COMPENDIUM OF HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY OF POLK COUNTY

in 1893 was graduated from the medical department of the University of Minnesota. He at once began practicing his profession with Crookston as his headquarters, and he has since then been continuously engaged in an active practice with special attention to the surgical branch of the profession. He has served as county physician of Polk county and is now secretary of the Tuberculosis Sanitarium Commission for Polk and Norman counties.

In 1897 Dr. Holte built the Bethesda Hospital in Crookston, and for a number of years thereafter he was in active control of it. This valued institution is now owned by the Bethesda Hospital Association of Crookston and is conducted by the organization known as the Lutheran Deaconesses. Dr. Holte is a member of the state, county and Red River Valley medical societies and the American Medical Association. He is also a member of the American Public Health Association, and director of the Minnesota Public Health Association, and in business circles is a director of the Scandia-American Bank of Crookston and the Crookston Commercial club. His religious affiliation is with the English United Lutheran church, and he is one of the deacons of the congregation in which he holds his membership. On September 25, 1902, he was united in marriage with Miss Henrietta Lunde, of Franklin, Minnesota. They have three children, Harold Oliver, Evelyn Irene and Junius Augusten. With nearly a quarter of a century of upright and serviceable living among this people, during all of which he has always been at their command for high-grade professional work, it is not surprising that Dr. Holte is universally esteemed throughout the Northwest, and the fact that he is is creditable alike to him and to the people among whom he has lived and labored so long and to such good purpose.

HON. R. T. BUCKLER.

Carrying on extensive industries in farming operations and raising livestock; taking an active and very serviceable part in the public affairs of his county and the whole state of Minnesota; looking to the best and most wholesome progress and development of this part of the country, and holding a high place in the regard and good will of his fellow men, Hon. R. T. Buckler, at present (1916) state senator for the Sixtysixth Senatorial district, is an ornament to the manhood of Polk county and one of the county's most progressive, enterprising and useful citizens.

Mr. Buckler was born in Coles county, Illinois, October 27, 1865, and grew to manhood and obtained his education there. His father died when the son was but fourteen years old, and as he was the oldest boy at home, the care of the family devolved in a measure on him. At the age of twenty-one he rented a tract of land in his native county and began to raise broomcorn on a large scale. His average acreage devoted to this production ranged from 120 to 160 acres, and his crops were the largest ever raised in that part of Illinois. He prospered in his venture and bought land until he owned 370 acres, all of which he made through his own unaided efforts. He bought his land at \$50 an acre and sold some of it at \$100 and the rest at \$150 an acre, but he expended a considerable sum on improvements also.

The senator became a resident of Polk county in the spring of 1904, having purchased the year before some 800 acres of land in Andover township. Later he sold a part of this but subsequently added more, and now owns 1,040 acres all in one body on Burnham's creek, six miles west of Crookston. On this land, a part of which is the old Alexander Burnham home, he raises great crops of grain and numbers of horses, cattle and sheep. In 1915 he had over 16,000 bushels of oats, 13,000 bushels of barley and 7,000 bushels of wheat. In his farming operations he employs four men and thirteen horses all the time, but does his plowing and threshing with a gas tractor. His usual

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holdings of livestock run from 1,700 to over 4,000 head of sheep, which run in the grass and stubble and are fattened for the markets, a large herd of cattle and a good-sized drove of horses. His farm, which is well drained and one of the choicest in the county, is widely and favorably known as a great stock farm.

In everything that has to do with the welfare of Polk county and his township the senator has always taken an active and very helpful interest. He was one of the organizers of the Northwestern Fair association, has been one of its directors from the beginning of its history, frequently one of its leading exhibitors, and has served as its treasurer. He is also one of the directors of the Farmers' Elevator company at Crookston, and has served as chairman of the township board of supervisors in his township.

In the fall of 1914 Mr. Buckler was elected to the State Senate as a nonpartisan candidate, but he is a Democrat in political faith and cast his last vote for he presidency for Hon. Woodrow Wilson. In the senate session of 1915 he served on the committees on railroads, grain and warehouses, roads and bridges, towns and counties, and others of importance. He procured the enactment of a law compelling railroad companies to keep the stock cars used by them clean; obtained an appropriation of \$15,000 for cleaning out

the Sand Hill river near Beltrami, and was an earnest advocate for giving the farmers more voice in determining how the money appropriated for good roads should be expended. His Sand Hill river project, which had been hung up in three former sessions of the legislature, was carried into successful execution in 1915. It provides drainage for a large extent of valuable land not hitherto wholly available for use. His views on the expenditure of state money on roads made him popular in his district and had a considerable degree of influence in bringing about his election to the senate. The law as passed did not fully meet his views, but it gives the farmers and taxpayers advantages of value which they did not have before it was passed.

In fraternal relations Senator Buckler is a member of the Order of Elks. He was married at the age of twenty-six to Miss Addie Ball, of Coles county, Illinois. They have six children, Ruth, Eva, Jack, La Ferne, Mary, and Maxine. The religious leaning of the family is to the Presbyterian church. The senator and all the other members of his household take an earnest interest in all undertakings for the good of the county and do their part toward making them successful and serviceable in the largest possible measure.

CHARLES E. KIEWEL.

Secretary, treasurer and general manager of the Kiewel Brewing company of Crookston, Charles E. Kiewel holds a position of great importance in the business life of the city and is highly esteemed by all classes of the people for the admirable manner in which he fills it, the clevated and useful citizenship he exhibits and his sterling manhood in all the relations of life. He was born in the city of Moorhead, Clay county, Minnesota, in 1875, the son of Jacob and Rose (Niggler) Kiewel, the former a native of Prussia and the latter of Switzerland. They came to this country in their childhood and located in Ottertail county, Minnesota, the mother's people arriving

there in 1862. The father is president of the brewing company in Crookston of which the son is the secretary, treasurer and manager.

Charles E. Kiewel grew to manhood at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and obtained his education in the schools of that city. He learned the brewing business at Little Falls in this state. In 1899 he and his father became interested in the brewing industry in Crookston by purchasing a small brewery owned and operated by August Walters. They soon afterward enlarged the plant to its present capacity of 30,000 barrels a year. Their product is sold in many parts of the Northwest in the United States and also ex-

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