

S. S. Hanson, one of the best known and most prosperous residents of Story county, is the proprietor of the Meadow Lawn Stock Farm, embracing five hundred and fifty-seven acres of land in Collins township. He is likewise a prominent factor in financial circles, having served as president of the Exchange State Bank at Collins since its organization. In public life, too, his influence has been felt and he is now ably discharging the duties devolving upon him as county supervisor. His birth occurred in Jasper county, Iowa, on the 25th of September, 1864, his parents being Hans and Mary (Ashton) Hanson, the former a native of Norway and the latter of Muskingum county, Ohio. When still but a boy Hans Hanson accompanied his parents on their emigration to the United States, the family home being established in Illinois. He grew to manhood in that state and in 1849 joined the "fortune hunters" who were flocking to California in search of gold. Crossing the plains with an ox team, he remained in California for about four years but met with only average success. Being next attracted to the Australia gold fields, he also spent about four years in that country with excellent results. It was with the intention of investing his money in Illinois farm lands that he returned to that state, but believing the price too high for profitable investment, he came to Iowa, purchasing and locating on a quarter section of land in Clear Creek township, Jasper county. In that township he made his home throughout the remainder of his active business career, being successfully engaged in general agricultural pursuits. On putting aside the active work of the fields he took up his abode in Collins, where his demise occurred late in the '90s. His wife was called to her final rest about two weeks later.

S. S. Hanson remained with his parents until about twenty-four years of age, when his father removed to Collins, leaving him in charge of the home farm. In partnership with his brother George he operated the place as a renter for three years and then purchased the farm, continuing to reside thereon during the next six or seven years, at the end of which time he sold it to his brother, who had just been married. On leaving the home farm Mr. Hanson of this review purchased and located upon what was known as the Bricker estate of two hundred and forty acres, which lies within the corporate limits of the town of Collins. From time to time he has extended the boundaries of this place by additional purchase until it now embraces five hundred and fifty-seven acres of land, all of which is under a high state of cultivation. The buildings which he has erected thereon are the finest in Story county and the farm is one of the best improved within its borders. Mr. Hanson was for a number of years an extensive buyer and shipper of stock, but more recently has given his attention largely to his farming and stock feeding interests. He personally supervises the operation of his entire farm, hiring three married men as assistants throughout the year. He was one of the prime movers in the organization of the Exchange State Bank of Collins, was chosen president of the institution and has served in that capacity continuously since.

On the 17th of June, 1894, Mr. Hanson was united in marriage to Miss Minnie P. Mead, a daughter of Charles Mead, now deceased, who was one of the most widely known and successful farmers and stockmen of Story county. Unto our subject and his wife have been born six children, namely: Mabel, Charles, Lester, Dorothy, Mary and Margaret.

In politics Mr. Hanson is a republican and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to positions of public trust. For several years he has served as a member of the school board and town council. He was elected to the board of county supervisors in November, 1910, and has already proven himself an able incumbent. Always a resident of this part of the state, he is widely and favorably known and the fact that many of his stanchest friends have been his acquaintances from boyhood indicates that his has been an upright and honorable career.