

three children have been born, two daughters, Charlotte and Karren, and one son, Woodrow Jennings. Mr. and Mrs. Madson are members of the Lutheran church and take a proper interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in the general social activities of their home village and are helpful in promoting all good works thereabout. Mr. Madson is a member of the local lodges of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Knights of Pythias and takes a warm interest in the affairs of these organizations.

JOHN T. JOHNSON.

John T. Johnson, member of the board of county commissioners of Clay county and a prominent real-estate dealer at Ulen, was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, March 5, 1867, a son of John Johnson, born in Norway in 1825, and Ingebor (Ellefson) Johnson, also born in Norway. The elder John Johnson came to America in the spring of 1843 and located in LaSalle county, Illinois, where he lived for several years engaged in farming. In 1856 he removed to Fillmore county, Minnesota, and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres which he improved and on which he established his home. He continued to live there, engaged in general farming, until his death, which occurred in 1905. His wife died in 1912. They were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. They had quite a large family consisting of twelve children: Thomas E., who died at the age of fifty-four; Martha, Elias, Robert, Inger, Elvina, John T., Isabel, Christine, Josephine, Albert, who died at the age of nine years, and Edward.

John T. Johnson received his elementary education in the public schools of Fillmore county, and in the high school at Rushford. After completion of his preparatory studies in this school he entered Augustana College, at Canton, South Dakota, and was graduated from that institution in the spring of 1888. He then came to Clay county, and for three years following was engaged in teaching at Ulen. He then spent six months attending a business college in Minneapolis, and for two years following was engaged in office work in Preston, Minnesota. In the fall of 1892 he returned to Clay county and was engaged in teaching for five years, three of which were in the village of Ulen. After he quit teaching he was engaged in the hardware business in Ulen for about three years. He then started in the real-estate business and has continued in that business since. In 1906 he was elected county commissioner of Clay county and has been elected as

his own successor on the board at every election since that year, and is now holding that position.

Mr. Johnson was married in 1890 to Tobina Thompson, daughter of Iver Thompson, of Ada, county seat of Norman county, and to this union two children have been born, Adeline and Franklin. Mr. Johnson's fraternal affiliation is with the Woodmen's lodge.

CHARLES W. BRENDEMÜHL.

Few farmers in Clay county take greater pleasure in their work than Charles W. Brendemuhl, of Kragnes township. He was born at Rochester, Minnesota, in June, 1871, a son of Charles A. and Wilhelmina (Fink) Brendemuhl. The father was born in Germany, from which country he came to America with his parents when ten years old, the family locating on a farm eighteen miles from the city of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. It was the custom of the mother to carry eggs to that city, for which she received only six cents a dozen, making the trip on foot. Later the family moved to near Rochester, Minnesota, where they lived several years. One of the sons, August T., was one of the first settlers on the present site of Moorhead. Charles A. Brendemuhl owned land where the court house now stands. He became owner of sixteen hundred and forty acres in Kragnes township, Clay county. He gave each of his sons a large farm as they attained the age of twenty-five years. The father died in the spring of 1913, at the age of seventy-nine years, on the old home place in Kragnes township, to which he removed in 1878. His wife died there in 1909 at the age of sixty-nine years. She was a native of Wisconsin. These parents were married in 1865. Eleven children were born to them, as follow: Clara, who is married and lives in California; Will, who also is married; Fred, who is married and lives in North Dakota; Charles W., the subject of this review; Albert, who died when two years old; Anna, who lives in Fergus Falls, Minnesota; August, who lives in Idaho; Henry, who has remained on the old home place; Mrs. Minnie Norby, who also lives on the homestead, and Lilly, who died at the age of thirty years.

Charles W. Brendemuhl grew up on the farm and attended the public schools. He has devoted his life successfully to general farming and stock raising, and is now the owner of a well-improved farm of three hundred and twenty acres of productive land in Kragnes township. He built a