

secured an appropriation of one hundred thousand dollars with which to erect a science building for the Moorhead State Normal school. He made his influence felt for the general good of Clay county and the state. He is a man who is well informed on current topics of the day and has kept well abreast of the times. He is widely read and is a close observer. He is also public-spirited and scrupulously honest. He has done much for the upbuilding of Hawley, whose interests he has long had at heart and sought to promote in every legitimate way, and is eminently deserving of the good will and high esteem in which he is held by all who know him, irrespective of party alignment.

EUGENE ELLSWORTH LEACH.

Eugene Ellsworth Leach, member of the board of township supervisors of Elkton township, Clay county, and the proprietor of a fine farm of four hundred and eighty acres in the northern part of that township, is a native of Illinois, born at Franklin Grove, in Lee county, that state, on August 27, 1864, son of James and Lucy (Miller) Leach, who later moved to Dows, Wright county, Iowa, where the latter is still living.

James Leach was born in New York state in 1839. He later moved to Franklin Grove, Illinois, and was there married in 1863, to Lucy Miller, who was born in Illinois on June 16, 1846. Two or three years after his marriage James Leach established his home on a farm in the immediate vicinity of Dows, Iowa, and there spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1889. His widow is still living there. They were the parents of four sons, the subject of this sketch, the first-born, having three brothers, Claud, of Dows, Iowa; Mont, who is married and is living in Clay county, and Harry, of Dows, Iowa.

Eugene E. Leach was but a child when his parents moved from Illinois to Iowa and settled in the neighborhood of Dows, where he received his schooling and grew to manhood, from the days of his boyhood a valued assistant in the labors of improving and developing the home place. In 1891, in Wright county, Iowa, Mr. Leach was united in marriage to Eva McCoy, who was born at Galesburg, Illinois, in 1872, and in the spring of 1904 he bought the farm on which he is now living, in Clay county, and has ever since made his home there, he and his family being very comfortably situated. Mr. Leach is the owner of four hundred and eighty

acres, a half section in section 2 of Elkton township, and a quarter of a section cornering on the same in section 10, and has improved and developed the same in fine shape, now having one of the best farm plants in that part of the county. In addition to his general farming he is giving considerable attention to the raising of live stock, with particular reference to Poland China hogs and Shorthorn cattle, and is doing well in his operations. Mr. Leach gives his earnest attention to the general civic affairs of the community and is now serving as a member of the board of township supervisors. He is a progressive and public-spirited agriculturist and for the past year has been serving as president of the East Side Farm club.

Mr. and Mrs. Leach have twelve children, Ray, Roy, Arthur, Clyde, Lloyd, Earl, Alva, Lewis, Virgil, Ruth, Lucy and Velva D., all of whom are living, a very interesting family. They never have had a doctor on account of sickness up to the date of this publication. The Leaches have a pleasant home and take a proper interest in the community's general social activities.

JOHN W. ALLEN.

John W. Allen, former well-known extensive landowner and now a dealer in real estate, is a native-born Hoosier, whose birth occurred near Brazil, in the state of Indiana, on October 7, 1870. He is the son of William Allen and wife, the former of whom was a farmer on a large scale for several years in Indiana, later going to the state of Iowa, where he continued his farming operations, meeting with considerable success, and in that state he spent the remainder of his life.

When John W. Allen was ten years old he accompanied his parents from Indiana to Iowa and in the public schools of the latter state he received a sound general education. He was reared on his father's farm and assisted in the work on the land for some years. He then commenced to operate a farm on his own account in Iowa, engaged in general farming for several years, until the fall of 1900, in which year he came over to the state of Minnesota, coming to Barnesville. He has owned several farms in this vicinity, which he sold from time to time, always to advantage, and each of those farms varying from one hundred and sixty acres to two sections of land. Throughout the years he was engaged in the purchase and sale of his different land holdings, he was conducting on a large scale, a grain and stock farming business, a handsome competency accruing to him as