaster at Baker and has since been discharging his duties in a manner acceptable to the people of this vicinity and to the postoffice department.

Mr. Iverson was married in 1912 to Clara Butenhoff, a daughter of August Butenhoff and wife. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Iverson, namely: Francelia and Edward. Mr. and Mrs. Iverson belong to the English Lutheran church at Barnesville, in the affairs of which they have a devout and conscientious interest.

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### CHARLES E. COLBY.

Charles E. Colby, editor and publisher of the *Barnesville Headlight* at Barnesville, and former president of the Clay County Editorial Association, is a native son of Minnesota and has spent all his life in this state, with the exception of four years spent in the postoffice service in South Dakota back in the eighties. He was born on a pioneer farm in Plainview township, in Wabasha county, but was reared and educated at Glencoe, where he finished the high school course; later becoming a student in the Archibald Business College at Minneapolis. His father, George H. Colby, a native of New York state and a veteran of the Civil War, lived on his farm in McLeod county until his retirement and removal to Hector, where his last days were spent.

At the age of thirteen years, Charles E. Colby began his apprenticeship in "the art preservative of all arts," and before he entered the business college had become a proficient printer, thoroughly familiar with the details of that important trade, and was engaged working at that trade until 1884, when he went to Groton, South Dakota, where he spent the ensuing four years as a clerk in the postoffice and as mailing clerk in the railway post-