

Philip C. BECHDALT, section 7, Pike Township, was born in Auglaize County, Ohio, July 15, 1842, a son of Peter and Susannah (GENBAR) BECHDALT, of Irish and German descent. His father died in Auglaize County in 1875 and his mother still lives in that County. Philip C. was reared on a farm, but when nineteen years of age began to work at the carpenter's trade, subsequently working at the cabinetmaker's trade. He came to Jay County in 1864, and has since followed agricultural pursuits. He was married February 9, 1864, to Mary A., daughter of James and Sarah DARBY, of Pike Township, a native of Clinton County, Ohio, born January 14, 1842. They commenced married life on the farm they now occupy, in a little log cabin. But little clearing had been made, but now their 100 acres are under cultivation, and in 1886 they built their present fine residence. Mr. and Mrs. BECHDALT have four children -- Lizzie A., wife of Elmer BOST; Riley G., Emma J. and James O. In 1866 Mr. BECHDALT joined the United Brethren Church and most of the time since has been a local preacher. He now has charge of six churches -- Zion Class, in Pike Township; Union, in Bear Creek Township; Elm Grove and New Hope, in Jefferson Township; Hopewell, in Greene Township, and Bethel, in Blackford County, supplying each once in three weeks.