Ivan Harold Mattson, was born in Goteborg, Sweden in 1895. He graduated high school in 1914 and attended Kearney State Teacher’s College until 1916. At age 13, he was an apprentice to a prominent local photographer. By 1920, Mattson created his own studio. He was the Mayor of Kearney from 1939-1943 as well as the Vice President of Nebraska Photographers in 1939, Red Cross chair in 1944 and 1946 and the President of the Chamber of Commerce in 1945. Mattson’s studio is a popular advertisement found in high school yearbooks and can also be found on the Kearney Opera House Curtain.



