

County, Connecticut, June 2, 1757. Jonathan Eggleston also fought in the French and Indian wars, 1757-58-59 in companies from Hartford, Windsor and Farmington.

DENNIS H. PARKS. There is a prevailing opinion in some circles that a farmer is necessarily a man of restricted interests and talents. In such an estimate the fact is of course overlooked that successful farming requires a knowledge of and fair skill covering more varied branches than is required of a good architect or a manufacturer. Even with all these things taken for granted Mr. Dennis H. Parks, of Plover Township, is an unusual citizen in his abilities and talents and tastes regardless of the varied capacity required for his work as a farmer. Mr. Parks is an enthusiast and student along several lines, and particularly as a community and civic leader. The work he has accomplished as chairman of the Board of Plover Township would be sufficient to give him an honorable place in the county's history apart from any other considerations.

Mr. Parks was born in Plover Township May 17, 1885, and is a son of Mr. R. W. Parks, referred to elsewhere in this publication. Dennis Parks grew up on the old homestead, had a public school education, and has been farming on his own account for about fifteen years. For eleven years he contented himself with the position of a renter, but in 1914 bought his present farm of 151 acres in section 26. He has his farm name registered as the Good Luck Ranch. It is a good farm, well managed, showing efficiency in every corner, and is devoted to general crops and stock raising. Mr. Parks in addition to the good residence upon the land erected a large barn in 1916.

One feature of his farm that attracts more than usual attention is the deer park. Mr. Parks is a naturalist, largely through self training and observation, and is an amateur taxidermist of considerable skill. Of his work in this field he has a number of fine specimens of mounted animals and birds, one of them being a mounted possum which was caught in Portage County. Mr. Parks is an exemplar of the life of the out of doors and nothing delights him more than a hunting trip, not so much with the gun, as with his keen and well trained eyes and his camera, many of his most interesting trophies of the hunt being photographs of wild life in its native haunts. Mr. Parks talks with a great deal of zest concerning his interesting observations gained during two winters spent in some of the scenic portions of California.

In politics he has always been a republican, and his name stands for distinctive leadership and clean and high ideals in local politics. For three years he served as school treasurer and was supervisor of his township one year and in 1916 was elected chairman of the board and has been re-elected in 1917 and 1918. During 1916-17-18 he was also chairman of the Township Board of Health and in the latter year was appointed health officer. In these capacities he has rallied about him the best people of the township, and during his official term was responsible for driving the saloons out of Plover Township and has become the central figure around whom the forces of decency naturally revolve. In the summer of 1918 Mr. Parks became interested in a rural telephone line and set out to connect the farmers of his district. He was successful and incorporated what is known as the Meehan Telephone Company, with fifteen rural subscribers connected with the Wisconsin Telephone Company at Stevens Point. He was elected

president of the company by the stockholders as a reward for his success.

Mr. Parks married December 15, 1906, Miss Isabel Netzley, who was born in Linwood Township of this county in 1887, daughter of Linous Netzley, of a family referred to more in detail on other pages. Mr. and Mrs. Parks have six children: Carroll, deceased; Vivian, Ranslaer, Chelmer, Hazel, and Dennis, Jr. Mrs. Parks was educated in the public schools of Portage County, also in the State Normal School at Stevens Point, and was a teacher for several years before her marriage.

FRANK PLISZKA. One of the hard working farmers and respected citizens of Portage County is Frank Pliszka, who owns valuable land in Stockton Township, and is a general farmer and cattle man he has spent most of his life in this county and has justly earned a high place in the esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens.

Mr. Pliszka was born in Poland March 23, 1868, son of Peter and Anna (Zlinzko) Pliszka. His parents came to Portage County in June, 1881, and in March of the following year settled on the farm where their son Frank now lives in Stockton Township. Peter Pliszka was a carpenter by trade, and worked at that occupation for a livelihood while clearing up and developing his farm. He was an honored resident of this county until his death on August 8, 1910, at the age of seventy-five. His widow is still living with her son Frank, aged eighty-one. They were the parents of four children, Stanley, Frank, Catherine and Julia.

The education of Frank Pliszka was begun in his native country, and he was about thirteen years old when his parents came to Wisconsin. After that he grew up on the home farm and after acquiring it from his father has continued to expand and develop his enterprise until his ownership now extends to 230 fertile and highly productive acres, all devoted to the uses of general farming and stock raising. One of the conspicuous improvements he has made on the farm is a barn 60 by 40 feet with a basement under all.

Mr. Pliszka was for two years assessor and for eleven years treasurer of Stockton Township. He has always affiliated with the democratic party, and is an active member of the Polish Catholic Church at Polonia.

On June 10, 1895, he married Miss Kate Platta. Mrs. Pliszka was born in Sharon Township of Portage County November 23, 1875, daughter of John and Josephine Platta. Her parents were pioneers in Portage County, settling here about 1859. Her father not long afterward enlisted for service in the Union army and was a soldier three years. This honored old veteran and his wife are still living in Sharon Township. They had a family of twelve children: Frances, Theodore, deceased, John, Kate, Helen, deceased, Mary, Emma, Joseph, Victor, Edward, Rose and Nick.

Mr. and Mrs. Pliszka have had nine children, named as follows: Stanley, Joseph, Nick, Delia, Raymond, who is deceased, Esther, Evelyn, Romie and Rufen. Their son Nick is now representing the family as a soldier, and is a member of Company A of the Seventeenth Machine Gun Battalion at Camp Forest, Georgia.